

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
THE NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION
HELD IN THE BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
STATION ST, MULLUMBIMBY
ON FRIDAY 16 AUGUST 2019**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Danielle Mulholland (Chair), Robert Mustow, Isaac Smith, Katie Milne; David Wright, Simon Richardson

Anita Gambhir, Office of Local Government

Isabel Perdriau (NRJO Executive Officer) General Managers Troy Green, Vaughan MacDonald, Graham Kennett, Mark Arnold,

Michael Thurston (Destination North Coast)

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In opening the meeting, the Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country.

2. APOLOGIES

Louise McMeeking (Dept of Premier and Cabinet), Tim Williamson (RDA Northern Rivers), Cr Virginia West (Scenic Rim Council), Shelley Oldham (Lismore City Council), Paul Hickey (Ballina Shire Council), Phil Rudd (Rous County Council).

16082019/1 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Smith/Cr Milne

THAT the apologies for the meeting be noted

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Mulholland declared an interest for Item 7.2 Executive Officer report

4. ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL VISITORS

Presentations were made by The Hon Janelle Saffin, Member for Lismore; David Rowlinson from Planet Ark, with Andrew and Gaela Hurford attending, and John McKenna, CEO of North Coast Community Housing

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes – NRJO Meeting 3 May 2019

16082019/2 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Mustow/ Cr Milne

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation held Friday 3 May 2019 as amended be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings of that meeting.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

NIL received

7. REPORTS

7.1 Chair's Report

16082019/3 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Smith/Cr Milne

THAT the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – All Councillors voted unanimously.

7.2 Executive Officer's Report

Cr Mulholland left the room at 12.36.

Cr Smith acted as Chair for discussions regarding remuneration to Chair

16082019/4 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wright/ Cr Milne

THAT the Board pay the Chairperson \$10,000 in recognition of Chair responsibilities

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

Cr Mulholland returned to the room at 12.50pm and resumed the role of Chair.

Discussions around the proposed joint meeting with Mid North Coast JO in Sydney was held. The Board agreed on a potential date of 20 November 2019, to be confirmed with DoPIE

16082019/5 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Smith/ Cr Milne

THAT the Board discuss the joint meeting agenda and parliamentary showcase opportunity and endorse the initiatives in principle

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – All Councillors voted unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed funding application to Stronger Country Communities (SCC) fund for a Youth Summit. This issue was also discussed at the General Managers' meeting, who raised concerns that SCC may not be the best source of funding for such a project.

16082019/6 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Smith/ Cr Milne

THAT the Board endorse the project in principle but the NRJO declines to submit a funding application.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – All Councillors voted unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of a resource sharing of professional staff. This is an issue consistent across all six LGAs who are poaching each other's staff. There are also issues around insurance as many organisations will not indemnify certifiers. Executive Officer to report back to the Board via email on costs and expected outputs from proposed consultant to be engaged to work with regional staff to establish a regional unit to address the shortage in building and development professionals.

16082019/7 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Mustow/ Cr Milne

THAT the Board write to the Building Commissioner and LGNSW asking them to address the industry-wide shortage of professional staff, particularly building inspectors.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – All Councillors voted unanimously.

7.3 Byron Shire Council – Multi Use of the Byron Shire Rail Corridor

16082019/8 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Richardson/Cr Smith

THAT the NRJO reaffirm its prioritisation of activation of the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor for regional rail trail, tourism and movement outcomes

THAT the NRJO ensure the activation of the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor is a key project within its PRIORITY - 'A physically and digitally connected region' and be considered when considering or seeking grant and funding opportunities

THAT within this priority project, the NRJO support the urgent removal of vegetation within the rail infrastructure area within the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor.

THAT the NRJO request a meeting with the pertinent State Government departments, NSW State Rail, local MP's and John Holland to assist in achieving this outcome.

THAT the NRJO support the rezoning of land within rail infrastructure areas within the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor to appropriate Infrastructure zoning.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.4 Statement of Revenue Policy

16082019/9 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Milne/Cr Smith

THAT the Board adopt the Statement of Revenue Policy for 2019-20

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.5 NRJO Appointment of Auditor 2018-2019

16082019/10 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Smith/Cr Wright

THAT the NRJO accept the Audit Engagement Plan as received.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.6 Financial Statements ending 30 June 2019

16082019/11 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wright/Cr Mustow

THAT the contents of the NRJO financial report for the period ending 30 June 2019 be received and noted.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.7 NRJO Agency Information Guide

16082019/12 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wright/Cr Smith

THAT the Board adopt the NRJO Agency Information Guide and submit to the Office of Information Commissioner.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.8 Geocentric datum of Australia 2020

16082019/13 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Mustow/Cr Wright

THAT the report provided by Spatial Services, part of the ICT and Digital Government Agency within the State Department of Finance, Services and Innovation be received and noted

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.9 Associate Member report – Rous County Council

16082019/14 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Mustow/Cr Milne

THAT the report provided by Rous County Council be received and noted with amendment to include Richmond River in the area covered by the CAG.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.10 Associate member report – Destination North Coast

16082019/15 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Wright/Cr Richardson

THAT the report provided by Destination North Coast Council be received and noted.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

7.11 Associate member report – RDA Northern Rivers

16082019/16 RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Mustow/Cr Richardson

THAT the report provided by RDA Northern Rivers be received and noted.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously

8. URGENT BUSINESS

9. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

16082019/17 RESOLVED

MOVED: Cr Smith/Cr Milne

That the Joint Organisation considers the confidential business of the working hours of the Executive Officer and reconsider the service agreement with RDA Northern Rivers in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – Unanimous vote

The meeting moved into closed session at 1.55pm

The public gallery was cleared

The Executive Officer left the meeting, having declared an interest

Executive Officer Working Hours

16082019/18 RESOLVED

MOVED: Cr Mulholland/Cr Mustow

THAT any decision on extending the Executive Officers working hours be deferred until the NRJO have undertaken a performance review and have a performance agreement in place for the Executive Officer.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – Unanimous vote

Executive Officer returned to the room

Support service proposals from RDA Northern Rivers and Rous County Council

16082019/18 RESOLVED

MOVED: Cr Mulholland/Cr Mustow

THAT the RDA Northern Rivers proposal be accepted

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – Unanimous vote

16082019/19 RESOLVED

MOVED: Cr Smith/Cr Mustow

THAT the Joint Organisation moves out of closed meeting session and into open meeting session and the Chairperson read the resolutions made during closed meeting session.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – Unanimous vote

The meeting moved out of closed session at 2.15pm. The resolutions from the closed session were read out loud by the Chair.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

16082019/20 RESOLVED

MOVED: Cr Mustow/Cr Mulholland

THAT the correspondence report be noted.

CARRIED

FOR VOTE – Unanimous vote

Meeting closed 2.18pm

Next meeting Friday 8 November 2019

Lismore City Council

MINUTES APPROVED



Cr Danielle Mulholland

Chair

