



QUALITY NATURE - QUALITY HERITAGE - QUALITY LIFESTYLE

MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2022

MINUTES OF THE **Ordinary Council Meeting** OF TENTERFIELD SHIRE held at the Memorial Hall, Urbenville on Wednesday 23 November 2022 commencing at 9:30 am

ATTENDANCE

Councillor Bronwyn Petrie (Mayor)
Councillor John Macnish (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Peter Petty
Councillor Tom Peters
Councillor Kim Rhodes
Councillor Giana Saccon
Councillor Geoff Nye
Councillor Peter Murphy

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive (Daryl Buckingham)
Executive Assistant & Media (Elizabeth Melling)
Chief Corporate Officer (Kylie Smith)
Director Infrastructure (Fiona Keneally)

Clause 254(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires that the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment are recorded and shown in the Minutes of the meeting.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (PUBLIC ACCESS)

WEBCASTING OF MEETING

I advise all present that this meeting is being recorded for placement on Council's website for the purposes of broadening knowledge and participation in Council issues, and demonstrating Council's commitment to openness and accountability.

All speakers must ensure their comments are relevant to the issue at hand and to refrain from making personal comments or criticisms or mentioning any private information.

No other persons are permitted to record the meeting, unless specifically authorised by Council to do so.

OPENING AND WELCOME

CIVIC PRAYER

We give thanks for the contribution by our pioneers, early settlers and those who fought in the various wars for the fabric of the Tenterfield Community we have today.

May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land that we are meeting on today. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders past, present, and emerging of the Jukemba, Kamilaroi and Bundjalung Nations and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.

APOLOGIES

214/22 **Resolved** that Cr Tim Bonner and Cr Greg Sauer were apologies.

(Peter Petty/Greg Sauer)

Motion Carried

DISCLOSURE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

That councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

Name	Type	Item
Nil.		

(ITEM MIN11/22) CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

215/22 **Resolved** that the Minutes of the following Meeting of Tenterfield Shire Council:

- Ordinary Council Meeting – 26 October 2022

As typed and circulated, be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings of these meetings.

(Kim Rhodes/Peter Petty)

Motion Carried

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

216/22 **Resolved** that Council accept the following documents tabled by Cr Bronwyn Petrie, they included:-

- 1) Country Mayors Association Inc of New South Wales Minutes Friday 18 November 2022; and
- 2) Country Mayors Association Inc of New South Wales – Media Release Regarding the new Executive Team.

(Kim Rhodes/Peter Petty)

Motion Carried

URGENT, LATE & SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS OF BUSINESS

217/22 **Resolved** that Council accept the following Addendum Agenda:

- 1) (ITEM GOV100/22) Quarterly Budget Review Statement - September 2022

(Peter Murphy/Giana Saccon)

Motion Carried

MAYORAL MINUTE

SUMMARY

I, Mayor Bronwyn Petrie intend to move the following Mayoral Minute with respect to the following issue:-

218/22 **Declaration of State-wide Road Emergency 2022**

That Tenterfield Council joins with Local Government NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW in declaring a State-wide Road Emergency.

Councillors,

We are all well aware the Tenterfield Shire has been hit by a seemingly relentless series of flood and storm events in the past 12 months.

We are not alone, with a total of 126 of New South Wales' 128 local government areas having had natural disaster declarations within the last 12 months, according to the President of Local Government NSW, Darriea Turley.

On the third of November 2022, Local Government NSW declared a State-wide Roads Emergency.

The declaration – and urgent call for the NSW and Federal governments to increase their existing road funding commitments in the wake of the flooding events – comes on the back of an estimated \$2.5 billion in road damages and a collapse of the local and regional road network.

I call on Tenterfield Shire Council to show our support for this move and wholeheartedly endorse the Local Government NSW declaration of State-wide Road Emergency.

The declaration has already been publicly supported by our peak regional body, the Country Mayors Association of New South Wales.

As part of the State-wide Roads Emergency, LGA NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW are calling for:

- An acceleration and significant increase in funding for the \$1.1 billion Fixing Local Roads and Fixing Country Bridges program from the New South Wales Government
- A boost to Roadblock Grant funding to compensate for the damage to the regional road network from the Federal Government
- New funding to provide councils with plant machinery and skilled workers to expedite road repairs from the Federal Government.

We have faced, and may continue to face, an unprecedented and unrelenting series of natural disasters that have impacted our residents and business owners, with people isolated, workers unable to get to work, and students unable to get to training or school.

Add to this our very real and immediate concern for our primary producers, let alone our visitor economy.

The local and regional road network is critically enabling infrastructure. It is absolutely vital to our primary producers, and the key to keeping affordable food on the table across New South Wales and beyond. Our food and fibre industries are the mainstay of agricultural production in this state and important not only for domestic consumption and employment, but also for export.

We still have some roads that currently have limited freight access to farms, and roads that even 4WD vehicles are finding impassable with even minor rain events. Heavy rain will completely block access on certain roads until bridges and culverts can be repaired.

Our road network, and the road network of shires across the state, has disastrous damage. We are facing a task that is beyond the reasonable scope of any local government authority. We face an unprecedented disaster that requires an unprecedented response. We not only need to repair roads, but we need to rebuild better to reduce future impacts.

We greatly appreciate the disaster funding the State government has provided us this year but it is inadequate for the monumental task facing our engineering department and road crews, with successive events undoing the repair work.

We congratulate the Minister for NSW Regional Roads, Sam Farraway, for his announcement yesterday, the 22nd of November, to deploy 200 people and heavy machinery to the Central West and Murrumbidgee to assist with the mammoth task of reconnecting their road network.

However we also need help. Our community needs help. Other regional and rural communities across the state and beyond need help. We desperately need our leaders to lead.

