

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

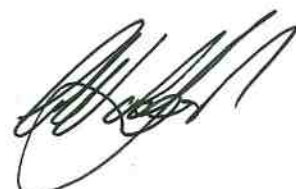
14 April 2016

Meeting No. 58

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

G Beltchev, J Booth, J Ferguson, J Fort, M Marsland, C Michelmore



# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Outback Communities Authority office, 12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta  
on 14 April 2016 at 11.00 am

**Present:**

C Woolford (Chair)

G Beltchev, J Booth, J Ferguson, J Fort, M Marsland, C Michelmore (OCA  
Members), and J Wright (Contractor via telephone link), M Sutton,  
and B Honan (OCA staff).

### 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Outback Communities Authority (OCA)  
meeting.

An apology was received from B Gough, Governance Manager, OCA.

### 2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

### 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

It is noted that there are no declarations of conflict of interest.

### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016 were circulated.

**Moved by Member Beltchev**

**Seconded by Member Ferguson**

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held  
on 21 January 2016, number 57 be adopted.*

**Carried.**

4.2 Business arising from minutes.

4.2.1 Community Insurance Review (Ref. Agenda item 6.2, Meeting No. 50)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director (Dir) who advised that  
although some advice has been received, further information has been



sought. It is noted that that this matter should now be removed from the action list.

4.2.2 Andamooka Town Management Committee (Ref. Agenda item 11.1, Meeting No. 54)

The Chair referred discussion to the Dir who advised that the review of the current Terms of Reference for the Andamooka Town Management Committee remains ongoing.

4.2.3 Oodnadatta Development Project (Ref. Agenda item 3.1, Meeting No. 55 and Agenda item 4.2.5, Meeting No. 55)

The Chair advised this matter is ongoing and that Oodnadatta has been included in the OCA's regional trip, planned for mid-May.

4.2.4 Isolated Children's and Parents' Association (Ref. N15-02/11, Meeting No.56)

The Chair referred discussion to the Dir who confirmed that a review of funding categories will be undertaken and provided at the next OCA meeting.

4.2.5 Asset Sustainability Levy (Ref. Agenda item 6.1, Meeting No. 57)

The Chair referred discussion to the Dir who advised that this matter is included later in the Agenda, therefore the matter can be removed from the Action List.

4.2.6 Remote Youth Community Projects (Ref. Agenda item 6.2, Meeting No. 57)

The Chair referred discussion to the Dir who advised that media relating to the Remote Youth Community Projects will continue as information comes to hand, therefore this matter is to be removed from the Action List.

4.2.7 Andamooka Town Management Committee (Ref. Agenda item 11.1, Meeting No.57)

The Chair referred the discussion to the Dir who advised that health services in Andamooka will continue to be delivered through the Royal Flying Doctor Service, therefore this matter is to be removed from the Action List.

## 5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.



## 6. OCA BUSINESS

### 6.1 Asset Sustainability Levy (Ref. N16 – 01/04)

Further to a workshop held on Wednesday 13 April, the Chair introduced the Asset Sustainability Levy (ASL) discussion.

The Dir confirmed that the OCA has committed to work toward the implementation of an ASL in its Strategic Management Plan 2015-2020 and has further explored options for a fair and equitable way to apply an ASL in the unincorporated areas of South Australia.

The Dir advised that although a legal opinion has been received from the Crown Solicitor on specific issues relating to the implementation of an ASL, further advice will be sought.

The Dir referred to the preliminary financial modelling provided to the Members during an earlier workshop and confirmed that final modelling cannot be completed until legal advice has been received.

The Dir advised that there are several (internal) stakeholders with the potential to impact on the final outcome of an ASL who have been identified and should be consulted before the OCA makes a decision to go to public consultation, which include the Minister for State, Local Government, the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF), the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and other Government Ministers and/or agencies that might be identified by the Minister, DTF and DPTI.

The Dir confirmed that once stage one (internal) consultation is complete the OCA will be presented with:

- A report on the outcome of the internal stakeholder consultation.
- A final financial model showing a suggested value for an ASL and its impact on the OCA budget.
- A proposal to go to stage two, being wider community consultation.

