

**MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 17 DECEMBER 2010**

The meeting commenced at 10.11am.

PRESENT

Cr P Speirs (Chair), Cr C Manchester, Cr D Palmer, Cr J Macaulay and Cr J McGregor.

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

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cr O'Brien, Cr Mangelsdorf and Cr Morris.

10/131 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor that leave of absences be granted.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The General Manager declared a pecuniary interest in relation to Item 11.1 as the mortgagee referred to in the report.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2010

10/132 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2010, having been circulated and read by the members, be confirmed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No Business Arising from the Minutes was raised.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS

5.1 PRESENTATION OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR 2009/10 (G35057005)

Mr Graham Bradley of Auswild & Co entered the meeting at 10.13am.

Mr Graham Bradley of Auswild & Co (Council's Auditors) attended the meeting and presented his report on the 2009/10 Financial Statements. Mr Bradley gave a brief recap of his report and answered questions from Councillors relating to it.

Mr Bradley left the meeting at 11.14am.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS

No Notices of Motion or Rescission Motions were received.

7. ADMISSION OF LATE REPORTS

No late reports were received.

8. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE

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

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

9.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS

9.1.1 INVESTMENT POLICY (G35507005)

10/133 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that Council formally adopt the proposed Investment Policy (CP018) to allow for the prudent and appropriate management of its surplus funds.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Attached is a copy of a revised Investment Policy for Council's consideration.

To assist Councillors, General Managers and the Responsible Accounting Officers of councils to invest surplus funds in a prudent and appropriate manner, all councils are required to develop an investment policy. The Division of Local Government released new *Investment Policy Guidelines* in May 2010 to provide assistance with the preparation of a policy and the prudent and appropriate management of a council's surplus funds. These guidelines have been used in the production of this revised policy.

Due to the revised policy being similar to the existing policy, and being prepared in accordance with the guidelines, it is considered unnecessary to place the revised policy on public display.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.2 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS (G35507005)

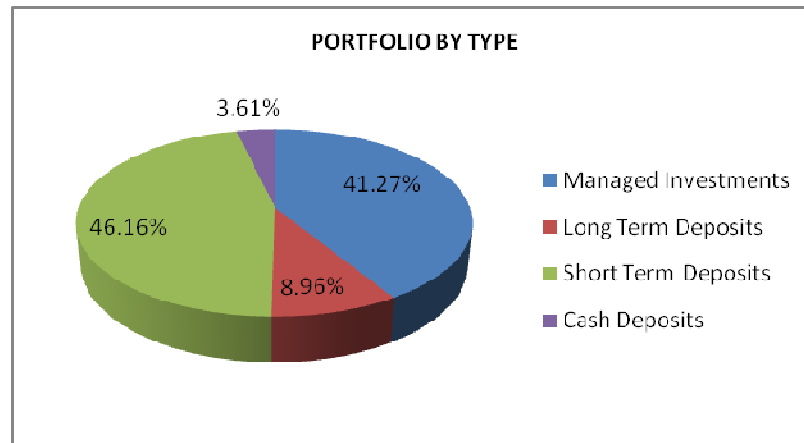
10/134 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the report detailing Council Investments as at 30 November 2010 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

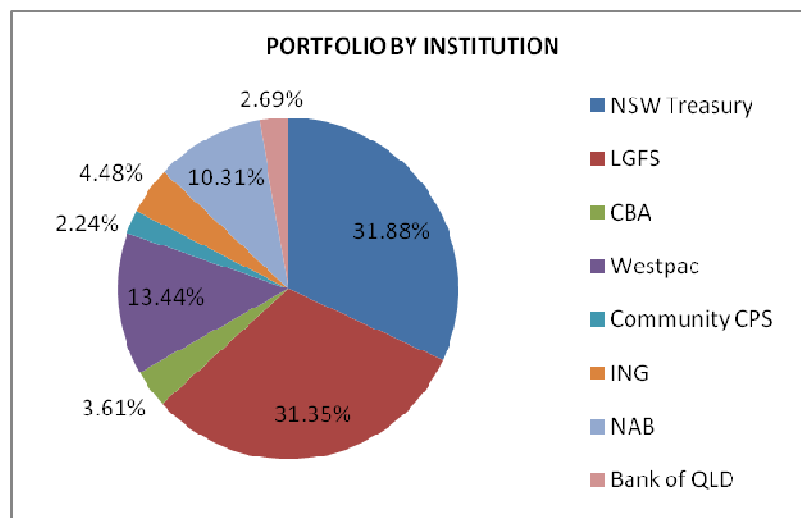
This report is presented for information on Council Investments in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The following details Council Investments as at 30 November 2010:

