

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS
(NSW) ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT COBAR MEMORIAL SERVICES CLUB (RSL),
BARRIER HIGHWAY, COBAR, NSW 11TH MAY 2018**

Present

Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council (Chair)
Cr Chris Connor	Wollongong City Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Lilliane Brady OAM	Cobar Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Owen Hasler	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Rob Hooke	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Peter Vlatko	Cobar Shire Council
Cr Melanie Dagg	Cessnock City Council
Cr Bob Pynsent	Cessnock City Council
Cr Sue Moore	Singleton Council
Cr Darriea Turley	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Marion Browne	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Michael Banasik	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Robert Khan	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Noel Lowry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Mr David Henry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Mark Hall	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Des Kennedy	Mid Western Regional Council
Mr Brad Cam	Mid Western Regional Council
Mr Ron Zwicker	Wollongong City Council
Cr Ian Davison	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Joanne McRae	Orange City Council
Cr Reg Kidd	Orange City Council
Cr Kevin Duffy	Orange City Council
Mr Chris Devitt	Dubbo Regional Council
Mr Michael McMahan	Dubbo Regional Council
Mr Steve Loane	Forbes Shire Council
Cr Alan Ward	Parkes Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Mr Glenn Wilcox (Life Member)	Warren Shire Council

Minute Taker

Mr Greg Lamont Executive Officer, Yes Pty Ltd.

Observers

Cr Doug Batten and Randell Medd Gilgandra Shire Council; Cr Leigh Byron and Michael Kitzelmann, Balranald Shire Council; Cr Karlene Irving, Warren Shire Council; Cr Ian Woodcock and Don Ramsland, Walgett Shire Council; Lisa Schiff.

Speakers

Hon Rick Colless, MLC; Ashley Albury DPC & Mike Young DPE

Apologies

Cr Jay Suvaal, Cessnock City Council; Cr Dan Thompson and Jason Linnane, Singleton Council; Councillor Nuatali Nelmes, Newcastle City Council; Robert Hunt, Lachlan Shire Council; Cr Dom Figliomeni, Wollongong City Council; Cr Melisa Hederics and Peter Kozlowski, Wentworth Shire Council; Cr Scott Ferguson and Rebecca Ryan, Blayney Shire Council; Heather Nicholls, Cabonne Shire Council; Cr Ben Shields, Dubbo Regional Council; Cr Phyllis Miller, Forbes Shire Council; Cr Jim Nolan, Broken Hill City Council; Cr Katherine Smith, Mid Coast Council; Andrew Johns, Gunnedah Shire Council; Cr Jarred Marsden, Cobar Shire Council.

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1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Peter Shinton welcomed members, observers and speakers to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 9.05am.

2. Apologies

OM 7/2018 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Hooke) that the apologies for delegates listed be received and noted.

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

- (a) Mr Ron Zwicker declared an interest as a shareholder in AGL Gas Investments;
- (b) Cr Melanie Dagg declared an interest as her husband works at Rix's Creek Mine, Hunter Valley;
- (c) Cr Bob Pynsent declared an interest as a shareholder in Yancoal

OM 8/2018 Resolved (Cr Banasik/Cr Brady) that the disclosures of interest be received and noted.

4. Minutes of the Special General Meeting – 23rd February 2018

OM 9/2018 Resolved (Cr Hall/Cr Connor) that the minutes of the Special General meeting held on 23rd February 2018 be received and noted.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Special General Meeting - 23rd February 2018

Nil.

6. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting – 23rd February 2018

OM 10/2018 Resolved (Cr McGlynn/M McMahon) that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 23rd February 2018 be received and noted.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting - 23rd February 2018

Nil.

8. Suspension of Standing Orders

OM 11/2018 Resolved (Cr Dagg/S Loane) that standing orders be suspended to allow the speakers to address delegates at 9.10am.

Speakers were:

- Hon Rick Colless, MLC, Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources and Western NSW and Chair Western Mining Development Taskforce on the recent activities and direction of the Taskforce;
- Ashley Albury, Regional Director Western NSW, Department Premier & Cabinet on Western NSW Renewable Energy Developments; and
- Mike Young, Director Resource & Energy Assessments, Department Planning on "Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Bancannia & Pongile Ranges Troughs, Far Western NSW" (Based on NSW Government's Strategic Release Framework for Coal and Petroleum at Work)

(Copies of presentations for this meeting, where provided will be forwarded to delegates)

9. Resumption of Standing Orders

OM 12/2018 Resolved (Cr Hall/Cr Brady) that standing orders be resumed at 10.20am

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10. Deferral of the Adoption of the Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – 10th May 2018

OM 13/2018 Resolved (Cr Dagg/S Loane) that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10th May 2018 be dealt with after the Executive Officer provides details on the background to each item outlined in the Executive Committee minutes that had not already been dealt with in the respective meetings beforehand.

11. Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's report was dealt with prior to adopting the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10th May 2018 in part.

12. Suspension of Standing Orders

OM 14/2018 Resolved (Cr Connor/Cr Brady) that Standing Orders be suspended to have morning tea at 10.30am.

