

## **PRESENT**

Councillor Greg Conkey OAM  
Councillor Vanessa Keenan  
Councillor Rod Kendall  
Jenny Rolfe  
Ros Prangnell  
Patricia Murray  
Brian Mahony

Wagga Wagga City Council  
Wagga Wagga City Council  
Wagga Wagga City Council  
Community Member  
Community Member  
Community Member  
Community Member

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Peter Thompson  
Daryl Heaslip  
Craig Ronan  
Steve Manwaring  
Darren Raeck  
Warren Faulkner  
Janice Summerhayes  
Peter Ross  
Sam Robins  
Andrew Mason  
Michael Friend  
Fiona Ziff  
Erin Askew  
Felix Taaffe  
Stephen Gray  
Michael Casey  
Peter Garland  
Amir Abbasnia  
Carly Hood  
Peter Morris  
Shannon Coghlan

General Manager (WWCC)  
State Emergency Service (SES)  
State Emergency Service (SES)  
Department Planning, Industry & Environment  
Director Projects & Strategy  
Director Operations  
Director Community Service  
Manager Technical & Strategy  
Town Planner  
Project Manager  
Co-opted Community Member  
Co-opted Community Member  
WMAwater  
GRC Hydro  
GRC Hydro  
Communications & Engagement Coordinator  
Senior Engineer - Strategy  
Design Engineer – Sewer & Stormwater  
Environmental Coordinator  
Community Member  
Infrastructure Administration Coordinator  
(Minute Taker)

The meeting of the Extraordinary Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee commenced at 1.02pm. Councillor Rod Kendall commenced as Chair and welcomed attendees and guests, Felix Taaffe and Stephen Gray from GRC Hydro and Erin Askew from WMAwater.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Community members present.

## **APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

## **QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

No Questions with Notice were received.

## **TARCUTTA, LADYSMITH AND URANQUINTY FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDIES AND PLANS (VOFFS)**

### ***Recommendation:***

On the motion of Councillor R Kendall and R Prangnell

### **That the Committee:**

- a. recommend to Council that the VOFFS document proceed to public exhibition, subject to the recommended changes being incorporated**

The Chair noted the intent today is to reach a decision on whether to recommend to Council to put the VOFFS on public exhibition.

Councillor Vanessa Keenan joined the meeting at 1.10pm and commenced as Chair at 1.12pm. Felix Taaffe, from GRC Hydro, provided a brief summary of the VOFFS process, next steps, and the draft consultation program.

### ***Overview***

- study findings and recommended options were presented at the December 2019 FRMAC meeting
- a draft report was provided to DPIE and Council in February 2020
- GRC Hydro updated the report based on DPIE and Council feedback

### ***Next steps***

- report provided to Councillors
- draft report approved for public exhibition
- public exhibition period
- submissions and feedback from public exhibition process collated and addressed by Council and GRC Hydro
- final report prepared

### ***Draft consultation program***

- updates via Council communication channels with details on information sessions – flood futures, main website, local media/newspaper
- provide report hard copies for public access
- one on one meetings with interested residents in each village
- each meeting to involve two GRC Hydro staff and Council staff to answer questions and record feedback

### *Discussion and feedback*

The Committee discussed the report contents at length, seeking clarification from GRC Hydro representatives (Felix Taafe) on several matters, and requesting/suggesting some modifications to the draft report. Below is a summary of those matters and suggested modifications.

#### **Uranquinty**

- topographical depression between the railway and highway bridge
- raising the level of the bund at Gate 5
- concerns over increased flow into the creek
- queries regarding Uranquinty mitigation measures (UL01, UL04, UL10) and what those measures would comprise
- breach of Churches Plain levee during February 2021 flood event and potential to raise culvert
- feasibility of using portable pumps – recommend a permanent pump at the Morgan/Bridge Street area
- recommend new drain along Yarragundry Street, past the new development
- query whether full levee upgrade is the solution – if so, the next step would be a feasibility study, enabling details to be thrashed out regarding pumps, drains and other measures

#### **Tarcutta**

- suggest rectifying uneven crest on existing levee
- query regarding recommended option and close scoring between TL04 and TL06 – GRC Hydro comfortable with revisiting the recommendations in light of what residents want

