

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

The meeting commenced at 1.06pm.

PRESENT

Cr P Speirs (Chair), Cr C Manchester, Cr D Palmer, Cr J O'Brien, Cr J Macaulay, Cr J McGregor and Cr H Mangelsdorf.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P Wearne (General Manager), Mr T McClellan (Manager Administration), Mr B West (Manager Engineering), Mr C Perry (Acting Manager Production & Distribution) and Miss K Turner (Executive Assistant).

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance was received from Cr Morris.

10/098 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that leave of absence be granted.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No interests were declared at this time.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 AUGUST 2010

10/099 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and McGregor that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2010, having been circulated and read by the members, be confirmed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

4.1 MINUTE 10/090 – REQUEST FOR WATER CONNECTION – FRAMPTON RURAL FIRE BRIGADE (G95151005)

10/100 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and O'Brien that the Business Arising from the Minutes report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

At the August Meeting Council considered a request for a water connection from the Frampton Rural Fire Brigade (FRFB) and resolved "*that the request from the Frampton Rural Fire Brigade be denied*" (Minute 10/090).

Subsequent correspondence has now been received from the FRFB (refer Attachment 4.1.A) requesting that Council reconsider the matter. Upon receipt, the writer was informed that in accordance with Council's adopted Code of Meeting Practice, the matter could not be considered at this meeting unless a duly signed Rescission Motion had been received (which has not occurred) but that it could be considered at the December meeting given that the time elapsed since the original resolution would then be in excess of the legislative requirements.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

The matter is raised to keep Councillors informed of developments.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS

No requests for public access were received.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS

**6.1 NOTICE OF RESCISSION MOTION – DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS
WITHIN BULK COUNCIL AREA (G95300515)**

Councillor McGregor has advised that at the next meeting of Council he intends moving a motion to rescind Minute 10/085.

General Manager's Note

Minute 10/085 referred to by Cr McGregor relates to Item 9.3.5 (pages 20 – 22) of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 August 2010. A copy of the minutes is included at the end of this Business Paper.

For Council's consideration.

10/101 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that Minute 10/085 be rescinded.

MOVED by Crs McGregor and Manchester that the Headworks Contribution payable by Young Shire Council for the subdivision referred to in Item 9.3.5 of Council's August minutes be as per the 2004/05 Management Plan (i.e. \$24,000 in total).

An **AMENDMENT** was moved by Crs Palmer and Mangelsdorf that the Headworks Contribution payable by Young Shire Council for the subdivision referred to in Item 9.3.5 of Council's August minutes be set at 50% of the difference between the 2004/05 charges and the current 2010/11 charges (i.e. \$43,650 in total). Further, that this offer remain available to Young Shire Council until 30 June 2011 after which the Developer Contributions payable by Young Shire Council will be in accordance with Goldenfields Management Plan and Policies as at the time of payment.

Cr O'Brien **FORSHADOWED** a further **AMENDMENT**.

The **AMENDMENT** moved by Crs Palmer and Mangelsdorf was put and was **CARRIED**. It became the **MOTION**.

An **AMENDMENT** was moved by Cr O'Brien that in the absence of any prior knowledge/correspondence/arrangements in respect of this particular development the Developer Contributions payable by Young Shire Council will be in accordance with Goldenfields Management Plan and Policies as at the time of payment.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

The amendment **LAPSED** for want of a seconder.

The motion was put and was **CARRIED**.

- 10/102 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Mangelsdorf that the Headworks Contribution payable by Young Shire Council for the subdivision referred to in Item 9.3.5 of Council's August minutes be set at 50% of the difference between the 2004/05 charges and the current 2010/11 charges (i.e. \$43,650 in total). Further that this offer remain available to Young Shire Council until 30 June 2011 after which the Developer Contributions payable by Young Shire Council will be in accordance with Goldenfields Management Plan and Policies as at the time of payment.

Cr McGregor requested his vote against the motion be recorded.

7. ADMISSION OF LATE REPORTS

- 10/103 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Manchester that Council consider the Late Reports on Land Matters – Oura 4 & 5 and Request for Account Relief prepared by the General Manager and Purchase of a Laser Aligner prepared by the Acting Manager Production & Distribution.

8. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE

The Chairman did not submit a Chairperson's Minute to the meeting.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

Cr Speirs vacated the Chair for the General Manager for the election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

9.0.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (G40203005)

- 10/104 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that nominations for the position of Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

A duly signed nomination form for the position of Chairperson was received for Cr Speirs. There being no further nominations, Cr Speirs was declared elected as Chairperson for the period until the October 2011 Meeting.

Report prepared by General Manager

In accordance with section 391 of the Local Government Act (2001) the position of Chairperson becomes vacant at this meeting and an election is required to elect a person from within the members of the council to fill this position. The Chairperson holds office for one (1) year.

The Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 clause 395, Schedule 8 provides the following:

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

- The General Manager (or person appointed by the General Manager) is the Returning Officer
- A Member of a county council may be nominated without notice for election as Chairperson of the county council
- The nomination is to be made in writing by two or more Members of the county council (one of whom may be the nominee).
- The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer.
- The Returning Officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the county council meeting at which the election is to be held.
- If only one member of the county council is nominated, that Member is elected.
- If more than one Member is nominated, the county council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary or by open voting
- The election is to be held at the county council meeting at which the county council resolves on the method of voting.

Appropriate nomination forms have been circulated to all Councillors with their Business Papers.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.0.2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON (G40203005)

10/105 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

A duly signed nomination form for the position of Deputy Chairperson was received for Cr Manchester. There being no further nominations, Cr Manchester was declared elected as Chairperson for the period until the October 2011 Meeting.

Report prepared by General Manager

The position of Deputy Chairperson is an optional position. The Deputy Chairperson may exercise any function of the Chairperson at the request of the Chairperson or if the Chairperson is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise, from exercising the function or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of Chairperson.

Council has traditionally elected such a person and the election procedures are the same as for the Chairperson.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Appropriate nomination forms have been circulated to all Councillors with their Business Papers.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

Cr Speirs resumed the Chair and thanked Council for its support.

