



Finance and Infrastructure Standing Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Meeting held in the Central Highlands Regional Council Chambers, Emerald Office

Tuesday 8 August 2017

Commenced at 8.30am

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

FINANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 8 AUGUST 2017

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**MINUTES – FINANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT 9.30AM TUESDAY 8 AUGUST 2017 IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, EMERALD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Councillors

Councillor (Crs) K. Hayes (Mayor), G. Godwin-Smith (Deputy Mayor / Chair)
Councillors (Crs) C. Brimblecombe, M. Daniels, C. Rolfe

Officers

Chief Executive Officer S. Mason, General Manager Corporate Services J. Bradshaw, General Manager Infrastructure and Utilities G. Joubert, General Manager Commercial Services M. Webster, Minute Secretary S Cooper.

Observers

Nil

APOLOGIES

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Brimblecombe sought leave of absence for the meeting of 12 September 2017.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Finance and Infrastructure Standing Committee Meeting: 11 July 2017

Resolution:

Cr Daniels moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That the minutes of the previous Finance and Infrastructure Standing Committee Meeting held on 11 July 2017 be confirmed.”

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 001

Carried (5-0)

Business Arising Out Of Minutes

Nil

Outstanding Meeting Actions

Cr Godwin Smith sought clarification on item 784 and asked whether this item was still relevant.
Cr Rolfe advised that the item 876 regarding the School zone in Capella was in fact about the lack of crossings on the highway rather than flashing lights.

Conflict of Interest, Personal Gifts and Benefits

Nil

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES' SECTION

Attendance

Manager Infrastructure J. Hoolihan, Manager Water Utilities P. Manning and Infrastructure Project Engineer S. Robinson attended the meeting at 8.36am.

Co-ordinator Communications A. Ferris attended the meeting at 8.37am.

9.1 Infrastructure and Utilities - Department Update

Executive summary:

The following information provides an update on key activities for the Infrastructure and Utilities Department.

Considered by Council.

Attendance

Manager Infrastructure J. Hoolihan, Manager Water Utilities P. Manning and Infrastructure Project Engineer S. Robinson left the meeting at 9.02am.

CORPORATE SERVICES' SECTION

10.1 Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) – 2017 Annual Conference – Call for Motions

Executive summary:

The 2017 Local Government Association of Queensland Annual Conference is being held from 16 – 18 October 2017 at the Gladstone Entertainment Centre.

Submissions are currently being sought for motions for the annual conference and are due by Friday 25 August 2017.

Resolution

Cr Rolfe moved and seconded Cr Brimblecombe "That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the following motions for submission to the 2017 Local Government Association of Queensland Annual Conference:

1. Averaging of valuations for rating
2. Discount on rates and charges
3. Valueless land and rating offsets
4. Rating valuations for solar farms / wind farms
5. Grant funding – return of funds to the region and infrastructure
6. Alternative Grant funding

Further, that Central Highlands Regional Council forward a copy of these motions to the Central Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils for their support."

10.2 Corporate Services – Department Update

Executive Summary

The following information provides an update on key activities for the Corporate Services Department.

Attendance

Manager Finance Shelly Fogg attended the meeting at 9.09am.

Considered by Council.

Attendance

Manager Finance Shelly Fogg left the meeting at 9.11am.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES' SECTION

11.1 Commercial Services - Department Update

Executive Summary:

The report provides information relating to the activities of the Commercial Services Department during the month of July 2017 and is provided for Councillor's information.

Considered by Council.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

12.1 Australian Local Government Association – National Local Roads and Transport Congress 2017

Executive Summary:

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is the peak body for all local governments in Australia. It is a non-profit organisation established solely to serve the 560 local government bodies in Australia. Each year the ALGA holds an annual conference that focuses on the local roads and transport networks.

The Roads Congress is an important opportunity to engage with the Government on how its policies will impact on the provision and maintenance of local roads, as well as the broader infrastructure and transport agenda. The Congress will feature national and international speakers and invitations have been extended to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Darren Chester MP, the Minister for Local Government and Territories, Senator the Hon Fiona Nash, the Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, as well as the Shadow Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, Mr Stephen Jones MP.

Resolution

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded Cr Daniels "That Central Highlands Regional Council authorise the Mayor Cr Hayes, Cr Rolfe, along with the Chief Executive Officer to attend the Australian Local Government Association National Local Roads and Transport Congress 2017 which is being held in Albany, Western Australia from 6 to 8 November 2017 as Council's representatives".

