

**Minutes of the Board meeting 25 November 2021 held in Orange  
In Attendance**

Cr I North	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr J Medcalf OAM	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr S Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council	Cr K Sajowitz	Oberon Council
Cr K Beatty	Cabonne Council	Cr R Kidd	Orange City Council
Cr B West	Cowra Shire Council	Cr K Keith OAM	Parkes Shire Council
Cr P Miller OAM	Forbes Shire Council		

Mr D Sherley	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr D Somerville	Central Tablelands Water
Ms R Ryan	Blayney Shire Council	Ms R Fagan	RDACW
Mr B Byrnes	Cabonne Council	Mr W Sunderland	RDACW
Mr P Devery	Cowra Shire Council	Ms K Hartwig	TfNSW
Mr S Loane - via zoom	Forbes Shire Council	Ms G Collins	Regional NSW
Mr G Tory	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms J Bennett	CNSWJO
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms M Macpherson	CNSWJO
Mr D Waddell	Orange City Council	Ms A Thomas	CNSWJO
Mr G Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water	Ms C Griffin	CNSWJO
		Ms V Page	CNSWJO

Meeting opened at 10:04am

1. **Welcome**
2. **Acknowledgement to Country and Welcome from the Chair, Cr John Medcalf OAM.**
3. **Apologies applications for a leave of absence by Joint Voting representatives**

Cr M Liebich, Mr J Rath, Mr K Boyd, Ms K Purser, Ms A Bowman and Ms K Barker

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr R Kidd</b>
That the apologies for the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 11 August 2021 listed above be accepted.	

**4. Speakers**

**DPIE**

Gary Hopkins, Director, Western Region, and  
Robert Hodgkins, Manager, Western Region,

Presentation on the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041

[https://s3-ap-southeast-](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/mysocialpinpoint.com.au/uploads/redactor_assets/documents/0f02f44e889df972edbde1bbc1134b617a3432a155c0c7205bcd12e506797ef2/10380/Draft_Central_West_and_Orana_Regional_Plan_2041.pdf)

[2.amazonaws.com/mysocialpinpoint.com.au/uploads/redactor\\_assets/documents/0f02f44e889df972edbde1bbc1134b617a3432a155c0c7205bcd12e506797ef2/10380/Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041.pdf](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/mysocialpinpoint.com.au/uploads/redactor_assets/documents/0f02f44e889df972edbde1bbc1134b617a3432a155c0c7205bcd12e506797ef2/10380/Draft_Central_West_and_Orana_Regional_Plan_2041.pdf)

Follow-up – Given the consultation period for the CWORP finishes on 18 February the CNSWJO will write to the Dept. and Minister to extend the timeline.

**TfNSW**

Kristy Hartwig, Acting Regional Director

Mark Hannan, Director, South and West Region

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Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation

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Lachlan Paull, Senior Transport Planner  
Presentation on the Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan  
<https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/plans/draft-plans/draft-central-west-and-orana-transport-plan>

Follow-up –confirm the offer for an extended consultation period to the end of March and note the offer of further consultations to new Councillors or the Board.

**11.09am**  
**CNSWJO**

**Jenny Bennett – Executive Officer**

Presentation on CNSWJO End of Term Highlights – See slide attached.

**5. Chairman’s Minute – Nil**

**6. Minutes**

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Central NSW Joint Organisation meeting 12 August held online**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr S Ferguson/Cr K Keith</b>
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That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board confirm the Minutes of the meeting 12 August 2021 held via zoom.	
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11.38am Kristy Hartwig left meeting

**7. Business Arising from the Minutes – Matters in Progress**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr R Kidd</b>
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That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the Matters in Progress, making deletions as suggested.	
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**8. Reports on Statement of Regional Strategic Priority**

**Priority One: Inter-Council Co-operation**

**a. Adoption of Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Sajowitz/Cr K Keith</b>
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That the Board adopt the CNSWJO Joint Organisation General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.	
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**b. Financial Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr S Ferguson</b>
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That the Board note the Financial Report.	
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**c. Delegations for the Chair between elections**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr I North/Cr B West</b>
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That the Board note the report on the Delegation for Chair through the Election Period as per Section 377, and	
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|---|--|
| 1. delegate to Cr John Medcalf, OAM the authority to:<br>Carry out functions delegated to the CNSWJO Chair, between election day December 2021 and the first CNSWJO Board meeting in 2022 when the election of a Chair will take place. |  |
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Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



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2. write to OLG, regarding the need to ensure continuity for Mayors between the elections and the election of the new Mayor, and
3. acknowledge the commitment from our current Chair Cr John Medcalf.

