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Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

20 February 2014

Meeting No. 43

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

P Allen, G Beltchev, J Booth, F Frahn, M Heylen, M Turner.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Woolford".

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Outback Communities Authority office, 12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta
on 20 February 2014 at 1.40 pm

Present:

Ms C Woolford (Chair)
Mr P Allen, Mr G Beltchev, Mrs F Frahn, Mrs M Heylen
and Mrs M Turner

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting at 1.45 pm and welcomed Mr Bengy Paolo, Director, Regions, Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) to the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting.

An apology was received from Member Booth.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Chair introduced a deputation from Regional Development Australia Far North (RDA FN) and welcomed Ms Jen Cleary, Chair and Ms Claire Wiseman, Chief Executive Officer to the OCA's meeting. The deputation delivered an overview of RDA FN programs, its profile in the region and partnerships across three levels of government. The new development at SunDrop Farms and the use of innovative technology and the recent solar roadshow was discussed. Ms Cleary confirmed that the RDA FN was across the OCA's strategic direction and will provide information on how the OCA may be assisted.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2013 were circulated.



Moved by Member Frahn
Seconded by Member Allen

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 12 December 2013, number 40 be adopted.

Carried.

- 4.2 The minutes of the meeting held via electronic means in accordance with section 10(5) of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* held during the month of December 2013 were circulated.

Moved by Member Heylen
Seconded by Member Beltchev

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) electronic meeting, number 41, held during the month of December 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

- 4.3 The minutes of the meeting held via electronic means in accordance with section 10(5) of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* held during the month of January 2014 were circulated.

Moved by Member Allen
Seconded by Member Beltchev

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) electronic meeting, number 42, held during the month of January 2014 be adopted.

Carried.

- 4.4 Business arising from minutes.

- 4.4.1 Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (Ref. 11 September 2013 meeting)

Mr Paolo advised that the issue of the Oodnadatta water supply is ongoing; PIRSA are monitoring the situation and the Chief Executive is aware of the situation.

- 4.4.2 OCA Website (Ref. Agenda item 5, 11 September 2013 meeting)

The General Manager (GM) advised that the new OCA website is envisaged to be ready by the end of March 2014. This matter is ongoing.

- 4.4.3 Outback Waste Management (Ref. N 13 – 05/11)

The GM advised that in November 2013 the OCA approved in principle the negotiations with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division (DPC-AARD) to progress an outback waste strategy. The GM confirmed that prudent risk management by PIRSA resulted in further investigation regarding



policy issues with outback waste. The GM advised that legal advice was sought which confirmed that the OCA is not able to perform services on the APY lands.

The GM confirmed that the broader waste management issue sits neatly with the OCA and the way forward now is for the Outback Waste Alliance to be formed after which further resources will become available.

The Chair thanked PIRSA, through Mr Paolo for its involvement in supporting the OCA to progress this matter.

4.4.4 Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC) Timetable of Meetings (Ref. Agenda item 9.1, 21 November 2013 meeting)

The Business Services Manager advised that a timetable of ATMC meetings for the 2014 year are available from the OCA's website.

Member Allen reported that he has been liaising with the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association regarding the Community Administrator's reporting processes and believes that this matter has been finalised.

5. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair noted the Business Plan Progress Report and referred to the development of infrastructure plans for outback aerodromes and enquired about the process that the OCA follows.

Member Frahn enquired about the new OCA website. The Governance Manager (Gov M) confirmed that the website is at the staging point where all information is stored. The Gov M advised that there will be a Members area made available where Members will be able to retrieve Member specific information and that there may not be a need to maintain the Govdex web page which is currently being used for all information relating to meeting agendas.

The GM advised that the *oneOutback* prospectus date will not be achieved until next financial year.

Member Frahn enquired whether three applications to funding sources as per Objective 3 – manage the provision of public services and facilities in the outback has been achieved. The GM confirmed that the Community Development Officer has exceeded the milestone and this will be reported in the OCA's annual report and a further milestone report in the 2014-15 Business Plan.

Member Turner queried how many communities have implemented new signage. The GM confirmed that the opportunity to implement new signage is through the OCA's Outback Grants program and this will also be reported in the milestone report in the 2014-15 Business Plan.



6. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair thanked the Members for their participation in the electronic meetings held during December and January and acknowledged that there may be instances when the OCA has business to transact and this procedure continues to occur, especially as the scheduled OCA meetings are bi-monthly.

The Chair reported that she had recently met with the Minister for State/Local Government Relations and discussed drought in the outback and provided a general update of OCA activity.

The Chair acknowledged the Community Administrator's (CA) efforts in also working with the Iron Knob community. The CA will remain located at Andamooka and will travel to Iron Knob each week to support that community as it develops strong governance processes and implements a community contribution scheme to support the delivery of municipal services.

