

2026 AGM Explanatory Note

Agenda item 4 - Election of Directors

Candidate Profile – Julie Guest



Julie has served as a BankWAW Board Director since November 2017 and chaired its Audit Committee from November 2017 to November 2023. During her tenure, she has also contributed to the Executive and Remuneration, Credit Risk, Risk, Director Nomination and Strategy Committees, with oversight spanning strategic planning, regulatory compliance, risk management, financial reporting, ICT capability and third-party technology arrangements. A Chartered Accountant since 1989, Julie brings extensive financial analysis, audit and governance experience.

Julie's broader governance experience includes chairing the Alpine Shire Audit and Risk Committee and previously serving on the Moira Shire Audit and Risk Committee. She was a Director of Central Murray Credit Union from 1997 to 2016, including a term as Vice Chair, and helped guide the organisation through regulatory change, a new ICT platform and the Global Financial Crisis. Her career has also included partnership in a regional chartered accountancy practice, audit and SMSF work, delivery of small-business seminars across Victoria, and mentoring First Nations business owners through Indigenous Business Australia. She has longstanding involvement in regional community, adult education and advisory organisations across Northern Victoria and Southern New South Wales.

Experience: Board Governance, Chartered Accountancy, Financial Analysis and Reporting, Audit and Risk Committees, Regulatory Compliance, Credit Union and ADI Governance, ICT Oversight, Strategic Planning, Small-Business Advisory, Superannuation, Local Government, Adult Education and Regional Community Development.

Candidate Profile – Fiona Shanks



Fiona has served as a BankWAW Board Director since 2017, chaired the Board from August 2020 to March 2023 and has chaired the Risk Committee. Her Board responsibilities have included governance oversight, engagement with APRA and ASIC, annual financial statements and attestations, and membership of the IT Steering, Audit and Risk Committees. She holds a Bachelor of Business in Human Resource Management and a Diploma of Business Management and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In 2024, she was recognised among IPAA's Top 50 Women in the Public Sector in the Established Leader category.

Fiona is an experienced executive leader across local government and healthcare. Her roles have included Director Corporate Performance, Chief People Officer, Interim Chief Executive Officer of a regional health service, Deputy CEO and Executive Director Workforce, Education and Research, and senior corporate services and organisational development positions. She has led finance, governance, risk, technology, information management, customer experience, people and culture, strategy and integrated planning functions; established a project management office; led organisational restructures and workplace relations initiatives; and overseen major capital works, accreditation, enterprise agreements and

business-system upgrades. Her community involvement includes education, health and sporting organisations in the region.

Experience: Board and Risk Governance, Executive Leadership, Organisational Development, Culture and Staff Engagement, Human Resource Management, Workplace Relations, Finance and Corporate Services, Digital Transformation, Information Management, Customer Experience, Strategy and Integrated Planning, Local Government, Healthcare and Community Organisations.

Candidate Profile – Brendan McGrath



Brendan is a senior executive and non-executive director with approximately 18 years' experience as a local government Chief Executive Officer, including responsibility for almost 600 employees across approximately 80 service areas at the Rural City of Wangaratta. He is currently General Manager Digital and Commercial Innovation at North East Water, where he leads digital strategy and governance, cyber security, data and information management, artificial intelligence adoption, commercial innovation and new revenue and efficiency initiatives. He is a Graduate of the Australian Company Directors Course and has completed postgraduate studies in business management.

Brendan's executive career has encompassed strategy, budgets, long-term financial planning, organisational performance, culture, statutory compliance, major capital programs and regional stakeholder relationships. He has led organisations through bushfires, floods, storms, the pandemic and significant organisational change, and has overseen financial, operational, regulatory, technology, cyber, procurement, project and reputational risks. His non-executive experience includes boards in vocational education, regional tourism, national procurement and the local government profession, including two terms as President of Local Government Professionals Victoria.

Experience: Corporate Management, Board Governance, Strategy, Financial Stewardship, Enterprise Risk and Resilience, Digital Transformation, Cyber Security and Data Governance, Commercial Innovation, Organisational Transformation, Major Capital and Project Delivery, Procurement, Regional Stakeholder Engagement, Education, Tourism and Local Government.