

NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION (NRJO) BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2023 AT TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL

The meeting commenced : 10.01am

In attendance:

Mayors:

- Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council (Chair)
- Cr Kylie Thomas, Kyogle Council (Deputy Chair) (11:35 – 12:04pm)
- Cr Chris Cherry, Tweed Shire Council
- Cr Steve Krieg, Lismore City Council
- Cr Michael Lyon, Byron Shire Council
- Cr Robert Mustow, Richmond Valley Council

General Managers:

- Mark Arnold, Byron Shire Council
- Paul Hickey, Ballina Shire Council
- Troy Green, Tweed Shire Council
- Jon Gibbons, Lismore City Council

Other Attendees:

- Louise McMeeking, director (Regional NSW North Coast)
- Phillip Rudd (NRJO)
- Vicky Scott (NRJO)
- Michael Thurston, General Manager (Destination North Coast)
- Aveley McCann - Chief of Staff, Lismore City Council
- Nathan McGrath, Director (Regional Development Australia)
- Robyn Waldron (Minute Taker)

Address by official visitors:

- David Witherdin, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation (NRRC)
- Dr Jai Vaze, Senior Principal Research Scientist (Hydrologist) CSIRO via Teams

1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Chair extended a welcome to everyone to today's meeting.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge that this meeting is held upon the land of the Bundjalung people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

3 APOLOGIES

170223/1 RESOLVED (*Lyon/Cherry*) that apologies be received and accepted on behalf of Mr Vaughan MacDonald (Richmond Valley Council); Cr Jeff McConnell (Scenic Rim Regional Council), Anita Gambhir (Office of Local Government)

(CARRIED)

Apologies due to technology issues were received from Graham Kennett (Kyogle Shire Council), Cr Ian Tiley and Laura Black (Clarence Valley Council).

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

170223/2 RESOLVED (*Krieg/Cherry*) that the Minutes of the meeting held 2 December 2022 and business arising be approved with the modification of Vaughan MacDonald being an apology.

(CARRIED)

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

6 ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL VISITORS

6.1 David Witherdin, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation (*present*)

6.2 Dr Jai Vaze, Senior Principal Research Scientist (Hydrologist) CSIRO (on-line)

170223/3 RESOLVED (*Krieg/Cherry*) that the NRJO Board receive and note the presentations.

(CARRIED)

170223/4 RESOLVED (*Krieg/Lyon*) that Cr Kylie Thomas join the meeting by phone.

Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor Kyogle Shire Council joined meeting by phone 11:35am

7 NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 CMA 2023 State Election Priorities

170223/5 RESOLVED (*Thomas/Mustow*) that NRJO Board receive and note the report on the CMA 2023 State Election Priorities.

(CARRIED)

7.2 Polystyrene building products such as single use “Waffle Pods”

170223/6 RESOLVED (Cherry/Mustow) that NRJO Board write to the State Government and advocate for recycled and compostable products to be encouraged and supported in the construction industry to transition away from the use of polystyrene building products such as single use “Waffle Pods”.

(CARRIED)

8 REPORTS

8.1 Executive Officer Report

170223/7 RESOLVED (Cherry/Krieg) that the NRJO Board receive and note the Executive Officer report.

(CARRIED)

Nathan McGrath left meeting 11:55am

8.2 Statement of Revenue

170223/8 RESOLVED (Cherry/Krieg) that:

1. The NRJO Board endorses the draft 2023/24 Budget and Statement of Revenue policy as provided in the body of the report, for public exhibition.
2. The draft Budget and Statement of Revenue Policy for 2023/24 be published on the website for 28 days.
3. If public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, a report be furnished to the NRJO May 2023 meeting, including Executive Officer comments on how the submissions have been considered, for the Board to determine a position on endorsement of the 2023/24 Budget and Statement of Revenue policy.
4. If no public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, the version of the draft the 2023/24 Budget and Statement of Revenue policy placed on public exhibition, is deemed to be adopted by the Board.

