

**MINUTES of the Extraordinary Meeting of the New England
County Council held 04 May 2022 in the New England Weeds
Authority Office commencing at 10:10am**

1. PRESENT:

Councillor Scott Kermode – Chairperson, Councillors: Tim Bower (USC), Lara Gresham (GISC), Margaret O’Connor (ARC), Dorothy Robinson(ARC) and Paul Packham (ARC).

In ATTENDANCE:

Liz Hobbs – Walcha Council

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – URGENT BUSINESS

4.1 Review of Complaints – General Manager

- Financial and Resource Implications
- Legal Implications
- Risk Implications
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Options
- Conclusion

Motion:

It was **Moved** Councillor O’Connor **Seconded** Robinson

1. That the Board of NEWA direct the General Manager to appoint a Complaints Co-ordinator pursuant to clause 3.17 to clause 3.20 inclusive of the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (The Procedures).
2. That the Chair of NEWA provide all the complaints against the General Manager made to the Chair in written form, to the Complaints Co-ordinator and or alternate Complaints Co-ordinator appointed pursuant to recommendation 1.

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3. That the Board of NEWA authorise and direct the Chair of NEWA to write to the General Manager of Armidale Regional Council requesting that NEWA have access, for the purposes of compliance with the Procedures and the Model Code of Conduct, to Armidale Regional Council's Panel of Conduct Reviewers.
4. With reference to recommendation 1 above, the Board encourage the General Manager to appoint a Complaints Co-ordinator from Armidale Regional Council so that there is alignment as between the complaints co-ordinator appointed pursuant to recommendation 1 and recommendation 3, that Armidale Regional Council provide NEWA with access to its Panel of Conduct Reviewers.

Amendment:

An **Amendment** was **MOVED** by Councillor Gresham **Seconded** Councillor Bower:

1. That the Board of NEWA direct the Chair to appoint a Complaints Co-ordinator pursuant to clause 3.17 to clause 3.20 inclusive of the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (The Procedures) from one of the member councils of NEWA.
2. That the Chair of NEWA provide all the complaints against the General Manager made to the Chair to the Complaints Co-ordinator appointed pursuant to recommendation 1.
3. With reference to recommendation 1 above, the Board directs the Chair to ensure that the appointed Complaints Coordinator is from the same member Council as the Panel of Conduct Reviewers.
4. That the Board of NEWA authorise and direct the Chair of NEWA to write to the General Managers of all member Councils requesting that NEWA have access, for the purposes of compliance with the Procedures and the Model Code of Conduct, to the selected member Council's Panel of Conduct Reviewers.

105/22 On being put to the **VOTE** the **Amendment** was **CARRIED**.

106/22 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Packham and O'Connor that the Chair write to Mr Damien O'Connor retracting the appointment of Complaints Coordinator due to the fact that he is ineligible as per the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW.

There being no further business the Chair Declared the Meeting CLOSED at 11:59am