9.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS

9.1.1 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS (G35507005)

10/106 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the report detailing Council Investments as at 30 September 2010 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented for information on Council Investments in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The following details Council Investments as at 30 September 2010:

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Institution / Investment Type	Amount Invested	Term (days)	Rate	Maturity Date
NSW Treasury Hour Glass Facility	7,050,940.20	At Call	4.68%	
LG Financial Services FOCF	2,077,360.28	At Call	5.11%	
Commonwealth Bank At Call A/c	400,000.00	At Call	4.45%	
Community CPS Australia	500,000.00	62	5.75%	5/10/10
Savings & Loans Credit Union	1,000,000.00	63	5.55%	11/10/10
SGE Credit Union	800,000.00	60	5.60%	15/10/10
Qld Teachers Credit Union	500,000.00	63	5.75%	18/10/10
Local Govt Financial Service	500,000.00	60	5.70%	22/10/10
Local Govt Financial Service	2,000,000.00	60	5.73%	26/10/10
Westpac Bank	1,000,000.00	63	5.53%	1/11/10
Defence Force Credit Union	1,000,000.00	91	5.90%	3/11/10
Local Govt Financial Service	1,800,000.00	90	6.00%	8/11/10
Community CPS Australia	600,000.00	60	5.77%	16/11/10
Police & Nurses Credit Society	600,000.00	60	5.55%	19/11/10
Local Govt Financial Service	900,000.00	60	5.65%	23/11/10
Local Govt Financial Service	1,200,000.00	91	5.85%	6/12/10
Total Invested	\$21,928,300.48			
+ General Bank A/c (with CBA)	\$159,160.39			
TOTAL CASH	\$22,087,460.87			

Movements within Bank account for the reporting period

Cash Book balance at 31 July 2010	\$671,505.91
Plus Deposits	
August	\$3,016,065.96
September	\$2,656,157.27
Less Payments	
August	-\$3,506,906.35
September	-\$2,723,805.40
Cash Book balance at 30 September 2010	\$113,017.39
Less Outstanding Deposits	-\$1,708.97
Plus Unpresented Cheques	\$47,851.97
Bank balance at 30 September 2010	\$159,160.39

It is hereby certified that the above investments have been secured in accordance with:

- Local Government Act 1993;
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005;
- Investment Order – gazetted 15 August 2008; and
- Goldenfields Water County Council's Investment Policy (adopted 27/10/05).

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

9.1.2 OUTSTANDING DEBTORS (G35307005)

10/107 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that the report detailing Council's outstanding debtors as at 30 September 2010 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented for information on Council's outstanding debtors as at 30 September 2010:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	\$39,157	\$23,571	\$354,729	\$417,457
Consumption Charges	\$89,543	\$6,709	\$831,600	\$927,852
Deferred Headworks	\$83,200	\$0	\$14,300	\$97,500
Sub-Totals	\$211,900	\$30,280	\$1,200,629	\$1,442,809
Less Overpayments Received				-\$94,536
Total Outstanding				\$1,348,273
Less Bulk Council Accounts Outstanding				-\$93,026
Less Headworks Accounts Outstanding				-\$97,500
Total Outstanding from Retail Customers				\$1,157,747

It should be noted that the payment due date for retail customers first quarter accounts is 22 October 2010.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.3 2009/10 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (G35401005)

10/108 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and O'Brien that the report on the 2009/10 Financial Statements be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 are ready for presentation to the general public. Under section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to present its audited financial statements, together with auditor's reports, to the public having given 7 days notice. Public Notice has been effectively given through advertisements place in *The Daily Advertiser* on 20 and 23 October 2010, and also by placing the Statements on Council's website.

Council's Auditor, Mr Graham Bradley of Auswild & Co., has accepted an invitation to attend Council's December meeting to provide a short presentation to his Audit Report.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Included in the mail out of the October business paper is a copy of the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2010.

The following is provided as a commentary to assist in interpreting the reports: -

General Purpose Financial Statements

Income Statement

This statement is designed to provide a "profit or loss" figure as a financial measure of Council's cost in supplying water to its customers.

Major differences in the financial performance from last year to this year are detailed in the Auditor's report which is located behind the General Purpose Financial Statements. Material differences between budgeted figures and final figures are also explained in Note 16.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet reflects Council's financial flexibility and solvency. This statement aims to provide a clear distinction between Council's assets and liabilities, and has direct input into the ratios presented in Note 13.

Statement of Changes in Equity

The Statement of Changes in Equity shows the balance of assets remaining after all of Council's liabilities are deducted.

Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows is used to reflect the cash solvency or liquidity of Council. It also highlights cash flows from the collection of revenues, cash generated by converting goods and services into cash and the capacity to fund capital works from funds generated by operating activities.

Note 6

Note 6 details cash assets and investments held by Council at year end. It also highlights Council's restricted cash. Council currently has four internal restrictions (reserves) in place. These funds are reserved for the specific purposes described below: -

Plant Reserve

Transfer to Restriction - is made up of the following; plant depreciation (equivalent value) plus the written down value of plant sold throughout the year plus an interest calculation to negate inflationary pressures.

Transfer from Restriction - all plant purchases are funded from this reserve.

Infrastructure Replacement Reserve

Transfer to Restriction - is made up of infrastructure asset depreciation (equivalent value) as per Note 9. This year only 89% of the value of infrastructure asset depreciation cost was able to be transferred because of cash limitations.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Transfer from Restriction - all infrastructure asset additions (as per Note 9) are funded from this reserve.

Employee Leave Entitlement Reserve

Transfer to / from Restriction - is determined by the balance of Council's ELE liability provision at yearend (excluding related on-cost expenses). Council reserves 100% of its provision.

It is common practice for Councils generally to only fund between 20% and 30% of their liability, however Council is in a unique position in this regard in that the ELE liability was fully funded at the time of its inception in 1997. More established local government authorities are generally playing catch-up from poor historical practices.

Deposits, Retentions & Bonds Reserve

This reserve has been established to restrict monies that Council is temporarily holding under some sort of contractual or policy arrangement.

Transfer to / from Restriction - is determined by the balance of Council's liability provision at yearend.

Council previously operated a ***Sales Fluctuation Reserve*** in which transfers to or from the restriction were determined by the shortfall or excess of sales versus budget to elevate the potential fluctuations Council is susceptible to given the high percentage of Council's revenue coming from water usage charges. This year however, the reserve has been abandoned due to insufficient unrestricted cash to fund it.

Note 13

Councillors are encouraged to address this note with high regard as it gives the best 'overview' of Council's financial position. Each ratio identifies a particular area of concentration and often acts as an early indicator as to changes in the level of performance of a Council.