#### **Ladysmith**

- no specific comments

#### **General discussion**

- discussion on the scoring used and whether the Committee ought to review scores
- agreement on scores is desirable – Committee to review scoring
- discussion on poor uptake/response to questionnaires and lack of engagement from Ladysmith and Tarcutta communities
- note that relationship with SES is crucial when dealing with (flood) problems
- careful management of the communication process through public consultation is crucial – the public cannot be expected to easily dissect the volume or complexity of information
- query around the freeboard (not dictated by VOFFS, but it is specified in MOFFS) – confirm the intent is to be consistent across the two
- note some of page number in the report table of contents do not match up
- query regarding inclusion of projects in Council's Long Term Financial Plan – note that next round of DPIE grants is open (closing 18 March) with staff working on selected projects for funding. VOFFS projects will external funding before they go into the LTFP

### *Acknowledgements*

Committee and GRC Hydro representatives acknowledged Brian Mahony's contributions through the VOFFS process, not just for Uranquinty but other villages too.

Action: GRC Hydro to advise regarding questions raised by B Mahony on UL10/04/01

Committee to review scores in Table 44 and raise any issues with GRC Hydro via Council staff

The Chair thanked GRC Hydro for their work on the study and report.

The VOFFS discussion concluded at 2.06pm.

### **WAGGA WAGGA MAJOR OVERLAND FLOW FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN (MOFFS)**

#### ***Recommendation:***

On the motion of Councillor R Kendall and R Prangnell

#### **That the Committee:**

- b. recommend to Council that the MOFFS document proceed to public exhibition, subject to the recommended changes being incorporated**

The Chair noted the intent today is to reach a decision on whether to recommend to Council to put the MOFFS on public exhibition.

#### ***Overview***

- assessment of options presented to the Committee in December 2019
- further workshop with Committee in March 2020
- reports progressively prepared in separate volumes to this point and combined following the workshop

#### ***Feedback on draft report***

- from DPIE
  - editorial comments
  - mapping for a discarded option was included in report
  - additional detail for cost estimates and regarding future development areas
- from Council:
  - editorial comments
  - mapping and output/handover queries
- from Committee
  - in relation to community survey
  - additional detail required for Lake Albert scheme and Glenfield Drain scheme

#### ***Community consultation***

- of the 93 responses, 64 provided a response regarding preference for voluntary house raising and voluntary house purchase – no discernible patterns (no clustering, not geographic), showing it tends to be a highly personal matter

### *Public exhibition strategies*

- report available for comment for a minimum of 28 days
- advertised through Council's media channels and report available via website
- original brief allowed for three face to face public information sessions; however, in a COVID-19 context this will likely need to be based on a booking system for small groups
- range of feedback methods available
- strategy to be refined with Council's communications team
- following exhibition period, feedback will be considered and report finalised

### *Discussion and feedback*

The Committee discussed the report contents at length, seeking clarification from the WMAwater representative (Erin Askew) on several matters, and requesting/suggesting some modifications to the draft report. Below is a summary of those matters and suggested modifications.

#### Lake Albert and Glenfield Drain

- these schemes will have significant public attention/interest
- consider the effects of using the lake for surcharged on nearby infrastructure (i.e. boat sheds)
- will require a feasibility and detailed design study for Lake Albert – the recommended measure is raising Lake Albert Road to create additional air space for storage
- permanent level of lake could potentially be kept higher
- how to preserve lake air space? (weir option)

#### Railway

- consider effects of light of railway line lowering for Inland Rail – expense and difficulty in closing railway for any flood mitigation works; can works be timed to align with ARTC work?
- consult with ARTC during the exhibition period

#### General discussion

- recent storm event supports the Crooked Creek diversion as a high priority (the creek kept running for a reasonable time after the storm, where Stringybark Creek ceased flow within hours)
- WMAwater can provide an excerpt of the scoring process for the Committee to review and consider
- recommend a 'mythbusting' response be ready and available as soon as the report is ready for public exhibition
- discussion on scoring, ranking, and priority in table – potential for confusion and/or inaccurate assumptions
- WMAwater can remove ranking to avoid these issues

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### *Timeframe for delivery of projects*

- Gantt chart shared to screen illustrating key consultation and approval dates across the various projects alongside scheduled and suggested Committee meeting dates
- includes MOFFS, VOFFS, peer review of FRMSP, and early warning system

Action: Secretary to circulate draft consultation schedule

Secretary to schedule/reschedule Committee meeting dates as required

The Extraordinary Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee rose at 2.55pm.

DRAFT