

Minutes of the Board meeting 23 May 2024 held in Lithgow

In Attendance*

Cr J Jennings	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr P Phillips	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr S Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council	Cr M Statham	Lithgow City Council
Cr K Beatty	Cabonne Council	Cr M Kellam	Oberon Council
Cr R Fagan	Cowra Shire Council	Cr J Hamling	Orange City Council
Cr C Roylance	Forbes Shire Council Deputy Mayor	Cr P Best	Weddin Shire Council Deputy Mayor

Associate Member delegates and others attending

Mr N Southorn	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr A McKibbin	Central Tablelands Weeds
Mr M Dicker	Blayney Shire Council	Ms C Weston	RDACW
Mr B Byrnes	Cabonne Council	Ms K Annis-Brown	OLG
Mr P Devery	Cowra Shire Council	Ms G Collins	Regional NSW
Mr S Loane OAM	Forbes Shire Council	Ms J Bennett	CNSWJO
Mr G Tory	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms M Macpherson	CNSWJO
Mr R Gurney	Lithgow City Council	Ms K Barker	CNSWJO
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms J Parish	CNSWJO
Mr D Waddell	Orange City Council	Ms E Grimm	CNSWJO
Mr K Boyd PSM	Parkes Shire Council	The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP	Minister for Regional Transport and Roads
Ms N Vu	Weddin Shire Council	Ms Zena Bailly	Deputy Chief of Staff
Cr A Rawson	Central Tablelands Water	Mr Alistair Lunn	Transport for NSW
Mr G Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water		

Weston*Voting members in **bold**

Meeting opened at 10.05am by Chair Cr Kevin Beatty

- The Chair welcomed the Board to the meeting and the Mayor of the City of Lithgow, Cr Maree Statham, welcomed attendees to Lithgow.**
- Acknowledgement of Country**
- Apologies, applications for a leave of absence by Joint Organisation Voting representatives**
Cr C Bembrick, Cr P Miller OAM, Cr N Westcott, Mr D Sherley, Mr P Donato MP

Resolved	Cr J Hamling / Cr M Kellam
That the apologies for the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 23 May 2024 listed above be accepted.	

4. Conflicts of Interest

Resolved	Cr R Fagan / Cr M Kellam
Nil declared	

5. Minutes

5a Noting of the Minutes of the CNSWJO GMAC Meeting held 2 May in Oberon

Resolved	Cr M Statham / Cr R Fagan
That the Minutes of the CNSWJO GMAC Meeting held 2 May 2024 in Oberon were noted.	

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



date: 03.09.2024

5b Confirmation of the Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting 29 February in Condobolin**Resolved** **Cr J Hamling / Cr R Fagan**

That the Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting held 29 February in Condobolin were accepted.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes - Matters in Progress**Resolved** **Cr M Kellam / Cr P Best**

That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the Matters in Progress, making deletions as suggested.

7. Reports on Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2022-2025**Priority One: Leveraging our successful collaboration****7a Financial Report****Resolved** **Cr J Hamling / Cr M Statham**

That the Board note the Financial Report.

7b Budget and Statement of Revenue Policy 2024-2025**Resolved** **Cr P Best / Cr P Phillips**

That the Board adopt the Budget and Statement of Revenue Policy 2024-2025.

7c Advocacy Report**Resolved** **Cr J Hamling / Cr R Fagan**

That the Board note the Advocacy Update and endorse

1. the changes to key messaging for water advocacy;
2. quarterly media be issued regarding Council financial sustainability; and
3. the following submissions be endorsed;
 - a. [Feedback on Draft TOR for Review of NSW Councils Financial Model](#)
 - b. [Submission – Inquiry into Local Government to Funds Infrastructure and Services](#)
 - c. [IPART Dam Safety NSW Levy](#)
 - d. [Feedback on Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW Internment Services Levy](#)
 - e. [MDB Plan V2 and buy-backs-Draft Restoring our Rivers Framework](#)
 - f. [Alternate funding models –NSW Productivity Commission](#)
4. seek membership from the Board for a subcommittee to provide oversight of the review of the Statement of Strategic Regional Priority; and
5. receive updated advice from staff on advocacy messaging to make critical town water the number one priority of the Water Advocacy Plan.

7d Regional Procurement and Contracts**Resolved** **Cr M Kellam / Cr P Best**

That the Board note the Regional Procurement and Contracts Report and approve the updates to the procurement plan.

7e Welcoming New Councillors to the Region**Resolved** **Cr J Hamling / Cr M Kellam**

That the CNSWJO Board note the Welcoming New Councillors to the Region report and;

1. hold a workshop in the fourth quarter of this calendar year for new Councillors that:
 - a. introduces new Councillors to the Joint Organisation providing advice on the value proposition;

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty

Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



date: 03.09.2024

- b. provides a deeper dive into one or two areas that incoming Councillors would benefit from for example Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice; and
 - c. seeks advice on other support incoming Councillors might like including an informal network; and
2. note that CNSWJO provides incoming Council sessions tailored to Councils' needs;
 3. progress the above initiative under the auspices of the Opt in Subcommittee Mayors and interested General Managers; and
 4. thank Crs Pryse Jones and Gosewisch for their advice and support of this work to date.

10:25 The Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP

Ms Zena Bailly, Deputy Chief of Staff and Mr Alistair Lunn, Transport for NSW accompanied the Minister. The Minister provided an update on the direction of Regional Transport and Roads which is guided by the Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plans (SRITPs). The Minister emphasised that she needs to hear about any roads and transport issues so they can be identified and assessed. The SRITPs will be integral to driving future change and direct transport governmental spending. The Minister offered members the opportunity to ask questions both within the meeting and on a one-on-one basis.

