



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

19 OCTOBER 2006

*Stephen McLean
General Manager*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CARINDA TOWN HALL
ON THURSDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2006, COMMENCING AT 10.20 am**

PRESENT

Mr Vic Smith (Administrator), Mr Stephen McLean (General Manager), Mrs Emma Darcy (Acting Manager Corporate Services), Mr Matthew Goodwin (Manager Regulations and Planning), Mr Ian Taylor (Projects Engineer), Ms Natalie Dunstan (Minute Secretary)

Administrator Vic Smith welcomed those attending the meeting and advised that there would be a period of thirty minutes provided for those community members wishing to address Council.

OPEN FORUM PRESENTATIONS

Mr Dominic Warnock

Mr Warnock addressed the following matters:-

Sealing of Walgett to Carinda Road (RR333)

Mr Warnock reiterated the importance of the sealing of the Walgett to Carinda Road and in particular asked if Council would give consideration to alternating the sealing to be from the Walgett end one year, Carinda end the next.

Straightening of Road – 10 Mile Bore Drain

Concerns were raised regarding the proposed straightening of the road in the vicinity of the 10 Mile Bore Drain area. Mr Warnock requested that Council consider to cut the road from the 10-14 mile area to straighten the road completely.

Bond Money

Letter was forwarded to Council from the Carinda Precinct Committee regarding the \$1,000 bond – to date no response had been received.

Utilisation of Carinda Hall

Carinda Country Women's Association and Playgroup have made arrangements to utilise the Carinda hall one day per month and have requested Council to consider the groups paying fees due on an annual basis.

Local Shire Worker in Carinda

Mr Warnock noted that the vacant Council position in Carinda had not been filled and advised that some reservation had been expressed regarding the salary offered for the position. Mr Warnock asked if Council would look favourably to appointing a local worker.

Carinda Waste Management

Mr Warnock advised that recent discussions had been held with Melanie O'Sullivan, Council's Project Officer regarding suitable locations for Carinda's Waste Management Centre.

Four sites have been identified with three sites being on the approach to town. Mr Warnock advised that community members were not in favour of the three locations identified on the approach to town and therefore preferred the site identified near the old waste management centre.

Recycling

Mr Warnock sought Council's support in introducing recycling initiatives when considering the proposed Carinda Waste Management Centre.

Carinda - Brewarrina Road

Concerns have been raised regarding the recent build up of the Carinda - Brewarrina Road. The condition of the road needs to be reassessed and addressed as soon as possible.

Mr Rod Dayment

Mr Dayment addressed the following matters:-

Carinda - Brewarrina Road

Mr Dayment expressed concern regarding the sweeping bend on the Carinda - Brewarrina Road.

Mr Dayment advised that the road sign indicates that the road is straight ahead however, is incorrect and needs to be replaced to prevent a possible accident occurring. The road in question narrows and needs to be widened.

Carinda Swimming Pool

A letter from the Swimming Pool Committee has been forwarded to Council outlining improvements that wished to carry out for the Carinda Pool. To date a response had not been received from Council.

Mr Ray Dorrington

Carinda - Brewarrina Road

Mr Dorrington expressed concern regarding the Carinda – Brewarrina Road (RR 7516) and in particular that signs had been removed from this road and had not been replaced.

265/06 – Confirmation of Minutes – 21 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 September 2006 be confirmed.

Carried.

266/06 – Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC) Resource Sharing Initiative Report to Member Councils

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council express its support and ongoing participation in the activities and initiatives being undertaken by OROC.
2. Council commit \$6,600 (incl GST) towards becoming a member of the Hunter Councils Inc Regional Procurement Initiative.
3. Council sign the Memorandum of Agreement between Hunter Councils Inc and OROC to reinforce its commitment towards participation in the Hunter Councils Inc Regional Procurement Initiative.

Carried.

267/06 – Report on Management Plan 2006/2007 Progress

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Management Plan 2006/2007 progress report for the July – September 2006 quarter be received.

Carried.

268/06 – Staff Recruitment and Retention

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Report on Staff Recruitment and Retention be deferred to allow further discussion to be held between the General Manager and Department Managers.

Carried.