Unrestricted Current Ratio - is used to identify Council's ability to meet outstanding short term debt. A ratio of 1:1 indicates that unrestricted current assets are available to meet the unrestricted current liabilities. General industry standards indicate that a ratio between 1:1 and 2:1 is satisfactory with a Council having sufficient liquid assets on hand to meet its short term liabilities; however a ratio of 2:1 or better is viewed as preferable by the Division of Local Government.

Debt Service Ratio - This ratio percentage reflects Council's commitment of revenue to the repayment of debt. Generally this indicator is not benchmarked as the reason for councils going into debt vary within the industry.

Rates and Annual Charges Coverage Ratio - In Council's case, this percentage reflects the component of access charges collected in comparison to other revenue, including usage charges, sourced for the Council's water supply operation. This ratio is not as important to GWCC as it is to General Purpose Councils, as Council is not reliant on external grants and contributions.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage - This indicator assesses the ability of Council to collect revenues. This is a clear indication of how debt recovery is managed within a council. Generally the lower this percentage is, the more funds available to Council for operational activities. As mentioned in the commentary to the associated graph, in Council's circumstance, this percentage is misleading due the timing of the June quarter billing run.

Building & Infrastructure Renewals Ratio – The purpose of this indicator is to assess the rate at which assets are being renewed against the rate at which they are depreciating.

Note 27

Note 27 is a voluntary note that has been added this year to provide a snapshot of key financial figures over the past 5 years.

The reference to an Available Working Capital (AWC) figure is a welcome inclusion. The movement between the opening and closing balance of AWC is the Budget Result that is being used by Council in its annual financial planning (incorporated into the Management Plan) and subsequent quarterly budget reviews.

Available Working Capital (or Working Funds) is the difference between Current Assets less all restrictions and Current Liabilities less specific purpose liabilities.

Special Purpose Financial Statements

This set of statements is designed to comply with the National Competition Policy, requiring councils to disclose their major business activities. Goldenfields Water's only business activity, for the purpose of competitive neutrality, is obviously water supply.

The premise of competitive neutrality relies on competition to achieve greater efficiencies and better quality of service provision.

As with the General Purpose Financial Statements, these statements contain an Income Statement which discloses the gain or loss from continuing operations. This statement varies from the General Purpose Income Statement given that it includes taxation equivalent payments, debt guarantee fees and is also adjusted for dividend payments (relevant only to General Purpose Councils).

These additional disclosures however require Council to account for items that in reality it is not subject to, including income tax, debt and loan fees and many other commercial costs not applicable to local government.

The Balance Sheet discloses the assets, liabilities and equity of the business. The information listed on this statement can be found in the General Purpose Financial Statements as part of the various notes to the statements.

Special Schedules

These schedules are not required to be audited; however they provide key input into the preparation of the Financial Statements. They are primarily designed to

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

meet the needs of a select group of users including the NSW Grants Commission, Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Division of Local Government (Department of Premier and Cabinet) and the NSW Office of Water (Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water). A brief explanation of these schedules follows: -

Special Schedule 1 - shows the net cost of services provided by council and ultimately presents the same result as contained in the Income Statement.

Special Schedule 2 - identifies Council's debt service during the year, in total and separately identifies the internal component of loans held by Council. This is used as a tool by the Division of Local Government to monitor loan allocations and Council's use of such.

Special Schedule 3 & 4 - discloses the water supply financial function.

Special Schedule 5 & 6 - not applicable to GWCC (sewerage service financials).

Special Schedule 7 - discloses the condition of public assets and the extent to which Council is able to maintain those assets. This information is utilised by the Division of Local Government to highlight the standard of public assets across the state.

Special Schedule 8 - discloses financial projections based upon the three year budget included in Council's 2010/13 Management Plan.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.4 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – SEPTEMBER 2010 (G35201005)

10/109 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mangelsdorf and Macaulay that the Budget Review for the period ended 30 September 2010 be adopted with the variations to income and expenditure duly noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented to Council to revise estimates of income and expenditure in accordance with clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The review is for the quarter ending 30 September 2010 and is attached for Council's consideration (refer Attachment 9.1.4.A).

Council's original Budget Result forecast a surplus of \$4,660 for the year. The September QBR result, as presented, reflects a decrease in available working capital beyond that originally projected of \$1,939,953, resulting in a budgeted deficit result of \$1,935,293.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Major adjustments impacting on this review (> \$10,000) include: -

- ✓ All Usage Charges (Page 1) - a loss of \$1,924,246 as a result of reduced water sales. Given the extremely wet year to date, water sales for the first quarter were down 31% on average historical usage. This revised estimate has been calculated based on the first quarter result with a further 20% reduction in sales (retail section only) factored in for the second quarter. It is anticipated that this loss will be partly offset by some reduced operating costs but these have not been considered in this review.

A graphical representation of first quarter water sales is also provided behind the attached budget review (refer Attachment 9.1.4.B). It compares this year's first quarter usage figures (red column) with the comparable period last year (blue column) and the volumetric estimate used to estimate water sales for the first quarter this year (yellow column);

- ✓ Management Expenses (Page 2) - a loss of \$240,000 is negated from corresponding gains of \$60,000 from Operations and Maintenance (O&M) (Page 2) and \$180,000 from Increases in Provisions (Page 3). The \$60,000 was transferred from O&M to Management expenses because supervisors' travelling is now being charged to one costing number instead of over several O&M cost centres, as was the case previously. This allows for better tracking of this cost and it is later charged to the various O&M cost centres through an on-costing distribution. The \$180,000 allows for the yearend increased costs for superannuation, workers compensation and payroll tax that are associated with discounting expected future costs of these expenses in the current financial year. This was an area in concern at the June QBR. This additional cost booked to the operating result is reversed back out, similar to the treatment of depreciation, to get back to the "Budget Result";
- ✓ Operations and Maintenance (Page 2) - a number of the votes in this area have been moved about to reflect a slightly different approach to tracking Council's O&M expenditures. A non-recurrent maintenance component has been established to separate these from the day-to-day O&M expenses in order to get a better appreciation of exactly what our recurrent O&M costs are. There was no adjustment to the bottom line result as a consequence of these changes;
- ✓ Other Operations - a loss of \$15,000 was for the Oura Aquifers Yield Study as resolved by Council at the August meeting; and
- ✓ Acquisition of Assets (Page 3) - a loss of \$400,000 is funded from Internally Restricted Assets (Page 3) and is made up of \$380,000 worth of capital works carried forward from last year and \$20,000 Council voted at the August meeting for further investigations into the Cowangs Reservoir Inlet Pipework Replacement;

