
MINUTES OF NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION BOARD MEETING HELD FRIDAY, 17 MAY 2024 AT KYOGLE COUNCIL - 1 STRATHEDEN STREET, KYOGLE NSW 2474

Meeting commenced at 10:00am

In attendance:

Voting Committee:

- Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Ballina Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
- Cr Chris Cherry, Tweed Shire Council
- Cr Peter Johnstone, Clarence Valley Council
- Cr Steve Krieg, Lismore City Council
- Cr Michael Lyon, Byron Shire Council (Chair)
- Cr Robert Mustow, Richmond Valley Council

General Managers

- Laura Black, Clarence Valley Council
- Mark Arnold, Byron Shire Council
- Tory Green, Tweed Shire Council
- Jon Gibbons, Lismore City Council
- Paul Hickey, Ballina Shire Council

Other attendees:

- Cr Tom Cooper, on behalf of Cr Webster, Kyogle Council
- Lauren Edwards, NRJO
- Anita Gambhir, Office of Local Government
- Jane Lavery, Northern Rivers Business NSW
- Cr Stephen Moriarty, Scenic Rim Regional Council
- Cr Big Rob, Lismore City Council
- Phillip Rudd, Executive Officer NRJO
- Marcus Schintler, on behalf of Chris White, Kyogle Council
- Karina Striegheer, Disaster Relief Australia
- Cass Wilson, Regional NSW

1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Chair opened the meeting and invited Cr Tom Cooper, Deputy Mayor Kyogle Council to welcome everyone to the meeting.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Cooper provided the 'acknowledgement of country' and showed respect and acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land, of Elders past and present, on which this meeting took place.

3 APOLOGIES

- Cr Kylie Webster, Kyogle Council
- Vaughan MacDonald, Richmond Valley Council
- Chris White, Kyogle Council
- Alex Smith, Regional Development Australia

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL VISITOR(S)

5.1 NSW Northern Rivers Brand

Presented by Jane Lavery – Regional Director Northern Rivers Business NSW

5.2 Disaster Relief Australia

Presented by Karina Striegher, Northern Manager Disaster Relief Australia

Cr Sharon Cadwallader joined the meeting 10.50am

Cr Robert Mustow joined the meeting 11.01am via 'Teams' platform.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED (Cadwallader/Lyon) that the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation receive and note the minutes from the previous meeting held 16 February 2024.

7 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8 NOTICE OF MOTION

8.1 Funding of urban drainage

RESOLVED (Cadwallader/Krieg) That the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board advocate on behalf of its Member Councils for Commonwealth and State Government funding for the rebuilding of urban drainage assets and for an increase to the stormwater management service charge by:

1. Writing to the relevant State and Commonwealth Government Ministers, and
2. Preparing a submission for the 2024 LGNSW Annual Conference.

Funding of urban drainage (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg, Cr Michael Lyon and Cr Robert Mustow	6
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster	1
Carried		

Cr. Stephen Moriarty left the meeting at 11.25am

9 REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION

9.1 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting update.

RESOLVED (Johnstone/Lyon) That the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board:

1. Receive and note the attached minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 30 April 2024,
2. Approve the revised Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter at Attachment 2 adopted by Rous County Council on 21 February 2024,
3. Nominate Councillor Johnstone as the non-voting councillor for appointment to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee when meeting on behalf of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation for a 2-year term or until a casual vacancy occurs, whichever is the earlier,
4. Approve the delegation at Attachment 4 to Rous County Council, as part of the fee-for-service arrangement for corporate services, of its functions under the:
 - a. *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2022* (PID Act), and
 - b. Part 6A of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (PPIP Act).

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting update (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg, Cr Michael Lyon and Cr Robert Mustow	6
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster	1
Carried		

9.2 Executive Officer report

RESOLVED (Lyon/Cherry) That the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board:

1. Receive and note the Executive Officer's report as presented, and
2. Expresses its frustration and dismay at the latest street count in the Northern Rivers highlighting the ongoing increase in rough sleeping which is already the highest in the state in the last count and lack of action to address this, and
3. Writes to the relevant Commonwealth and State Government Ministers for a

response to the results of the recent Department of Communities and Justice Street Count results and calls for an immediate funded plan that will see the delivery of a tangible increase to social housing in the Northern Rivers.

4. Invite the Minister for Homelessness and her Head of Department to the next meeting of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation meeting to outline her plans in response to this crisis.

Executive Officer report (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg and Cr Michael Lyon	5
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster and Cr Robert Mustow	2
Carried		

Cr Robert Mustow left the meeting at 11.55am

9.3 Northern Rivers Compact 2024-2026

RESOLVED (Krieg/Cadwallader) That the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board:

1. Receive this draft report.
2. Support the proposed Northern Rivers Compact 2024–2026 attached to this report with the addition of Northern Rivers Joint Organisation as a partner; and
3. Endorse the Chair to duly execute the compact on behalf of the NRJO, after receiving feedback from all the Councils.

Northern Rivers Compact 2024-2026 (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg and Cr Michael Lyon	5
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster and Cr Robert Mustow	2
Carried		

9.4 Financial Report - 30 April 2024

RESOLVED (Cadwallader/Krieg) that the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board receive and note the financial report ending 30 April 2024 as presented.

Financial Report - 30 April 2024 (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg and Cr Michael Lyon	5
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster and Cr Robert Mustow	2
Carried		

10 INFORMATION REPORTS - COVER SHEET

MOTION (Johnstone/Cherry) that the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board discuss 10.1 Electric Vehicle Event – report separately to the other reports.

CARRIED

RESOLVED (Johnstone/Cherry) That the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board receive and note the information reports as presented.

Information Reports (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg and Cr Michael Lyon	5
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster and Cr Robert Mustow	2
Carried		

10.1 Electric Vehicle Event - report

RESOLVED (Johnstone/Cherry) that the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Board:-

1. Receive and note the report on the Electric Vehicle Event held at the Cavanbah Centre, Byron Bay, NSW on Wednesday 10 April 2024; and
2. Thank the staff members involved in coordinating the day.

NRJO Electric Vehicle Day (Resolution)		
For	Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Chris Cherry, Cr Peter Johnstone, Cr Steve Krieg and Cr Michael Lyon	5
Against	None	0
Abstain	None	0
Conflict of Interests	None	0
Absent	Cr Kylie Webster and Cr Robert Mustow	2
Carried		

11 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil

12 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:37pm