

**MINUTES OF MURRAY RIVER COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MOAMA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 52 PERRICOOTA
ROAD, MOAMA
ON MONDAY, 23 JUNE 2025 AT 1:00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr John Harvie (Mayor), Cr Neil Gorey (Deputy Mayor), Cr Joy Allan, Cr Kylie Berryman, Cr Gen Campbell, Cr Dennis Gleeson, Cr Bianca Hurn, Cr Gary Pappin, Cr Geoff Wise

IN ATTENDANCE: Stacy Williams Chief Executive Officer), Stephen Fernando (Director Corporate Services), Sandra Gordon (Manager Governance & Risk), Sarah Ryan Director Economic Development & Community Services, Daniel Hughes (Interim Director Infrastructure), Gary Arnold (Interim Director Planning & Environment), Sheryl Mudaliar (Executive Services Coordinator)

1 OPENING MEETING

The Mayor held a short appropriate prayer.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.

3 APOLOGIES & APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION 010625

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

That the apology tendered on behalf of Cr Pappin be received and accepted; and that leave of absence from the meeting be granted.

CARRIED

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - ORDINARY MEETING COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 020625

Moved: Cr Dennis Gleeson

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Murray River Council held on 27 May 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS****RESOLUTION 030625**

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

That Council approve the presented Disclosure of interest as listed below.

The CEO Stacy Williams declared a Significant Non Pecuniary conflict of interest item 7.1 – Mayoral Minute – To Engage External Agency for CEO Performance review.

CARRIED**6 DEPUTATIONS**

At 1.04pm Matthew O' Farrell addressed Council on Item Enter number 9.3.3 – Adoption of Moama Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

BRING FORWARD**RESOLUTION 040625**

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

That the Council brings forward item 9.3.3 to debate and resolve.

CARRIED**7 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)**

Stacy Williams left the meeting – 1:47pm

7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - TO ENGAGE EXTERNAL AGENCY FOR CEO PERFORMANCE REVIEWS**RESOLUTION 050625**

Moved: Cr John Harvie

Seconded: Cr Gen Campbell

That Council

1. Proceed to engage LGMS to assist in the facilitation of the Chief Executive Officers Performance Review in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the proposal dated 30 May 2025 and

1. Appoint the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Berryman, Cr Allan and Cr Campbell to the CEO Annual Performance Review Committee.
3. Approve suitable training for members of the CEO Annual Performance Review Committee.

CARRIED

STACY WILLIAMS RETURNED TO THE MEETING – 1.59PM

8 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

9.1.1 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION 2025 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY VOTING DELEGATE

RESOLUTION 060625

Moved: Cr Bianca Hurn

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That Cr. Gen Campbell be authorised as the Murray River Council voting delegate at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly for 2025.

CARRIED

9.1.2 SUPPORT FOR DENILQUIN HOSPITAL

RESOLUTION 070625

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That Council authorises the CEO to write a letter to Edward River Council in support their efforts to advocate for funding a new Deniliquin Hospital.

CARRIED

At 1:57 pm, Cr Bianca Hurn left the meeting.

9.1.3 RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL - RESOLUTION TRACKER & INFOCOUNCIL ACTION REPORTS

RESOLUTION 080625

Moved: Cr Kylie Berryman

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That the Council resolve to receive and note the status of previous resolutions of Council (in open and closed Council) contained in the Monthly Operation Report including the Resolution Tracker Reports.

CARRIED

At 1:59 pm, Cr Bianca Hurn returned to the meeting.

9.1.4 MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT

RESOLUTION 090625

Moved: Cr Kylie Berryman

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That the Monthly Operational Report as of May 2024 be received and the information noted by the Council.

CARRIED

9.2 DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

9.2.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - UNAUDITED FY 24/25 PERIOD ENDING 31 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 100625

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That Murray River Council (Council) resolve to receive the Unaudited Financial Statements for the period to 31 May 2025 (FY2024/25), noting that reporting of monthly financial statements is not a regulatory requirement but nonetheless is being provided in furtherance of financial transparency and in keeping with financial reporting best practice.

CARRIED

9.2.2 2025-2026 ANNUAL FEES FOR MAYOR & COUNCILLORS**RESOLUTION 110625**

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Geoff Wise

That Murray River Council (Council) resolve,

1. to pay,

- a). an Annual Fee of Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety dollars (\$18,890) to each Councillor including the Mayor; and
- b). an Additional Fee, over and above the Annual Fee, of Forty Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty dollars (\$40,530) to the Mayor.

for the 2025-26 financial year (commencing July 2025), in keeping with the determination made by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal of New South Wales, and

2. to pay the Annual Fees as determined in cause 1. above in 12 equal monthly instalments, in arrears, commencing the end of July 2025, and
3. to pay superannuation on the Annual Fees, in keeping with Superannuation legislation applicable at the time of payment, to a superannuation account nominated by each Councillor and the Mayor.

