
MINUTES OF ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 2024 AT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 218-232 MOLESWORTH STREET, LISMORE

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chair opened the meeting at 9.32 am.

In attendance:

Voting Committee:

- 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 Andrew Gordon, Lismore City Council
- Cr Big Rob, Lismore City Council
- Cr Sandra Humphrys, Richmond Valley Council

Rous County Council:

- Phillip Rudd, General Manager
- Helen McNeil, Group Manager Organisational Services
- Adam Nesbitt, Group Manager, Operations
- Geoff Ward, Group Manager, Transformation and Strategy
- Tania Burls, Acting Group Manager Planning and Delivery
- Michael McKenzie, Future Water Planning Manager
- Robyn Waldron, Secretary

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council showed its respect and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of all Elders, on which this meeting took place.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED [35/24] (Bruem/Gordon) that Council accept Cr Sarah Ndiaye's apology for being unable to attend the Council Extraordinary meeting.

Apologies and leave of absence (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow and Cr Big Rob	6
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Sharon Cadwallader	1
Carried		

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

MOVED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

RESOLVED [36/24] (Humphrys/Gordon) that Council move into Closed Council with the press and public excluded from the meeting based on the grounds detailed below:

Report	Purchase of Marom Creek Water Treatment Plan
Grounds for closure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Section 10A(2)(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if<ol style="list-style-type: none">i). prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, orii). confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council or,iii). reveal a trade secret, and2. (g) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property.

CARRIED

The meeting moved to Closed Council at 9:34am.

Cr Cadwallader joined meeting 9:35am

5.1 Purchase of Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant

RESOLVED [37/24] (Gordon/Lyon)

1. That Council authorises the General Manager to:
 - (a) Do and sign all things necessary, including contracts, deeds and other necessary documentation, to secure the purchase and transfer of the land and assets set out in the body of this report from Ballina Shire Council, being:
 - (i) The Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant, land, water licences and water supply infrastructure assets, and ancillary network as described in this report and in Attachment 1, and
 - (ii) The Russellton Reservoir and land outlined in this report.
 - (b) In relation to (1)(a)(i) above, grant a caveatable interest in the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant property to Ballina Shire Council, if requested, as security for payment by instalments of the purchase price.
2. That upon acquisition of the land identified in this report, it be classified as Operational Land for the purposes of ss25-27 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
3. That the price for the land and asset transfer is to be as set out in this report.

4. That Council authorises the General Manager to enter into a Deed of Agreement with Ballina Shire Council which address the ongoing and future obligations of both parties.
5. That Council note the pending delegation from Ballina Shire Council required to operate the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant and will consider and accept the delegation once made.

Purchase of Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant (Resolution)		
For	Cr Rod Bruem, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Andrew Gordon, Cr Sandra Humphrys, Cr Michael Lyon, Cr Robert Mustow and Cr Big Rob	7
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	None	0
Carried		

RESUME TO OPEN COUNCIL

RESOLVED [38/24] (Humphrys/Cadwallader) that the meeting resume to Open Council.

CARRIED

Resolution –

1. That Council authorises the General Manager to:
 - a. Do and sign all things necessary, including contracts, deeds and other necessary documentation, to secure the purchase and transfer of the land and assets set out in the body of this report from Ballina Shire Council, being:
 - i. The Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant, land, water licences and water supply infrastructure assets, and ancillary network as described in this report and in Attachment 1, and
 - ii. The Russellton Reservoir and land outlined in this report.
 - b. In relation to (1)(a)(i) above, grant a caveatable interest in the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant property to Ballina Shire Council, if requested, as security for payment by instalments of the purchase price.
2. That upon acquisition of the land identified in this report, it be classified as Operational Land for the purposes of ss25-27 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
3. That the price for the land and asset transfer is to be as set out in this report.
4. That Council authorises the General Manager to enter into a Deed of Agreement with Ballina Shire Council which address the ongoing and future obligations of both parties.
5. That Council note the pending delegation from Ballina Shire Council required to operate the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant and will consider and accept the delegation once made.

6 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.48am.