13. Resumption of Standing Orders

OM 15/2018 Resolved (Cr Connor/Cr Hasler) that Standing Orders be resumed at 10.46am for the Executive Officer to continue to go over the items in the Executive Officer's Report for delegates.

14. Executive Officer's Report (cont'd)

The Executive Officer's report was continued after the resumption of standing orders, prior to adopting the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10th May 2018.

15. Adoption of Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – 10th May 2018

OM 16/2018 Resolved (Cr Connor/Cr Moore) that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 10th May 2018 be received and noted.

16. Business Arising from Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting – 10th May 2018

Nil

17. Delegates Reports

(a) Resources Advisory Forum (RAF). Delegate Cr Owen Hasler, provided an update on the latest RAF meeting held on 15th March 2018 in Sydney.

(b) Western Mining Development Taskforce. An update on the Taskforce was provided by the Hon Rick Colless, MLC and Ashley Albury, Regional Director Western Region DP&C with nothing further to be added by the delegate Cr Lilliane Brady.

(c) Regional Independent Assessment Panel. The Executive Officer provided an update via the Executive Officer's Report and commented on the recent meeting held with the Mayors and General Managers of Cessnock and Singleton Councils with Hon John Barilaro, Deputy Premier on 3rd March 2018, regarding the concerns delegates have with Resources for Regions eligibility criteria.

(d) Subsidence Advisory NSW (SANSW) and Mines Subsidence Board (MSB). Cr Mel Dagg provided delegates with an update on the latest position with SANSW (MSB) changes.

OM 17/2018 Resolved (Cr Moore/Cr Banasik) that the reports provided by the Delegates be noted.

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18. General Business

(a) Wind Energy & Farming Workshop - Upper Lachlan Shire Council, 8/9th November 2018. The Executive Officer provided an update on arrangements to date with the next workshop to be held in Crookwell 8th November 2018, with the Executive Committee meeting held beforehand and the Ordinary Meeting held the next day on 9th November 2018.

(b) Australian Mining Cities Alliance (AMCA) Update. The Mayor of Broken Hill City Council, Cr Darriea Turley, provided an update to delegates on the formation of the AMCA outlining that it is a national body of Councils, Corporates and Associate members set up to focus on Federal mining issues. The Executive Officer outlined the content of discussions with representatives and the objectives of AMRA and requested a detailed report from them on the AMRA. The AMRA will be having a stand at the Australian Local Government Association conference in June 2018 held in Canberra and delegates are encouraged to seek details from their stand. One information to hand, MERC will consider its position.

OM 18/2018 Resolved (Cr Hasler/Cr Brady) that the Executive Officer seek further details on the cost of membership of AMCA, its objectives, structure and strategic direction, so that MERC can make an informed decision on its position.

(c) Solar Energy & Farming Workshop 10th May 2018. The quality and content of the presentations by the speakers plus input from the forty or so delegates and observers in attendance at the workshop held on 10TH May 2018, in Cobar, guaranteed its success as a worthwhile forum for information exchange and attaining a greater understanding of renewable energy options and processes for all in attendance. (Copies of the presentations where provided will be distributed to delegates). It was a great success for our first forum.

(d) Membership. The Executive Officer outlined the details of the adopted MERC Membership Marketing Policy, for the information of delegates. The Chair thanked the Mayors and General Managers from Balranald, Warren, Gilgandra & Walgett Shire Councils and speakers for attending the workshop, network dinner and Ordinary meeting of MERC on 10/11th May 2018 in Cobar and encouraged them to consider joining the Association given their level of interest & participation.

OM 19/2018 Resolved (Cr Moore/Cr Connor) that the Association formally invite Balranald, Warren, Gilgandra and Walgett Shire Councils to join the Association.

(e) Membership Fees. Annual fees are set at the Annual General Meeting of MERC and discussion was held on when the fees apply and the quantum.

OM 20/2018 Resolved (Cr Connor/ S Loane) that the membership fees for the four Councils that attended the Solar Farming & Energy Workshop, Dinner and Ordinary Meeting held at Cobar on 10/11th May 2018 (being Balranald, Gilgandra, Warren and Walgett Shire Councils), be waived on a pro rata basis up until the Annual General Meeting to be held on 9th November 2018 as an incentive to join the Association Mining & Energy Related Councils (NSW) Incorporated.

(f) Meetings with Ministers. The Hon Rick Colless, MLC, Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources and Western NSW offered to facilitate any meetings with Ministers that MERC or delegates needed at any time to contact his office. The

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offer was well received. Chair thanked Rick, Ashley and Mike for attending the workshop, dinner and meetings of MERC and presentations on 10/11th May 2018.

19. Next Ordinary Meeting – Sydney 9/10th August 2018 commencing at 9am.

20. Close – The meeting closed at 12.05pm

The minutes (pages 1-4) were confirmed at a meeting of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 10th August 2018 and are a concise and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary meeting held on 11th May 2018.

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Cr Peter Shinton
Chairperson

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