**d. Compliance and CNSWJO meeting dates for 2022**

<b>Resolved</b>		<b>Cr B West/Cr Ian North</b>		
That the Board note the Compliance report and CNSWJO meeting dates for 2022 and;				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. note the Calendar of Compliance and Reporting-Requirements update;</li> <li>2. endorse the 2021 Annual Performance Statement and place it on the website;</li> <li>3. note the advice from the Portfolio Mayors and that this is summarised in the Annual Performance Statement;</li> <li>4. note the Pecuniary Interest Returns under s450a of the Local Government Act 1993;</li> <li>5. determine the dates for GMAC and Board meetings for 2022 be:</li> </ol>				
<b>Board</b>	<b>TBA February or March to be confirmed based on sitting days</b>	<b>26 May</b>	<b>26 August TBC to fit with sitting dates</b>	<b>25 November</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Federal Parliament House</b>	<b>Summit</b>	<b>State Parliament House</b>	<b>Cabonne</b>
<b>GMAC</b>	<b>3 February</b>	<b>28 April</b>	<b>28 July</b>	<b>27 October</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Orange</b>	<b>Blayney</b>	<b>Cabonne</b>	<b>Orange</b>

**e. Policy and Procedure review**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr K Beatty</b>
That the Board note the Policy and Procedure report; and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. note the minimal changes to the Procurement Policy, and</li> <li>2. adopt the 2021 Joint Organisation Policy and Procedure register.</li> </ol>	

**f. Options for regional support in implementing Office of Local Government (OLG) guidance in audit, risk and improvement**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr I North</b>
That the Board note the "Options for regional support in implementing OLG guidance in audit, risk and improvement" report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. note that there is scope for collaboration between Councils on elements of the guidance including:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. coordination and administration of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee; and</li> <li>b. development and/or procurement of the various strategies, reviews and self-assessments in internal audit, assurance, improvement and risk management;</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. note that a more strategic regional approach is likely to identify opportunities for regional collaboration on improvement;</li> <li>3. note that a workshop of interested General Managers will be progressing a regional approach;</li> <li>4. note the advice in the report on a preferred approach being:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. supporting a collaboration of member council staff responsible for internal audit;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

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- b. leveraging the CNSWJO strength in procurement through coordinating a strategic approach aggregating some or all opportunities for audits, strategies, reviews and improvement; and
- c. offering an optional administrative support program for ARIC for interested councils;
- 5. lodge a response to the OLG as attached to this report;
- 6. prioritise in this response the issue that exclusion of elected representatives from the ARI Committees both works against the principles of local democracy and excludes the value that elected representatives provide in audit, risk and improvement; and
- 7. this is to include that CNSWJO seeks to be exempt from the program.

**g. The internal review of the CNSWJO and end of term Report**

**Resolved**

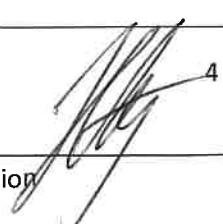
**Cr R Kidd/Cr K Beatty**

That the

That the Board note the report on the end of term, thank members who provided feedback and recommend to the incoming Board it;

