

CORURGAN

COMMENT

Circ. No 08 - 2025
August 2025



AGM TIME. ARE YOU COMING?

Welcome to the August 2025 Corurgan Comment.

Our Application to the NSW Government for \$154,680,255 of funding for our Modernisation Project is currently being assessed by the Federal Government. As mentioned in July's Corurgan Comment, the Federal Government has requested further information. We are currently gathering the information requested and hope to satisfy all their questions. I look forward to receiving a determination from the Australian Government regarding the Application for Funding of our Modernisation project very soon.

Current Dam Levels

Dartmouth Dam – 68%

Hume Dam – 48%

Allocation Announcement

August 1st – 1% AWD for General Security water

Total Year to Date AWD – 2%

The weather has been kind to us during our winter maintenance program. We have completed the Siphon project on time and completed most of the tasks on our list. Spraying of access has now started. Brett is de-silting Lateral 6; Tony is working on the Nyora Rd/O'Neil's Rd Road Crossing on Lateral 2. The Channel Attendants are getting the channels ready for the new irrigation season.

If you have an outstanding account, please pay as soon as possible. I remind all members that if you have not paid your fees or have outstanding accounts, I won't be able to supply your property with water. Please call me or the Office if you need to discuss any accounts in arrears.

I will be away on leave during the month of September, I am planning on taking Laura and Byron to Uluru (Ayers Rock), Kings Canyon, Katherine Gorge and on to Darwin to see my Brother. It should be a great family holiday with plenty to explore.

Ben Kerr will be in charge of operations whilst I am away and if needed you can call the Office, Debbie and Jasmeen are always ready to help.

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

Office Administration

July First Quarter fee invoicing

The FIRST QUARTER Network and Fixed Gov't Fee invoices have been sent out. Thank you to those Members who have paid their FIRST QUARTER fees.



All government pass-through charges for Water NSW, MDBA and WAMC are based on LAST YEAR'S FEES.

Some invoices went over onto two pages. The dollar amount owing shows on the second page, which is annoying, but you have all handled it brilliantly.

Outstanding Fees

Reminder It might have rained over the past week or so, but if you haven't paid your fees by the time you need to irrigate or need to buy water..... Start talking to 'Hewy'!



West Corurgan prides itself on its good relationship with all its members and on its willingness to keep Members fully informed of what is happening with admin, water, maintenance and planning. This includes sending 'friendly reminders' to Members who have fallen a bit behind in their payments. The Board has been tolerant to some degree of those who are not paying within terms and has tried to work with them.

However, the Board is not prepared to be taken advantage of!

On that point, the last 3-pages of this Corurgan Comment show the information that will be attached if we need to send a reminder email.

Auditor

The Auditor (x2) visited again on Monday 14th July.

They have worked very hard because we received the Draft Consolidated Financial Statements on Wednesday 30 July and the corrected second Draft on 4th August.

I reviewed, had a couple of questions (mainly because I'm not an auditor), and the 30.06.2025 Financial Statement has been forwarded to all Directors for their review.

Max Arnold, our Chair, is writing his Chairman's Report whilst sunning himself in Cairns! I think I might proof-read his report very carefully.

I'm not sure all that relaxation, sun and sand are conducive to serious thoughts.

The General Manager wrote his report in between fixing pumps, installing pit meters, talking to Government Departments, reviewing the General Policy Booklet, talking to our Solicitor and taking his Mum to a funeral in Melbourne! He's been busy!



General Policy Booklet

A three-hour slog session helped get the General Policy Booklet over the line.

Well, at least to the point where we were able to ask Gerard McCarthy his opinion.

From being hopeful, I am now optimistic!



2025-2026 Schedule of Fees & Charges

Remember:

All pass-through charges for Water NSW, MDBA and WAMC are based on LAST YEAR'S FEES.

This will require an adjusting line item on the October (SECOND QUARTER) invoice, once the final 2025-2026 fees are confirmed.

