

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Central Tablelands Water held at Blayney, on Wednesday, 19 February 2025, commencing at 10.15am

Present

Cr. Andrew Rawson	(Chairperson)	Cabonne
Cr. Craig Gosewisch	(Deputy Chairperson)	Blayney
Cr. Paul Best		Weddin
Cr. Marlene Nash		Cabonne
Cr. John Newstead		Blayney
Cr. Jan Parlett		Weddin
Charlie Harris	(General Manager)	
Peter McFarlane	(Director Finance & Corporate Services)	
Achal Deo	(Governance & Executive Support Officer)	

4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY MEMBERS

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1) MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2024

25/001 RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Central Tablelands Water, held on 11 December 2024, being minute numbers 24/102 to 24/115 inclusive, be confirmed.

(Cr. Parlett/Cr. Best)

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The three policies Fraud & Corruption Control Policy, Water Quality Management Policy and Procurement Policy did not receive any submissions and were therefore adopted.

7. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

8. PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

9. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTES

Nil

10. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION

Cr. Rawson represented CTW at the following:

- CTW meeting with GM and Phil Donato – 13 December 2024
- CNSWJO Water Portfolio Mayors – 18 December 2024 & 29 January 2025
- CTW meeting with GM – 30 January 2025 & 17 February 2025

Cr. Nash represented CTW at the following:

- Integrated Planning and Reporting Strategic Workshop – Blayney – 5 February 2025

Cr. Craig Gosewisch represented CTW at the following:

- Integrated Planning and Reporting Strategic Workshop – Blayney – 5 February 2025

Cr. Paul Best represented CTW at the following:

- Integrated Planning and Reporting Strategic Workshop – Blayney – 5 February 2025

Cr. John Newstead represented CTW at the following:

- Integrated Planning and Reporting Strategic Workshop – Blayney – 5 February 2025
- CTW ARIC Meeting – Blayney – 14 February 2025

Cr. Jan Parlett represented CTW at the following:

- Integrated Planning and Reporting Strategic Workshop – Blayney – 5 February 2025

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

12. REPORTS OF STAFF

12.1) SAFE AND SECURE WATER PROGRAM - STREAM 2 STRATEGIC FUNDING (CA.ME.1)

25/002 RESOLVED:

1. That Council notes the report and approve development of the strategic projects as outlined in the Stage 1 of the Safe and Secure Water Program - SSWP216 Funding Deed.

(Cr. Newstead/Cr. Gosewisch)

Carried

12.2) POLICY REVIEWS - SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT POLICY, CONCEAL LEAKS POLICY & WATER CHARGES DEBT RECOVERY POLICY (CM.PL.1)

25/003 RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note the report;
2. Endorse the draft Secondary Employment Policy, Concealed Leaks Policy & Water Charges Debt Recovery Policy, and place on public display for a period of 28 days, and

3. If no submissions are received during the Secondary Employment Policy, Concealed Leaks Policy & Water Charges Debt Recovery Policy public display period, the policies be adopted.

(Cr. Parlett/Cr. Gosewisch)

Carried

**12.3) QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - 31 DECEMBER 2024
(FM.FR.1)**

25/004 RESOLVED:

That Council adopt the budget review statement for the quarter ended 31 December 2024 and the variations therein be voted.

(Cr. Best/Cr. Newstead)

Carried

Proceedings in brief:

The Director Finance & Corporate Services outlines the major variations in the quarterly budget review statement including the reduced estimate for water sales resulting from frequent wet weather events.

**12.4) FINANCIAL MATTERS - INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 JANUARY, 2025
(FM.BA.1)**

25/005 RESOLVED:

That the information in relation to Cash and Investments on 31 January, 2025 be noted.

(Cr. Gosewisch/Cr. Nash)

Carried

12.5) AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ARIC) (CM.AU.1)

25/006 RESOLVED:

1. That Council notes the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee minutes for the meeting held on 14 November 2024.
2. That Council notes the resignation of the independent member of the Audit Risk and Improvement, Ron Gillard effective from 14 February 2025.
3. That Council appoints Stephen Coates as the new independent member on the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee for a 4-year term commencing on the commencing on the 22 May 2025 and ceasing on the 21 May 2029.

4. That the draft Internal Audit Program for 2024/25 to 2027/28 be adopted.

5. That the draft Internal Audit Charter be adopted.

(Cr. Gosewisch/Cr. Best)

Carried

12.6) DISCLOSURES BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS (GO.CO.3)

25/007 RESOLVED:

That the “Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons” Returns as at the 30 September 2024, as tabled be received.

(Cr. Gosewisch/Cr. Newstead)

Carried

12.7) MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL'S SYSTEMS (WS.MO.4)

25/008 RESOLVED:

That Council note the information in the General Report.

(Cr. Nash/Cr. Newstead)

Carried

12.8) PERFORMANCE OF COUNCIL'S SYSTEMS (WS.MO.4)

25/009 RESOLVED:

That Council note the information in the report.

(Cr. Gosewisch/Cr. Parlett)

Carried

13. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

14. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

25/010 RESOLVED:

That, as the business for the Ordinary Meeting has now concluded, Council Proceed into Committee of the Whole to discuss the items referred to in the report.

(Cr. Best/Cr. Nash)

Carried

14.1) ELECTRICITY PROCUREMENT (ET.SP.2)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

25/011 RESOLVED:

That Council

1. note the report on electricity procurement for small market sites;
2. participates in the regional procurement process, facilitated by Central NSW Joint Organisation, for the supply of electricity for small market sites;
3. note the extreme volatility of the energy market currently being experienced;
4. agree to purchase 50% of renewable energy for each site;
5. note the short timeframe for acceptance of offers for the supply of electricity;
6. Resolve that because of the extenuating circumstances set out in the report a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders for the aggregated procurement of electricity for small market sites which are due to commence on 1 July 2025;
7. note that the reasons for the decision of the Council in resolution 6 are as follows:
 - (a) The services with respect to which the tender relates can only be provided by energy retailers.
 - (b) Council has received expert advice that due to the nature of the relevant market, offers from those retailers which will be made in response to the request for tender will only be open for acceptance for a period of 1-2 weeks.
 - (c) Even if the tender period was shortened to 7 days as permitted under the Regulations, some if not all of the relevant tenders would expire prior to Council being able to undertake an assessment of tenders, report the matter to Council and resolve to accept or reject any tenders.
 - (d) This would result in Council either having no valid tenders which it is able to accept, or it would not be able to consider for acceptance all of the tenders lodged in response to the request for tender.
 - (e) This would not be a satisfactory result for Council.
8. delegate the determination, acceptance, or rejection of proposals on behalf of Council to the General Manager;
9. delegation the execution of the contract for the supply of electricity for small sites to the General Manager;
10. receive a report on conclusion of the process detailing the outcome; and
11. advise Central NSW Joint Organisation of its decisions.

(Cr. Newstead/Cr. Parlett)

Carried

25/012 RESOLVED:

That, as the deliberation of the Committee is concluded, the Council reconvene the Ordinary Meeting.

(Cr. Gosewisch/Cr. Nash)

Carried

AT THE RE-OPENING OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC, THE CHAIRPERSON ANNOUNCED THE OUTCOME OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 25/011.

15. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Next Meeting: The next meeting of Central Tablelands Water will be held in Grenfell on Wednesday, 16 April 2025 at 10am.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 12.16pm