

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

19 March 2014

Meeting No. 44

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

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



# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at Penong commencing at 1.15 pm.

**Present:**

Ms C Woolford (Chair)

Mr P Allen, Mr G Beltchev, Mrs J Booth, Mrs F Frahn and Mrs M Heylen

### 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting at 1.15 pm and proceeded directly to the Confidential Order agenda item.

### 2. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

2.1 The OCA will, from time to time at the declaration of the Chair, hold discussions 'in camera' where any issues are subject to legal advice from the Crown Solicitors office or are of a sensitive nature.

**Moved by Member Frahn  
Seconded by Member Allen**

*That the OCA move into camera to undertake a review of current confidential orders in place.*

**Carried.**

**Moved by Member Frahn  
Seconded by Member Booth**

*That the meeting resume out of camera.*

**Carried.**

The meeting resumed out of 'in camera' session.

The Chair welcomed Mr Tony Shiphard, President of the Penong and Districts Progress Association to the OCA's regional meeting held at Penong.

Apologies were received from Member Turner and Mr Bengy Paolo, Director, Regions, Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA).



### 3. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

### 4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

### 5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2014 were circulated.

**Moved by Member Allen**  
**Seconded by Member Frahn**

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority meeting held on 20 February 2014, number 43 be adopted.*

**Carried.**

5.2 Business arising from minutes.

5.2.1 Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) (Ref. 11 September 2013 meeting)

The General Manager (GM) advised that there is nothing further to report on this matter, although discussions are continuing to occur at officer level with PIRSA.

5.2.2 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. Agenda item 5, 11 September 2013 meeting)

The General Manager (GM) advised that links through to PIRSA's website will be incorporated on the new OCA website. It is envisaged the new website will be available by the end of March 2014. This matter is ongoing.

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

The GM advised that this matter will be dealt with later in the agenda.

5.2.4 General Manager's Report (Ref. Agenda item 10, 20 February 2014 meeting)

The GM confirmed that more regular reporting to the Members will commence by the end of March 2014. Questions from Members resulting from this report will be referred to the Chair in the first instance.

5.2.5 Outback Grants Program policy (Ref. Agenda item 12.1, 20 February 2014)

The GM advised that the Outback Grants Program policy has been amended to reflect an increase in grant allocation through the Sport



and Recreational grants. The GM confirmed that the grant has not been released yet due to the State Government Election Caretaker Mode and it is envisaged that the grant will be released in the very near future.

- 5.2.6 Confidential Order Review (Ref. Agenda item 14, 20 February 2014)  
The GM advised that this matter will be dealt with later in the agenda.

## 6. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

## 7. OCA BUSINESS

### 7.1 Outback Waste Management (Ref. N 14 – 01/03)

The GM advised that the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) worked extensively over eighteen months to develop *the Infrastructure Plan for Regional and Remote Aboriginal Communities*, using a cross-government Infrastructure Taskforce including the Outback Communities Authority's (OCA) General Manager. The Plan was approved by Cabinet in May 2013 for internal government use only and identifies needs and priorities for infrastructure and essential services in Aboriginal communities as well as a number of reforms needed to improve infrastructure and essential services including landfills and waste management.

The GM confirmed that a Waste Forum was held in February 2013 to discuss Outback Waste where stakeholders were in general agreement to progress waste management in the Outback through a coordinated approach. It was noted that one of the high priorities was Outback landfills (including Aboriginal community landfills, OCA community landfills and other landfills).

The GM confirmed that DPC-Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division (AARD) had held discussions at the officer-level with the OCA and other stakeholders proposing the establishment of an 'Outback Waste Alliance'.

The GM advised that DPC-AARD pursued several options for agencies that could potentially offer partnerships to host the Alliance, including the OCA.