I have not heard anything from IPART or Water NSW regarding the WAMC fees, which we are waiting on, but they did say it would be late September.

AGM

The AGM is almost upon us.

Tuesday 26th August 5.00pm, Oaklands RSL.

The Dinner is organised.

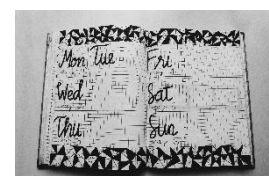
The Speakers are organised.

The Board is organised. (Our Chairman is even flying back from Cairns!)

Jasmeen and I will be organised.

And our General Policy Booklet will be organised. Yeah.

BUT ARE YOU ORGANISED?



Please try to attend. Please make a concerted effort.
Think of it as a social outing, not as an AGM and certainly not as a dry, boring AGM.
We don't do boring!
We do informative, insightful, social and Yummy!



Agenda included.

As you can see, we have a full Agenda, so **we really need to start on time!**

Farm (52) and (57) do not be late! 😊

Remember we have a Resolution to be presented.

Resolution

On Friday 4 July I sent an email to Members advising of a Resolution that will be presented at the AGM. This is simply to formally accept the Board setting the fees and charges in early June for the next financial year.

<p>RESOLUTION:</p> <p>To Accept and Adopt Clause 5, Section 1.1 <i>Procedure of Setting Rates and Charges</i> in The West Corurgan Rules.</p> <p>The Rules were adopted 12 February 2025 and effective 1 March 2025.</p> <p>5.1.1 Procedure for setting rates and charges</p> <p><i>The rules must have procedures for setting rates and charges.</i></p> <p><i>At the first meeting of members, it will be resolved that the Board will set the rates and charges in early June for each following financial year.</i></p> <p><i>In setting the rates and charges the Board will use the calculations, explanations and procedures set out in Appendix A.</i></p>
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Water Transfers:

The 2024-25 Transfer folders did not topple over (it was a near thing though), but they did take up an entire archive box on their own.
Usually, I run a couple of years in the one box.



The Syphon:

The Syphon on Narrow Plains Road is finished (just waiting on handrails).
An independent survey has been taken, and all levels are accurate and comply with the Hydrologist's design.
Looks impressive.
Our Chairman was impressed.

SYPHON



Light at the end of the tunnel.....literally!



Another Job we are working on during the 'Maintenance' Season

As well as overseeing the Syphon, Peter has been helping Tony to install a new trial 455mm Aquamonix Magflow pit-meter at Ian Playford's property.

All went well, and everyone is enthusiastic to see how it performs during the irrigation season.



Tony has also been busy

- at the Lateral 3 off-take (ODM) reinstating banks, plus
- doing preparation works for the spray-on concrete we are trailing, and
- refurbishing the Road Crossing at Nyora Fire Station

And Brett has been busy **de-silting the channels.**

Sorry, I don't have any pictures of Brett de-silting.

Besides, an excavator bucket full of mud doesn't exactly jump off the page to capture the reader's attention.

PUZZLES





This is for all my Brainiac Farmers.....



Actually, ALL my farmers are brainiacs.

You can't run a successful farm without knowing about yields, water retention, soil moisture content, fertiliser ratios, local markets, international markets, water markets and the doosi of them all – Carryover! Plus, how to keep the dog happy!

So, this is for ALL my farmers.

1. If you suffer from **Hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia** what are you afraid of? 
2. Which Australian won the 100m sprint at the 2025 Kip Keino Classic track and field meeting? 
3. Mt Etna is an active volcano on which island? 
4. Which component in a computer temporarily holds data currently in use? 
5. 'Banjo' is a slang term, sometimes used for which Australian banknote?
6. On 4 April 2025, the president of which Asian country was impeached and formally removed from office?

Yes, (225) I have provided the answers. Keep reading.

LET'S BE HAPPY.....



Why was the belt the worst employee?

It always buckled under pressure.

Why did the employee go to work on a trampoline?