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INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO	Market Value	Term (days)	Rate	Maturity Date	% of Portfolio
Managed Investments	9,208,863.71				41.27%
NSW Treasury Hour Glass Facility	7,113,006.80	At Call	5.16%	N/A	31.88%
LG Financial Services FOCF	2,095,856.91	At Call	5.33%	N/A	9.39%
Long Term Deposits	2,000,000.00				8.96%
Westpac Coupon Select Deposit (5yr)	2,000,000.00	3m BBSW+1.3%	6.16%	27/10/15	8.96%
Short Term Deposits	10,300,000.00				46.16%
ING Bank (Australia) Limited	1,000,000.00	30	5.68%	3/12/10	4.48%
Local Govt Financial Service	1,200,000.00	91	5.85%	6/12/10	5.38%
Westpac Bank	1,000,000.00	63	5.62%	13/12/10	4.48%
Local Govt Financial Service	500,000.00	60	5.65%	17/12/10	2.24%
Local Govt Financial Service	500,000.00	60	5.65%	21/12/10	2.24%
National Australia Bank	500,000.00	90	5.93%	5/01/11	2.24%
Bank of Queensland	600,000.00	60	5.72%	14/01/11	2.69%
Community CPS Australia	500,000.00	62	5.71%	17/01/11	2.24%
Local Govt Financial Service	900,000.00	62	5.55%	24/01/11	4.03%
National Australia Bank	1,300,000.00	90	5.90%	1/02/11	5.83%
Local Govt Financial Service	1,800,000.00	91	5.85%	7/02/11	8.07%
National Australia Bank	500,000.00	95	5.95%	22/02/11	2.24%
Cash Deposits	806,221.74				3.61%
Commonwealth Bank At Call A/c	150,000.00	At Call	4.70%	N/A	0.67%
CBA Premium Business A/c	656,221.74	At Call	Various	N/A	2.94%
	22,315,085.45				100.00%



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Movements within Bank account for the reporting period

Cash Book balance as at 30 September 2010	\$113,017.39
Plus Deposits	
October	\$5,867,517.78
November	\$5,134,773.31
Less Payments	
October	-\$5,609,195.43
November	-\$4,860,296.77
 Cash Book balance as at 30 November 2010	 \$645,816.28
Less Outstanding Deposits	-\$2,683.86
Plus Unpresented Cheques	\$13,089.32
 Bank balance as at 30 November 2010	 \$656,221.74

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.

9.1.3 OUTSTANDING DEBTORS (G35307005)

10/135 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer the report detailing Council's outstanding debtors as at 30 November 2010 be received and noted.

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Report prepared by Manager Administration

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

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	\$27,763	\$22,097	\$53,818	\$103,678
Consumption				
Charges	\$63,022	\$6,096	\$133,750	\$202,868
Deferred Headworks	\$83,200	\$0	\$14,300	\$97,500
Sub-Totals	\$173,985	\$28,193	\$201,868	\$404,046
Less Overpayments Received				-\$144,488
Total Outstanding				\$259,558
Less Bulk Council Accounts Outstanding				-\$107,797
Less Headworks Accounts Outstanding				-\$97,500
Total Outstanding from Retail Customers				\$54,261

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.4 PLANT PROCUREMENT POLICY (G75105005)

10/136 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that Council amend its Plant Procurement Policy to allow for the inclusion of eTendering as an alternative process for the calling of tenders for the supply of vehicles.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Back in April Council considered a draft Plant Procurement Policy which was placed on public display and ultimately adopted by Council in June 2010. Part of the policy stipulates the method for the "Calling of Tenders/Quotations". Since this policy was adopted, Council has been introduced to, and signed up for, a product that enables the quotation/tendering process to be carried out exclusively through Council's website.

The section relating to the "Calling of Tenders/Quotations" in the current policy is reproduced below:

Calling of Tenders/Quotations

When a vehicle or group of vehicles are to be replaced or when a new vehicle is required, advertisements are to be placed on Council's website for the duration of the tender period and at least twice in a newspaper with regional circulation within the Riverina area of NSW.

The advertisement is to stipulate the following:

- A brief description of the vehicle(s) for disposal and/or required;
- The closing date and time for Tenders/Quotations; and
- Contact details to obtain further information.

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The information to be forwarded to prospective tenderers by the nominated Council officer and/or to be available on Council's website will consist of copies of the standard Tender Documents (including Vehicle Specifications) and the standard Tender Submission Form relevant to the particular vehicle(s).

During the tender period the nominated Council officer will obtain estimated valuations for the vehicles that Council is disposing of from the vehicle auction houses located in Canberra and/or Wagga Wagga. These valuations will be used when assessing the tenders received and may influence the method of disposal used.

Tenders must be received in Council's Tender Box in accordance with the requirements set down in the relevant Tender Documents.

To incorporate the potential that eTendering offers, it is recommended that the title for above section be amended to the "*Calling of Tenders/Quotations (via standard advertising process)*" and that the following be inserted as an alternative:

Calling of Tenders/Quotations (via eTendering process)

When a vehicle or group of vehicles are to be replaced or when a new vehicle is required, a new "tender" is to be created in TenderSearch by a nominated Council officer. This will include copies of the standard tender documents (including Vehicle Specifications) and the standard Tender Submission Form relevant to the particular vehicle(s). An email alert will then be sent to all regional vehicle suppliers who have registered an interest with Council. Potential suppliers will be required to transact any resulting business, including the tender submission, through the website.