The Chair advised the Members that she has been working with the RDA FN Chair and the Chair from Natural Resource Management SA Arid Lands (NRM SAAL) on a whole of outback collaboration where there is a genuine willingness to combine and share resources to progress the outback region.

The Chair confirmed that on 25 February she will be attending a meeting where the whole of the outback adaption framework for climate change will be discussed.

The Chair advised the Members that she will be attending the formal opening of the community leisure area at Andamooka on 4 March 2014. The Chair extended an invitation to all Members to attend the opening ceremony; Member Allen confirmed his attendance.

The Chair confirmed that the OCA is in the process of executive recruitment and that this is progressing satisfactorily.

The Chair announced that Marree had been successful in obtaining just over \$400,000 toward maintaining their airstrip.

8. MEMBERS REPORT

No Member reports were tabled.



9. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE'S REPORTS

9.1 Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC)

The GM advised that this area of the agenda will now contain confirmed ATMC meeting minutes and not a separate report from the CA located at Andamooka. The CA's report will be included in the GM's report to the Members.

The GM confirmed that there are no confirmed meeting minutes available and that the next ATMC meeting has been scheduled for 11 March 2014 to be held at the ATMC office in Andamooka.

10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The GM advised that the CA currently located at Andamooka has been reassigned to work with the Iron Knob community 2-days per week to assist with managing the municipal delivery of services, similar to what occurs in Andamooka, although on a much smaller scale.

The GM advised that work on the Outback War Memorial continues with the ongoing collection of data. The GM advised that various meetings have occurred with a stonemason and that the Gov M has been working with Crown Lands and the Pimba Progress Association regarding the site of the memorial. The GM confirmed that the memorial will be reflective of the entire outback and will not single out any particular outback group, that part two of the project is looking at publishing a desktop book and that it is hoped to have the project up and running by Anzac Day 2015.

Member Beltchev enquired about the new Community Contribution Scheme notices delivered to Iron Knob. The Gov M confirmed that the concept has been well accepted within the Iron Knob community and that a few payments have been received.

Member Frahn enquired about a more regular reporting system between meeting dates. The GM advised that information relating to emerging issues within the OCA will be included with the information for noting process on a more regular basis.

Member Beltchev enquired about the economy of Andamooka and if there are any implications for the OCA. The GM advised that an update will be provided at the next OCA meeting.

The GM confirmed that the OCA will receive a further grant from FAHCSIA to assist with the delivery of municipal services at Oodnadatta. The OCA currently receives Municipal Services Funds (MUNS) from the Australian Government for the provision of specified services to the Dunjiba Community, however on ground management of these services and responsibilities is becoming increasingly



difficult. The negotiations relate to a more formal management presence in Oodnadatta.

The GM summarised the meetings he had attended during January:

- A meeting convened by PIRSA to discuss the dry conditions currently being experienced by pastoralists in the far north of SA.
- A meeting with the Iron Knob Progress Association to introduce OCA staff member, Deb Allen as their 'Town Manager' to provide support to the Iron Knob community.
- Two meetings with stakeholders regarding the development of a model for the delivery of tourism related economic development into the Flinders Ranges and Outback region.

The GM summarised the projects and activities that the OCA staff had been working on including:

- the transfer of Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association's assets to the OCA.
- the implementation of the Iron Knob Community Contribution Scheme.
- changes to the Expiation of Offences Act, which resulted in the re-drafting of expiation notices.
- the OCA's debt collection procedure.
- receiving approval from SA Health to install a 'dump point' near the Andamooka camping ground.
- community consultation with the Andamooka community regarding the development of the Andamooka Community Hub.
- networking with outback communities regarding up coming projects for 2014.
- continuing work on the Marree Museum and Outback War memorial projects.
- the release of the OCA's Small Projects grant, round 2.
- working on updating OCA owned public toilet signage.
- continuing to develop the OCA's new website.

The GM advised the Members that on 5 February 2014 he was advised of an incident that had occurred at the OCA owned and operated Marla aerodrome. Damage was caused to the sealed surface by an aircraft on landing and the airstrip is still being assessed for repairs.

The OCA Members noted the GM's report.

11. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.



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12. OCA BUSINESS

12.1 Outback Grants Program Policy CSD-01 (Ref. N 14 – 01/02)

The Gov M recommended a minor amendment to the Outback Grants Program policy, which involved increasing the Sport and Recreation Grants from \$300 to \$500 per grant.

The Gov M advised that the Outback Funding policy sets out two categories of grants; Community Grants and Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement Grants. The Community Grants categories have two sub-categories; Project Grants and Sport and Recreation Grants.

Sport and Recreation Grants are currently capped at \$300. The cap has not been amended for almost five years and is now considered to be too low to adequately meet the relevant objectives of the Policy.