He wanted to bounce ideas around.

Why did the employee stare at the can of juice?

Because it said 'concentrate'.

What do you call a factory that makes good products?

A satis-factory.



Puzzle Answers:

1. Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia is the fear of long words.
It is also sometimes referred to as sesquipedalophobia. The irony of the name, being one of the longest words in the English language, is not lost on those who experience the phobia. While not officially recognized as a diagnosis by the American Psychiatric Association, it is considered a type of social phobia, as it can cause significant distress and anxiety in social situations.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- Fear of Long Words:
The core of hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia is a specific fear related to the length of words.
 - Social Phobia:
This fear can manifest as anxiety or distress in situations where long words are present, like reading aloud, public speaking, or encountering unfamiliar vocabulary.
 - Not Officially Recognised:
While the term is widely used and understood, it's not a formally recognized diagnosis in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).
 - Irony of the Name:
The name itself is a long word, which can be a source of amusement or frustration for those who have the phobia.
 - Potential for Other Diagnoses:
Individuals experiencing this phobia may be diagnosed with social anxiety disorder or a specific phobia, depending on the severity and impact on their lives.
2. **Lachlan Kennedy** won the 100m sprint at the 2025 Kip Keino Classic in Nairobi, with a time of 9.98 seconds. This achievement made him only the second Australian in history to run the 100m in under 10 seconds, joining Patrick Johnson.
 3. Mount Etna is located on the island of **Sicily, Italy**. Specifically, it's on the eastern coast of the island, near the city of Catania.
 4. The component in a computer that temporarily holds data currently in use is **RAM** (Random Access Memory).
RAM is a type of volatile memory, meaning it loses its data when the computer is turned off. It's used for short-term storage of data that the CPU needs to access quickly while running applications and performing tasks. This allows for faster processing and multitasking.
 5. A **\$10 dollar note** - from the picture of A.B. "Banjo" Paterson thereon.
 6. **Yoon Suk Yeol, President of South Korea**



Agenda

58th Annual General Meeting

Oaklands RSL Bowling Club

Tuesday 26th August 2025

5:00pm

Welcome

Apologies

Introduction of Board Members and Ex-Officio

Confirmation of previous 57th Annual General Meeting
Minutes – 27th August 2024

Business arising from previous 2024 AGM Minutes

Chairman's 2024-2025 Report
Questions to Chair

General Manager's 2024-2025 Report

- ❖ General Manager to Discuss
 - Return on Board Water Purchased
 - Maintenance during 2024-2025
 - Modernisation Trials currently underway
 - Direction/Expectations for 2025-2026

Questions to General Manager

RESOLUTION: To Accept and Adopt Clause 5, Section 1.1 *Procedure of Setting Rates and Charges* in The West Corugan Rules.
At the first meeting of members, it will be resolved that the Board will set the rates and charges in early June for each following financial year.

Presentation of Audited Financial Reports
Including Summary Explanation Sheet and Capital Expenditure

Board recommendation to appoint Auditors for 2025-2026
Mogg Accounting & Advisory Pty Ltd, Cobram

General Questions from the Floor

Guest Speakers

- Andrew McConville, CEO, MDBA and Sam Campi, MDBA
- Questions from the floor

Meeting Closed and Members invited to stay for dinner.



ABN: 92 793 193 129

Rules of West Corugan Board of Management

Following the adoption of the West Corugan Rules on 1 March 2025, Landholders are reminded that West Corugan now has a range of options available to assist in recovering unpaid fees and charges.

The following extracts from The Rules highlight two key avenues available to the Board and the process involved.