The Members agreed that the follow up report and further financial modelling will enable them to make a considered decision as to whether stage 2, going to external consultation will occur and if so, within what timeframe.

**Moved by Member Marsland**  
**Seconded by Member Michelmore**

*That the OCA:*

- *Notes the information provided.*
- *Commits to undertaking stage 1 (internal) consultation and*



- *Reserves a decision on the next stage of implementation pending report on stage 1 consultation.*

**Carried.**

6.2 Proposed Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreements incorporating a community contribution for Andamooka and Iron Knob for 2016-17 (Ref. N16 – 02/04)

The Chair introduced the Proposed 2016-17 CARM Agreements for Andamooka and Iron Knob agenda item and referred to the Dir for further information.

The Dir confirmed that the OCA has in place separate CARM agreements with the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc (APOMA) and the Iron Knob Progress Association Inc (IKPA) both of which incorporate a community contribution. The current agreements expire 30 June 2016.

The Dir advised that APOMA and IKPA have requested the OCA give consideration to entering into similar agreements for the 2016-17 financial year.

The Dir confirmed that consultation with the Andamooka and Iron Knob communities is required before the OCA can make an informed decision on entering into agreements for 2016-17.

The Dir advised that if general acceptance of APOMA's and IKPA's CARM agreements is confirmed through the consultation process and community feedback a similar methodology to the current agreements would be adopted.

The Members noted that it will be important to ensure that other outback communities do not cross-subsidise any bad debts arising from the non-payment of a community contribution and that the OCA should investigate all avenues, including the sale of land for non-payment of levies, to collect overdue contributions.

**Moved by Member Ferguson  
Seconded by Member Michelmore**

*That the OCA notes the request from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc. to consider a new Communities Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2016-17 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*

**Carried.**



**Moved by Member Ferguson  
Seconded by Member Michelmore**

*That the OCA notes the request from the Iron Knob Progress Association Inc. to consider a new Communities Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2016-17 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*

**Carried.**

6.3 Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) Annual Compliance Report (Ref. N16 – 03/04)

The Chair introduced the annual ESCOSA reporting information and referred to the Dir for further information.

The Dir advised that ESCOSA had indicated that the OCA was fully compliant in all but one reporting area in its annual Compliance Report.

The Dir confirmed that ESCOSA has assessed the OCA as being partially compliant in meeting its requirement to complete a pricing policy questionnaire for the reporting period.

The Dir advised that the Gov M is continuing negotiations with ESCOSA to explore alternative ways of addressing the questionnaire in the areas that the OCA is unable to comply with.

**Moved by Member Beltchev  
Seconded by Member Ferguson**

*That the OCA notes the Essential Services Commission of South Australia's response to the OCA's annual Compliance Report.*

**Carried.**

Mr John Wright joined the meeting via telephone link.

6.4 2015-16 Budget Monitoring Report – February 2016 (Ref. N16 – 04/04)

The Chair tabled the 2015-16 Budget Monitoring Report as at 29 February 2016 which outlines the revised full-year estimates of income, operating expenses and capital expenditure for 2015-16 and referred the discussion to Mr Wright.

Mr Wright confirmed that an underlying Budget improvement has now emerged, which has taken into account the carry over amount now approved by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) being projects uncompleted as at 30 June 2015.

Mr Wright advised that although the OCA has recently applied for several grants (Open Space, Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program and National Stronger Regions Program) the revised estimates in the





tabled Budget Monitoring Report assumes that a component of one of the applications will be successful which will provide \$25,000 towards the cost purchasing of two UHF towers for \$50,000 in 2015-16.

Mr Wright confirmed it is likely that the full outcome of the current grant applications will not be known until mid-May, possibly June.

Mr Wright advised that there is a risk that the grant applications will be unsuccessful necessitating prompt decisions about the allocation of budget savings which may include some of the projects that would have benefitted from grant funding, being scaled back so that the OCA can still proceed.