All other adjustments are relatively insignificant or involve general housekeeping.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

It is the Responsible Accounting Officer's opinion that the revised estimate of income and expenditure is such that the short term liquidity position of Council is satisfactory.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.5 PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS (G40203005)

- 10/110 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that Council note the report and the tabling of the Pecuniary Interest returns for the year ended 30 June 2010.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Under section 450A of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, councillors and designated persons (staff) must provide a declaration of pecuniary interest as contained in the prescribed form. These returns must be completed and lodged with the General Manager within three (3) months after becoming a councillor or designated person, or alternatively a councillor or designated person holding that position at 30 June is required to lodge their pecuniary interest return with the General Manager by 30 September each year.

Returns must be tabled at the first meeting held after the required lodgement date.

The lodgement of all required pecuniary interest returns from councillors and designated staff for the year 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 has occurred, thereby meeting the legislative requirements.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, these returns are now tabled before Council as public documents.

Councillors and staff are reminded that it is imperative their honesty and transparency is maintained at all times. A pecuniary interest return may be lodged at any time during the year should circumstances deem it necessary.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2 WORKS REPORTS

9.2.1 AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2010 (G95507005)

- 10/111 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien that the Works Reports for August and September be received and noted.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Water Losses & Mains Repairs

NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
55.	3/8	-	-	Golf Club Road, Temora	100	-	10	Split Pipe
56.	3/8	-	-	Pretoria Avenue, Junee	100	-	5	Split Pipe
57.	5/8	-	-	Earl Street, Junee	100	-	5	Other
58.	5/8	-	-	Junee Road, Matong	100	-	100	Split Pipe
59.	9/8	-	-	Olympic Way, Junee	200	-	150	Split Pipe
60.	13/8	7.45	11.00	Thanowring Road, Temora	250	-	580	Split Pipe
61.	14/8	8.00	9.00	Cowabbie Street, Coolamon	-	-	-	Other
62.	14/8	-	-	Barellan Road, Weethalle	100	-	20	Hole in Pipe
63.	14/8	11.00	5.30	Ungarie Road, West Wyalong	225	-	50	Other
64.	14/8	-	-	Judds Lane, Weethalle	100	-	100	Hole in Pipe
65.	18/8	-	-	Burley Griffin Way, Kamarah	100	-	250	Hole in Pipe
66.	19/8	-	-	Burley Griffin Way, Kamarah	100	-	200	Split Pipe
67.	24/8	6.00	10.00	Hamblins Lane, Matong	250	-	1000	Hole in Pipe
68.	24/8	-	-	Burley Griffin Way, Ardlethan	100	-	-	Split Pipe
69.	30/8	5.30	7.00	Orange Street, Ungarie	100	-	20	Hole in Pipe
70.	31/8	-	-	Turner's Lane, Cootamundra	375	-	2	Joint Failure
71.	2/9	-	-	Thanowring Road, Temora	250	-	500	Split Pipe
72.	3/9	-	-	Bootoowa Road, Naradhan	80	-	1	Hole in Pipe
73.	3/9	-	-	Bygoo Road, Ardlethan	-	-	-	Split Pipe
74.	6/9	11.00	3.00	Lowell Street, Illabo	100	20	100	Split Pipe
75.	7/9	11.00	2.00	Myall Street, Barellan	100	-	-	Split Pipe
76.	8/9	-	-	Rockview Road, Marrar	200	-	150	Split Pipe
77.	8/9	9.30	1.00	Boree Street, Barellan	100	-	200	Split Pipe
78.	8/9	-	-	Rankin Springs Road, Naradhan	80	-	5	Split Pipe
79.	9/9	-	-	Back Creek Road, Kingsvale	300	-	100	Other

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

80.	10/9	-	-	Back Creek Road, Kingsvale	50	1	150	Hole in Pipe
81.	11/9	-	-	Back Creek Road, Kingsvale	50	1	-	Hole in Pipe
82.	14/9	-	-	Back Creek Road, Kingsvale	50	1	-	Hole in Pipe
83.	16/9	2.00	4.45	De Boos Lane, Barmedman	100	-	30	Split Pipe
84.	17/9	-	-	Gun Club Road, Wyalong	150	-	100	Split Pipe
85.	22/9	-	-	Barellan Road, Weethalle	-	-	.5	Hole in Pipe
86.	24/9	-	-	Narrandera Road, Barellan	80	-	-	Split Pipe
87.	24/9	-	-	Pinkerton Road, Cootamundra	375	-	10	Joint Failure
88.	25/9	11.30	9.30	Burley Griffin Way, Temora	375	-	-	Other
89.	27/9	-	-	Olympic Way, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Split Pipe
90.	28/9	-	-	Temora Road, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint Failure
91.	29/9	-	-	Olympic Way, Cootamundra	100	-	2	Split Pipe
92.	30/9	10.30	3.30	Railway Road, West Wyalong	100	-	20	Other
93.	30/9	-	-	Jugiong Road, Cootamundra	375	-	200	Joint Failure

Complaints

Water Quality

Dirty Water

4/08/2010 21 Martin Street, Stockinbingal.
 5/08/2010 34 Hibernia Street, Stockinbingal.
 6/08/2010 5 Kingdom Drive, Coolamon.
 6/08/2010 Mann Street, Coolamon.
 20/08/2010 56 Commins Street, Junee.
 23/08/2010 Iverach Street, Coolamon.
 6/09/2010 148 Polaris Street, Temora.
 6/09/2010 137 Polaris Street, Temora.
 6/09/2010 103 Vesper Street, Temora.
 16/09/2010 46 De Boos Street, Barmedman.
 21/09/2010 21 De Boos Street, Barmedman.
 22/09/2010 Mannings Road, Barellan.
 23/09/2010 5 Mimosa Street, Coolamon.
 24/09/2010 167 Hoskins Street, Temora.
 28/09/2010 167 Hoskins Street, Temora.
 29/09/2010 140 Anzac Street, Temora.
 29/09/2010 Elis Road, Binya.
 29/09/2010 67 Hill Street, Junee.