Extract: Clauses 3.4 and 5.3

3.4 Discontinuing water supplies

The Corporation may at any time suspend or restrict the supply of, or refuse to supply, water to a member or landholder if the Corporation is reasonably satisfied that any of the following circumstances exist:

- the water that is available to the Corporation cannot meet the demand¹
- the water that is available to the Corporation is not suitable for the required purpose²
- the Corporation is unable to provide sufficient conveyance water in connection with the operation of an irrigation system³
- the Corporation is not lawfully able to supply the quantity of water⁴
- the member or landholder has failed to pay rates or charges for water or other services provided by the Corporation provided that such rates or charges in respect of that member (including any grouping, or landholder) have been unpaid for a period of at least two (2) months after the due date for payment.

¹ Water Management Act 2000 (NSW) s 150(1)(a).

² Water Management Act 2000 (NSW) s 150(1)(b).

³ Water Management Act 2000 (NSW) s 150(1)(c).

⁴ Water Management Act 2000 (NSW) s 150(1)(d).

- the member or landholder has contravened or failed to comply with a condition on which water services are supplied by the Corporation⁵
- the member or landholder has contravened or failed to comply with a requirement of the Corporation relating to the provision, maintenance, or repair of distribution works or any other requirement made by the Corporation in accordance with the Act, the regulations, or the rules⁶
- the member or landholder has contravened or failed to comply with a requirement of the Act, the regulations, or the rules⁷
- the Corporation is unable to dispose of water draining into its drainage system because of the degraded quality of the water.⁸
- the Corporation is unable to dispose of water from within its irrigation system due to degraded or contaminated water.

The Corporation may reduce the amount of water available by different amounts or proportions according to such factors as the Corporation thinks fit.⁹

Before suspending or restricting the supply of water or refusing to supply water to a member or landholder, the Corporation must give twenty-eight (28) days written notice to the member or landholder.

The notice must give the member or landholder an opportunity to make written submissions.

The Corporation must consider and respond in writing to any submissions received within twenty-eight (28) days.

The Corporation after considering any submissions may offer a payment plan option to the member and if accepted, then water supplies will not be discontinued. If a member does not accept a payment plan within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the offer then the Corporation can suspend, restrict or refuse to supply water to a member or landholding.

These requirements do not apply if it is not reasonably possible in the circumstances.

5.3 Recovering unpaid rates and charges

A rate or charge imposed on an owner of land or for a service or thing supplied or provided in connection with a specific parcel of land is a charge on the land.¹⁰

Any rate or charge due to the Corporation under the Act may be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction as if it were a debt due to the Corporation.¹¹

The Corporation may sell land for unpaid rates and charges in accordance with section 359 of the Act.

⁵ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 150(1)(f).

⁶ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 150(1)(g).

⁷ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 150(1)(h).

⁸ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 150(1)(i).

⁹ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 150(2).

¹⁰ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 355.

¹¹ *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) s 357(1).

If no security has been provided under Rule 5.2.4 and annual rates or levies are unpaid for at least six (6) months from the date they become payable, the Corporation, upon giving twenty-one (21) days' notice to the stakeholder:

- may sell an amount of the stakeholder's Water Allocation on the Temporary Water Market to recover the outstanding debt in part or full.
- may sell the next available Water Allocation to recover the outstanding debt (if there is insufficient Allocation Water available in current year).

However, the Corporation will:

- consider submissions made by or on behalf of the stakeholder within the twenty-one (21) day notice period, and
- consider the option of entering into a payment plan as an alternative to the sale of stakeholder's Allocation Water.

The stakeholder has fourteen (14) days to respond to the option of entering into a payment plan.

If the stakeholder declines the option of entering into, or does not comply with, an agreed payment plan, the corporation will proceed with selling Allocation Water to recover unpaid rates and charges.¹²

Find: Z:drive > Corugan Docs. > Policies > The RULES > Rules Extract of Clause 3.4 & 5.3

¹² Water Management (General) Regulation 2018 (NSW) cl 57(4).

Whilst the West Corugan Newsletter is primarily provided to keep Members informed of all water matters relating to the WCPID Scheme, you will note it also has a lighter side. It is this lighter side that should be read in the spirit for which it is intended and with 'tongue firmly planted in one's cheek'! 😊 Debbie