During the tender period the nominated Council officer will obtain estimated valuations for the vehicles that Council is disposing of from the vehicle auction houses located in Canberra and/or Wagga Wagga. These valuations will be used when assessing the tenders received and may influence the method of disposal used.

Tenders must be received in Council's electronic Tender Box in accordance with the requirements set down in the relevant Tender Documents.

Please note that Tender Lodgement details in the Tender Documents will also need to be amended to reflect the eTendering process.

The use of eTendering offers Council the following advantages over the manual process:

- Advertising savings - each new eTender costs \$150 for the use of the technology, as opposed to advertising in a regional newspaper that costs approximately \$900 per advertisement;
- Less staff involvement - the process is streamlined and automated. All supplier enquiries regarding the tender are submitted via email to the web portal. The responsible staff member can then reply to the supplier individually if it is customer specific, or to everybody for more general questions; and
- Greater probity - the process ensures transparency and accountability as all transactions throughout the process are logged.

Prior to trialling eTender, each of the regional vehicle suppliers who have registered their email details will be provided with instructions as to how they will be expected to respond.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.5 NATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORTING AUDIT (G95906010)

10/137 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Macaulay that the report on the audit of Council's National Performance Report for 2009/10 be received and noted and that the cost of having the audit undertaken be endorsed.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Council, as a NSW Non-major Urban Water Utility (NMU), is required to report independently, publicly, and on an annual basis, on benchmarking of pricing and service quality. These *National Performance Reports (NPR)* are intended to provide for a comparison of water utility performance over time and between utilities.

In order to provide a transparent and consistent approach, an independent audit is required to be undertaken at a minimum of three yearly intervals. The audit is required to focus on the systems and effectiveness of the processes and systems used to ensure compliance with the quality standards, including:

- Process compliance - the effectiveness of systems and procedures in place throughout the audit period, including the adequacy of internal controls.
- Outcome compliance - the actual performance result against quality standards prescribed.
- Integrity of performance reporting - the completeness and accuracy.

Council was required to have its 2009/10 data audited and engaged GHD after undertaking the necessary procedures for engagement prescribed by the NSW Office of Water (NOW).

The Executive Summary from GHD's final audit report for National Performance Framework 2009/10, Urban Water Performance Reporting is attached to this report, while the full report is available on request.

Briefly, non-compliant indicators were limited to complaints and service interruptions. While Council is moving to a database reporting system in 2010/11, the audit covers the past year where all calls were logged as 'service calls' rather than as per the National Indicators that separate these into complaints and notifications. It is only instances of calls for the same event, for example, a burst water main that are logged individually.

Although lapsed times are not recorded, eight incoming telephone lines into the Temora Office during office hours, along with complete after hours Duty Officer coverage where calls cascade to second and third officers, are measures considered adequate and appropriate to meet customer requirements. Councillors would also be aware of changes that now see mains breaks reported using GIS.

Substantially, compliant Indicators largely centre on Jugiong and Oura production metering. Magflow replacements are part of the wider process control upgrade already scheduled for Jugiong Water Treatment Plant in the 2010/11 year. It is expected that the opportunity would then be taken to identically replace Oura's magflow allowing cost effective periodic validation of Council's major production metering. These steps are additional to the current integration of Council's internal bulk metering fleet into the existing water billing software.

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Council is responsible for meeting the audit cost of \$13,400 which was not included in the budget.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2 WORKS REPORTS

9.2.1 OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2010 (G95507005)

10/138 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the Works Reports for October and November be received and noted.

Report prepared by Acting Manager Production & Distribution

Water Losses & Mains Repairs

NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
94.	6/10	11.00	5.30	Wheel of Fortune Rd, Oura	525	-	100	Other
95.	8/10	7.30	9.30	Lawson Rd, Temora	100	-	-	Split Pipe
96.	9/10	-	-	Burley Griffin Way, Barellan	100	-	-	Other
97.	9/10	-	-	Temora Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	100	Hole in Pipe
98.	11/10	-	-	Girral/Lake Cargelligo Rd, Ungarie	150	-	50	Other
99.	11/10	12.00	2.00	Edwards Ln, Mirrool	-	-	1	Split Pipe
100.	12/10	2.30	9.30	Britannia St, Temora	100	-	50	Split Pipe
101.	13/10	6.30	10.00	Baker St, Temora	100	-	-	Split Pipe
102.	13/10	12.30	3.30	Naradhan Rd, Ungarie	100	-	5	Split Pipe
103.	14/10	-	-	Joffre St, Junee	100	-	15	Split Pipe
104.	14/10	-	-	Crowley St, Junee	-	-	-	Split Pipe
105.	20/10	9.30	4.00	Airport St, Temora	100	-	10	Split Pipe
106.	20/10	7.00	10.00	Coffin Rock Ln, Old Junee	150	-	200	Other
107.	20/10	2.00	4.00	Matong North Rd, Matong	100	5	100	Split Pipe
108.	21/10	-	-	Olympic Way, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Split Pipe
109.	21/10	3.00	4.30	Junee Rd, Marrar	100	-	100	Hole in Pipe
110.	21/10	-	-	Lisgar St, Junee	100	-	20	Split Pipe
111.	23/10	12.00	10.30	Warre Warral Ln, Malebo Range	100	-	100	Split Pipe
112.	25/10	-	-	Roediger's Ln, Junee	200	-	-	Split Pipe
113.	25/10	8.30	12.00	Warre Warral Ln, Malebo Range	100	5	20	Split Pipe
114.	26/10	-	-	Double Day Rd, Coolamon	100	-	-	Split Pipe
115.	26/10	-	-	Bootoowa Rd, Naradhan	80	-	20	Split Pipe
116.	27/10	-	-	Olympic Way, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Split Pipe

