

COBAR SHIRE COUNCIL



FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2014

~ ORDER OF BUSINESS ~

Business for the meeting will be as follows:

1. Apologies
 2. Declaration of Interests
 3. Notice of Motion
 4. General Manager's Report – Part A (Action)
 5. General Manager's Report – Part B (Information)
 6. Matters of Urgency
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**NOTICE OF MOTION – REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT COUNCILLORS AT COBAR SHIRE COUNCIL**

FILE: C13-1-5

AOP REFERENCE: 3.1

ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: *Councillor, Peter Abbott*

RECOMMENDATION

That a plebiscite (constitutional referendum) be held in conjunction with the next Local Government Elections in Cobar. With the plebiscite (constitutional referendum) to read:

“That the number of Local Government Councillors be reduced in number from the present twelve (12) to nine (9)”.

Explanation

The number of Councillors in Cobar originated with the old riding system. There were four ridings each of which had three candidates to be elected. While ridings have been out of vogue for a very long time in Cobar, the original total number of elected Councillors has remained static. Looking around at sister councils nearby the variation in Councillor numbers is eight to ten. An odd number removes the need for a casting vote.

A previous plebiscite (constitutional referendum) of similar ilk was combined with the popular voting for mayor and cannot be construed as being defeated due to confusion of two entirely separate issues. There must be no such combination of other issues on this occasion.

**REPORT 1A – PUBLIC ACCESS ADDRESS BY ROD TOWNEY – TAFE
NSW WESTERN INSTITUTE**

FILE: A11-2

AOP REFERENCE: 3.2

ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: *Special Projects Officer, Angela Shepherd*

Purpose

To advise Council on the upcoming significant changes to the funding and delivery of Vocational Education and Training (VET) that will commence from 1 January 2015.

Background

Mr Rod Towney will address Council on behalf of the TAFE NSW Western Institute on issues affecting the upcoming significant changes to the funding and delivery of Vocational Education and Training (VET) that will commence from 1 January 2015.

His presentation is expected to take between 15-30 minutes including questions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to thank Mr Rod Towney from TAFE Western NSW for his time and presentation to Council.

Cash Flow

Forecast	Actual	Description	Forecast
Sep-14	Sep-14		Oct-14
156,366	156,366	Bank Balance Forward	57,627
		Financial Assistance Grant	
		Regional Roads	431,500
60,000	68,112	RMS – Ordered Works	
13,200	13,449	RMS Agency	13,200
180,000	189,063	RMS – Routine Maintenance	
680,000	748,278	Rates /Water/User Charges	450,000
50,000	71,362	Private Works/Debtors	50,000
220,000	239,362	LBV – Residents Fees & Grant	220,000
90,000	115,049	Child Care/In Home Care	90,000
1,000,000	560,000	Transfer from ‘At Call’ Account	998,500
25,000	32,805	Sundry	24,731
	225,302	Plant Sales	20,000
92,000	92,290	GST	(68,500)
		<i>Less</i>	
(1,200,000)	(1,326,323)	Creditors	(1,300,000)
(700,000)	(702,452)	Wages / Salaries	(700,000)
(594,301)	(402,771)	Transfer to ‘At Call’ Account	(200,000)
(22,265)	(22,265)	Loan Repayment	(22,265)
50,000	57,627	Closing Reconciled Bank Balance Cr/(Dr)	54,693
COUNCIL’S LOAN FACILITIES as at 30 September 2014			
Working Capital Loan (4.725%)			(\$ 600,000)
NAB Loan (6.22%)			(\$ 1,862,652)
Closing Balance 30 September 2014			(\$2,462,652)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Bank Reconciliation, Cash Flow and Loan Facility Report as at 30 September 2014.

REPORT 2B – RATES RECONCILIATION REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**FILE: R2-1****AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.1.6****ATTACHMENT: YES (PAGE 14-15)****AUTHOR: Rates Officer, Jo-Louise Brown****Purpose**

To provide Council details of the Rate Reconciliation as at 30 September 2014.

