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MINUTES OF ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE HELD MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023 AT COUNCIL'S ADMIN OFFICE, 218-232 MOLESWORTH STREET, LISMORE

The Chair opened the meeting at 10.00 am.

In attendance:

Voting Committee:

- Brian Wilkinson, Independent Member (Chair)
- Andrew MacLeod, Independent member
- Cr Big Rob, Rous Councillor

Rous staff:

- Helen McNeil, Group Manager People and Performance
- Geoff Ward, Group Manager Corporate and Commercial
- Jonathan Patino, Finance Manager
- Lauren Edwards, Manager Governance and Risk
- Joe Yeadon, IT Manager
- John Nasser, Health Safety and Environment Coordinator
- Shirley Whalley, People and Culture Manager

Other attendees:

- Richard Watkinson, Thomas Noble & Russell
- Quentin Wong, Audit Office of NSW

Apologies

- Phillip Rudd, General Manager

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 the past, present and emerging and acknowledge their continuing connection to Country who will guide us on our shared journey to the future.

2 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held 28 November 2022 were noted as presented.

4 ARIC SCHEDULE OF REPORTING (STANDING ITEM)

Schedule of Reporting noted as presented.

5 REPORTS

LATE ITEM: Annual Engagement Plan (AEP) for the audit of the Rous County Council's financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2023

5.1 Audit

LATE ITEM: Annual Engagement Plan (AEP) for the Audit of the Rous County Council's financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2023.

RESOLVED [1/23] (McLeod/Rob) that the Committee receive and note the Annual Engagement Plan for the audit of the Rous County Council's Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023.

RESOLVED [2/23] (Rob/MacLeod) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the information presented in the report on the:

1. Progress against actions arising from internal audits.
2. Progress against actions arising from external audits.
3. Progress against actions arising from in-house audits.

Annual Engagement Plan for the Audit of the Rous County Council's Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

Audit report (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.2 Financial Management report

RESOLVED (Wilkinson/Rob) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the information presented in the Financial Management Report – February 2023 regarding:

1. The Quarterly Budget Review report furnished to Council's February 2023 meeting applicable for the quarter ending 31 December 2022.
2. The Investment report furnished to Council's February 2023 meeting applicable for the month of 31 January 2023.

Financial management report (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.3 Performance and improvement initiatives

RESOLVED (Wilkinson/MacLeod) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the information presented in the report.

Performance and improvement initiatives (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.4 Strategy Implementation: Delivery program/Operational plan - July to December 2022

RESOLVED (MacLeod/Rob) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the information presented in the report regarding performance against delivery of the actions of the Delivery program/ Operational plan for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022, as reported to Council's 15 February 2023 meeting.

Strategy Implementation: Delivery program/Operational plan - July to December 2022 (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.5 Health Safety and Environment

RESOLVED (Rob/MacLeod) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee receive and note the information presented in this report regarding Work Health Safety systems, compliance and reviews.

Health Safety and Environment (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

5.6 Industrial Relations Commission

RESOLVED (Rob/MacLeod) that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee note the dispute lodged with the Industrial Relations Commission by the United Services Union in relation to Rous' relocation to Ballina, NSW.

Industrial Relations Commission (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

6 OTHER MATTERS

RESOLVED (Wilkinson/MacLeod) that the Committee receive and note the report.

Other matters (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

7 OTHER BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED (Rob/MacLeod) that the minutes of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee held 27 February 2023 be accepted as presented.

Confirmation of Minutes (Resolution)		
For	Brian Wilkinson, Andrew MacLeod and Cr Big Rob	3
Against	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Carried		

9 NEXT MEETING

Monday. 22 May 2023

10 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.10 am.