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NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
117.	27/10	-	-	Prince St, Junee	100	-	70	Split Pipe
118.	1/11	-	-	Burley Griffin Way, Garoolgan	100	-	50	Hole in Pipe
119.	2/11	-	-	Thomas St, Junee	100	-	5	Split Pipe
120.	2/11	-	-	Monia Gap Rd, Naradhan	80	-	20	Hole in Pipe
121.	8/11	-	-	Rose Hill Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint Failure
122.	8/11	-	-	Olympic Way, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Hole in Pipe
123.	8/11	-	-	Jugiong Rd, Cootamundra	100	-	5	Split Pipe
124.	10/11	-	-	Martin St, Stockinbingal	100	-	5	Split Pipe
125.	10/11	-	-	Rose Hill Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	10	Joint Failure
126.	10/11	-	-	Kolkilberto Rd, Weethalle	100	-	5	Split Pipe
127.	11/11	-	-	John Potts Drive, Junee	-	-	-	Split Pipe
128.	16/11	9.00	12.30	Wilga St, Barellan	100	5	10	Hole in Pipe
129.	16/11	-	-	Rose Hill Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	50	Joint Failure
130.	17/11	-	-	Pinkerton Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint Failure
131.	20/11	12.00	3.00	Turners Ln, Marrar	80	5	500	Split Pipe
132.	22/11	12.00	3.00	Turners Ln, Marrar	80	5	500	Split Pipe
133.	24/11	-	-	Jugiong Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint Failure
134.	24/11	-	-	Jugiong Rd, Cootamundra	375	-	5	Joint Failure
135.	25/11	8.30	12.00	Warre Warral Ln, Malebo Range	100	5	20	Split Pipe
136.	25/11	-	-	Deutcher St, Temora	100	-	-	Split Pipe
137.	26/11	-	-	Deutcher St, Temora	100	1	5	Split Pipe

Complaints

Water Quality

Dirty Water

8/10/2010 80 Grey Street, Temora.
 11/10/2010 2 Spring Street, Ganmain.
 10/11/2010 13 Martin Street, Stockinbingal.
 18/11/2010 137 Polaris Street, Temora.

Other Problems:

1/11/2010 East West Road, Rannock – cloudy water.
 26/11/2010 127 Anzac Street, Temora – bad smelling water.

A total of 72 service difficulty and fault reports were received for October / November.

Construction & Major Maintenance

The following significant works were undertaken in October / November 2010:-

- Serviced ACV's and PRV's across the scheme.
- Serviced and inspected vehicles, small plant and power tools.
- Serviced pumps across scheme, changed oils and greased.
- Repaired hole in steel pipeline – Cowangs to Bauloora.
- Fabricated and erected new internal hatches and platforms for Mt Daylight.
- Replaced valves at Rocky Hill, Junee.
- Ganmain Pump Station No.3, No.5 and No.6 pumps and motors overhauled.
- Replaced pump at Coolamon Pump Station.
- Fabricated pipework and pump base to install new pump at Hylands Bridge.
- Installed chlorine pump and fluoride pump at Oura Pump Station and conducted test run.
- Repaired rakes, fabricated new lifting lugs for lids on sludge valves at Jugiong Water Treatment Plant.
- Started fabrication of stands for hiab on back of vehicle.
- Cleaned No.3 & No.4 Reservoirs at Ganmain.
- Installed new hydrant and tee at Airport Road, Temora.
- Flushed Matong and Grong Grong.
- Installed 11 new air valves on the Tenandra Line.
- Under-bored Barmedman, Temora and Coolamon.
- Swabbed trunk main from Junee Reefs to Temora.
- Started meter reading in the Junee area.
- Dead-ended the new main ready for pressure testing, completed chlorination, laying of pipe, cut-ins and new services on Roediger's Lane, Junee project.
- Completed the under-boring of the main roadway at Junee and installed DICL pipework.
- Completed cut-in work on the Wyalong main relocation job.
- Started work on the relocation of the existing water services.
- Delivered materials to site at Matong for next project and began planning and location work.
- Cleaned up various locations in Junee after completing Roediger's Lane job.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.2 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT (G35201005)

