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**MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD AT “BERANGABAH” STATION ON WEDNESDAY  
7 MAY 2014 COMMENCING AT 10.40AM.**

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**PRESENT**

Gary Woodman (General Manager, Cobarr Shire Council), Kingsley Page (Works Manager, Cobarr Shire Council), Justin McClure (Kallara Station), Peter Graf (Director of Engineering Services, Cobarr Shire Council), Adrienne Pierini (Trainee Civil Engineer, Cobarr Shire Council), Councillor Bob Sinclair (Cobarr Shire Council), Leonie Sinclair (Berangabah Station), Andrew Farnsworth (Innesowen Station), Luke Farnsworth (Innesowen Station), Andrew Paul (Red Tank Station), Graham Vagg (WingDing Station), Ann Vagg (Wind Ding Station), Robert Neate (Local Lands Service), Sue Prendergast (Executive Assistant to Engineering Services, Cobarr Shire Council).

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

**APOLOGIES**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the apologies received from Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM, Councillor Marsha Isbester, Councillor Jarrod Marsden, Councillor Greg Martin, George Millear, Bernard Rogers, Jenni Rogers, Robert Vagg, George Noble and Diane Noble be accepted.

*Andrew Farnsworth/Robert Neate*

**CARRIED**

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**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee held on Wednesday 5 February 2014 at the Mount Hope Community Hall be adopted as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

*Justin McClure/Andrew Paul*

**CARRIED**

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**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Justin McClure explained that Councils Policy “*The Approval, Installation and Maintenance of Stock Control Structures in Public Roads*” was not ethical and not legal. He asked for Council’s support in having the policy reviewed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Rural Roads Advisory Committee seeks support from Cobarr Shire Council in reviewing

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*“The Approval, Installation and Maintenance of Stock Control Structures in Public Roads.”*

*Justin McClure/Andrew Farnsworth*

**CARRIED**

The issue of naming RR7518 and SR2 (known as The Fifty Two Mile and The Seventy Eight Mile Road respectively) 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. The next step in the naming process is to have the Tilpa Community supply Council with appropriate reasons for wanting to name the roads The Fifty Two Mile Road and the Seventy Eight Mile Road respectively. Justin McClure is happy to follow up this issue.

Justin McClure inquired into the removal of the hardstand drill pad from the Carbon Sequestration Project site, in particular what was happening with the gravel. Kingsley Page explained that the drill pad will be removed from the site by the contractor as part of the rehabilitation plan for the project. He also noted that the gravel is predominately crushed sandstone which once compacted becomes sandy and downgraded in value as a base material. Justin also inquired into the water dam and if Council could utilise the water for further roads works. The water dam has been fenced but is still attracting undesirable animals and neighboring stock. The owner of the property, Mr. George Millear has indicated that he would like it disabled.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council writes to Mr. Millear inquiring into what he intends to do with the dam.

*Justin McClure/Andrew Farnsworth*

**CARRIED**

Justin McClure explained that when it floods the Acres Billabong blows out and the road can be out of action for long periods of time. He thinks that the repairs needed include 3 culverts and a low level causeway. It was suggested that these works be listed as a priority and added to the repair list.

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## **GRIDS**

The grid on the boundary of “Pinehill” and “Keewong” Stations on Shire Road 32 (Developmental Road) is in a very poor state and needs repairs immediately.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council contacts the landholders and/or land manager (Landmark Russell) verbally as well as with a follow up letter with time restrictions to seek repairs.

*Andrew Farnsworth/Gary Woodman*

**CARRIED**

Public safety on approach and while crossing grids was an issue that was discussed at length.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council pursues mandatory maintenance from landholders on grids.

*Andrew Farnsworth/Andrew Paul*

**CARRIED**

The grids on the boundaries of “Paddington”, “The Cottage” and “Belarabon” are still in good condition but are too narrow for today’s wide loads and are nonstandard for Regional Roads.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council contacts the owners and request that they reinstate the grids to Regional Road standards.

*Andrew Paul/Gary Woodman*

**CARRIED**

**Justin McClure asked to have his name recorded as opposing the motion.**

The issue of applying for funding to repair and/or replace grids on Regional Roads, with a minimum of 20m seal either side of the grid was discussed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council approach Central Darling Shire and seek guidance on obtaining funding.

*Justin McClure/Andrew Farnsworth*

**CARRIED**

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### **TRAFFIC COUNTS**

There is a traffic counter currently on Mulya Road (MR407). It was noted that there has been a high percentage of commercial vehicles recorded.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the information contained in the traffic counter report be received and noted.

*Gary Woodman/Kingsley Page*

**CARRIED**

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### **EXPENDITURE REPORTS**

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

*Gary Woodman/Kingsley Page*

**CARRIED**

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### **STATUS REPORT**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the information contained in the Rural Roads Status Report be received and noted and item 37 be removed.

*Gary Woodman/Kingsley Page*

**CARRIED**

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Robert Neate noted that The Wool Track is in good condition and commended Council on the work done.

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Andrew Farnsworth commended Council on the work done on The Wool Track. He would like see grading work on RR7518 as soon as possible.

Andrew Paul was happy with the grader work along The Wool Track. He believes it is cost efficient for a grader to work on the roads alone at this time of year as there is enough moisture in the ground that the road settles itself without mechanical compaction.

Bob Sinclair requested that a report be prepared on the cost of grading The Wool Track.

Leonie Sinclair would like a T-intersection sign replaced at the intersection of The Wool Track and Moolah Road as she is concerned about safety. She congratulated Council on the good job done grading The Wool Track and believes that the quality of gravel used improves the road condition significantly.

Justin McClure inquired into the status of the Truck Wash and was advised that currently Council is continuing to seek funding from Western Local Land Services, other Government Departments and local truck wash users. Gary Woodman suggested that all landholders write to The Hon Kevin Humphries MP and The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP to seek funding assistance for the upgrade of the truck wash.

Kingsley Page spoke of a narrow grid on Tipping Way (MR411) that is on a crest and is a safety issue. Signs have been placed making drivers aware that it is a narrow grid. He wants to fix the grid out of block grant funding in 2014/2015.

### **SHIRE ROAD 20**

A report was presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday 24 April 2014 for Cobar Shire Council to consider a trial using local property owners as contractors to maintenance grade Shire Road 20 (Grain Road). The resolutions from the meeting are as follows:

- 1. That Council trial the Grain Road contractor in the 2014/2015 financial year and allocate \$46,000 for the section of road from Tallebung Road to the bitumen section at the southern end (approx.40 km long), and compare it with Council's standard. All work to be approved by the Works Manager prior to commencement on each occasion.*

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2. *That Council to investigate a long term strategy of using contractors and Council graders to accomplish its maintenance grading routine.*
  3. *That Council lobby State and Federal Governments for increases in funding to maintain Council's Regional and Shire Roads at a better level.*
  4. *That Council notify Mr. Phillip Hague of its decision.*

It is noted that the start time for all meetings from this point forward will be 11.00am.

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The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 6 August 2014 at the Tilpa Community Hall commencing at 11.00am.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.00PM.**