CARRIED

9.2.3 BUDGET 2025-26: OPERATIONAL PLAN AND 2025-26 TO 2034-35 LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**RESOLUTION 120625**

Moved: Cr Dennis Gleeson

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That Council resolve to:

1. in accordance with Sections 404 and 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council adopt the Murray River Council 2025-2026 Operational Plan, including the 2025-2026 to 2034-2035 Long Term Financial Plan, and
2. in accordance with Part 9, Division 5, Section 211(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, Council approve expenditure and capital works as detailed in the Murray River Council 2025-2026 Operational Plan, including the 2025-2026 to 2034-2035 Long Term Financial Plan, and
3. adopt the following Reserve movements:
 - a. from reserves to fund the following Capital activities:
 - i. \$5,886,992 from the General reserve
 - ii. \$3,055,812 from the Sewer reserve
 - iii. \$2,456,080 from the Water reserve
 - iv. \$3,029,930 from the Waste reserve
 - b. to reserves for the following Operational activities:
 - i. \$3,130,916 from the General reserve
 - ii. \$3,567,348 to the Sewer reserve
 - iii. \$3,555,592 to the Water reserve

iv. \$3,093,892 to the Waste reserve

CARRIED

9.2.4 ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

RESOLUTION 130625

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Gen Campbell

That Murray River Council (Council) resolve to adopt the Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy, as attached to this report.

CARRIED

9.2.5 NOTICE OF MOTION - FEASIBILITY STUDY SALEYARDS

MOTION

That Council fund and undertake a feasibility assessment to develop an assess options for a stock and saleyards at Murray Downs for the purpose of providing certainty to rural constituents in Murray River Council and surrounds.

LAPSED

9.2.6 BUDGET 2025-26: GENERAL RATES, UTILITY CHARGES & SCHEDULE OF FEES

RESOLUTION 140625

Moved: Cr Geoff Wise

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

A. That Murray River Council (Council) resolve to adopt the General Rates, Utility Charges and related matters provisionally adopted by **Council** at its Extraordinary Meeting held on 13 May 2025 (EM), and thereafter placed on public display for comment for 28 days without having received any submissions, without any changes, in keeping with the relevant provisions of the **Act**, as follows:

1. categorisation of land and delegation of authority to determine such categorisation to the Chief Executive Officer, for purpose of levying Ordinary Rates, as per resolutions 1 and 2 of agenda item 5.2.1 of the **EM**, and
2. making and levying of Ordinary Rates on rateable properties using a two-tier structure of a Base Amount and an Ad Velorem rate, with the values for the two tiers to be as detailed in resolution 3 of agenda item 5.2.1 of the **EM**, and
3. treating lots in a strata plan as allowed for in s495A of the **Act** as detailed in resolution 4 of agenda item 5.2.1 of the **EM**, and
4. making and levying Stormwater Management Services Charges as per the resolution of agenda item 5.2.2 of the **EM**, and
5. making & levying Filtered Water Service Charges, consisting of Filter Water Access Charges and Filtered Water Consumption Charges, as per resolution 1 (including subsections a. & b.) of agenda item 5.2.3 of the **EM**, and

6. making & levying Raw Water Service Charges, consisting of Raw Water Access Charges and Raw Water Consumption Charges, as per resolution 2 (including subsections a. & b.) of agenda item 5.2.3 of the **EM**, and
7. making & levying Sewer Service Charges, consisting of Sewer Access Charges and Sewer Discharge Charges, as per resolution 1 (including subsections a. & b.) of agenda item 5.2.4 of the **EM**, and
8. delegating to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to provide a discount on the Sewer Discharge Charge, for Business properties that do not have a raw water connection, as per resolution 1c. of agenda item 5.2.4 of the **EM**, and
9. making & levying Trade Waste Charges, consisting of Annual Trade Waste Charges and Trade Waste Discharge Charges, as per resolution 2 (including subsections a. & b.) of agenda item 5.2.4 of the **EM**, and
10. making & levying Waste Charges as per resolution 1 of agenda item 5.2.5 of the **EM**, and
11. making & levying an Annual Landfill Rehabilitation Charge as resolution 2 of agenda item 5.2.5 of the **EM**, and
12. levying Ordinary Rates & Utility Charges, extending concessions to Pensioners, and affording relief to ratepayers facing Hardship, as per resolutions 1, 2, and 3 respectively of agenda item 2.5.7 of the **EM**, and
13. charging interest on overdue Rates & Charges, at the maximum permissible rate of 10.5% per annum, as per resolution 4 of agenda item 2.5.6 of the **EM**.

and

That **Council** resolve to adopt the Schedule of Fees provisionally adopted at the **EM**, and thereafter placed on public display for comment for 28 days without having received any submissions, subject to the variations as detailed in the report, with the revised Schedule of Fees being appended to this report as Attachment 1.

CARRIED

9.2.7 BUDGET 2025-26: REVENUE POLICY

RESOLUTION 150625

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That Murray River Council (Council) resolve, as prescribed in s223(f) of the **Act**, to adopt the Revenue Policy for 2025-26 appearing as Attachment 1 to this report.