Other Problems:

13/09/2010 Stockinbingal Road, Combaning – bad tasting water.
 24/09/2010 5 Cassia Way, Junee – cloudy water.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

A total of 68 service difficulty and fault reports were received for August / September.

Construction & Major Maintenance

The following significant works were undertaken in August / September 2010:-

- Serviced ACV's and PRV's across the scheme.
- Serviced and inspected vehicles, small plant and power tools.
- Serviced pumps across the scheme, changed oils and greased.
- Overhauled No.1 pump and motor at Demondrille Pump Station.
- Pulled out Oura No.4 Bore pump for overhaul, installed and test ran.
- Fabricated spacer to install new reflux at Oura Pump Station.
- Moved cabinet to new location to contain the new turbidity meter of the inlet pipework to Junee Balance Tank.
- Repaired vandalised pit lid at Marrar.
- Cut meter reading hole in pit at Oura No.6 Bore.
- Fabricated pit lids.
- Fabricated pipework and pump base to install new pump at Hylands Bridge.
- Fabricate bridging for disconnections.
- Refurbished rakes and flocculators at Jugiong Water Treatment Plant.
- Fabricated new platforms and hatches for Mt Daylight Reservoir.
- Fabricated, painted and erected platforms and hatches for North Weethalle Reservoir.
- Fitted two davit arms, removed old internal ladder and installed new fibreglass reinforced ladder at Temora Low Level Reservoir.
- Pulled out Jugiong No.1 High Level pump for overhaul.
- Changed seals and bearings on Junee Reefs Pump.
- Serviced level control valve and replaced stop valve at Stockinbingal Reservoir.
- Continued with ongoing upgrade of Cootamundra Depot – installed sump for new wash down area, finished concreting of footpaths and bricklaying in wash down area.
- Carried out general repair work on Jugiong residence – removed existing fireplace, replaced broken tiles on the roof and gyprocked walls on the inside.
- Continued Roediger's Lane, Junee project.
- Completed cut-ins at Kaiser Subdivision, Junee.
- Started preliminary work on Main Street, Grong Grong job – measuring of pipe to be replaced and design.
- Completed removal of air conditioning system at Temora residence and replaced broken tiles on the roof.
- Started laying pipe in rail corridor at Wyalong for Wyalong main relocation job.
- Completed regrading of the existing main at Wyalong silos for Bland Shire.
- Continued with meter reading.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

- Replaced two valves in Gardner Street, Temora and six on Tenandra line.
- Cut-in stop valve in Victoria Street, Temora.
- Relocated Mt Daylight magflow.
- Cleaned No.2 & No.3 Reservoirs at Ganmain.
- Replaced four scours on Jugiong Line.
- Replaced gal valve on Temora Balance Tank.
- Cleaned Temora High Level Reservoir and Junee Steel Balance Tank.
- Swabbed Bore Header mains.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.2 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT (G35201005)

- 10/112 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the Capital Works Progress Report for the period ending 30 September 2010 be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

Attached for the information of Councillors is the Capital Works Progress Report for the period ending 30 September 2010.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.3 RESERVOIR REHABILITATION (G95208005)

- 10/113 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Manchester that the Reservoir Rehabilitation report be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Engineering

Concrete reservoirs repairs are currently being undertaken by Preservation Coatings Australia at Temora, Cartwrights Hill, North Weethalle and Calleen. The works consist of high pressure water blasting then priming and coating with polyurethane elastomer coating.

Council has allocated \$300,000 in this current budget for the rehabilitation. Quotations were called and a mandatory site inspection eventually held in late August.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Quotations were received from the following suppliers:

Preservation Coatings Australia Pty Ltd
National Concrete Solutions Pty Ltd
Polyspray Pty Ltd
Concrete Remedial Services
Freyssinet Australia Pty Ltd
L J Pfeiffer Coatings
Marine and Civil Maintenance Pty Ltd
Interflow Pty Ltd
Savcor ART Pty Ltd
T A Taylor (Australia) Pty Ltd
Avenue Industries Pty Ltd

The lowest quotation being from Preservation Coatings Australia Pty Ltd (who had previously satisfactorily contracted for GWCC as Polytech 5000) was accepted at \$111,650.00 plus GST.

Additional reservoirs at Lonsdale Lane and Ganmain will also be repaired at similar unit rates from Preservation Coatings Australia's accepted quotation.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.4 RESERVOIR REPAINTING (G95208005)

10/114 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Palmer that the Capital Works program be amended, with the Temora steel reservoir programmed to be repainted in 2010/11 and the Wyalong steel reservoir to be repainted in 2011/12.

Report prepared by Manager Engineering

Council's approved 3 year Capital Works Program has identified that the repainting of steel reservoirs will be carried out at Wyalong during 2010/11, Temora during 2011/12 and Junee during 2012/13. As both the Temora concrete and steel reservoirs were emptied for cleansing and mandatory site inspections (refer to the Reservoir Rehabilitation report), it was an opportunity to have the steel reservoir inspected prior to the preparation of a specification for sandblasting, welding repairs and repainting. As there is no urgency, nor technical requirement to adhere to the order in which the reservoirs are to be repainted, it is recommended that the Temora steel reservoir be repainted before the Wyalong steel reservoir.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.2.5 COWANGS TO BAULOORA PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
PROGRESS REPORT (G95207002)**

10/115 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that the report on the progress of the Cowangs to Bauloora Pipeline Replacement Project be received and noted and the above variations to the contract be approved.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Report prepared by Manager Engineering

Initial landowner visits were undertaken in early September. Whilst landowners were not adverse to the proposal, the main areas of concern were the alignment around Turners Lane, compensation offered, remediation and provision of additional water connections. The majority of concerns were raised by landowners expecting to be able to subdivide due to being identified in the Cootamundra Shire Council's Rural Residential Land Use Study & Strategy. This document was previously unknown to both GWCC and GHD. In order to reduce the impact of the pipeline on the future subdivisional potential, some realignment has occurred. To address the levels of compensation to be offered, a Valuer has also been appointed.

In order to meet the requirements of the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (Federal) and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (State), a supplementary "Spring Survey" will be conducted later this month. Also sub-surface investigation and salvaging of Aboriginal heritage items has been identified for areas along the proposed alignment. Clearing of these areas prior to commencement of construction will be required.

It is anticipated that the additional studies and assessments will enable the submitted REF to be accepted largely unamended.

