

**MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT MT HOPE COMMUNITY HALL ON
WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2014 COMMENCING AT 10.16AM.**

PRESENT

Gary Woodman (General Manager, Cobar Shire Council), Kingsley Page (Works Manager, Cobar Shire Council), Justin McClure (Kallara Station), George Milliar (Tiltagoona Station), Keith Norris (Coan Downs), Christine Norris (Coan Downs), Councillor Greg Martin, Chris Turrin (Peel Mining), Mark Ward (Burthong Station), Danni Ward (Burthong Station), Phillip Hague (Pine Ridge Station), Dean Hague (Tara Station), Bob Wynne (Black Range), Karen Baldacchim (Dine Downs), Councillor Peter Maxwell (Dine Downs), Bonnie Vagg (Wynwood Station), Nada Rees (Yarra Station), Councillor Bob Sinclair, Marlene Forsyth, Sue Prendergast (Executive Assistant to Engineering Services, Cobar Shire Council).

Due to an apology from the Mayor Councillor Lilliane Brady OAM, Councillor Greg Martin was requested and agreed to chair the meeting.

APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDATION: That the apologies received from Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM, Julie McClure, Councillor Marsha Isbester, Councillor Jarrod Marsden, Andrew Farnsworth, Jacqui Mills (Cobar Rangeland Management Officer), Rod Forsyth and Peter Graf (Director of Engineering Services, Cobar Shire Council) be accepted.

Clr Greg Martin/Keith Norris

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 6 November 2013 at the Cobar Shire Council Chambers be adopted as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Gary Woodman/Clr Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The issue of grid permits and permit holders was raised and Gary Woodman explained that the landholder is the permit holder. Councillor Bob Sinclair asked if there is any grant money available to seal either side (20 metres) of the grids. He also spoke of the state of disrepair of the grids on SR32 (Developmental Road) and the need to have these grids repaired to maintain the safety of road users. Bob also spoke about how grids had been built for smaller transport and that over the years we have progressed to bigger and

heavier transport trucks and that these vehicles are damaging roads and grids and he suggested that we may need to put a weight stipulation on each grid. He feels that the system of landholders repairing their grids is not working and that more action needs to be taken. Justin McClure questioned the definition of public gates and grids and feels that Cobar Shire Council's grid Policy "*The Approval, Installation and Maintenance of Stock Control Structures in Public Roads*" is archaic and out of touch and needs to be updated. George Milllear also expressed his frustration at the Grid Policy.

Justin McClure spoke of the legalities involved if someone has a serious accident on or near their grid. Gary Woodman explained that the grid owners public liability insurance should also cover the grid.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Rural Roads Advisory Committee and landholders seek support from Cobar Shire Council in contacting the NSW Roads Minister in regard to looking to the future status of grids on public roads and to take their plight to the Western Division Councils of NSW.

Phillip Hague/Justin McClure

CARRIED

Regional Road funding was again discussed and the issue of the size of Cobar Shires grant compared to other councils was again a topic. Councillor Bob Sinclair inquired into the lack of feedback on any lobbying for money that Council has done. He feels that Council needs to continue to push hard for more funding.

UPDATE ON THE OFFICIAL NAMING OF THE FIFTY TWO MILE AND THE SEVENTY EIGHT MILE ROADS

The issue of naming The Fifty Two Mile and The Seventy Eight Mile Road was again raised and Cobar Shire Councils Works Manager explained that the two names had been sent to the Geographical Names Board (GNB) along with the Surveyor General and the Registrar General for review and both names have been rejected. In response Council has asked for a letter from the Tilpa Community Committee outlining given reasons why RR7518 and SR2 should be named The Fifty Two Mile Road and The Seventy Eight Mile Road respectively. This may help in overturning the Board's decision.

Kingsley Page, Cobar Shire Council's Works Manager explained that any potential damage done to RR7518 due to the excess traffic from the Carbon Sequestration Project will be repaired; unfortunately a lack of water is slowing the work down. Kingsley also explained that a lot of money has been spent on RR7518 but that road trains are constantly damaging the road. The Project is being done on George Milllear property "Tiltagoona Station".

ACRES BILLABONG

Due to budgetary restrictions there is no current time frame for any works to begin on this section of MR7518.

SEALING (7KM) ON RR7518

Currently crushing road base and preparing stock pile to be surveyed for quantity. Awaiting water bore license approval and as access to water is causing the hold up to work, Council may have to source water from Cobar at an increased cost of approximately \$70,000.

RESIGNATION FROM COMMITTEE

Mr Martin Doyle has tendered his resignation from the Rural Roads Advisory Committee effective immediately. Martin and his family have relocated to Orange NSW.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee receive and note the resignation of Mr Martin Doyle from the Committee.

Clr Greg Martin/Clr Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

TRAFFIC COUNTS

Traffic counters are currently on The Fifty Two Mile Road (RR7518), 5km from the intersection with the Barrier Highway and another counter on Lachlan Street, Euabalong.

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the traffic counter report be received and noted and traffic counters in future be placed on RR7518 to capture the heavy vehicle flow from the Carbon Sequestration Project. Counters should also be placed on SR20 and SR21 in early November 2014 during grain harvest.

Gary Woodman/Kingsley Page

CARRIED

EXPENDITURE REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION: That the information contained in the expenditure reports be received and noted.

Gary Woodman/Kingsley Page

CARRIED

STATUS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: The information contained in the Rural Roads Status Report be received and noted and items 1, 12 and 40 be removed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Phillip Hague discussed the possibility of landholders using a contractor to grade Shire Road 20 on a trial basis. They maintain to have their own machinery available to use. He explained that at the end of the trial period a survey could be sent around to all landowners to compare the results.

He expressed concerns that if the Shire Road does get any worse the property owners would not be able to get their produce in and out.

RECOMMENDATION: That Cobar Shire Council considers a trial using a contractor to maintain all of Shire Road 20 (Grain Road).

Phillip Hague/Clr Bob Sinclair

CARRIED

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 7 May 2014 at Berangabah Station via the Wool Track commencing at 10.00am.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.55 PM.

