

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2023 AT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 218-232 MOLESWORTH
STREET, LISMORE NSW 2480**

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.04 am.

In attendance:

Councillors:

- Cr Robert Mustow, Richmond Valley Council (Chair)
- Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
- Cr Rod Bruem, Ballina Shire Council
- Cr Michael Lyon, Byron Shire Council
- Cr Sarah Ndiaye, Byron Shire Council
- Cr Andrew Gordon, Lismore City Council
- Cr Big Rob, Lismore City Council
- Cr Sandra Humphrys, Richmond Valley Council

Officers:

- Phillip Rudd, General Manager
- Andrew Logan, Group Manager Planning and Delivery
- Helen McNeil, Group Manager People and Performance
- Adam Nesbitt, Group Manager Operations
- Geoff Ward, Group Manager Corporate and Commercial
- Jonathan Patino, Finance Manager (via 'Teams')
- Guy Bezrouchko, Project Manager - Relocation and Properties
- Robyn Waldron, Business Support Officer
- Noeline Smith, Minute Taker
- Luka Taylor, ICT Support Officer

Apologies

- Nil.

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Rous County Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we work and live. We pay our respects to the Elders of past, present and emerging and acknowledge their continuing connection to County who will guide us on our shared journey to the future.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED [11/23] (Ndiaye/Rob) that the Ordinary meeting minutes 15 February 2023 be confirmed as presented.

Confirmation of Minutes of meeting 15 February 2023 (Resolution)

For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
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Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

4 NOTICES OF MOTION / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil.

5 GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL REPORTS

5.1 Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ending 31 March 2023

RESOLVED [12/23] (Humphrys/Lyon) that Council note the results presented in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2023 and authorise the variations to the amounts from those previously estimated.

Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ending 31 March 2023 (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.2 Public Exhibition: Draft Operational Plan (Incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' Policy)

RESOLVED [13/23] (Rob/Cadwallader) that:

1. Council endorses the draft Operational Plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy) attached to the report, for public exhibition.
2. Council note that adjustments approved at this meeting as part of the March 2023 Quarterly Budget Review Statement report will be included in the exhibited Operational Plan as appropriate.
3. If public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, a report be furnished to Council's June 2023 meeting, including staff comment on how the submissions have been considered, for Council to determine a position on endorsement of the Operational Plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy).
4. If no public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, the version of the draft Operational Plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy) placed on public exhibition, is deemed to be adopted by Council.

Public exhibition: Draft Operational plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy) (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

6 GROUP MANAGER PLANNING AND DELIVERY REPORTS

6.1 Update on interim arrangements for the Lismore Levee Scheme

RESOLVED [14/23] (Cadwallader/Bruem) that Council:

1. Note the progress on interim arrangements for the Lismore Levee Scheme.
2. Receive a further update on progress towards resolving the arrangements for the Lismore Levee Scheme before November 2023.

Update on Interim Arrangements for the Lismore Levee Scheme (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

7 INFORMATION REPORTS

RESOLVED [15/23] (Ndiaye/Gordon) that the following information reports be received and noted:

1. Investments – March 2023
2. Water production and consumption – March 2023
3. Final update: close out of Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre
4. Audit Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update
5. Supply and installation of Smart Meters and Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices Contract # RCC1022-0011.
6. Reports/actions pending

Information reports (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8

Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

8 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS - MOVED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

MOVED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

RESOLVED [16/23] (Gordon/Cadwallader) that Council move into Closed Council with the press and public excluded from the meeting based on the grounds detailed below:

Report	Supply and Installation of Smart Meters and Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices Contract # RCC1022-0011
Grounds for closure	Section 10A(2)(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed: i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.
Report	Gallans Road – consolidation of workspaces
Grounds for closure	Section 10A(2)(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed: i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

The meeting moved to Closed Council at 10.45am.

RESUME TO OPEN COUNCIL

RESOLVED [17/23] (Humphrys/Cadwallader) that the meeting resume to Open Council.

The meeting moved to Open Council at 11.12am.

The General Manager read to the meeting the following resolutions of Council:

8.1 Supply and Installation of Smart Meters and Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices - Contract # Rcc1022-0011

RESOLVED [18/23] (Gordon/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Note the selective tendering process that has been undertaken for this contract through an Expression of Interest (EOI) and then selective tender submissions.
2. Authorise the General Manager to enter negotiations and execute a supply contract with the preferred Tenderer, Nucleus 3 Pty Ltd, for the Supply and Installation of Smart Meters and the Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices, including software maintenance for a period of 5 years, to a maximum contract value of \$2,866,239 (ex GST).
3. Approve an additional amount of \$993,139 from the Bulk fund for the overall Smart Metering and Backflow Project budget to take the total Project budget to \$3,559,939.

Supply and Installation of Smart Meters and Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices - Contract # RCC1022-0011 (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

8.2 Gallans Road - Consolidation of Workspaces

RESOLVED [19/23] (Bruem/Cadwallader) that Council:

1. Receive and note the report.
2. For the purposes of ss55 (3)(i) and 55(3)(n)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Reg 170A of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, endorses the procurement approach as described in the report, including the reimbursement of sub consultants' fees as part of the Development Application process.

Gallans Road - Consolidation of workspaces (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow, Cr Sarah Ndiaye and Cr Big Rob	8
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

9 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.14 am.