
NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 10 AUGUST 2022
MAYORAL MINUTE

1. MAYORAL DIARY

July 2022

1 July	Alliance of Western Councils Board Meeting
5 July	Trangie Town Tour with Director Infrastructure and Engineering
6 July	Macquarie Flood Mitigation Zone Reference Group Meeting Meeting with Landholder regarding Poultry Industry Meeting with Potential Investor
7 July	Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) Meeting (via Zoom)
11 July	Meeting with Potential Developer
13 July	Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
25 July	Country Mayors Association Executive Meeting Inland Rail Meeting with Department of Regional Development
26 July	Macquarie Flood Mitigation Zone Reference Group Meeting
27 July	Groundwater Strategy Meeting with Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

2. DEPUTY MAYORAL DIARY

July 2022

13 July	Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
15 July	Community Events State Funding Announcement with the Hon Dugald Saunders
18 July	Inland Rail Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

3. PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR

Further to the Mayoral Minute outlined at the July Council meeting, the visit from the Philippine Ambassador is now planned for the 27th and 28th of September 2022. The planned itinerary includes a tour of the Shire highlighting the Narromine and Trangie communities and their surrounds.

On the evening of the 28th September an informal meal is planned to introduce the Ambassador and her colleagues to Councillors, senior staff and local employer representatives. The main aim of the visit is to encourage skilled workers and their families from the Philippines community that are already living in New South Wales to seek local employment opportunities both now and in the future with the major projects that are likely to occur across the Shire.

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3. PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR (Cont'd)

It is expected that major employers will follow up after the visit to further highlight these opportunities. Many shires have fostered such relationships successfully between the local community, employers and members of specific communities. Discussions with various Shire Council's such as Leeton and Lachlan confirm that they run successful programs with Industry taking much of the lead. It is the local industries that need to make sure that the jobs, skills required, long term opportunity and housing can be provided to potential employees.

The budget for the visit will be approximately \$4,000 and I am assured that this can be accommodated within the existing tourism and economic development budget.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council proceed with the organising and hosting of the ambassadorial visit on the 27th and 28th of September and that \$4,000 be allocated from the tourism and economic development budget.

4. DELEGATE REPORT – MACQUARIE FLOOD MITIGATION ZONE REFERENCE GROUP

Attached is my delegate's reports for the Macquarie Flood Mitigation Zone Reference Group meetings held on 6 July 2022 and 26 July 2022.

(See Attachment No. 1)

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

5. DELEGATE REPORT – ALLIANCE OF WESTERN COUNCILS MEETING

Attached is my delegate's report for the Alliance of Western Councils meeting held on 1 July 2022 **(See Attachment No. 2)**

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

Cr Craig Davies
Mayor

DELEGATE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT:

Macquarie Flood Mitigation Zone Reference Group

COUNCILLOR: Cr. Craig Davies

DATE ATTENDED: 6 July 2022 and 26 July 2022

1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting

To bring together representations of all river bodies to discuss outflows from Burrendong Dam and ensure, as much as possible, that outflows are sufficient to create enough airspace in the dam to ensure Narromine is safe from potential flooding.

2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council

These meetings are held regularly when the dam is above 100% with wet conditions forecast. Presently the Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting an 80% chance of significant inflows over the coming months with the potential of a further 700,000 megalitres likely to enter the Dam. This being the case, it requires close attention to ensure that we keep as much airspace available for these major inflows as possible.

The concerns of all water users must be considered at all times to ensure that none are adversely affected when it can be avoided.

3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council

The safety of residents in Narromine in times of high rainfall, catchment soakage and dam level.

4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)

Continue participation to ensure Narromine's voice is heard in the competing space of water and dam management on the Macquarie River.

Signature: Craig Davies

Date: 21 July 2022

DELEGATE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT:

Alliance of Western Councils (AWC) Meeting

COUNCILLOR: Cr. Craig Davies – Chair of AWC

DATE ATTENDED: 1 July 2022

1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting

Quarterly Meeting

2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council

- Update provided on key activities and issues currently being experienced by Telstra. Discussions were held with regards to connectivity in regional and remote areas and the challenges these areas are currently facing.
- Update provided on the challenges in rural, regional and remote areas in regard to education, .
- The Hon Dugald Saunders MP provided an update to the AWC Board regarding the following items:
 - The statewide lockdown of bees to stop the spread of Varroa Mite.
 - There are now 17 shires in the Western NSW Boundaries with Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Shires now included.
 - Focusing on Connectivity across Western NSW to improve road, air and data. The Government is working with private enterprises to assist in the ability to deliver better connectivity.
 - Budget and upcoming funding opportunities.
 - Challenges around housing for Police, Teachers, Nurses and Doctors, and how it affects the ability to attract these professionals to our areas and retain them.
 - Biodiversity – A review of the calculator found that it wasn't working as it should. A new calculator will be released.
- AWC supported the raising of the Full Supply Level (FSL) of Burrendong Dam to 120% of its current full supply level.
- Ashley Albury, Executive Director Regional Housing Supply – Department of Regional NSW, provided an update on the budget and housing/infrastructure opportunities for the region. Discussion was held with regard to the challenges Councils are currently experiencing across Western NSW.

3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council

The aim of the Alliance of Western Councils is to advocate to State and Federal Government, collaborate with Councils on common issues, support each LGA on issues specific to their Council, network together for the benefit of delivering better local governance and outcomes for their communities and to resource share where possible.

4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)

Continued attendance at all Alliance of Western Council Meetings. Next meeting to be held 14 October 2022 in Bourke.

Signature: Craig Davies

Date: 2 August 2022