269/06 – Swimming Pool Walgett

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council note that negotiations were entered into with Riley Aquatic Management under Section 178 (3)(e) of the Local Government General Regulation 2005, as per Council resolution 259/06.
2. Council note under Section 178 (4)(a) of the Local Government General Regulation 2005, the reason that Council declined to invite fresh tenders was because of the limited response to the previous advertised tender.
3. Council note under Section 178 (4)(b) of the Local Government General Regulation 2005, the reason for entering into negotiations with Riley Aquatic Management was due to the submitted but withdrawn complying tender.
4. Council accept the negotiated Tender in the amount of \$105,000.00 for the 2006/2007 season of Riley Aquatic Management for the licence to operate the Walgett Memorial Swimming Pool for the period 1 October 2006 to 30 June 2009.

Carried.

270/06 – Union Picnic Day

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council allow Thursday, 9 November 2006 as the Union Picnic Day under the Local Government (State) Award 2004.
2. That employees of Council who are not union members and wish to attend organised events on the day be required to make application for leave.

Carried.

**271/06 – Disclosure of Interests in Written Returns
Councillors and Designated Persons**

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council note that Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons - Section 449 (3) Returns have been received from the following designated persons:-

- Mr Victor Smith Administrator
- Mr Stephen McLean General Manager
- Mr Matthew Goodwin Manager Planning and Regulations
- Mr Alan Nelson Manager Engineering
- Mrs Emma Darcy Acting Manager Corporate Services

Carried.

272/06 – Organisation Structure

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council endorse the additional position of Economic Development Officer and Aboriginal Liaison Officer within the Corporate Service Department and include in Council's Organisational Structure.
2. Council endorse the additional position of GIS Coordinator within the Planning and Regulations Department and include in Council's Organisational Structure.
3. Council endorse the amendment to the position title of Lands Officer to "Customer Service Officer (Lands)" and reflect this on Council's Organisational Structure.

Carried.

273/06 – Application for Housing – Murdi Paaki Partnerships Facilitator

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council housing be made available to Mr Gilbert Nolan and that he be issued with a Residential Tenancy Agreement for Flat 2, 32 Eureka Street Walgett for a period of twelve months with an option to renew whilst he remains in the position of Community Facilitator.
2. Rental of \$10.00 per week be set for the use of Council furniture contained within Council's accommodation.

Carried.

274/06 – BAC Rugby League Walgett Incorporated – Request for Sponsorship

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that \$2,200 (including GST) be paid to BAC Rugby League Walgett Inc to assist in costs to enable the team to participate in NSW Aboriginal Knockout.

Carried.

275/06 – Lightning Ridge Pre School – Request for Funding

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that \$8,250 (including GST) be paid to Lightning Ridge Pre School to assist in the development of a Business Plan for a new building.

Carried.

276/06 – Report on Rates and Charges – 30 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Report on Rates as at 30 September 2006 be received.

Carried.

277/06 – Investment Report – 30 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Investment report as at 30 September 2006 be received.

Carried.

278/06 – Monthly Management Report to 30 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council note the Management Report for the period ending 30 September 2006 and adopt changes as follows:-
 - (a) Reduce Expenditure – Members and Civic – Election Expenses by \$40,000 to nil.
 - (b) Reduce Expenditure – Members and Civic – Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Allowance by \$13,000 to nil.
 - (c) Increase Expenditure – Members and Civic – WSC Administrator Expenses by \$30,000 to \$80,000.
 - (d) Reduce Expenditure – Members and Civic – Councillor’s meeting expenses by \$72,500 to nil.
 - (e) Increase Expenditure – Members and Civic – Section 356 Expenditure by \$13,000 to \$28,000.
 - (f) Reduce Expenditure – Members and Civic – Councillor’s Travel and Sustenance by \$7,000 to nil.
 - (g) Increase Revenues – Untied Grants – FAG general Component by \$34,763 to \$2,275,763.
 - (h) Increase Revenue – Roads and Bridges – FAG Roads – by \$18,446 to \$1,468,446.
 - (i) Reduce Manager Planning and Regulations – Rural and Urban Addressing Grant by \$118,000 to nil.
 - (j) Reduce Planning and Regulation – Rural Addressing Project by \$74,000 to nil.
 - (k) Reduce Planning and Regulation – Urban Addressing Project by \$74,000 to nil.
 - (l) Increase Planning and Regulation – Salaries and Wages by \$38,000 to \$391,700.
 - (m) Increase Expenditure – Planning and Regulation by \$6,500.00 for new project “Dog Health – NSW Health / RSPCA”.
 - (n) Increase General Staff – Community Services by \$35,000 to \$100,037.
2. Council note that the report should have read that at the end of September 2006 the surplus based on actual was \$2,694,189.