The GM confirmed that this matter had been discussed at the OCA's meeting held on 21 November 2013 where the following motion was carried:

**Moved by Member Allen**  
**Seconded by Member Beltchev**



That the OCA:

- *Notes the collaborative approach to waste management across the Outback.*
- *Agrees to the OCA hosting the APY Landfill project, subject to the full allocated funding (\$3.6 million) and negotiate with DPC-AARD to ascertain the resource and budget allocation to the OCA is commensurate with community and Government expectations. Negotiations to confirm that there will be no budgetary impact to the OCA and PIRSA for the OCA to co-ordinate the Outback Waste Alliance during its inception or operation, and subject to normal PIRSA appointment processes, to host two new positions on behalf of DPC-AARD:*
  - *Outback Waste Alliance Relationship and Program Manager.*
  - *Program Manager, Remote Landfills.*
- *Agrees to host the Outback Waste Management Alliance and to scope the Terms of Reference for the Alliance including deliverables within specified timeframes.*
- *Agrees to the OCA, with the support of PIRSA, negotiating with DPC-AARD arrangements for the sustainability of the program after three years with no obligation for Aboriginal community landfills into the future.*
- *Approves the OCA Chair to brief the Minister for State/Local Government Relations on the full proposal.*

**Carried.**

The GM advised that part of the negotiation process between PIRSA and DPC required that Crown Law advice be sought on the ability of the OCA to host the APY Landfill Project. This advice suggested that the OCA would not be permitted to host the APY Landfill Program.

The GM confirmed that PIRSA and DPC explored other options that would enable the OCA to be involved in the program; however these options could not see the OCA taking a lead in the management of the program.

The GM confirmed that in late February 2014, correspondence was received from DPC advising:

- DPC will now manage the APY Landfills Project, including the employment of a program manager;
- DPC will enter into discussions with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) regarding assistance with planning and management of infrastructure works and consultancies/contracts; and
- The allocation from the \$3.6 million project (\$40k) for the Outback Waste Alliance is to be managed as part of these new arrangements.



The GM advised that the last dot point means, unfortunately, that funding will not be allocated to the OCA, as previously discussed. However, the activities will still concentrate on developing the relationships required to progress resource recovery and recycling associated with APY Landfills. This may or may not see the formalisation of the Alliance.

The GM confirmed that he will continue discussions with DPC on the matter and will advise the Members as the matter progresses.

The Chair acknowledged the GM's extensive report and the amount of work involved regarding this matter. The Chair expressed her disappointment that the OCA would not be managing the APY Landfills Project. The Members agreed that it is disappointing that the OCA is unable to participate in the project particularly as the OCA has expert local knowledge in this area.

**Moved by Member Heylen  
Seconded by Member Beltchev**

*That the OCA:*

- *Notes the decision of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, that: DPC will manage the APY Landfills Project, including the employment of a program manager. DPC will enter into discussions with DPTI regarding assistance with planning and management infrastructure works and consultancies/contracts; and*
- *The allocation from the \$3.6 million project (\$40,000) for the Outback Waste Alliance is to be managed by DPC as part of these new arrangements.*
- *Rescinds the November 2013 motion relating to this matter.*

**Carried.**

7.2 Oodnadatta Project Manager (Ref. N 14 – 02/03)

The GM advised that the OCA and its predecessor, the Outback Areas Community Development Trust, has worked collaboratively over many years with the Dunjiba Community Council Incorporated and the Oodnadatta Progress Association Incorporated in the effective delivery of services for the Oodnadatta community. The services include the Community Waste Management System (CWMS), Aerodrome and the Australian Government funded Municipal Service Delivery (MUNS) program.

The GM confirmed that the OCA has managed the MUNS program for over 5 years and in 2013-14 received funding to deliver these services with some contracts provided to the Dunjiba Community Council using workers on the Community Development Employment Program (CDEP).

The GM advised that unfortunately the OCA struggles to acquit and achieve the MUNS program outcomes due to the management and

coordination capacity available within the community. The OCA sought to address this matter in late 2010 and into 2011 by re-assigning an OCA resource to manage the delivery of the program. However while progress was made, it became evident that issues arose because the Officer did not reside in Oodnadatta and visited only one week in every four. The GM confirmed that other competing financial priorities within the OCA did not allow more investment into a position that was based in Oodnadatta.

The GM confirmed that continuing OCA support has resulted in the OCA's Community Development Officer (CDO) visiting the Oodnadatta community every 3 months to monitor projects and programs funded in the township; however noting that this is not regular enough for effective management.