We need to support our peak bodies in their declaration of State-wide Road Emergency.

This is an emergency, and it is time to seek further assistance, and by supporting this Mayoral Minute you are endorsing that I write to the Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese and the Premier of New South Wales Dominic Perrottet pleading for immediate action.

Motion Carried

OPEN COUNCIL REPORTS

OUR ECONOMY

Nil.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Nil.

OUR COMMUNITY

(ITEM COM29/22) FACEBOOK TRIAL

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the results of the three-month trial of Facebook.

218/22

Resolved that Council:

Continue the Facebook page permanently in its current "no comments" format.

(Geoff Nye/Giana Saccon)

Motion Carried

OUR GOVERNANCE

(ITEM GOV99/22) MONTHLY OPERATION REPORT OCTOBER 2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a standing monthly report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council that demonstrates staff accountabilities and actions taken against Council's 2022/2023 Operational Plan.

219/22

Resolved that Council receives and notes the status of the Monthly Operational Report for October 2022.

(Peter Petty/Kim Rhodes)

Motion Carried

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

220/22

Resolved that Standing Orders be suspended.

(Peter Petty/Peter Murphy)

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned for morning tea, the time being 11.17 am.

The meeting reconvened, the time being 11.42 am.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

221/22

Resolved that Standing Orders be resumed.

(Kim Rhodes/Peter Petty)

Motion Carried

Wes Hoffman, Manager HR, Workforce Development & Safety entered the meeting, the time being 11.42 am.

(ITEM GOV94/22) HR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & SAFETY - UPDATES OF POLICIES

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update the listed policies that align with HR Workforce Development & Safety

222/22

Resolved that Council:

Adopt the following policies:

- Asbestos Policy
- Work Health & Safety Policy

- Workplace Rehabilitation and Return to Work Policy
- Succession Planning
- Conference/Seminar/Training/Expenses Policy
- Leave Policy
- Workforce Development Policy
- Recruitment & Selection Policy
- Salary System (Including Performance Review)

(Peter Petty/Kim Rhodes)

Motion Carried

Wes Hoffman, Manager HR, Workforce Development & Safety left the meeting, the time being 11.50 am.

(ITEM GOV95/22) TENTERFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Report is for Council to receive the Annual Report, inclusive of the Audited Annual Financial Statements, for the financial year ending 30 June 2022.

223/22

Resolved that Council receive and adopt the Annual Report for 2021/2022.

(John Macnish/Kim Rhodes)

Motion Carried

Roy Jones, Manager Finance & Technology entered the meeting, the time being 12.13 pm.

(ITEM GOV97/22) FINANCE & ACCOUNTS - PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Report is for the Responsible Accounting Officer to provide, in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 a written report setting out details of all money that the Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993. The Report must be made up to the last day of the month immediately preceding the meeting.

224/22

Resolved that Council receive and note the Finance and Accounts Report for the period ended 31 October 2022.

(Tom Peters/Giana Saccon)

Motion Carried

(ITEM GOV96/22) CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to show the Year-to-date (YTD) financial progress of Capital Works projects against the budget.

225/22 **Resolved** that Council receive and note the Capital Expenditure Report for the period ended 31 October 2022.

(Kim Rhodes/John Macnish)

Motion Carried

(ITEM GOV98/22) REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICY

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to review and adopt the Investment Policy.

226/22 **Resolved** that Council adopts the Investment Policy as attached.

(Geoff Nye/Peter Petty)

Motion Carried

(ITEM GOV100/22) QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - SEPTEMBER 2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Report is to provide Council with a Quarterly Budget Review Statement in accordance with Regulation 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulation).

227/22 **Resolved** that Council:

Adopts the September 2022 Quarterly Budget Review Statement and recommendations therein that:

- a) No additional operating or capital expenditure outside of the recommendations in this review be approved by Council unless they are offset by other savings (e.g. with road works such as re-sheeting, with a plan to reduce maintenance costs) or grant funded, and even then only where there will be no additional operating costs as a result of the expenditure i.e. if capital related expenditure, it should be for the replacement of existing assets only, not new assets;
- b) Acknowledge the ongoing governance and treasury management difficulties Council faces with the current structure of many grant and disaster funding payments, and advocate for changes to the timing of these cash payments from State and Federal governments.

- c) Council continues to explore increases in operational income by considering selling assets and reassessing commercial lease agreements to increase cash flow to meet requirements for the financial year in line with original budget.

(Geoff Nye/Peter Petty)

Motion Carried

Roy Jones, Manager Finance & Technology left the meeting, the time being 12.35 pm.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES & COMMITTEES

COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

- 228/22** **Resolved** that Council receive and note Mayor Petrie's verbal summary of the Country Mayors Association of NSW meetings of Friday 18 November 2022, email out copies of:-

- a) Annual General Meeting Minutes;
- b) General Meeting Minutes; and
- c) Media Release – Road Emergency

(Peter Petty/Geoff Nye)

Motion Carried

NOTICES OF MOTION

- 229/22** **Resolved** that Tenterfield Council joins with Local Government NSW and Country Mayors Association of NSW in declaring a State-wide Road Emergency.

(Tom Peters/Geoff Nye)

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION REGISTER

(ITEM RES11/22) COUNCIL RESOLUTION REGISTER - OCTOBER 2022

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Report is to provide a standing monthly report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council that outlines all Resolutions of Council previously adopted and yet to be finalised.

230/22

Resolved that Council notes the status of the Council Resolution Register to October 2022.

(Geoff Nye/Giana Saccon)

Motion Carried

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil.

MEETING CLOSED

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 12.48 pm.

Following lunch Community Consultation was held with the present Urbenville residents.

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Councillor Bronwyn Petrie
Mayor/Chairperson