The additional studies undertaken and to be undertaken will delay the tendering process by 4 weeks.

Summarised below are variations to the consultancy contract to date:

V1	Noise and Vibration Assessment required as a result of the REF	\$22,190
V2	Additional Ecological Assessment to conduct and report on a spring survey	\$22,042
V3	Heritage Assessment and Salvage activities for the heritage sites	TBA
V4	Additional Cadastral Survey due to relocation of the pipeline alignment	\$3,375
V5	Additional Landowners Negotiations due to the increased number of properties affected	At cost
V6	Route Re-alignment and Investigation	\$4,730
V7	Survey of Re-alignments	TBA
V8	Full Property Valuation Reports for 13 Properties	\$32,500

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

9.3 OTHER REPORTS

9.3.1 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES & PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO COUNCILLORS POLICY (CP:022) (G40350505)

10/116 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Manchester that Council reaffirm its Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy (CP:022).

Report prepared by General Manager

Council is required to submit its expenses and facilities policy to the Division of Local Government (Department of Premier and Cabinet) by 30 November each year. Attached is a copy of the present policy which complies with the legislative requirements and now requires formal endorsement by Council prior to it being submitted to the Division.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.2 CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2010/11 (G95809505)

10/117 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the Critical Water Availability report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

Included in the Business Paper (refer Attachments 9.3.2.A to 9.3.2.C) are the water production graphs for the five sources and the three bulk councils to the end September 2010. Table 1 below provides more detail on the total consumption during the period.

Table 1 – Period – 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010

Source	Current Allocation (%)	YTD Consumption	YTD Maximum Allocation	Revised YTD Maximum Allocation	Percentage of Revised Allocation
Jugiong	95%	692	984	935	74.03%
Oura	100%	577	970	970	59.48%
Mt Arthur	100%	61	102	102	59.80%
Mt Daylight	100%	29	54	54	53.70%
Hylands Bridge	95%	18	17	16	111.46%
Total All Sources		1,377	2,127	2,077	66.30%
Cootamundra	95%	130	260	247	52.63%
Harden *	95%	90	193	183	49.09%
Young	95%	201	368	350	57.49%

NB:

YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Surface water allocations for the Murrumbidgee Valley remain at 95% of entitlements with all ground water allocations still at 100% of entitlements.

In accordance with Council policy, 'Level A' restrictions became effective from Sunday 4 October 2010 to coincide with the commencement of Daylight Saving. This "level of restriction" is more a case of encouraging common sense when garden watering and does not impose any significant constraints on customers.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.3 2010/13 MANAGEMENT PLAN QUARTERLY REPORT (G05601005)

- 10/118 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and Mangelsdorf that the 2010/13 Management Plan Quarterly Report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

Council is required to undertake a quarterly review of its Management Plan. The format for this year's Plan has altered to that of previous years in order to bring it into line with Council's recently adopted Strategic Business Plan (April 2010) and the objectives and targets contained in it. The actions outlined in the Strategic Business Plan relevant to the years 2010 to 2013 were extracted to form the actions targeted in Council's current Management Plan.

A progress report for the quarter ending 30 September 2010 has been prepared (refer Attachment 9.3.3.A) providing the current status of these actions. The Quarterly Budget Review is the subject of a separate report earlier in the Business Paper.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.4 GOLDENFIELDS AWARD NEGOTIATIONS (G70204505)

It was **MOVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that Item 9.3.4 be considered in Closed Session in accordance with section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

9.3.5 MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN – RELEASE OF THE GUIDE ON 8 OCTOBER 2010 (G45405505)

- 10/119 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien that the Murray-Darling Basin Plan report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

Prior to the release of the draft plan, The Guide to the Basin Plan (Volume 1, The Overview) has been released to better facilitate the consultation process.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

The 223 page document provides some of the key information of the proposed plan, including the long term average sustainable diversion limits, the SDL's, for both surface water and groundwater. Summaries from the Guide relating to the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan Regions have been extracted and are attached for the information of Councillors (refer Attachments 9.3.5.A and 9.3.5.B).

The key driver of the plan is the determination of the environmental water requirement of the Basin. This was estimated to fall in the range of 22,100 GL/year (Gigalitres per year) and 26,700 GL/y as a long term average. This requires an additional 3,000 GL/year to 7,600 GL/y of surface water. For groundwater the additional amount falls between 99 GL/y and 227 GL/y.

The Authority determined that it would aim at surface water reductions in the range 3,000 to 4,000 GL/y. These are in "the lower end" after taking into account the social and economic impact on irrigation communities.

The Guide refers to how the SDL's might be phased in over the next five years. This is a complex matter and includes how the states make their new water sharing plans.

A summary of the aspects of the report which relate to the operations of Goldenfields Water are set out below:

- Scenario 3, an additional 4,000 GL/y for the environment, requires a reduction in diversions of Murrumbidgee River surface water of 43%.
- The reduction from current use of groundwater from our Mid-Murrumbidgee Alluvium is zero, it stays at 44 GL/y.
- The reduction from current use of groundwater from our Lower Lachlan Alluvium is 45%.
- Critical human water needs, the highest priority water use for the Basin, are included in SDL's and for NSW is determined to be 61 GL/y, a reduction from the 75 GL/a currently used during drought conditions. Critical human needs are defined as "the minimum amount of water to meet core human needs in urban and rural areas."

It is not possible to yet determine the effect of the Plan on Goldenfields Water however the following comments can be made.

- The Guide makes little or no reference to Local Water Utilities and whether or not the percentage reductions identified for consumptive users will be applicable to them.
- It appears that our groundwater use in the Mid-Murrumbidgee Alluvium (GWCC's Oura and Mt Arthur bores) is considered sustainable because of the high connectivity to the river and because there are no environmental impacts regarding this groundwater. This doesn't account for the actual physical reductions experienced as the water table lowers.
- Critical human needs vary from state to state but does not include outdoor residential use, the major component of our demand in summer. Also this only covers the geographical area of the "River Murray system."

The next stage of consultation is a series of public meetings throughout the Basin. There was one at Griffith on the 14 October; however it had a big focus

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

on irrigation. There are meetings on 4 November at Forbes and 9 November at Narrandera and it would be more appropriate to attend one or both of these. It is suggested that the Chairman and/or the General Manager represent Goldenfields at these meetings.