10/139 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the report detailing the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 30 November 2010 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

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This report is presented for information on the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 30 November 2010:

Description	Location	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Program Estimate (\$)	Total Expend to Date (\$)	Comment
New System Assets						
Site Acquisition	Betric Reservoir	1/7/2008	30/9/2010	13,000	9,648	Completed
Iron / Manganese Minimisation	Oura & Matong Systems	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	500,000	0	Tender documents have been prepared and currently awaiting electricity upgrades to be completed
Site Acquisition / Construct Radio Facilities	\$10k opportunistic budget per year	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	10,000	0	Earmarked for Council's contribution to the development of the Rosemont Radio Site in conjunction with the NSWFB
Mains Extension	\$50k opportunistic budget per year	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	50,000	0	Not required to-date
Additional Storage	Junee	1/1/2011	31/12/2011	5,000,000	1,500	Preliminary site inspection and plans begun. Discussion with landholder regarding land purchase commenced
Additional Storage	Oura	1/10/2009	30/6/2011	2,000,000	0	Tender documents have been prepared dependent on HV upgrade
Renewals						
Bore Construction or Replacement	Oura Bores	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	300,000	0	Landholder negotiations finalised. Contracts prepared
Depot Upgrade	Cootamundra Depot	1/7/2010	31/12/2010	160,000	8,669	Contract and conversion of existing facilities completed. Additional site works to be carried out
Further Investigations of Inlet Replacement	Cowangs Reservoirs	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	20,000	3,393	Investigations continuing as per the August report to Council
Major Upgrade	Jugiong No.1 Pump Station	1/7/2009	30/6/2013	6,000,000	30,183	Tender documentation for Design and Construct being finalised
Mains Replacement	Aerodrome Ln & Roe Diggers Rd, Junee	1/4/2010	31/12/2010	450,000	274,542	Work completed - some accounts remain o/s

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Description	Location	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Program Estimate (\$)	Total Expend to Date (\$)	Comment
Mains Replacement, Augmentation	\$1m budget/yr to be programmed as priorities determine	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	615,000	N/A	\$385k has been allocated to the following four capital works jobs
Mains Replacement	Fuel Depot, West Wyalong	1/8/2010	15/10/2010	45,000	42,419	Completed
Mains Replacement	Main St & part of Deep Water Rd, Matong	1/8/2010	31/12/2010	50,000	11,286	Materials procured - work to commence in second week of December
Mains Replacement	Barmedman Reservoir Pipework	1/2/2011	31/3/2011	200,000	0	Programmed for second half of the year
Mains Replacement	Melvorn Lane, Junee	1/4/2011	30/4/2011	90,000	0	Programmed for second half of the year
Site / Easement Acquisition	\$50k opportunistic budget per year	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	50,000	29,332	Progressing
Mains Replacement	Cowangs - Bauloora	1/4/2010	31/5/2012	15,600,000	423,362	Advertising for tenders delayed due to planning approval
Replace Control System	Jugiong Filtration Plant	2/4/2010	30/6/2011	500,000	4,973	Specification nearing completion
Reservoirs Painting	Temora Reservoir	1/7/2010	30/6/2011	260,000	0	B/Fwd from 2011/12 to this year as per the report to Cnl at the October Mtg
Reservoir Rehabilitation Program	Various Reservoirs	1/7/2010	30/6/2012	600,000	130,058	North Weethalle No.1, Calleen No.4, Temora No.1, C'wrights Hill No.1 & 2 completed
Replace Pump	Hylands Bridge Pump Station	1/7/2010	31/12/2010	20,000	0	In progress
Recondition / Replace Bore Pump	Oura Bores (No.4 Pump)	1/1/2011	30/6/2011	55,000	0	Programmed for second half of the year

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.3 RESERVOIR REHABILITATION (G95208005)

10/140 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor that the current rates tendered by Preservation Coatings Australia Pty Ltd be accepted for the repairs to the concrete reservoirs programmed to be carried out in 2011.

Report prepared by Manager Engineering

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As reported to the last meeting, Preservation Coatings Australia Pty Ltd were the successful tenderer for the repairs to the Temora, Cartwrights Hill, North Weethalle and Calleen concrete reservoirs. These works have now been completed.

Preservation Coatings Australia has since been approached to repair three additional reservoirs in April 2011, being the Junee Balance Tank, Junee Beach Street and Bauloora Reservoir No.1. These were not included in the original scope of works due to the operational requirement to stagger the reservoir repairs to enable supply to be maintained.

Preservation Coatings Australia Pty Ltd have confirmed that they will honour the current tender rates for "like work" and any conditions that are outside the current works would be considered as an extra.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.4 COWANGS TO BAULOORA PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT (G95207002)

- 10/141 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the report on the progress of the Cowangs to Bauloora Pipeline Replacement Project be received and noted and the above variation to the contract be approved.

