

Minutes of the Board meeting 29 February 2024 held in Condobolin

In Attendance*

Cr J Jennings	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr M Statham	Lithgow City Council
Cr D Somerville	Blayney Shire Council	Cr A McKibbin	Oberon Council
Cr K Beatty	Cabonne Council	Cr J Hamling	Orange City Council
Cr R Fagan	Cowra Shire Council	Cr N Westcott	Parkes Shire Council
Cr J Medcalf	Lachlan Shire Council	Cr C Bembrick	Weddin Shire Council

Ms H Nicholls	Cabonne Council	Cr A Rawson	CTW
Mr S Loane, OAM	Forbes Shire Council	Mr G Rhodes	CTW
Mr G Tory	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms K Annis-Brown	OLG
Mr C Butler	Lithgow City Council	Ms G Collins	Regional NSW
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms J Bennett	CNSWJO
Mr D Waddell	Orange City Council	Ms M Macpherson	CNSWJO
Mr K Boyd, PSM	Parkes Shire Council	Ms K Barker	CNSWJO
Ms N Vu	Weddin Shire Council	Ms J Webber	CNSWJO
Ms M Schraeder	Regional NSW		

*Voting members in **bold**

Meeting opened at 9.00am by Chair Cr Kevin Beatty

- Welcome**
- Acknowledgement of Country**
- Apologies, applications for a leave of absence by Joint Voting representatives**
Cr P Miller, Cr M Kellam, Cr P Phillips, Mr P Devery, Mr D Sherley, Mr M Dicker, Mr B Byrnes, Cr S Ferguson, Cr C Bembrick, Mr J Gordon

Resolved	Cr M Statham / Cr J Hamling
That the apologies for the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 29 February 2024 listed above be accepted.	

4. Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

Cr Kevin Beatty was elected as Chair unopposed.

Cr Mark Kellam was elected as Deputy Chair unopposed.

The service to the Board of Cr J Medcalf and Dr D Sommerville was acknowledged.

The passing of Cr Don Fitzpatrick was acknowledged.

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation

date: 17.06.2024

5. Conflicts of Interest

Resolved
NIL declared

6. Speakers

- a. Gerry Collins, Director, Western NSW/Regional Coordination & Delivery / Regional Development / Department of Regional NSW.
- b. Katrina Annis-Brown, Office of Local Government

7. Minutes

7a Noting of the GMAC Minutes held 1 February 2024 in Orange

Resolved	Cr R Fagan / Cr N Westcott
That the Minutes of the CNSWJO GMAC Meeting held 1 February 2024 in Orange were noted	

7b Confirmation of the Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting 23 November 2023 in Sydney

Resolved	Cr D Somerville / Cr M Statham
That the Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting held 23 November 2023 in Sydney were noted	

8. Business Arising from the Minutes - Matters in Progress

Resolved	Cr J Hamling / Cr J Jennings
That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the Matters in Progress, making deletions as suggested.	

9. Reports on Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2022-2025

Priority One: Leveraging our successful collaboration

9a Financial Report


Resolved	Cr J Medcalf / Cr N Westcott
That the Board note the Financial Report.	

9b Budget considerations 2024/2025: The Draft 2024 CNSWJO Statement of Budget and Revenue

Resolved	Cr R Fagan / Cr A McKibbin
That the Board note the Statement of Budget and Revenue Report and; 1. adopt the draft Statement of Budget and Revenue and place it on exhibition for 30 days; 2. note that the budget for the next financial year includes a fee rise of 3% and a profit for the year of \$55,227; and 3. provide advice in the Mayoral Board report regarding the Statement of Budget and Revenue seeking member feedback.	

9c Advocacy Report

Resolved	Cr J Jennings / Cr J Medcalf
That the Board note the Advocacy Report and;	

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1. note that a report from the workshop with the Rural Doctors' Network has been circulated;
2. adopt the Advocacy Plans for
 - a. Transport;
 - b. Water;
 - c. Energy; - receive a report on end of life and ratings on renewable energy generation.
 - d. Regional Prosperity;
 - e. Health; and
 - f. Skills Shortages;
3. endorse the activities of the Opt-in Advocacy Subcommittee of Mayors, those being;
 - a. developing a media campaign on Council sustainability;
 - b. progressing advocacy for a Safe Swift and Secure Link between Sydney and Central NSW; and
 - c. providing oversight of advocacy for the renewable energy transition and council financial sustainability; and
4. endorse the following submissions that have been lodged:
 - a. Australian Productivity Commission third inquiry into the National Water Initiative – January 2024
 - b. Submission to the review of the Regional Development Act
 - c. Draft NSW Energy Policy Framework
 - d. Essential Energy Determination 2024-29 – Revised Public Lighting Pricing Proposal
 - e. Consultation on the Future Drought Fund Investment Strategy & Funding Plan 2024-2028 – December 2023
 - f. Submission to the NSW vocational education and training (VET) review – November 2023
 - g. Response to the Department of Planning and Environment Lachlan Regional Water Strategy shortlisted actions – November 2023
 - h. Inquiry into the planning system and the impacts of climate change on the environment and communities – November 2023
5. Lodge the following submissions under the hand of the Executive
 - a. DCCEEW Draft Restoring the Rivers Framework Consultation;
 - b. the Inquiry into the Assets, Premises and Funding of the NSW Rural Fire Service; and
 - c. the draft Terms of Reference for the IPART review of NSW council financial model.
6. correspondence be sent to Mr Phil Donato/Mr Roy Butler requesting that the Minister for Water, The Hon. Rose Jackson be approached to convene a Regional Water Security Roundtable in the region to include state and federal government representatives.
7. receive a report on leading practice in Regional Governance.