A full review of the Outback Grants Program policy has been deferred until the outcome of the overarching policy is known. The Community Development Officer has however requested that the cap be increased to \$500 based on the average cost of purchasing sporting equipment appropriate for community use.

The GM confirmed that if approved, the increase in grant funding will not have any implications for the OCA's 2013-14 budget.

Moved by Member Frahn
Seconded by Member Allen

Adopt an amendment to the Outback Grants Program Policy increasing the cap for Sport and Recreational grants to \$500 per grant.

Carried.

12.2 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreement - Amendment (Ref. N 14 – 02/02)

The GM advised the Members that the Blinman Progress Association had requested that the OCA consider amending their 2013-14 CARM Agreement to include insurance for vehicles used by the Association at their local waste depot.

The GM confirmed that the increase sought by the Blinman Progress Association was a total of \$300.

Moved by Member Heylen
Seconded by Member Turner

That the OCA approves the amendment to the 2013-14 Blinman Progress Association's CARM Agreement as outlined on the CARM Amendment



form, for an increase in community insurance funding of \$300.00, resulting in the OCA's actual contribution to be increased to the amount of \$2,145.00 as per allocated funding in the budget, subject to consultation with the community regarding the variation, in accordance with the OCA's Community Engagement – Our Commitment policy.

Carried.

12.3 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreement
(Ref. N 14 – 03/02)

The General Manager tabled CARM Agreements returned signed by the Coorabie and Districts and Fowlers Bay Progress Associations for execution by the OCA Board.

Moved by Member Allen

Seconded by Member Beltchev

That the OCA:

1. *Execute the 2013-14 CARM Agreement with the:*

- *Coorabie and Districts Progress Association Inc at a cost to the OCA of up to \$4,850.*
- *Fowlers Bay Progress Association Inc at a cost to the OCA of up to \$7,200.*

as per allocated funding in the approved 2013-14 budget, subject to consultation with the communities concerned and in accordance with the OCA's Community Engagement – Our Commitment policy.

2. *Delegate authority to the General Manager to advance funds to either Progress Association if an urgent need arises prior to the completion of the consultation process.*

Carried.

12.4 Community Audited Financial Returns (Ref. N 14 – 04/02)

The GM tabled a report advising that audited financial statements have been received from the Fowlers Bay Progress Association (2011-12), Kingoonya and Areas Progress Association (2011-12), the Lyndhurst and District Progress Association (2011-12), the Pimba Progress Association (2011-12) and the Yunta District Hall Inc (2011-12).

Moved by Member Turner

Seconded by Member Frahn

That the OCA note receiving the financial statements and resolve that the Administration Grant be made available through the Community Support Package 2013-14 to the:



- *Fowlers Bay Progress Association at a total cost to the OCA of \$2,500.00.*
- *Kingoonya and Areas Progress Association at a total cost to the OCA of \$1,500.00.*
- *Lyndhurst and District Progress Association at a total cost to the OCA of \$2,500.00.*
- *Pimba Progress Association at a total cost to the OCA of \$2,500.00.*
- *Yunta District Hall Inc at a total cost to the OCA of \$3,500.00.*

Carried.

13. URGENT BUSINESS

13.1 Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure Local Government Stimulus Package

The GM advised the Members that the OCA had been successful in seeking funding through the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure to implement community parks at Lyndhurst and Yunta.

The GM advised that after consultation with the Lyndhurst and Yunta communities the OCA applied for the funding which will provide for outdoor furniture, landscaping, solar lights and signage. The OCA note that there will be a funding shortfall for the project and expect applications through the OCA Outback Grants Program to be received to ensure the project can be finalised.

Moved by Member Beltchev
Seconded by Member Allen

That the OCA executes the Funding Agreement for the provision of funding from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure Local Government Stimulus package to the value of \$25,150 for the Lyndhurst and Yunta Community Parks project.

Carried.

The GM confirmed that a requirement through the OCA's Outback Grants program is for communities who are successful in receiving funding, to display OCA acknowledgement signage.

13.2 PIRSA Debrief

Mr Paolo advised the Members that PIRSA have been active during the State election caretaker period compiling government briefs in readiness for the election outcomes. Mr Paolo confirmed that a lot of information is required post-election including the organisation of key meetings in the first few months after an election. Mr Paolo confirmed that he is keen to organise a meeting with the OCA and the Minister once the election outcomes are known.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDER

Nil.

The Chair requested that a list of current Confidential Orders be provided at the next OCA meeting for consideration.

Members Beltchev and Heylen departed from the meeting.

15. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Member Allen provided a deputation to the Members regarding opportunities for alternative power solutions in the outback.

The Chair requested that Member Allen provide the deputation again at the next meeting scheduled in March at Penong.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next OCA meeting has been scheduled to be held in Penong on Wednesday 19 March 2014.

The meeting closed at 3.45 pm.