Report prepared by Manager Engineering

The production of designs and documentation required for the project is nearing completion. The tender period initially proposed for December has been deferred to 11 January – 8 February 2011, with the mandatory site meeting scheduled for 18 January 2011. It is expected that following evaluation of the tenders received, a recommendation for awarding the contract will be made to the February Council meeting.

The Review of Environmental Factors has been completed and submitted to Cootamundra Shire Council. It is expected that a determination will be made prior to Christmas.

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act referral has been submitted to the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPC). It is envisaged that the pipeline will not be a "controlled action" and will therefore not require further assessment and approval. It is expected that formal advice will be received by 5 January 2011.

The cultural heritage assessment has identified the requirement for sub-surface investigations and salvage of Aboriginal heritage items for areas located along the proposed alignment.

These actions are required to be undertaken prior to construction commencing. Undertaking the salvage activities for the heritage sites and an archaeological subsurface testing program, to the Department's requirements, has been costed and is summarised below:

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Preparation of s87/90 Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit	\$2,000
Marking Site Boundaries for Fencing	\$2,390
Salvage Collection and Subsurface Testing	\$139,150
Additional Aboriginal Heritage Consultation	\$5,000
GHD Consultation	\$1,600

The above fees do not include plant hire, provision of water, Dial before you dig, Port a Loos or fees payable to Aboriginal representatives.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3 OTHER REPORTS

9.3.1 CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2010/11 (G95809505)

10/142 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that the Critical Water Availability report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

Included in the Business Paper (refer Attachments 9.3.1.A to 9.3.1.G) are the water production graphs for the five sources and the three bulk councils to the end November 2010. Table 1 below provides more detail on the total consumption during the period.

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

Source	Current Allocation (%)	YTD Consumption	YTD Maximum Allocation	Revised YTD Maximum Allocation	Percentage of Revised Allocation
Jugiong	95%	1,187	1,957	1,859	63.86%
Oura	100%	1,029	2,005	2,005	51.34%
Mt Arthur	100%	118	240	240	49.36%
Mt Daylight	100%	56	105	105	52.86%
Hylands Bridge	95%	32	46	44	74.28%
Total All Sources		2,423	4,353	4,253	56.97%
Cootamundra	95%	223	524	498	44.87%
Harden *	95%	156	401	381	40.93%
Young	95%	350	734	697	50.22%

NB:

YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.

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

Consumption remains below average which is obviously as a result of above average rainfalls in recent months. While this position is favourable in respect of water conservation it continues to impact on Council's financial position and highlights Council's susceptibility to the weather.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.2 THE GUIDE TO THE PROPOSED MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN
(G45405505)**

10/143 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that the report on The Guide to the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

As previously advised the Guide to the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan (the Guide) was released by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) on Friday 8 October 2010. Subsequent to the release a number of consultation sessions were held by MDBA in various locations across the Basin. The General Manager attended the session held at Narrandera on 9 November 2010 at which it became evident that the community in general is frustrated and concerned at the content and potential impact of the proposed Plan. In consultation with the Chairman a submission was prepared. A copy of Council's response to the Guide is attached (refer Attachment 9.3.2.A) for the information of Council.

The Chairman and General Manager attended a meeting in Canberra on 22 November 2010 of Local Government Authorities within the Murray-Darling Basin convened by the Murray River Group of Councils and Greater Shepparton City Council. The meetings was addressed by Government and Opposition parliamentarians including Tony Burke, Minister for Water, Simon Crean, Minister for Regional Development and Local Government, Tony Windsor, Tony Abbott, Leader of the Opposition, Warren Truss, Leader of the Nationals and MP's whose electorates are within the basin.

The meeting resolved to present a Declaration of Concern (refer Attachment 9.3.2.B) to both sides of politics for their consideration prior to the release of the Draft Basin Plan in June 2011.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.3 2011 G DIVISION OF THE SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW CONFERENCE
(G45405005)**

10/144 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that

1. Council advise that its Delegates to the conference will be Crs Macaulay and O'Brien.
2. Council authorise attendance by the General Manager and any other Councillor wishing to attend as Observers.

Report prepared by General Manager

The date for the Annual Conference of "G" Division of the Shires Association of NSW has been altered to Thursday 31 March 2011. The venue is still the Temora Ex-Services Club and is to be hosted by Goldenfields Water County Council.

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Council's delegate to "G" Division is Cr Macaulay with Cr O'Brien as the alternate however the option for other Councillors to attend as observers is available. In the past the General Manager has attended as an observer.

The deadline for the submission of motions to this conference has been set as Friday 25 February 2011.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW – ONE ASSOCIATION (G05055010)

10/145 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Macaulay that

1. The report on the One Association Structure be received and noted.
2. Council be represented at the Special Meeting of the Shires Association of NSW scheduled for 23 February 2011 by the Chairman (or an alternate at his discretion) and the General Manager.

