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30th November, 2012.

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PRESS RELEASE:

CEO APPOINTMENT

Wattle Range Council appointed a new Chief Executive Officer last night.

At a special Council meeting held for the purpose, Peter Harriott of Victoria, was offered the position after receiving unanimous support from all Councillors in attendance.

Mr Harriott comes to the Wattle Range Council with more than 25 years of Local Government experience working in councils in the Shepparton area where he has held senior roles including Acting CEO. He will start with Wattle Range Council on January 29, 2013.

His appointment follows a rigorous and comprehensive recruitment process which has been underway since current CEO Frank Brennan announced his retirement in June this year.

In line with a resolution of Council, a selection panel was established consisting of four councillors (one from each ward) and the Mayor.

Initially 57 people requested details of the position when it was first advertised and 53 made formal applications.

From these, a process of short listing was undertaken and finally the Council selection panel undertook interviews this week in Adelaide. After four interviews, taking about two hours each, the panel resolved to recommend Mr Harriott to the full Council for the position of CEO.

Following a presentation by Mr Harriott to the Council last night, the recommendation from the panel to offer a five year contract to Mr Harriott was supported unanimously by the full Council.

Mr Harriott holds a MBA (Masters of Business Administration), Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), Graduate Certificate in Water Engineering, Water Engineer's Certificate, Municipal Engineer's Certificate and is a qualified Municipal Building Surveyor.

Wattle Range Mayor Peter Gandolfi said he looked forward to working with Mr Harriott.

"Peter was chosen from a long list of applicants and he will bring to Council a wealth of experience," Mr Gandolfi said.

Mr Harriott said he welcomed the opportunity to become the next CEO of Wattle Range Council.

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“I look forward to working with the Council and the community when I start early in the new year,” Mr Harriott said.

Mr Harriott replaces long standing CEO Frank Brennan.

Mayor Peter Gandolfi said Mr Brennan leaves after more than 34 years of working for Council.

“Frank has dedicated much of his life to serving Council and will leave a lasting legacy through his contribution to the community,” Mr Gandolfi said.

Mr Brennan’s last day with Council will be January 25, 2013.



For further information in relation to this Press Release please contact Mr Gandolfi on 0419 155 447 or Mr Harriott on 0429 412 316