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# WATER AUTHORITY

## MINUTES OF THE GOSFORD WYONG COUNCILS' WATER AUTHORITY HELD IN THE TIM FARRELL AND WILFRED BARRETT COMMITTEE ROOMS, WYONG CIVIC CENTRE, HELY STREET, WYONG ON WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2008, COMMENCING AT 8.35 AM

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**PRESENT:**

CR WELHAM\*

CHAIRPERSON

**GOSFORD**

CR J MACFADYEN\*

CR BELL\*

CR M BROOKS (ALTERNATE)\*

CR T LATELLA (ALTERNATE)

**WYONG**

CR STEVENS\*

CR ROSE\*

CR STEWART (ALTERNATE)

MR P WILSON\*

MR R WILLIAMS \*

MR K YATES\*

MR K GRANTHAM\*

**GOSFORD CITY COUNCIL STAFF**

MRS PAM MCCANN

MR B KOIZUMI-SMITH

MS ALISON HOOD

**WYONG SHIRE COUNCIL STAFF**

MRS L MCDERMOTT

MRS H SCHWARTZ

MS M REDMOND

\* BOARD MEMBERS WITH VOTING RIGHTS AT THIS MEETING.

**AUTHORITY STAFF**

MR G CASEMENT

MR B BAKER

**APOLOGIES**

CR MAHER\*

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA001 Disclosures of Interest**

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F2006/02282

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Welham and seconded by Councillor Stevens:***

***That the report and the fact that no disclosure was made be noted.***

**WA002 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by Mr Williams:***

***That the minutes of the previous Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 20 February 2008 be received and confirmed.***

THERE WAS NO BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

**WA003 Mangrove Creek Dam Transfer Project - Pipeline Route Option**

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F2008/01000

COUNCILLOR LATELLA TABLED 32 LETTERS WHICH SHE RECEIVED FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE JOINT WATER AUTHORITY IN RELATION TO RESIDENTS CONCERNS.

MR BOB PEACOCKE, OF THE MARDI MANGROVE PIPELINE PROJECT GROUP, ADDRESSED THE MEETING AND GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE PIPELINE ROUTE OPTION.

MR WILSON LEFT THE MEETING AT 8.40 AM AND RETURNED AT 8.43 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

COUNCILLOR ROSE ARRIVED AT THIS POINT IN THE MEETING BEING 8.43 AM

COUNCILLOR BELL ARRIVED AT THIS POINT IN THE MEETING BEING 8.48 AM

MR YATES LEFT THE MEETING AT 8.47 AM AND RETURNED AT 8.50 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

MR WILLIAMS LEFT THE MEETING AT 8.53 AM AND RETURNED AT 8.54 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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MR WARRICK O'ROURKE ON BEHALF OF THE YARRAMALONG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION ADDRESSED THE MEETING AT 8.54 AM ANSWERED QUESTIONS AND RETIRED AT 9.35 AM.

MR NEVILLE HUTTON OF GHD, ADDRESSED THE MEETING AT 9.45 PM, ANSWERED QUESTIONS AND RETIRED AT 9.46 PM.

COUNCILLOR BELL LEFT THE MEETING AT 9.36 AM AND RETURNED AT 9.51 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

COUNCILLOR LATELLA TABLED A SUBMISSION DATED 19 MAY 2008 FROM MR LAURIE EYES, A RESIDENT OF YARRAMALONG VALLEY, AND REQUESTED THE CONCERNS OUTLINED IN THIS SUBMISSION BE ADDRESSED AND REPORTED BACK TO HER BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD IN GOSFORD ON 20 AUGUST 2008.

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Rose and seconded by Mr Wilson:***

***That the Board note the information regarding the two pipelines proposed for the Mardi to Mangrove Link Project, and recommend to the two Councils the following:***

- 1 That, for both the Wyong River to Mardi Dam pipeline, and for Sectors 1 to 5 and 7 to 9 of the Mardi Dam to Mangrove Creek Dam pipeline, the recommended pipeline routes (as shown in Appendix B) be investigated and studied in detail, by carrying out detailed topographic surveys, geotechnical investigations, ecological and cultural surveys and other engineering investigations.***
- 2 That, for the routes nominated in recommendation 1, and subject to the studies in recommendation 1 not revealing conditions that would alter the recommended routes; work proceeds on easement acquisitions and the finalisation of pipeline pre-construction activities to allow the calling of tenders for construction of the two pipelines along those routes.***
- 3 That, for Sector 6 of the Mardi Dam to Mangrove Creek Dam pipeline, detailed investigations and studies be undertaken on all identified possible route options, (in both private property and along Yarramalong Rd,) and following these investigations a further report be presented to the August Board Meeting, recommending a route in Sector 6 for easement acquisitions and finalisation of pipeline pre-construction activities.***
- 4 That the costs of making good any accelerated deterioration of Yarramalong Road, attributable to the construction of the pipelines, be allowed for in the project funding and shared between the two Councils on the same basis as other project costs.***

***NOTE: Should the recommended pipeline route be approved, a separate report scheduling the properties through which land easement acquisitions are proposed, would be submitted subsequently to Wyong Shire Council for its specific approval.***

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA004                    Review of Washing Machine Rebate Scheme**

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F2004/06808

MR YATES LEFT THE MEETING AT 9.56 AM AND RETURNED AT 10.00 AM AND AS A RESULT TOOK NO PART IN VOTING.