Carried.

279/06 – Debt Recovery Progress Report

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council note the Debt Recovery Progress Report for the period ending 30 September 2006.
2. Council note the efforts being made by staff to re-coup the debt for Council.

Carried.

280/06 – Write Off of Outstanding Arrears - Assessment Numbers 693 and 692

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Walgett Shire Council resolve to write off the amount of \$2,615.70 on Assessment 693 and transfer this as a credit to Assessment 692.

Carried.

281/06 – Black Raven Pty Ltd (In Liquidation) - Assessment 2696

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Council write off an amount of \$2,730.65 relating to Assessment 2696 under Section 603 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
2. Council classify Assessment 2696 as non rateable until further advice by Department of Primary Industries as to whether the relevant Mining Purpose Lease is still registered.

Carried.

282/06 – Community Services Activities

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council receive and note the Community Liaison Officer's report for October 2006.

Carried.

283/06 - Development and Complying Development Certificate Applications

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Walgett Shire Council resolve to note the Development and Complying Development Certificate applications dealt with under delegated authority by the Manager Planning and Regulation and General Manager during September 2006.

Carried.

284/06 - Draft Local Orders Policy

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council:-

1. Make the following amendments to the draft Walgett Shire Council Local Orders Policy as exhibited during August and September 2006:
 - (a) Changing the Criteria for order 9 – waterbody so that they only apply in urban areas.
 - (b) Removing the sections titled “Criteria for poultry”, “Criteria for birds other than poultry”, “Criteria for swine, goats and sheep”, “Criteria for horses” and “Criteria for dogs” under the heading Order No. 18 - Animals.
2. Determine that the amendments are not substantial in the Council’s opinion.
3. Adopt the amended version of the Walgett Shire Council Local Orders Policy.
4. Give public notice that Walgett Shire Council has adopted a Local Orders Policy via advertisements in the Black Opal Advocate, Lightning Ridge News and the Walgett Spectator.

Carried.

285/06 – Proposed Walgett Dog health Program

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council write to NSW Health and state that it will participate in the planned Walgett Dog Health Program, and support it with a \$5,000 contribution and up to \$1500 value in companion animal microchips.

Carried.

286/06 – Engineering Internship

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council note the intended use of water supply project funds to cover the cost of engaging a senior intern from University of Technology Sydney for the period January 2007 to June 2007.

Carried.

287/06 – Sydney Airport – Regional Access

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council note the submission to the Productivity Commission, a letter indicating Council's support of the current position relating to the access to Sydney Airport by regionally based airlines.

Carried.

288/06 – Collarenebri Footpath Project

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council consider a recommencement of the Collarenebri Footpath Project in April 2007, subject to the availability of funds, and that a report be brought forward to Council's March 2007 meeting on this matter.

Carried.

289/06 – Five Year Road Plan

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the attached draft Five Year Road Plan be placed upon public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and that it be resubmitted, with any comments received, to Council for final adoption.

FIVE YEAR ROAD PLAN

Funding for road projects comes from a number of sources. Five main sources are included in this road plan and, whilst there may be opportunities to access funds from other sources from time to time, it would be unrealistic to incorporate projects into this plan on the basis of utilising funds from sources that are unlikely to eventuate. These main sources are as follows ;

Block Grant – an annual lump sum made available by the State Government through the RTA for Council to undertake works (maintenance and development) on regional roads. The total available funds shown below is not equal to the Block Grant as much of this allocation needs to be retained for routine maintenance activities, such as grading, patching, resealing etc, which are not included in this plan.