(CARRIED)

8.3 Financial Report

170223/9 RESOLVED (Mustow/Cherry) that the NRJO Board receive and note the Financial Report for period ending 31 January 2023.

(CARRIED)

Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor Kyogle Shire Council left the meeting 12:04pm

8.4 Clarence Valley council Membership Proclamation

170223/10 RESOLVED (*Cherry/Lyon*) that the NRJO Board:

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Officially welcome Clarence Valley Council as a voting member of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation; and
3. Thank the Minister for Local Government for facilitating the making of the NSW Government proclamation required to declare Clarence Valley Council a voting member of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation.

(CARRIED)

8.5 Clarence Valley Regional Update - Magazine

8.6 Scenic Rim Regional Council

8.7 Office of Local Government

170223/11 RESOLVED (*Lyon/Mustow*) that the NRJO Board receive and note the above three reporting documents as one resolution.

(CARRIED)

8.8 Destination North Coast

170223/12 RESOLVED (*Cherry/Krieg*) that the NRJO Board receive and note the report from Destination North Coast.

(CARRIED)

8.9 Regional Development Australia Northern Rivers

170223/13 RESOLVED (*Mustow/Cherry*) that the NRJO Board receive and note the report from Regional Development Australia Northern Rivers.

(CARRIED)

8.10 Regional NSW – Louise McKeeking

170223/14 RESOLVED (*Krieg/Lyon*) that the NRJO Board

1. Receive and note the report from Regional NSW
2. Regional NSW forward through the presentation to the NRJO for information.

(CARRIED)

9 URGENT BUSINESS

170223/15 RESOLVED (*Lyon/Krieg*) that reducing costs for NSW Local Government Elections be received and discussed as Urgent Business.

(CARRIED)

9.1 Reducing Costs for NSW Local Government Elections – Chris Cherry

170223/16 RESOLVED (*Lyon/Krieg*) that the NRJO Chair urgently advocates to

1. Local Government NSW and the Minister for Local Government to receive a 40% rebate for the holding of 2024 NSW Local government elections for all natural disaster impacted Councils.
2. Minister for Local Government of NSW seek advice from councils in reducing the number of polling booths on election days and reduce the pre-polling to commence the Saturday prior to election day.

(CARRIED)

10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

No items of confidential business were raised.

11 CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

170223/17 RESOLVED (*Cherry/Lyon*) that the Board receive and note correspondence.

(CARRIED)

12 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.25pm

Next scheduled meeting Friday 19 May 2023 - Byron Shire Council, 70 Station Street Mullumbimby

Please find attached presentations from

Mr David Witherdin, Chief Executive Officer, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation

- Update for the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation
- Joint Media Release

Ms Louise McMeeking, Director, Regional Development North Coast

ACTION LOG

17 February 2023

Agenda Item	Description	Responsibility	Current Status
6.1	Mr. David Witherdin, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation to be invited to all 2023 meetings for the NRJO to present updates.	NRJO admin	Completed
7.2	A letter to be sent to the State government and advocate for recycled and compostable products be encouraged/supported in the construction industry	NRJO Chair and Exec. Officer	Current
8.2.2	Draft Budget and Statement of Revenue Policy 2023/24 be published on the website for 28 days	Financial Officer	Current
8.7	Seek information around procurement of increased recycled materials from OLG report (ie. New procurement guidelines stated in report)	Exec. Officer NRJO	Current
8.10	The Presentation from the Department Regional NSW be forwarded to NRJO for information	Louise McMeeking, Department Regional NSW and NRJO admin	Completed
9.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter for Local Government NSW and Minister for Local Government to request a 40% rebate for holding 2024 NSW local government elections in natural disaster impacted councils. 2. Letter to the Minister for Local Government to seek advice from councils in reducing the number of polling booths on election days and pre-polling to commence the Saturday prior to election day. 	NRJO Chair and Exec. Officer	Current

