
**LAKE WYANGAN & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
THURSDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2026 COMMENCING AT 5:00 PM**

PRESENT

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran (Chair), Councillor Tony O'Grady, Councillor Laurie Testoni, Mark Dal Bon (Councillor - Alternate), Frank Battistel (Community Representative), Jade Salvestro (Community Representative), John Tagliapietra (Community Representative), Kelvin Williams (Community Representative), Lisa Parker (Community Representative), Reginald Brown (Community Representative), Scott Collis (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst and Minute Taker, Leanne Austin

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and John Tagliapietra that apologies be received from Ema Munro (Community Representative), Matthew Woodward (Community Representative) and Lindsay Golsby-Smith (MI).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Lou Testoni and Scott Collis that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 December 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Nanobubble Technology System

Councillor O'Grady noted that Lake Albert at Wagga Wagga is currently on red alert despite efforts to treat the blue-green algae issue, while Lake Wyangan remains on amber alert. Mr Tagliapietra advised that water temperatures are remaining around 28 °C due to the cooler start to summer, which has helped maintain lower temperatures and limit algae growth.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 OPTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT FUNDING

Mr Rizzo provided an overview of the NSW Sustainable Communities Program Economic Development and Infrastructure Round which closes 24 February 2026.

Criteria for the grant includes infrastructure or land development projects that support economic development, increase workforce participation, or open economic opportunities in regional communities. The project must be deliverable by 31 May 2029.

Consistent with current strategies to improve water quality at Lake Wyangan, it is proposed that Council apply for grant funding to deliver a staged program of works comprising:

Stage 1 – In-drain sediment and nutrient interception

Stage 2 – Carp exclusion and habitat restoration

Stage 3 – Solar circulation, monitoring and maintenance access.

These improvements will deliver significant community benefits, including enhanced public health and wellbeing, increased recreational and tourism opportunities and improved environmental outcomes.

Mayor Curran suggested that Council should include the preparation of a masterplan incorporating the surrounding wetlands in the grant application as a long-term solution to assist with salt and nutrient removal.

Mr Rizzo advised that Council is currently undertaking a flood study for the Lake Wyangan area, and that the outcomes and recommendations of this study will need to be considered in any future planning.

Mayor Curran further noted that potential future residential development should also be taken into account when developing a masterplan for the area.

Mrs Parker suggested that universities may have an interest in using Lake Wyangan as a study site and could assist by providing data to inform future planning.

Mr Rizzo advised that Council would investigate options for monitoring water quality such as the installation of an electronic monitoring system.

Mr Grant advised that Council is currently preparing the grant application and that a formal commitment from Council is required. The application will be drafted to align with the grant

criteria, highlighting the community benefits, including improved health and wellbeing, increased recreational opportunities for residents, as well as positive tourism and environmental outcomes.

Mr Collis queried whether the existing data loggers in the lake are operational. Mr Rizzo advised he would investigate this, noting that the loggers would most likely require recalibration.

Mrs Parker enquired whether grant funding could be used to provide potable water to the lake. Mr Rizzo stated that delivering potable water to the area presents challenges due to elevation constraints and cost considerations.

Mr Tagliapietra left the meeting at 5:42 pm.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Frank Battistel that the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee note the information in the report and propose the following infrastructure or enabling projects for submission under the NSW Sustainable Communities Program – Economic Development and Infrastructure Round:

- Stage 1 – in drain sediment and nutrient interception
- Stage 2 – carp exclusion and habitat restoration
- Stage 3 – solar circulation, monitoring and maintenance access.
- Stage 4 – preparation of a Masterplan including investigation of Tharbogang wetlands to improve water quality at the Lake.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee noted the Outstanding Action Report.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Technical Committee

Mrs Parker advised she had reviewed previously provided information and noted that Carp removal is a critical issue as it would enable increased vegetation growth within the Lake system and contribute to improved water quality.

7.2 Water Inflows

Councillor Dal Bon enquired if Council is provided with evidence from Murrumbidgee Irrigation as to the amount of water that is going into the Lake. Mr Rizzo advised he would take this on notice.

7.3 Boat Ramp

Mr Salvestro asked for an update on the progress of the current works at the Lake and sought clarification on when the boat ramp is expected to be constructed. Mr Badenhorst advised that the works underway form part of Stage 1 of the initial presentation, which has been divided into two sub-stages. He noted that the boat ramp is included in Stage 2, which is not currently funded. Mr Badenhorst will provide further information on this matter at the next meeting.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Lake Wyangan & Catchment Management Committee is to be held on Thursday, 19 March 2026 at 5:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:58pm.