REPAIR Programme – a dollar for dollar programme made available by the State Government through the RTA for Council to undertake works (development or rehabilitation) on regional roads. Council is not assured of gaining funds from this programme, however, on the basis of past performance it has been included as the prospects are at least reasonable. There is an upper limit of \$300,000 to be granted and matching funds are normally taken from the Block Grant.

Timber Bridge Replacement Programme – this state programme was originally due to commence in July 2005, but was deferred for a year but is now abandoned. The State Opposition has pledged to fund it if they win the next State Election, due in early 2007. However, in the current circumstances, this programme has been taken out of the five year road plan. If circumstances change, it can be re-introduced at a later date.

FAG (Road Component) Grant – is made available annually by the Commonwealth Government for expenditure on local roads. The size of the grant is determined by a formula and, like the Block Grant, the total available funds is not equal to the grant, as it too must take into account routine maintenance activities.

Roads to Recovery Grant (2) – this is a four year programme which commenced last year. It is made available by the Commonwealth Government for expenditure on roads of any category, however the Commonwealth would prefer to see it spent on local roads. It has been included in the fifth year of this plan on the assumption that it will be continued after it expires in three years time, much the same as the original programme was.

Year One – 2006/07

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$3,026,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$250,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$300,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Supplementary Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Projects

1. **Regional Road No 333 (seal 15km to 23.3km from Walgett towards Carinda) - \$1,169,000 (includes \$250,000 from REPAIR Programme)**
2. **Regional Road No 329 (seal 50km to 55km from Collarenebri towards Burren Junction) - \$719,000**
3. **Regional Road No 402 (heavy patch selected sections between Walgett and Cumborah) - \$300,000**
4. **Regional Road No 7516 (gravel sheeting of selected sections) - \$200,000**
5. **Shire Roads (reforming of selected road lengths) - \$388,000**
6. **Walgett (town) – sealing of selected road shoulders - \$250,000**

Year Two – 2007/08

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$2,138,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$200,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Projects

1. **Regional Road No 333 (seal 23.3km to 29.3km from Walgett towards Carinda) - \$850,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)**
2. **Regional Road No 457 (Selected lengths from Collarenebri towards Mungindi – seal for dust suppression) - \$300,000**
3. **Shire Roads (reforming of selected road lengths) - \$488,000**
4. **Sealing of village streets in Burren Junction - \$200,000**
5. **Shire Road No 57 – Construction of new bridge over Milchome Creek (Epping Bridge) - \$300,000**

Year Three – 2008/09

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$2,238,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$300,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Projects

1. Regional Road No 333 (seal 29.3km to 35.0km from Walgett towards Carinda) - \$800,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)
2. Regional Road No 329 (seal 55km to 57.1km from Collarenebri towards Burren Junction) - \$300,000
3. Shire Road No 103 (Selected lengths from Burren Junction towards Pilliga – seal for dust suppression) - \$250,000
4. Sealing of village streets in Cumborah - \$200,000
5. Shire Road No 57 - Construction of new bridge over unnamed watercourse (1st Epping Bridge) - \$200,000
6. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$488,000

Year Four – 2009/10

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$2,238,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$300,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Projects

1. Regional Road No 333 (seal 35.0km to 39.2km from Walgett towards Carinda) - \$600,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)
2. Regional Road No 457 (Selected lengths from Collarenebri towards Mungindi - seal for dust suppression) - \$300,000
3. Regional Road No 202 (gravel resheeting of selected lengths) - \$150,000
4. Shire Road No 101 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths) - \$150,000
5. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$388,000
6. Regional Road No 7716 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths – Pilliga end) - \$350,000
7. Regional Road No 329 (seal 57.1km to 59.2km from Collarenebri towards Burren Junction) - \$300,000

Year Five - 2010/11

Assumed Available Road Funds - \$2,138,000

Comprising

Block Grant - \$800,000

REPAIR Programme - \$300,000

FAG (Road Component) Grant - \$200,000

Roads to Recovery Grant - \$838,000

Projects

- 1. Regional Road No 333 (seal 39.2km to 43.4km from Walgett towards Carinda) - \$600,000 (assumes \$300,000 from REPAIR Programme)**
- 2. Shire Roads (reforming of selected lengths) - \$388,000**
- 3. Regional Road No 426 (gravel sheeting of selected lengths) - \$350,000**
- 4. Sealing of village streets in Carinda - \$150,000**
- 5. Shire Road No 79 - replace timber deck at bridge over Pagan Creek - \$200,000**
- 6. Regional Road No 457 (Selected lengths from Collarenebri towards Mungindi - seal for dust suppression) - \$150,000**
- 7. Regional Road No 329 (seal 59.2km to 61.3km from Collarenebri towards Burren Junction) - \$300,000**

Carried.