FUND	LEVY 2014-2015	Pensioner Rebates	Abandoned Levy	Additional Levies	Sub Total 2014- 2015	Arrears 30th Jun 14	Payments	Total Outstanding	Total Outstanding Previous Year	% Outstanding of Sub Total Plus Arrears
Business	361,810.49	328.33	1,313.40	-	360,168.76	21,537.58	184,065.41	197,640.93	176,144.20	51.78%
Farmland	618,372.00	2,750.00	-	3,201.76	618,823.76	41,751.70	255,326.97	405,248.49	387,164.84	61.35%
Mining	1,534,980.69		12,233.20	-	1,522,747.49	129,765.55	497,426.71	1,155,086.33	1,137,299.49	69.90%
Residential	1,099,583.83	49,355.64	502.25	-	1,049,725.94	158,054.45	423,751.48	784,028.91	730,921.90	64.91%
Overpayments					-	-95,748.40	- 58,357.87	-37,390.53	-46,995.33	39.05%
Legal Costs			-	1,529.80	1,529.80	19,842.63	1,237.16	20,135.27	22,138.12	94.21%
Interest			-	1,874.64	1,874.64	58,224.43	3,803.12	56,295.95	44,548.56	93.67%
General Rates	3,614,747.01	52,433.97	14,048.85	6,606.20	3,554,870.39	333,427.94	1,307,252.98	2,581,045.35	2,451,221.78	66.38%
Domestic Waste	534,703.00	18,377.53	792.09	208.00	515,741.38	24,871.02	232,245.16	308,367.24	285,321.37	57.04%
Sewerage	619,440.00	20,059.38	960.00	-	598,420.62	33,661.10	256,889.65	375,192.07	372,315.47	59.36%
Cobar Water	597,105.00	21,371.87	466.00	-	575,267.13	22,627.79	277,924.39	319,970.53	301,532.51	53.52%
Nymagee Water	25,060.00	612.50	209.91	-	24,237.59	5,203.55	12,022.86	17,418.28	15,782.12	59.16%
Euabalong Water	36,405.00	1,137.50	-	-	35,267.50	8,951.87	15,728.97	28,490.40	24,446.34	64.43%
Euab West Water	22,575.00	612.50	-	-	21,962.50	4,534.19	10,664.74	15,831.95	16,678.65	59.75%
Mt Hope Water	4,620.00	-	-	-	4,620.00	0.00	2,308.70	2,311.30	1,470.54	50.03%
Water Access	685,765.00	23,734.37	675.91	-	661,354.72	41,317.40	318,649.66	384,022.46	359,910.16	54.65%
Water Usage	267,286.60		754.00	-	266,532.60	436,760.89	402,036.76	301,256.73	313,812.67	42.84%
TOTAL	5,721,941.61	114,605.25	17,230.85	6,814.20	5,596,919.71	870,038.35	2,517,074.21	3,949,883.85	3,782,581.45	61.08%

RECOMMENDATION**That the Rates Reconciliation Report as at the 30 September 2014 be received and noted.**

REPORT 3B – GRANT FUNDING

FILE: G4-17

AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.1.4

ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: *Special Projects Officer, Angela Shepherd***Grant Update**

Grant and Department	Activity	Amount Applied For	Successful?	Council Funding Required	Deadline for Project
Grants Applied for					
Fixing Country Roads	Realign corner and floodway at Kangaroo Springs, Whitbarrow Road	\$386,300	EOI Pending	\$50,000 Council and \$63,700 VPA funds	EOIs announced around October
Fixing Country Roads	2 floodways and 5kms seal between on the Wool Track	\$950,000	EOI Pending	\$50,000	EOIs announced around October
Fixing Country Roads	Floodway remediation and water diversion at Acres Billabong on Tiltagoona Rd	\$320,000	EOI Pending	\$100,000	EOIs announced around October
Domestic Violence Community Action Grants	Reclaim the Night march and community event	\$1,000	Submitted on behalf of CDVAG – pending	Project management as in-kind	
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program	New Truckwash	\$90,000	Pending	\$90,000 budgeted	
Senior Citizens Week	Funding to run the 2015 Senior Citizens Week activities.	\$1,000	Pending	\$1,000 matching	Held in March each year.
Clubs Grants Category 3 EOI	Upgrades to the Cobar Youth and Fitness Centre	\$480,000	Announced 7 October for full applications	\$50,000 from S94 Contributions	Project to be complete by April 2017
Country Arts Support Program	Submitted on behalf of the Youth Council for assistance	\$2,000	Pending	Nil	For projects to be held in 2015.