9d Community Engagement Collaboration Report

Resolved

Cr C Bembrick / Cr D Somerville

That the CNSWJO Board note the Community Engagement Collaboration Report and

1. adopt the Regional Report on community sentiment by Woolcott Research;
2. note the significance of the findings on community priority for health and request the Portfolio Mayors for Health and Ageing provide feedback on ways in which the JO respond to this; and
3. adopt the Regional PlaceMat with a proforma report to go to councils on this project.

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9e Regional Procurement and Contracts Report

Resolved	Cr J Medcalf / Cr A McKibbin
That the Board note the Procurement and Contract Management report and; 1. approve the updates to the procurement plan; and 2. endorse the updated Procurement Policy to include the sustainable procurement clause noting that implementation of such will occur over a 12-month period under the Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement Program.	

9f Disaster Risk Reduction Fund Program Report

Resolved	Cr N Westcott / Cr M Statham
That the Board note the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund Program report and; 1. request that members nominate key staff members for the opportunity to extend licenses for the Emergency Services Spatial Information Library (ESSIL) platform beyond emergency staff; 2. commend to members that they support a top-down approach within Councils for essential staff to engage in the design and development of a regional Disaster Risk Reduction Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework; and 3. commend to members that Mayors, General Managers, and other relevant staff participate in the upcoming community workshops and training sessions.	

Priority Five: Regional Transport and Infrastructure and Planning and Prioritisation

9g Transport Report

Resolved	Cr J Medcalf / Cr R Fagan
That the Board note the Transport report and note the progress on the following projects; • 'Fix Me'; • Fixing Country Bridges; and • Grattan Institute.	

Priority Six: Regional Water Security and Productive Water

9h Regional Water Report

Resolved	Cr D Somerville / Cr J Hamling
That the Board note the Regional Water Report.	

Priority Seven: Transition to a sustainable, secure and affordable energy future

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty  date: 17.06.2024
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation

9i Energy Program Report

Resolved	Cr D Somerville / Cr J Medcalf
That the Board note the Energy Program report and;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. endorse the JONZA mid-term report;2. note the addition of \$59,534 in funding for the JONZA program extension to 30 June 2024;3. note the regional application for participating councils under the Community Energy Upgrades Fund focusing on pools;4. endorse the draft Zero Emissions Fleet Transition Strategy, particularly the proposed 16 recommended strategic actions for CNSWJO;5. request that member councils provide feedback on the draft regional zero emissions fleet transition strategy;6. endorse the Business Case on the Nexus Between Energy Security and Emissions Reduction, the appendices and the Roadmap; and7. endorse the following submissions:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Energy Policy Framework; andb. AER Determination for 2024-2029 for Public Lighting.	

9j Quarterly Review of the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2022-2025

Resolved	Cr A McKibbin / Cr J Medcalf
That the Board note the Quarterly Review of the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2022-2025.	

10. Resolve into Confidential Committee of the Whole

Resolved	Cr J Medcalf / Cr M Statham
That the Board	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. resolve into closed session to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting;2. pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2) as outlined above; and3. correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access.	

11. Executive Officer

11a Executive Officer Performance Review 2022-2023

Resolved	Cr R Fagan / Cr J Medcalf
That the Board note the Executive Officer Performance Review 2022-2023 and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. note the report regarding the performance management of the Executive Officer and that the performance was better than satisfactory; and2. note a discretionary increase of 5% to the Executive Officer's remuneration package, which reflects the performance of the Executive Officer and is in line with the Local Government Award increase from 1 July 2023 of 4.5% and the increase of the Superannuation Guarantee Charge of 0.5%.	

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Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation

date: 17.06.2024

11b Executive Officer Transition Report

Resolved	Cr N Westcott / Cr M Statham
That the Board note the Executive Officer Transition Report and	
1. transition all staff to be employed through the Joint Organisation;	
2. seek to have payroll and HR functions administered through a member council;	
3. adopt a 2IC model for staff management for the next twelve months;	
4. note that the Executive Officer will reduce hours to four days a week until December of this calendar year; and	
5. review the structure with the incoming Board in December of this year.	

12. Resolve into Open Session – Cr M Statham/Cr R Fagan

13. Late Reports - Nil

14. Matters raised by Members - Nil

15. Speakers to next meeting

- Essential Energy: Mr David Wilson / Mr Geoff Burgess
- Planning Staff – as advised by Ms G Collins
- Ministers for Transport, Energy
- Minister Housoss (Minister for Finance)
- Transgrid
- Mr Martin Rush (Mining Related Councils)

16. Next meeting

GMAC:

- 2 May 2024 – Oberon

Board:

- 23 May – Lithgow
- 22 August – Federal Parliament
- 28 November – State Parliament

Meeting closed: 12:13

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Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation

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