290/06 – Timber Bridge Replacement Program

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council make representations to the New South Wales Government, in support of the Local Government and Shires Associations, to re-establish the Timber Bridge Replacement Programme no later than 2007/08 with funding in real terms no less than it was when the programme was originally promised in 2003.

Carried.

291/06 – Bridge over Barwon River – West of Walgett

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

- (a) Council name the bridge structure over the Barwon River west of Walgett the Eric (Monty) Morgan Bridge in recognition of his strong family, cultural ties and the dedication of his entire working life in the Walgett Shire.
- (b) Concurrence of the Roads and Traffic Authority be sought to the changing of the name from the Dangar Bridge to the Eric (Monty) Morgan Bridge.
- (c) Upon approval of appropriate signage, Council in conjunction with the Morgan family and community arrange for an official naming of the bridge.

Carried.

292/06 – Water Supply – Grawin Opal Fields

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council recognises the extent of community opposition to any proposal to introduce any form of water charge for the Grawin area and for this reason does not become involved in the cartage of water to the Grawin opal fields in periods when a drought subsidy does not apply.

Carried.

293/06 – REPAIR Programme – 2007/2008

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council submits applications, in an amount of \$300,000, for REPAIR programme funding for 2006/07 to extend the bitumen seal on Regional Road No 333 (Walgett-Carinda), Regional Road No 457 (Collarenebri-Mungindi) and Regional Road No 329 (Collarenebri-Burren Junction).

Carried.

294/06 – Walgett Water Supply

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that Council note that initiatives which are being taken to introduce an amount of bore water into Walgett town supply for potable purposes and to secure the water supply during drought.

Carried.

295/06 – Fees and Charges - Saleyards**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the fees and charges for saleyards listed in the 2006/2007 Walgett Shire Management Plan be amended and appear as follows and to be effective from 1 July 2006:-

ACTIVITY	FEE OR CHARGE	GST	BENEFIT	PRICING POLICY
ENGINEERING SALEYARDS				
Saleyard Fees Yard Dues	\$3.50 per head for cattle sold \$2.30 per head store cattle sold	Yes	Private	100% Cost Recovery
Saleyard Fees Yard Dues - Horses	\$2.60 per head	Yes	Private	100% Cost Recovery
Saleyard Fees Private Weighing of Cattle	\$3.50 per head	Yes	Private	100% Cost Recovery
Saleyard Fees Casual use of yards for sheep	\$28.90 per 1,000 or part thereof (min charge of \$28.90 on each occasion)	Yes	Private	100% Cost Recovery
Saleyard Fees Casual use of yards for cattle	\$31.50 per 100 or part thereof (min charge of \$31.50 per use)	Yes	Private	100% Cost Recovery

Carried.

296/06 – Application for Housing – Simon Hannaford**RESOLUTION: -**

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that:-

1. Simon Hannaford's request for Council housing be approved and that he be issued with a Residential Tenancy Agreement for Flat 3, 32 Euroka Street, Walgett for a period of six months with and option to renew whilst he remains a Council employee.
2. Rental of \$10.00 per week be set for the use of Council furniture contained within the partially furnished flat.

Carried.

297/06 – Walgett Shire Consultative Committee Minutes – 2 August 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Walgett Shire Consultative Committee Minutes dated 2 August 2006 be received and noted.

Carried.

298/06 – Walgett Shire Consultative Committee Minutes – 6 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Walgett Shire Consultative Committee Minutes dated 6 September 2006 be received and noted.

Carried.

299/06 – Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 27 September 2006

RESOLUTION: -

It was resolved on the Motion of the Administrator that the Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes dated 27 September 2006 be received and noted.

Carried.

The meeting closed at 10.50 am

Confirmed by Council at its meeting on Tuesday, 21 November 2006.

Administrator

General Manager