11:40 The Minister left the meeting to speak to individual Council representatives.

7f Disaster Risk Reduction Fund Program Report

Resolved	Cr F Fagan / Cr P Best
That the Board note the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund report and;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. endorse the GHD Regional Opportunities and Joint Organisation Opportunities reports; 2. endorse the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) Framework, including supporting tools and templates; and 3. endorse the draft Terms of Reference for a Regional IP&R Group. 	

7g Requirement of CNSWJO to have an Audit Risk and Improvement Regulations

Resolved	Cr J Hamling / Cr P Best
That the Board note the report on the Requirement for CNSWJO to have an Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. await formal advice from the Office of Local Government on Regulatory and Legislative change for a fit for purpose Audit Risk and Improvement Framework for Joint Organisations; 2. provide in principle support for a cross Joint Organisation risk management and improvement framework; 3. receive a report on CNSWJO risk management that considers its alignment with regulation; and 4. continue to seek exemption until the mooted legislative changes are finalised. 	

Priority Five: Regional Transport Planning and Infrastructure Prioritisation

7h Transport

Resolved	Cr M Kellam / Cr S Ferguson
That the Board note the transport report and endorses the Central NSW Joint Organisation Implications of Severe Weather Events on the Local and Regional Road Network ('Fix Me') report.	

Priority Six: Regional Water Security and Productive Water

7i Regional Water Report

Resolved	Cr J Hamling / Cr K Kellam
That the Board note the Regional Water Report and:	

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



date: 03.09.2024

1. correspondence be sent to the Department of Climate Change Energy and the Environment - Water thanking them for supporting the work by Frontier Economics on the economic analysis of the value of water conservation;
2. endorse the Toolkit to assist councils to transition local water utility strategic planning into the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework noting that it will be iterative;
3. correspondence be sent under the hand of the Chair to Jane Shepherd, Director Local Water Utilities presenting the Toolkit to transition local water utility strategic planning into the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework and thanking her for enabling the engagement of their staff in its design;
4. correspondence be sent under the hand of the Chair to the Executive Officer of the NSW Water Directorate formally requesting facilitation of a practitioner's group of councils from across the state interested in transitioning their local water utility strategic planning into the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework using the Central NSW Joint Organisation Toolkit;
5. members receive a proforma report endorsing the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework as the regulatory mechanism for water strategy; and
6. seek to have the Town Water Commissioner reinstated.

7j Charles Sturt University Policy Lab on Productive Water Report

Resolved	Cr R Fagan / Cr M Kellam
That the Board note the Charles Sturt University Policy Lab on Productive Water Report and;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. encourage Councillors to attend the Charles Sturt University Policy Lab on productive water; and 2. correspondence be sent to Charles Sturt University thanking them for their work on the Policy Lab. 	

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

7k Energy Program Report

Resolved	Cr M Kellam / Cr R Fagan
That the Board note the Energy Program Report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. endorse the activities included in the JONZA Round 2 application to the NSW Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's (DCCEE) Sustainable Councils Program; 2. note the regional application for pools to the Community Energy Upgrades Fund will be delayed until Round 2 to allow more detailed analysis and other funding sources to be identified to assist with co-contribution; 3. endorse the final reports for the additional 1, 2 and 3 workstream reports for the Business Case on the Nexus Between Energy Security and Emissions Reduction; and 4. receive a briefing note in due course regarding the impact on councils as a result of the AER's final decision in relation to public lighting through the 2024-2029 Pricing Determination. 	

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

Resolved	Cr P Phillips / Cr R Fagan
That the Board note the Quarterly Review of the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2022-2025 and;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lodge a Final Report to the Office of Local Government for the second round of funding of 150K to support the inception of Joint Organisations under the hand of the Chair; 2. note the advice on the value of tourism provided below and request that the Mayoral Board Report include detailed advice on the value of tourism to member councils; 3. note Chairing and administration of the CNSWJO Tourism meetings is to be updated; 4. seek advice from Destination NSW regarding funding; and 	

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



date: 03.09.2024

5. the value of events.

12:00 noon: Gifts presented to Mr Gavin Rhodes and Mr Craig Butler for their service to the region as they are leaving their roles. This gift for Mr Butler was accepted by Cr M Statham in his absence.

9. Joint Organisation Transition Report

Resolved

Cr J Hamling / Cr M Kellam

That a meeting be held to manage staff transition as soon as possible.

10. Regional NSW Update – Ms Gerry Collins

11. Office of Local Government Update – Ms Katrina Annis-Brown

12. Late Reports - Nil

13. Matters raised by Members

- Oberon – Forestry Corporation has announced the proponents for the wind towers to be built in region.
- Blayney – Western Regional Academy of Sport is amalgamating back of house administration with other academies. An update will be provided to members in due course.
- Lithgow – the price of fuel – advice will be provided in the next transport report to the Board.
- The Chair of RDA Central West advised that a report will be provided from RDACW to the next meeting.

14. Speakers to next meeting – UGL, Destination NSW

15. Next meetings

Board:

- 21 August in the afternoon in Canberra, location TBC.
22 August – Federal Parliament
- 27 November in the afternoon in Sydney, location TBC
28 November – State Parliament

GMAC:

- 25 July 2024 – Parkes

Meeting closed: 12:40

Page 5 is the last page of the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 23 May 2024 held in Lithgow

Signed by: Cr Kevin Beatty
Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



date: 03.09.2024