- 1. review the current advocacy policy and approach with a view to better respecting and leveraging the role of the Mayors of this region;
- 2. continue to advocate for fit for purpose engagement in development of State strategies and that this include the codesign of consultation before engagement commences;
- 3. consider the extent to which it should continue to pursue collaborating with the State;
- 4. monitor the success of the JO model and
  - a. if JOs continue to fail due to financial sustainability;
  - b. the State does not step up its support; and
  - c. compliance costs continue to rise-
 the incoming Board seek to transition to an incorporated model twelve months after the next State election;
- 5. note the strengths and successes of this JO term including in;
  - a. cost savings and other value of procurement;
  - b. PR value of tourism where advice from a 3 year marketing plan informed by this report should be included in the Board's forward considerations;
  - c. reputation as an advocate particularly in water;
  - d. reputation as a collegiate and collaborative region that speaks clearly with one voice and
  - e. seek to build on these strengths
- 6. as part of its strategic review, hold a Summit addressing the region's wicked problems such as health; and
- 7. include in its forward strategy advice from the review of JOs being undertaken by the OLG;
- 8. adopt the BPAP Stages 1-6 reports and
  - a. consider the extent to which Procurement Model 2 is of value to members;
  - b. adopt a management fee model for income to the JO using a shared cost savings methodology;
  - c. build on the strength of the procurement roles of the JO;
  - d. consider using a shared cost savings methodology for the resourcing required for the JO to support an increased level of procurement as well as supporting other JO programming more broadly noting that councils are reporting they do not want to pay more in fees;

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- e. consider underwriting \$100k from CNSWJO reserves to enable additional procurement resource;
  - f. consider other value-added services including training, sharing expertise, audits and health checks etc., and how these would be funded;
  - g. consider each of the best practice initiatives and decide which should be pursued and in which priority order;
9. the Chair, Executive Officer and Staff be acknowledged for their work; and
10. include this report in strategic advice to the incoming Board.

#### h. Regional Procurement and Contracts

**Resolved**

**Cr K Sajowitz/Cr I North**

That Board notes the report on the Procurement and Contract Management and

1. notes the delayed commencement of the Safety Compliance Training contract to 1 October 2021;
2. approves the JO to conduct a new procurement process for the supply and delivery of bulk fuel for participating member councils;
3. notes the analysis of the income to the JO via the bulk fuel contract which recognises the cost savings and shared value of procurement and approve the increase of the management fee for bulk fuel from 0.15% to 0.7%;
4. approves the JO to conduct a new procurement process for an Audit and Benchmarking of Performance Monitoring Data which includes a 5% management fee to the JO; and
5. approves an extension of the existing contract with ELMO until 31 August 2023 for Forbes (TBC), Lachlan, Oberon and Orange for the Recruitment module, and Cowra, Oberon and Orange for the Onboarding module.

#### i. Energy Program

**Resolved**

**Cr S Ferguson/Cr K Beatty**

That the Board note the report on the Energy Program and

1. note the objectives endorsed by GMAC and the electricity procurement steering committee regarding:
  - a. Cost – Proceed with a PPA provided the pricing is less than the existing contracted price;
  - b. Percentage of renewable energy – The PPA should maximise the renewable energy component over and above the 50% of total electricity load;
  - c. LGCs – Councils are encouraged to surrender/retire the LGCs rather than on-selling;
  - d. Duration – The PPA to be a 7-10 year term;
  - e. Environmental – Each Council to decide how they will meet their emissions reduction targets, where applicable;
  - f. Additionality – Support the development of new projects over existing projects; and
  - g. Local projects – Within the regulatory framework, support local projects in Central NSW over projects elsewhere in NSW;
2. note that electricity is only one source of councils' emissions and therefore councils will need to look at other sources of emissions when seeking to meet any emissions reduction targets and may wish to consider the purchase of additional LGCs to offset other emissions;
3. note GMAC's approval to include REROC councils in the CNSWJO electricity procurement process for a renewable energy PPA;

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4. note REROC's decision to wind-back its involvement in the Southern Lights Project and that CNSWJO staff will take over the project management of the Southern Lights Project in the interim while discussions with LGNSW take place;
5. note the update regarding the RACE for 2030 application including advice that Essential Energy is supporting the program on the basis of 3-4 Councils being part of the Pilot and other considerations including data quality;
6. recommend to the Board that it note the continuation of the MOU with the DPIE SCC Program with a review to occur in June 2022.