**Moved by Member Marsland  
Seconded by Member Ferguson**

*That the OCA:*

- *Note the updated 2015-16 Budget Monitoring Report for April 2016.*
- *Authorise the Chair and the Director to make any decisions needed about the utilisation of Budget savings.*
- *Note that a further Budget update will be provided at the May 2016 OCA meeting.*

**Carried.**

## **7. URGENT BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Draft 2016-17 Business Plan and Budget**

A workshop was held earlier in the day where the Members were provided with the Draft 2016-17 Business Plan and Budget. The Members provided comments regarding the formatting of the document and requested further information be provided under Significant Activities. The Members agreed to the Chair and Director working through the agreed amendments and the document which will then be consulted on.

**Moved by Member Beltchev  
Seconded by Member Michelmores**

*That the OCA acknowledge that minor amendments are required to the 2016-2017 Business Plan and Budget and then release the Plan and Budget document for consultation.*

**Carried.**

## **8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT**

The Chair introduced the Business Plan Progress Report and referred the matter to the Dir who advised that the Community Development Officer is managing the *oneOutback* questionnaire process which feeds directly into the Prospectus



document. The Dir advised that OCA staff had attended an ABS interpretation session recently which will assist with the collection and interpretation of data collected to feed into an annual State of the Outback Report.

The Dir referred to the draft Communications Plan that was provided by the Northern Flinders Project Officer at a workshop held the day prior to the meeting. The document explores social media avenues and opportunities for the OCA to increase its profile to stakeholders.

The Members noted the OCA 2015-16 Business Plan progress report.

## 9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair advised that she has attended two meetings regarding the northern flinders region to consider how the region might change in the future.

The Chair advised that although we were advised the proposal for a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility does not include the OCA's immediate area of responsibility, we now know it does and as the OCA has a strong interest in the matter and we will monitor progress and keep the Members informed.

The Chair referred to meetings with the reactivated Outback Roads Action Group and the very successful Country Cabinet.

The Chair reiterated the Director's comments that the trip to Canberra to attend the 'Creating a Modern Outback' forum was very interesting, providing the opportunity to meet with a broad range of people with the common interest of how best to live, work and manage the arid areas of Australia.

Meetings regarding the sealing of the Strzelecki Track, planning in the outback and a meeting with Oz Minerals were also attended.

The Chair reported that it is envisaged that the War Memorial book that has been developed over the past year will be released in November.

## 10. MEMBER'S REPORT

All Members agreed that the recent Country Cabinet event was indeed an interesting experience and was very well attended. The Country Cabinet provided an invaluable opportunity to network within SA Government and with local residents in the one location which does not occur very often.





## 11. SECTION 11 COMMITTEES REPORTS

### 11.1 Andamooka Town Management Committee

The Chair introduced the Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC) item and tabled the confirmed Meeting Minutes from 11 November 2015 and 2 February 2016.

The Dir confirmed that the ATMC review has not been finalised, noting that the term for current serving Members is due to cease on 30 June 2016.

## 12. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Dir tabled his report and provided an overview of the projects and work that the Office for the OCA has been involved in since the OCA's meeting held in April 2016.

The Dir advised that although one activity dominates his time, being the implications of the Alinta decision to cease coal mining operations in Leigh Creek he has also been heavily involved with the Leigh Creek Country Cabinet and had also attended a meeting with representatives from the Commonwealth Government to discuss one of six proposals for a National Radioactive Waste Management Facility on a site near Hawker. The Dir advised that he had supported ongoing engagement with the OCA and the community without committing to either supporting or not supporting the project.

The Dir summarised his trip to Canberra in mid-March to attend a 'Creating a Modern Outlook' forum, which the Chair also attended.

The Dir confirmed the appointment of Mr Benjamin Simes, the new Business Administration Trainee.

## 13. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

## 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next OCA meeting has been scheduled for 18, 19, 20 May which is a regional trip taking in visits to Marla, Oodnadatta and William Creek communities.

The Chair identified 15, 16 June as potential meeting dates with the location being Adelaide. This will be confirmed at a later date.

The meeting closed at 12.50 pm.