The Authority has invited submissions from stakeholders and it is imperative that Goldenfields lodge a submission after further analysis of the important aspects of the Plan. This feedback is required by the end of November 2010.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.6 NSW OFFICE OF WATER – DRAFT WATER SHARING PLAN FOR
MID-MURRUMBIDGEE GROUNDWATER (G95809505)**

10/120 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Macaulay and Palmer that the Draft Water Sharing Plan for Mid-Murrumbidgee Groundwater report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

There exists a ten-year water sharing plan for the regulated Murrumbidgee River surface water, which runs to 30 June 2013. Currently there is no plan for our groundwater. The NSW Government started making various water sharing plans in 2004 for unregulated streams and aquifers. They have now commenced the process for the Mid-Murrumbidgee and others and are aiming to complete a range of water sharing plans in 2011. This planning is for the 5 year interim period before the Murray-Darling Basin Plan comes fully into effect. There was a briefing session in Wagga on the 12 October for Mid-Murrumbidgee aquifer and although Goldenfields did not receive an invitation, the General Manager and Manager Engineering attended. This is the first stage of consultation. Comments can now be made by license holders. The draft plan will be issued in January 2011 and further submissions invited.

One of the issues to be evaluated is that both Commonwealth and State draft plans show the Mid-Murrumbidgee aquifer to be sustainable at current usage levels. However it is recognised that in Zone 2, and particularly around Wagga Wagga, the water levels have dropped substantially, pumps lowered and yields reduced. In conjunction with Riverina Water, Goldenfields is currently doing detailed modelling of the Oura aquifers so a balanced outcome can be achieved in our long-term planning. Dependent on the results we may have to look at some surface water extractions should the yield from the bores significantly reduce at some time in the future.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.7 REQUEST FOR WATER CONNECTION (G95151005)

10/121 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Macaulay that the request for a new Non-Reticulated connection on the Rannock scheme be denied.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Report prepared by General Manager

Correspondence has been received (refer Attachment 9.3.7.A) from landholders in the Rannock area requesting Council reconsider their application for a water connection.

By way of background the following information is provided:

- After receiving an application Council provided a Letter of Offer dated 12 May 2004. It is acknowledged that this letter did state *"I refer to your application for a new 20mm water service connection at the above address (to be used for domestic purposes) and am pleased to advise that the same can be provided"*. However it also stated *"This offer remains valid for a period of three months from the date of this letter, following which Council reserves the right to make any variation whatsoever to same"*.
- At the November 2007 Meeting, Council resolved (Minute 07/135) in part, *"... That a moratorium on new Non-Reticulated connections be imposed from Thursday 22 November 2007 until further notice..."*
- At the August 2009 Meeting, Council resolved (Minute 09/088) in part *"... That new Non-Reticulation connections to Council's mains not be permitted except within the following locations:-
Jugiong Scheme – Trunk main from Jugiong Filtration Plant to Temora East Reservoir and from Cowangs Reservoirs to Black Range Reservoir
Oura Scheme – Trunk main from Oura Pump Station to Wyalong Balance Tank and from Thanowring Road Pump Station to Aria Park Reservoirs..."*.
- A review of Council's records has failed to find any correspondence from or to the landholders between Council's letter of 12 May 2004 and its letter of 27 September 2010 (refer Attachment 9.3.7.B). The relevant Council Officer does recall receiving verbal inquiries from the landholders regarding the status of new Non-Reticulated connections with these, to the best of his knowledge, occurring at approximately six monthly intervals over approximately the past two years. On each occasion he has advised them of Council's policy position at the time.

Council's current policy position does not permit connections to rural mains in this area. Since the adoption of the policy, a number of applications for connection have not been approved therefore, to be consistent with all prospective customers, the request should be denied.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.8 2011 G DIVISION OF THE SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW
CONFERENCE (G45405005)**

10/122 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the 2011 G Division Conference report be received and noted.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

Report prepared by General Manager

Advice has been received from the Secretariat of 'G' Division of the Shires Association of NSW that the 2011 Conference will be hosted by Goldenfields Water County Council at Temora on Thursday 24 March 2011. Further information will be provided when available.

In the past, motions to the annual conference are usually required to be submitted by early to mid January. As Council only has one scheduled meeting between now and then any motions would need to be endorsed by Council at the December Meeting. An indication is now sought from Council whether it has any specific matters or draft motions it wishes to put forward to the conference.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.9 OFFICE CLOSURE (G70506005)

10/123 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Mangelsdorf and O'Brien that Council's office in Temora be closed from 29 December, 2010 to 31 December, 2010 inclusive.

Report prepared by General Manager

For the past six years Council has closed its Temora office during the Christmas/New Year period. Closing the office would give office staff an opportunity to take leave with minimal disruptions to our operations. Naturally, operations staff would still be rostered on call to attend operational issues (water breaks and breakdowns) and if a major emergency arose that would require opening of the office then staff could be recalled to affect this.

There are only three (3) business days affected during the period as public holidays are to be observed on 27 & 28 December and 3 January.

Closure of the office during this period means that the office would be shut from close of business on Friday 24 December 2010 and re-open on Tuesday 4 January, 2011.

Customers are still able to pay their accounts through the Australia Post facilities during this time. Closure of the office would be advertised during December.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.10 COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY (G70506005)

10/124 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Mangelsdorf that

1. Council host a Christmas Party on Friday 17 December 2009 from 1.00pm to 5.00pm at the Temora Golf Club to which Councillors, staff and their respective partners be invited.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

2. Council assist with the provision of transportation for employees based outside Temora.
3. Council allocates \$3,000 for the event.

Report prepared by General Manager

In previous years Council has hosted a Christmas Party for staff. Last year a function was held at the Temora Bowling Club after the December Council meeting to which Councillors, staff and their partners were invited. Council provided all refreshments including drinks which were restricted to beer, wine and soft drinks. Anyone wishing to drink spirits did so at their own cost. A budgeted amount was set by Council and, if and when exhausted, individuals became responsible for their own. The event was for a set period of time after which Council “disassociated” itself from any ongoing activities. Some of the benefits of such an event included promoting corporate unity, acknowledging the efforts of staff (and indirectly their partners) over the year and having a “degree of control” over the event. Assistance with transportation for employees based outside of Temora was also provided. From all reports an enjoyable time was had by all.