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Welham and seconded by Councillor Macfadyen:***

***That the Board note the information and recommend to the two Councils the following:***

- 1     That the current \$200 rebate for 4 star or better water efficiency rated washing machines be extended till the 31 December 2008.***
- 2     That the rebate scheme be reviewed in light of changes to the washing machine market and the continuation of the Sydney Water washing machine rebate scheme with a further report brought back to the August Board meeting.***
- 3     That each Council approve a budget of \$250,000 for the 2008/09 financial year to extend the rebate program.***

**WA005                    Project Report- Hunter Water Projects**

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F2004/08778

MR YATES RETURNED AT 10.00 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Stevens and seconded by Councillor Brooks:***

***That the Board note the information and recommend to the two Councils the following:***

***That the budget for the Central Coast contribution towards the additional pipelines in the Westlakes Area and additional pumps for the Balickera Pump Station upgrade be increased from \$10.67M to \$13.0M.***

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA006 Guidelines for Considering Recycled Water Projects as Joint Works under the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Agreement**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Mr Wilson and seconded by Councillor Bell:***

***That the Board note the information and recommend to the two Councils the following:***

- 1 That joint funding Option 3 for future reuse projects be adopted whereby agreed projects are included as joint works under the Joint Water Supply Agreement with an adjustment being made for previous council reuse investments where these are shown to meet adopted guidelines and approved by both Councils.***
- 2 That a further report be presented to the next Board Meeting on appropriate guidelines for assessment of projects.***

**WA007 Residential REFIT Program**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Stevens and seconded by Mr Wilson:***

***That the Board note the information and recommend to the two Councils the following:***

- 1 That the Residential REFIT Program be discontinued at the expiry of the agreement with EnergyAustralia on 30 June 2008.***
- 2 That interested customers be advised of the free 'refit' services.***
- 3 That a register of companies be maintained that provide free 'refit' services.***
- 4 That the availability of the free 'refit' services be advertised where appropriate.***
- 5 That the Councils make available free cistern weights for single flush toilets at Council offices and Council events.***

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA008 Update on Water Event Options**

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F2004/06808

COUNCILLOR BROOKS LEFT THE CHAMBER AT 10.26 AM AND RETURNED TO THE CHAMBER AT 10.29 AM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Bell and seconded by Mr Wilson:***

- 1 That the report be received and the information noted.***
- 2 That the current Central Coast Water Festival be discontinued.***
- 3 That the Authority continue its presence at existing events and that two appropriate events be selected in Wyong Shire and two appropriate events be selected in Gosford Shire for the joint Water Authority to partner with to promote water saving initiatives on the Central Coast.***
- 4 That consideration be given to promoting a calendar of events for 2008/2009 that the Water Authority will be involved in.***

**WA009 Communications Strategy 2008-09**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by Mr Yates:***

***That the Board recommend to the two Councils the adoption and implementation of the 2008-09 Communications Strategy.***

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on  
21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA010 Sponsorship Towards Central Coast Waterwatch Program**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Rose and seconded by  
Mr Williams:***

***That the Board note the information and recommend to the two Councils the  
following:***

- 1 That the request for \$10,000 (plus GST) sponsorship contribution towards the  
provision of the Central Coast Waterwatch Program for the 2008/2009 financial  
year be noted.***
- 2 That the requested sponsorship be provided with a requirement that CEN submit  
to the Board an annual report on expenditure and results.***

**WA011 Regular Information Reports**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by  
Councillor Bell:***

***That the report be received and the information noted.***

**WA012 Project Report- Update on Capital Improvement Works**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by  
Councillor Bell:***

***That the report be received and the information noted.***

**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**WA013 Project Report- Mardi to Mangrove Link**

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F2007/01127

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by Councillor Bell:***

***That the report be received and the information noted.***

**WA014 Communications Update**

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F2004/06808

***/08 RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by Councillor Bell:***

***That the report be received and the information noted.***

**WA015 Budget and Financial Summary**

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F2004/06808

***RESOLVED unanimously on the motion of Councillor Macfadyen and seconded by Councillor Bell:***

***That the report be received and the information noted.***



**Minutes of the Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority Board Meeting held on 21 May 2008 (contd)**

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**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**GB001 Request for Update from the Minister for Water and Utilities on the Central Coast Water Authority**

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F2004/06808

Councillor Welham advised that there was none available as Council has not heard anything from the Minister for Water and Utilities, The Hon Nathan Rees, for some time. He also advised that Wyong Council has requested a meeting with the Minister and also a joint meeting including Gosford Council and this request was denied.

Councillor McFadyen also indicated that he had heard nothing further from the Minister.

Mr Wilson advised that, he had written to Wyong Council on this matter in order to arrange a meeting at the earliest possible time between the Mayors and General Managers of both Councils in order to overcome the perceived impasse that exists at the present time.

**GB002 Could the TAG investigate and report back on the financial and water conservation impacts of increasing the internal rainwater tank rebate**

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F2004/06808

Councillor Latella advised that the current rebate for retrofitting of water tanks to existing dwellings is very low whereas the actual costs on internal retrofitting can be from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and this could be the reason why the uptake is so low. She requested that the TAG team investigate and report on how much water savings could be made and how much of a financial burden this would be.

Mr Wilson advised that there is a report that already covers this issue (the Demand Reduction Activities Report) and suggested that this report could be amended to include the current data on uptake figures for water tank rebates.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.30 AM.