**j. Energy Advocacy Plan**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr K Keith</b>
That the Board note the report on the Regional Energy Advocacy Plan (the Plan) and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. adopt the Plan; and</li> <li>2. share the policy position with LGNSW</li> </ol>	

**Priority Three: Regional Transport and Infrastructure**

**k. Transport update including working with TfNSW and the (Central NSW ITG)**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Keith/Cr P Miller</b>
That the Board note the Regional Transport update and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. note that Minister Stokes has been invited to update the Board on the Central West and Orana Regional Plan;</li> <li>2. note that advice has been circulated regarding progress on Blayney Demondrille;</li> <li>3. note the collaboration with TfNSW with the wider Joint Organisation network;</li> <li>4. note the update on the new Central NSW Integrated Transport Group (CNSW ITG) Lead by TfNSW;</li> <li>5. endorse the Terms of Reference for the CNSW ITG; and</li> <li>6. review advocacy regarding the connection of the two Wests as part of a broader advocacy review by the new Board.</li> </ol>	

**Priority Four: Regional Water Security**

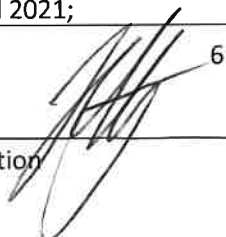
**l. Water Update**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr K Keith</b>
That the Board note the Regional Water report and advocate for the role of Town Water Commissioner to be made permanent with a structure that enables authentic engagement with communities, particularly elected representatives	

**9. Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2019/2020**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr P Miller/Cr I North</b>
That the Board note the Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. endorse the following submissions:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Central NSW Joint Organisation response for Essential Energy to prepare for the NSW/ACT/TAS/NT Electricity Distributors Consultation Paper 1: Service Classification;</li> <li>ii. The Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions) Bill 2021;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

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- iii. Transport for NSW (Transport) on the (REF) and Concept Design for the proposed Medlow Bath Upgrade;
  - iv. The Department of Planning Industry and Environment on the Regional Housing Taskforce;
  - v. The Committee on Community Services inquiry into and report on options to improve access to existing and alternate accommodation in order to help address the social housing shortage in NSW; and
  - vi. The Local Government Tendering Regulation Review
2. note the advice on progress of Stage One and Stage Two of the Office of Local Government (OLG) Capacity Building Program Fund including progress on the Community Strategic Plan project with the Regional Leadership Executive;
  3. note that the Building Better Regions Fund Round 5 application was unsuccessful and seek a variation for \$50K of Round One of the OLG Capacity Building Program to go to supporting marketing for the region and the forward Statement of Strategic Regional priorities of the incoming Board;
  4. note stage 2 funding projects were approved by the OLG; and
  5. note advice on the Central West and Orana Regional Plan Review.

12.09am Steve Loane Left meeting

12.09am Gerry Collins left meeting

**10. Confidential: CNSWJO Executive Officer Proforma Performance Review Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr B West</b>
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That the Board:

1. 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) for the following reason:
  - (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors); and
2. correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from public access.

All attendees of the meeting with the exception of voting Mayors left the meeting at 12:09pm

12.28pm the meeting resumed, and all attendees returned with the exception of Ms G Collins and Mr S Loane.

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr B West</b>
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That the Board resumes open session.

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr I North/Cr P Miller</b>
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That the Board note the report regarding the annual performance review of the Executive Officer of the CNSWJO.

**11. Late reports – Nil**

**12. Matters raised by Members  
Cowra Shire Council**

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Chair Central NSW Joint Organisation



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- Population projections - Council is deeply concerned that these population projections create a skewed process away from Government's investigating thoroughly the opportunities for growth beyond current methodology.
- The duplication of the GWH - Council strongly urges the Central NSW Joint Organisation to prioritise the establishment of an expressway route across the Blue Mountains connecting Sydney to the central NSW region.

Bathurst Regional Council – raised from the floor their issue regarding a Section 10 application on the Mount Panorama area.

**Resolved**

**Cr I North /Cr P Miller**

That the Board support the Bathurst Regional Councils submission by 28 February and a report be provided to the Board as background information from Bathurst Regional Council.

13. Notices of motions/Questions with notice - Nil
14. Speakers to next meeting will be Ministers at Federal Parliament House - TBC
15. Next meeting  
GMAC – 3 February 2022  
Board – TBC and will include the Election of Chair

Meeting close 12.43 pm

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