Report prepared by General Manager

The Deputy Chairman and General Manager represented Council at a meeting with the Presidents of the Local Government & Shires Association of NSW and representatives from other county councils in NSW in Sydney of 2 December 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how county councils will fit into a One Association structure.

The general consensus of the six county councils present was that they were happy with the current arrangements as Associate Members. The following dot points are provided as a summary.

- *Subscription:* The present subscriptions should be maintained as the services of the Associations are only used in a limited manner. The concept of subscriptions being calculated on a per capita basis was rejected as inappropriate.
- *Voting Rights:* The present voting rights were endorsed whereby Shires Association member Counties have one (1) vote at conferences and Local Government Association member Counties have two (2) votes. County Councils presently are not able to nominate for positions on the Executive of either association and it was agreed that this was appropriate. Should the voting structure for members of either association vary as a result of the One Association structure then county councils should retain the minimum voting rights relevant to their Metropolitan or Regional status.
- *Submission of Motions:* All present agreed that county councils should still retain the right to submit motions to conferences.

Overall the meeting was productive with it pleasing to see that County Councils were invited to contribute to discussions.

The President of the Shires Association of NSW advised that a Special Meeting of the Shires Association will be held in Sydney on 23 February 2011 to discuss progress on the One Association matter. As Goldenfields is not scheduled to meet again until the day after, it is suggested that Council nominate representatives to attend on its behalf.

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Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.5 CONNECTIONS ON NON-RETICULATED MAINS (G40102015)

10/146 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that Coolamon Shire Council be advised that Council will maintain its present policy position in relation to new non-reticulated connection at least until more information regarding the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and the Mid-Murrumbidgee Alluvium Water Sharing Plan is available.

Report prepared by General Manager

Correspondence has been received from Coolamon Shire Council (refer Attachment 9.3.5.A) requesting that Council review its policy position relating to non-reticulated connections.

This matter was considered at the August 2009 meeting and an extract from the minutes of that meeting are attached (refer Attachment 9.3.5.B). The information therein is still considered relevant. A copy of Council Policy CP:015 – Connection to Small Diameter Mains is also attached (refer Attachment 9.3.5.C).

Since the consideration of the above report, the following relevant events have occurred:-

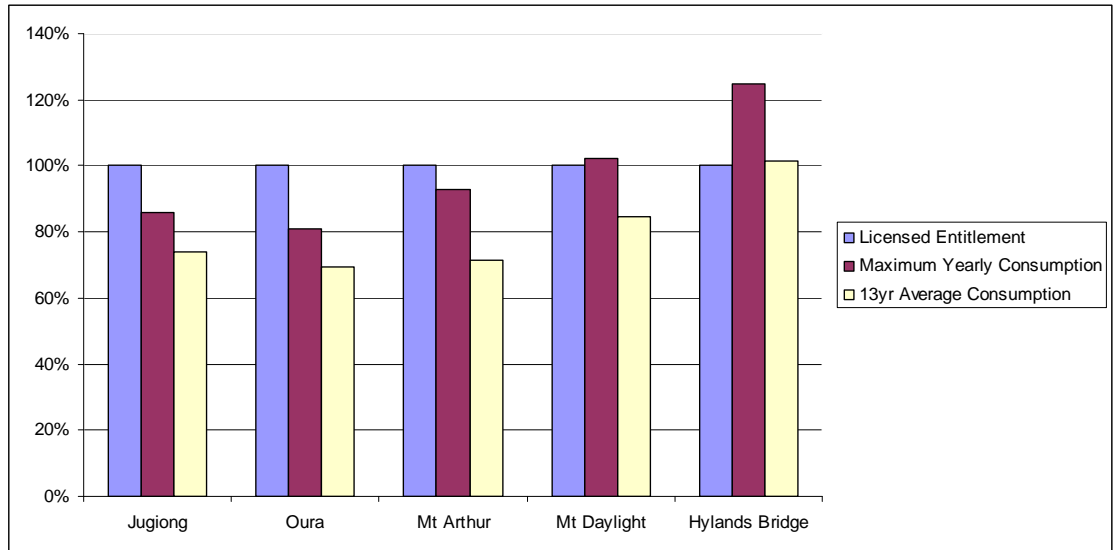
- There has been significant rainfall effectively breaking the drought and resulting in a significant reduction in water consumption. Surface water storages have improved significantly however groundwater storages have been slower to react.
- The Guide to the Murray-Darling Basin Plan has been released (refer to item 9.3.2 earlier in the Business Paper) which has generated a degree of uncertainty regarding future water allocation.
- The NSW Office of Water has commenced the process of preparing a Draft Water Sharing Plan for groundwater within the Mid-Murrumbidgee Alluvium (refer Item 9.3.6 of the October minutes).

The table below provides information on consumption from each water source together with the year in which the maximum consumption occurred during the “life” of Goldenfields.