CARRIED

9.3 DIRECTOR IINFRASTRUCTURE REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

9.3.1 MURRAY RIVER COUNCIL LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**RESOLUTION 160625**

Moved: Cr Kylie Berryman

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That Council note the DRAFT minutes of the Murray River Council Local Traffic Committee meeting held on Wednesday 7 May 2025.

CARRIED

9.3.2 DRAFT COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS POLICY**RESOLUTION 170625**

Moved: Cr Bianca Hurn

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That the DRAFT Community Infrastructure Project Policy be adopted and placed on public display.

CARRIED

9.3.3 RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF MOAMA FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN**MOTION**

Moved: Cr Dennis Gleeson

Seconded: Cr Neil Gorey

That Council having considered the Draft Moama Flood Risk Management Study and Plan and submissions received during its exhibition:

1. Adopt the recommended responses to the issues raised in those submissions as summarised in the Moama Flood Risk Management Study and Plan, and
2. Adopt and publish the Moama Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

LOST

This motion was lost and the Foreshadowed Motion become the resolution of Council.

FORESHADOWED MOTION**RESOLUTION 180625**

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

That council pause the adoption of the Moama Risk Management Study and Plan for the purpose of undertaking an independent review of the Moama Flood Study and the Moama Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

CARRIED

9.4 DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS

Nil

9.5 DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATTERS**9.5.1 SECTION 355 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AS AT MAY 2025****RESOLUTION 190625**

Moved: Cr Kylie Berryman

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That Council receive and note the May Section 355 Committee Report

CARRIED

9.5.2 OLD MOULAMEIN COURTHOUSE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**RESOLUTION 200625**

Moved: Cr Kylie Berryman

Seconded: Cr Joy Allan

That Council;

1. Agree to the formation of the old Moulamein Courthouse Management Committee
2. Request council officers to seek nominations from community members to become members of the committee.
3. Provide a further report to council with a list of nominated persons for Councils endorsement.
4. Elect Councillor Gleeson as delegate and Councillor Wise alternate delegate to the committee

CARRIED

9.5.3 AGM MINUTES - BUNNALOO RECREATION RESERVE S355 COMMITTEE**RESOLUTION 210625**

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Geoff Wise

That Council revoke existing members of the Bunnaloo Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and pursuant to Section 355 of the Local Government Act 193 appoint new committee members nominated at the May 2025 AGM as listed in this report.

CARRIED

9.5.4 BUNNALOO RECREATION RESERVE - SIGNED DELEGATION DOCUMENT**RESOLUTION 220625**

Moved: Cr Geoff Wise

Seconded: Cr Dennis Gleeson

That Council endorse the delegation of authority document signed by the Bunnaloo Recreation Reserve Committee, formalising the delegation from Council to the Committee to manage the Reserve on Council's behalf. This delegation is made in accordance with sections 355 and 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 and will remain in effect until such time as it is amended or revoked by Council.

CARRIED**9.5.5 SOUTHERN RIVERINA DROUGHT RESILINCE ACTION PLAN - UPDATE****RESOLUTION 230625**

Moved: Cr Dennis Gleeson

Seconded: Cr Gen Campbell

That Council receive and note this report.

CARRIED**9.6 CORRESPONDENCE REPORT****9.6.1 CORRESPONDENCE REPORT****RESOLUTION 240625**

Moved: Cr Neil Gorey

Seconded: Cr Geoff Wise

That the Correspondence Report be received and the information noted by the Council.

CARRIED

9.7 SUNDRY DELEGATES REPORT**9.7.1 SUNDRY DELEGATES REPORT****RESOLUTION 250625**

Moved: Cr Bianca Hurn

Seconded: Cr Kylie Berryman

That the Sundry Delegates Report of the Mayor and Councillors for the period 1 May 2025 through to 31 May 2025 be received and the information noted by the Council; and reasonable out of pocket expenses be met by Council.

CARRIED**10 NOTICE OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLUTION 260625**

Moved: Cr Geoff Wise

Seconded: Cr Bianca Hurn

That Council moves out of Open Council into Closed Council at 2.39pm.

CARRIED**RECOMMEDATION**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

11.1 Refund of Water Access Charges

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

RESOLUTION 270625

Moved: Cr Geoff Wise

Seconded: Cr Gen Campbell

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council at 2.45pm.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 280625

Moved: Cr Geoff Wise
Seconded: Cr Gen Campbell

That the Council brings forward the resolutions from Closed Council into Open Council and these be read aloud.

CARRIED**11.1 REFUND OF WATER ACCESS CHARGES****RESOLUTION 290625**

Moved: Cr Gen Campbell
Seconded: Cr Geoff Wise

That Murray River Council resolve to make a refund of water charges to two properties to correct errors in levying of water charges.

CARRIED**12 CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2.46pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Murray River Council will be held on Tuesday 22 July 2025, commencing at 1:00 PM, in Council Chambers, Moama Administration Office, 52 Perricoota Road, Moama.

THESE MINUTES ARE SIGNED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MURRAY RIVER COUNCIL HELD ON 23 JUNE 2025, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL ON 22 JULY 2025.

.....
MAYOR

.....
CEO