

MINUTES CAIRNS WATER SECURITY (CWS) STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

CIA | 63/5/3-03 | #7497390v26

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses the minutes of the Cairns Water Security (CWS) Steering Committee meeting held 29 September 2026.

INTERESTED PARTIES:

Nil

Note: The identification of interested parties is provided on a best endeavours basis by Council Officers and may not be exhaustive.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is for Council to endorse the minutes of the CWS Steering Committee meeting held on 29 September 2026.

Cairns Water Security Stage 1

This report and associated attachments provide details of the Cairns Water Security Stage 1 (CWSS1) project to the end of August 2026, detailing costs, funding, progress, risks and issues.

August represented a significant milestone for the project, transitioning from major construction towards the commissioning phase. Council, State and Federal Government Representatives attended site and to celebrate and acknowledge this major milestone.

A key achievement during the month was the completion of coatings to the DAFF which has paved the way for the process orientated works to progress. The lagoons and the installation of the ridge pipeline to the 8ML reservoir are almost complete.

At the Water Treatment Plant, construction remains focused on mechanical, electrical, instrumentation and internal building works. Internal coatings, equipment installation, switchroom fit-out, and process building works continue across the treatment plant, with high-voltage energisation supporting the transition from construction into commissioning readiness.

Internal coatings to the tanks and the DAFF are almost complete with the lower risk structures still to be completed. A substantial transformation of the Administration Building has seen the installation of partition walls and doors, external cladding and services rough-in nearing completion.

Pipework is now complete to the Jones Road corridor and regular completion walkdowns are occurring to areas outside the treatment plant as they edge closer to completion. Works are underway with the Behana Raw Water Main Augmentation. Cairns Road cut-ins are underway and Disco Lodge cut ins complete.

Program risks continue to be actively managed, with particular attention on coatings, commissioning readiness, completion of remaining pipeline interfaces, and the coordination of remaining live network cut-ins.



Reservoir Emergent Works Program

This report and the associated attachments provide an update on the Reservoir Emergent Works Program, comprising the Roof Replacements at Bayview and Brinsmead Reservoirs, Mount Peter Reservoir Stage 2 Construction, and University 2 Reservoir Design & Construction, and detail costs, funding, progress, risks and issues, for the month of August 2026.

Significant progress was made for the Roof Replacements Project during August, with key structural works advancing at both Bayview and Brinsmead Reservoirs. At Brinsmead, stainless-steel columns and rafters commenced installation, while at Bayview, the first concrete pours for the column pedestals were completed and purlins were lifted into place. Both sites have now commenced steelwork installation, marking a key milestone in the construction phase.

The Mount Peter Reservoir Stage 2 Project remains on hold pending confirmation of external funding arrangements, at time of this report. In the interim, works are progressing with the repurposing of the Coombak Close Pump Station. Regulatory and cultural heritage considerations continue to be actively managed.

The procurement phase for the University 2 Reservoir Project is progressing towards an anticipated tender release in late September. The Principal's Project Requirements (PPR), Scoping Reference Design and AS4902 Contract are under development as part of the tender documentation.

OPTIONS:

That Council endorses the minutes of the Cairns Water Security (CWS) Steering Committee meeting held 29 September 2026.

Or

That Council does not endorse the CWS Steering Committee minutes and requests Council officers provide further details.

ATTACHMENTS:

Minutes of the CWS Steering Committee meeting held 29 September - [#7957158](#)



David Stevens
Executive Manager Major Projects



Mark Wuth
Director Cairns Infrastructure and Assets

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STEERING COMMITTEE
29 SEPTEMBER 2026
COMMENCED 9:00 AM
COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
119-114 SPENCE STREET, CAIRNS

ATTENDEES:

Cr B Olds	Division 9 Councillor (Chairperson / Committee)
Cr B Moller	Division 1 Councillor (Committee)
Cr M Tickner	Division 2 Councillor (Committee)
Cr K Vallely	Division 6 Councillor (Committee)
Cr A Middleton	Division 7 Councillor
S Abson	Independent Program Assurance Advisor (non-voting advisor role)

APOLOGIES:

Cr A Eden	Mayor (Chairperson / Committee)
M Wuth	Director, Cairns Infrastructure & Assets
T Veronese	Associate Director Service Delivery, Utility Services

OFFICERS:

K Gouldthorp	Chief Executive Officer
L Whitton	Chief Financial Officer
G Kang	Associate Director Infrastructure & Assets
D Stevens	Executive Manager Major Projects
C Horne	Acting Associate Director Service Delivery, Utility Services
J Smith	Executive Manager Utility Services
B Thomas	Minutes

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PURPOSE OF MEETING

To consider the matters listed on the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mayor Eden, Mark Wuth and Toni Veronese.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OF 25 AUGUST 2026 63/5/3-03 | #7937034

VALLELY / MOLLER

The Minutes of the Cairns Water Security Stage 1 Project Steering Committee held on 25 August 2026 were endorsed.

carried unanimously

3. OFFICERS' REPORTS

3.1 PROJECT UPDATE REPORT – CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 (CWSS1) PROJECT CIA 63/5/3-03 | #7757876

TICKNER / MOLLER

It is recommended that the Steering Committee notes the project update.

carried unanimously

3.2 RESOURCE AND OPERATIONAL READINESS UPDATE – CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 (CWSS1) PROJECT CIA 63/5/3-03 | #7715238

MOLLER / TICKNER

It is recommended that the Steering Committee notes the Resource and Operational Readiness Update for the Cairns Water Security Stage 1 (CWSS1) Project.

carried unanimously

3.3 STEERING COMMITTEE ASSURANCE ADVISOR ADVICE NOTE #20 – CAIRNS WATER SECURITY STAGE 1 (CWSS1) PROJECT CIA 63/5/3-03 | #7809851

MOLLER / VALLELY

It is recommended that the Steering Committee notes Steering Committee Assurance Advisor Advice Note 20.

carried unanimously

3.4 PROJECT UPDATE REPORT - RESERVOIR EMERGENT WORKS
CIA 63/5/3-03 | #7917419

VALLELY / TICKNER

It is recommended that the Steering Committee notes the Project Update for the Reservoir Emergent Works Program.

carried unanimously

4. CORRESPONDENCE

NIL

5. BUSINESS NOT ON THE AGENDA

NIL

6. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

NIL

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:55 AM