	with the Little Big Day Out in Feb 2015				
Youth Opportunities	Range of confidence building, reliance and transition programs for 11-14 year olds.	\$15,000	Pending	Project Administration	For projects between February and December 2015.
Environmental Trust	Erosion control, weed removal and remediation works in one of three inlets to the Newey.	\$100,000	Pending	Project Administration	
Building Resilience to Climate Change	Drilling water bores and connecting to water tanks.	\$76,800	Pending	Nil	29 September 2014.

Grant and Department	Activity	Amount Applied For	Successful?	Council Funding Required	Comment
Grants Announced					
Community Resilience Innovation Program	Establishment of an Emergency Operations Centre in the Council Chambers	\$32,089	No	Nil	
Resources for Regions	Upgrade of the Cobar Youth and Fitness Centre	\$2.055m	Unsuccessful	Nil	
Resources for Regions	Upgrade of Whitbarrow Way (Nymagee to Hermidale road)	\$4.62m project, applied for \$4.1063m	Full application requested	\$100,000 roads funding, \$63,700 in VPA funds. Bogan Shire and Hera Mine also contributing.	Full application due 31 October
Resources for Regions	Upgrade of Mulya Road and mine access roads	\$5.21m project, applied for \$5.11m	Unsuccessful	\$100,000	

Resources for Regions – Application made on behalf of the Cobar Water Board	Replacement of the Twin Pipeline from Nyngan to Cobar.	\$5m	Full application requested	CWB to contribute \$1.4m, total project value \$6.4m	Full application required by 31 October
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Council has also assisted community groups with several grant applications this month and has strongly promoted the crown lands reserves grants to community groups and progress associations. In addition, the grant Council put in on behalf of the Nymagee Progress Association – Tennis Club – for upgrade works to the facilities (surface a court, new fence, lighting upgrade) was successful.

Current Grant Opportunities –

- Crown Lands Reserve Program – for managers of crown lands reserves. Closes soon.

Resources for Regions – an Update

- Water Treatment Plant – Council agreed to the location and type of plant at the August 2014 meeting. The design team at NSW Public Works will now commence the geotechnical investigation and investigation the environmental aspects of the site. A design brief is now being prepared;
- Cobar Water Board – The investigation of the performance of the Nyngan and Hermidale pumps is currently being undertaken. Scheduling of works to coincide with latest grant applications for efficiencies;
- Airport Upgrade – Investigations are underway for the pavement design. Reconstruction work is scheduled for February or March next year;
- Sewer Project – A public consultation strategy is currently being considered for the extension part of the project. Investigations are underway to stabilise the banks of the sewerage lagoon ponds using grass. The options for the rehabilitation of the Ward Oval pump station are currently being considered. It has been confirmed that a flow control system can be used during the process.

Skatepark Project – an Update

The design and location have been finalised. The Contractor undertook a site inspection mid-September. Construction set to commence 14 October. Continuing to work on required documentation with Contractor to ensure this starting date can be met.

The LBV Extensions

The Project Manager has arranged the electrical and fire safety drawings required for the project and has finalised the construction drawings. The final draft of the specification is now complete. A draft risk assessment has been completed regarding operational and patient requirements during construction. Council will continue to work with potential contractors to resolve these issues.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in the grant funding report detailing grants applied for, grants announced and grants available, as well as the updates on Council's grant capital projects, be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS



FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2014

~ REFERENCE TO ATTACHMENTS ~

PART B – INFORMATION

Report 2B – Rates Reconciliation to 30 September 2014.....14-15