12.2 Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia Western Roads Symposium

Executive Summary:

The Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia Western Roads Symposium will be held in Longreach, 6-7 September 2017 in partnership with the Longreach Regional Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

The symposium will explore the use of locally available materials in the construction, maintenance and operations of our road assets specifically related to western and northern climatic conditions. It will also promote the technical expertise and experience available to support stakeholders within the roads infrastructure industry.

Resolution

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded Cr Daniels “That Central Highlands Regional Council be represented at the Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia Western Roads Symposium which is being held in Longreach from 6 – 7 September 2017 by Cr Rolfe.”

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 004

Carried (5-0)

12.3 Chief Executive Officer – Department Update

Executive Summary:

The report provides information relating to the activities of the Chief Executive Officer during the month of July 2017 and is provided for Councillor's information.

Considered by Council.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

CLOSED SESSION

Into Closed Session

Resolution

Cr Hayes moved and seconded by Cr Rolfe “That Council close its meeting to the public in accordance with Section 275 (1)(h) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 that Council staff involved in the closed discussions remain in the room.”

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 005

Carried (5-0)

The meeting was closed at 9.25 am

Attendance

Manager Infrastructure J. Hoolihan, Manager Water Utilities P. Manning and Infrastructure Project Engineer S. Robinson attended the meeting at 9.25am

General Manager Commercial Services M. Webster and General Manager Corporate Services J. Bradshaw left the meeting at 9.25am

Attendance

Manager Infrastructure J. Hoolihan, Manager Water Utilities P. Manning and Infrastructure Project Engineer S. Robinson left the meeting at 10.00am

Out of Sequence

Due to unavailability of General Manager Corporate Services J. Bradshaw, the Commercial Services items were brought forward and discussed.

Attendance

General Manager Commercial Services M. Webster and Commercial Analyst A. Gissel attended the meeting at 10.01am.

General Manager Commercial Services M. Webster and Commercial Analyst A. Gissel left the meeting at 10.08am

General Manager Corporate Services J. Bradshaw and Finance Manager S. Fogg attended the meeting at 10.08am

Out of Closed Session

Resolution

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Rolfe “That the meeting now be re-opened to the public.”

The meeting reopened to the public at 10.20am

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 006

Carried (5-0)

14.1 Infrastructure and Utilities - Department Update

Executive Summary:

The following information provides an update on key activities for the Infrastructure and Utilities Department.

Considered by Council.

14.5 Emerald Airport – Hanger 7 Lease

Executive Summary:

Emerald airport publicly advertised the lease of Hangar 7. Two formal applications were received expressing interest in leasing the building. Both of the formal applications received provided the necessary details and information requested to assist in making a transparent decision.

Resolution:

Cr Rolfe moved and seconded Cr Daniels “That the Central Highlands Regional Council Finance and Infrastructure Committee endorse the arrangement of a lease of agreement for Hangar 7 be entered into with Mr Russell Nobbs, Heli Central Pty Ltd.”

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 007

Carried (5-0)

14.6 Commercial Services - Department Update

Executive Summary:

The report provides information relating to Native Title and the financial performance of the Airport, Quarry and Saleyards businesses during the month of July 2017 (interim) and is provided for Councillor's information.

Considered by Council.

14.2 Request Rate Write Off

Executive Summary:

Council has been pursuing the recovery of a large debt owed with respect to outstanding rates on property located at 6 Arnold Street Blackwater, currently held by the Department of Housing and Public Works, without success, and this Report is submitted seeking Council's resolution to resolve this matter.

Resolution:

Cr Hayes moved and seconded Cr Brimblecombe "That the Central Highlands Regional Council write off the outstanding rates debt of \$48,379.61 on Rate Assessment 15288, as there are no further avenues available to Council to pursue payment from previous owners".

FISC 2017 / 08 / 08 / 008

Carried (5-0)

14.3 Cancelled Rate Assessments Report

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview and progress report in relation to a number of cancelled rate assessments held in its records which contain outstanding rates and charges balances.

Considered by Council.

14.4 Corporate Services – Department Update

Executive Summary:

The report provides information relating to the activities of the Corporate Services Department during the month of July 2017 and is provided for Councillor's information.

Considered by Council.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 10.23am.

CONFIRMED

CHAIR

DATE