The venue for last years event is not available on the third Friday in December however the Temora Golf Club is and a competitive price for refreshments has been provided.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.11 NEXT MEETING

Subject to the outcome of the previous item the next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Friday 17 December 2010 at Council's Temora office commencing at 10.00am.

9.3.12 LATE ITEM: LAND MATTERS – OURA BORES 4 & 5 (G95750520)

10/125 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Macaulay that

1. Council acquire from Peter Thomas Meurer and Wendy Louise Ward Meurer an area of approximately 400 square metres being Part Lot 4 DP614134 and easement for access and pipeline 10 wide and easement for electricity purposes 20 wide at Gumly Gumly by acquisition by agreement under Section 30 of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for water supply purposes.
2. Council authorise the necessary application for acquisition to the Minister for Local Government and the Governor of NSW.
3. All minerals in the land be excepted from the acquisition.
4. The lands once acquired be classified as “Operational”.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

5. The price of \$5,000 plus GST (if applicable) has been agreed upon by the parties plus the owners' reasonable legal fees.
6. The Chairman and General Manager be authorised to sign any documentation under Common Seal if necessary.

Report prepared by General Manager

Further to Minute 10/058 of the June 2010 Meeting, the Plan of Subdivision for Oura Bore 4 has now been finalised. Protracted negotiations between the landholder and Council dating back to 2000 meant that a Development Applications was not able to be lodged previously. Mr Meurer now wishes the matter to proceed at all speed due to wanting to sell the property. Historically, the DA process can take a considerable period of time thus further delaying the process.

After discussions between Mr Meurer, Council's Solicitor and Bolton Connolly Property Advisory Services, it is suggested that the quickest method of accomplishing the purchase is to do a compulsory acquisition by agreement rather than lodge a Development Application.

Bolton Connolly undertakes GWCC's compulsory acquisitions and has requested the following Council resolution in order for the matter to proceed.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.13 LATE ITEM: REQUEST FOR ACCOUNT RELIEF (G95809005,
ACCOUNT 74462)**

10/126 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that

1. The matter of compensation for damaged clothing be considered upon application in accordance with Council policy.
2. As the request for account relief does not comply with section 131(4) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 no reduction can be made.

Report prepared by General Manager

Correspondence has been received (refer attachment 9.3.13.A) on 21 October 2010 from the holders of account 74462 requesting that Council consider account relief due to "dirty water" issues over the past 3 years. The customer's residence is located at the end of a no through street and is serviced by a "dead end" 100mm main, something that occurs at numerous locations throughout our network.

A review of Council's records and advice from Council officers has identified that there has been an ongoing problem with "dirty water" in this area. Routine flushing of the main is undertaken as is incidental flushing on customer notification. Remedial action in the form of a short mains extension and the installation of a hydrant past the customer's service was undertaken in March

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

2010 which has significantly improved the issue. The augmentation of a larger transfer main between Coolamon North and Coolamon South reservoirs at approximately the same time has also improved "dirty water" issues in Coolamon generally.

A file note prepared by the General Manager following discussions with the landholder on 31/08/10 is attached (refer Attachment 9.3.13.B) for the information of Council.

Counter responses to some of the remarks made in the submission can be made but would serve little purpose. It would appear that the customer is seeking compensation "*for all the inconvenience and damages we have occurred over the past 4 years.*" Council's current policy with respect to seeking compensation for damaged clothing has been relayed to the customer as has the legislative requirements with respect to the writing off of fees and charges (section 131(4) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005).

It is acknowledged that the frequency of discoloured water in this area is relatively higher than elsewhere however is a matter often outside Council's control. No payments have been received since March 2010.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.14 PURCHASE OF A LASER ALIGNER (G75057510)

10/127 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Macaulay that Council purchase a Laser Aligner at an estimated cost of \$20,000, funded from Council's Pump Station maintenance budget.

Report prepared by Acting Manager Production & Distribution

Due to the large number and size of our pumps, the addition of a Laser Aligner to Council's workshop would enable quick and accurate alignment of pumps and electric motors. It would also allow for electronic record keeping for warranty claims against bearing failure. Council currently have approximately 67 pumps and with rising labour costs being a major component of running costs, it seems advantageous for Council to obtain a Laser Aligner which in turn would pay for itself in a matter of a few years.

The advantages are:

- Easy, quick, accurate plus a permanent record of alignment.
- Static feet settings allow staff to tell the machine which feet to move. This would be ideal due the fact that Council has several motors and pumps that have no room left for adjustment in the boltholes.
- Although manual alignment is very accurate, it takes a considerable amount of time to achieve. If purchased, the laser alignment equipment could shorten the time taken by 75%.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

- The ability to have a print out of the alignment details to add to records is a big bonus, especially when staff are trying to claim warranty on reconditioned pumps that fail.
- Some pump bases do not allow staff to have full rotation when connected to a dial indicator on the coupling; this makes accurate alignment extremely difficult. The laser aligner requires a quarter of a turn for accurate alignment.
- The software provided allows the display of multiple files and comparisons of data to generate graphs for accurate reports. It also has the ability to locate and eliminate the problem of soft feet on the pump or motor base.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

10. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

No Questions and Statements were raised.

11. CLOSED SESSION – 3.41PM (*pink pages*)

10/128 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Mangelsdorf that Council meet in Closed Session.

9.3.4 GOLDENFIELDS AWARD NEGOTIATIONS (G70204505)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(c) Information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposed to conduct) business.

10/129 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and O'Brien that

1. Council adopt an interim wage increase of 3% to all non-contracted employees effective from the first full pay period on or after 1 November 2010.
2. The United Services Union be advised that Council's initial position in relation to Award negotiations is the renewal of the Goldenfields Water County Council Enterprise Award 2004 with no change to the provisions contained in it excepting those relating to annual wage and allowance increases.
3. Where the Goldenfields Water County Council Enterprise Award 2004 is silent the provisions of the Local Government (State) Award 2010, once ratified, will apply to all non-contracted Council employees.
4. For the purpose of commencing negotiations Council's initial position is that any subsequent wage and allowance increases after that referred to in 1 above, be equivalent to those of the Local Government (State) Award 2010, once ratified.

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 28 OCTOBER 2010**

5. The General Manager be authorised to commence the negotiation process based on the above.

OPEN SESSION – 3.50PM

- 10/130 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and Mangelsdorf that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in Closed Session be made public.

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Council, the Meeting closed at 3.51pm.