Source	Licensed Entitlement	13yr Average Consumption	Percentage of Entitlement	Maximum Yearly Consumption	Percentage of Entitlement	Year
Jugiong	5,590	4,139	74%	4,788	86%	2002/03
Oura	6,000	4,156	69%	4,856	81%	2002/03
Mt Arthur	762	545	72%	706	93%	2006/07
Mt Daylight	295	249	84%	301	102%	2006/07
Hylands Bridge	165	167	101%	206	125%	2006/07

The graph below shows the percentages detailed in the table in a diagrammatical format.

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It is evident from the above that on the basis of current entitlements the Mt Daylight and Hyland Bridge systems are at capacity. The Mt Arthur system does have some capacity for additional connections however potential urban development must be considered. The Jugiong and Ora systems do have capacity for additional connections but once again potential urban development must be considered. Given that these two systems supply the larger urban centres within Council's area any additional non-reticulated connects should be considered on a case by case basis. This is reflected in the current policies.

The uncertainty of future allocations and the possibility of a reduction in allocations as a result of the release of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan reinforce Council's decision to place limits on additional non-reticulated connections at least in the short term.

Goldenfields role in regional and/or local development is solely based on whether it can or cannot supply water to potential developments. To date Council has not actively encouraged or discouraged development rather rightfully leaving that responsibility to its constituent councils. However to allow additional connections without having regard for the impact on existing customers would potentially place Council in the untenable position of not being able to provide existing customers within its adopted levels of service particularly during periods of peak demand and has been avoided by the enacting of Council's current policy position.

It is suggested that Council continue with its present position at least until more information regarding the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and the Mid-Murrumbidgee Alluvium Water Sharing Plan is available.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.6 SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE (G70401005)

10/147 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that Council endorse the amendments to clause 3 and clause 5 of the Occupational Health & Safety Committee Constitution.

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Report prepared by General Manager

A review of the Goldenfields Water Occupational Health and Safety Committee Constitution has been undertaken by that Committee resulting in changes to membership composition being recommended.

The principle change relating to the membership composition and can be summarised as follows:-

- Maximum number of members increased from 8 to 10 consisting of 3 Management representatives and 7 Employee representatives.
- The minimum number of members necessary to constitute a Committee is 7 consisting of 3 Management representatives and 4 Employee representatives.
- Employee representatives should, where possible, represent the various work groups within the organisation. However nominations from the whole workforce will be accepted so that those employees who show a genuine interest in being a member are not disadvantaged should there not be any interest from a specific work group.
- The General Manager will appoint the 3 Management representatives, 1 of which will have delegated authority to make decisions regarding OH&S matter subject to legislative requirements.
- The quorum requirements have changed from 4 to 5 members present, 3 of which must be Employee representatives.

A copy of the revised Constitution will be tabled at the meeting or will be made available to Councillors on request.

These amendments are necessary so that the Committee can function more effectively given the varying level of interest shown by employees. The commitment shown by current members is to be commended and to restrict membership to specific areas would, in my opinion, be detrimental to the intent and productivity of it.

It is therefore requested that Council formally endorse the amendments to the Occupational Health & Safety Committee Constitution.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.7 REQUEST FOR RECREATIONAL LEAVE (P109)

10/148 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that Council authorise the recreational leave requested by the General Manager.

Report prepared by General Manager

With the Temora office being closed between Christmas and New Year and the amount of business that is usually transacted during January it would appear an opportune time for the General Manager to take some recreational leave. Therefore approval is sought from Council for the General Manager to take recreational leave from Tuesday 28 December 2010 to Friday 7 January 2011.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.8 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 24 February 2011 at Council's Temora office commencing at 1.00pm.

10. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Manchester sought and was provided with information on the recent flood damage at Jugiong.

Cr Palmer sought and was provided with information on further development relating to the request for additional water from a large volume customer and flood damaged infrastructure in the Cootamundra area.

Cr Speirs sought and was provided with information relating to the signature requirements for Council Minutes.

11. CLOSED SESSION – 12.14PM (pink pages)

10/149 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that Council meet in Closed Session.

11.2 LATE ITEM: NEGOTIATIONS TO PURCHASE LAND (G10057004)

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 proposes to conduct) business.

10/150 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that in accordance with clause 241 (3) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 this matter be considered.

The Chairperson ruled the item to be of an urgent nature and ruled that it be considered prior to the consideration of Item 11.1

10/151 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that the General Manager be authorised to negotiate the purchase of the required land up to the maximum amount referred to in the report.

The General Manager declared a pecuniary interest in Item 11.1 as the mortgagee referred to in the report and left the meeting at 12.14pm.

11.1 STAFF HOUSING LOAN (P109)

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

(a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals.

10/152 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that Council decline its right to first offer for the purchase of 35 Gallipoli Street, Temora as a residence for Senior Staff.

The General Manager returned to the meeting at 12.28pm.

OPEN SESSION – 12.29PM

10/153 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor 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 12.30pm.