The GM advised that at the beginning of the current financial year the Australian Government introduced the Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP). Complete Personnel are the Remote Jobs and Communities Program provider for the region and their role is to provide meaningful activities to the unemployed people in the remote areas of the state with the aim of obtaining casual, part time or full time employment.

The GM advised that in 2013 the Dunjiba Community Council in partnership with Complete Personnel applied for funding of \$180,000 from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Community Development fund. The funding would provide employment and training opportunities in construction and civil works for jobseekers from the Dunjiba Community through the upgrade of a number of local buildings. Funding was also to be provided for the employment of a Project Manager for 12 months who will oversee these projects.

The GM advised that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has requested that the OCA manage this project on behalf of the Dunjiba Community Council which will also provide assistance with capacity issues for that organisation.

The GM confirmed that discussions with the Australian Government and Complete Personnel have proposed that the OCA engage a Project Manager for a 12-month term to be located at Oodnadatta who will be accountable to the GM of the OCA and will be required to work closely with stakeholders, including the Dunjiba Community Council and the Oodnadatta Progress Association to develop strategies that best ensure the proper management of local services within the Oodnadatta community.

Member Heylen enquired whether the OCA's current resources would be able to cope with the extra workload that this project may require. The GM confirmed that existing resources will be able to support this project without extenuating consequences.

The OCA Members agreed that the project is very worthwhile and that the OCA is looking forward to working with the community bodies in

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Oodnadatta to ensure that the community has access to ongoing municipal and community services.

**Moved by Member Beltchev**  
**Seconded by Member Allen**

*That the OCA at the conclusion of the caretaker period or as otherwise approved:*

1. *Execute the Funding Agreement for the provision of funding from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to the value of \$180,000 for the position of Project Manager Oodnadatta and the 3 construction projects that will provide employment and training opportunities for jobseekers from the Dunjiba Community.*
2. *Enters into a formal agreement with Complete Personnel for the provision of \$20,000 investment in the project.*
3. *Acknowledges the use of retained 2012-13 and 2013-14 MUNS funding together to the value of \$46,000 will be utilised in this project. As approved by Port Augusta Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC).*
4. *Enters into a formal agreement with either Dunjiba Community Council Inc or the Oodnadatta Progress Association Inc for the provision of accommodation for the Project Manager.*
5. *Commence the recruitment process for a contracted Project Manager for the project.*

**Carried.**

7.3 OCA Project Grant Assessment, Round 2, 2013-14 (Ref. N 14 – 03/03)

The GM advised that in February 2014 the OCA made a public call for applications for grants under the Project Grants Program from Progress Associations and Incorporated outback community organisations for projects seeking funding assistance. Applications closed on 3 March 2014. The GM advised that 17 applications were received.

The GM confirmed that applications are assessed on merit based on the following criteria and OCA priorities:

- Relevance to the OCA and SA Strategic Plans.
- Level, type and evidence of need.
- Extent of community benefit/outcome.
- Nature and size of project.
- Cost effectiveness.
- Consultation undertaken and support received from relevant stakeholders.
- Equitable funding and allocations across outback regions.
- Organisation's capacity to deliver the project.
- Existing infrastructure and resources of the organisation.
- Complementation of other programs.



- Priority will be given to smaller projects and applications seeking matching funding.

Extra weighting was given to the areas of:

- Relevance to the OCA and SA Strategic Plans.
- Extent of community benefit/outcome.
- Consultation undertaken and support received from relevant stakeholders.
- Upgrading town entrances/exists.

Member Heylen commented that all of the project applications received are very good community projects.

**Moved by Member Frahn**  
**Seconded by Member Allen**

*That at the conclusion of the caretaker period or as otherwise approved, the OCA approve the recommendations of the Project Grant Assessment Panel for the second round of the Project Grants program 2013-14 being funding for the:*

- *Coorabie and Districts Progress Association Inc.-Amount recommended \$2,285*
- *Marree Sports Club Inc.-Amount recommended \$2,000*
- *Marla Race Gymkhana Club Inc.-Amount recommended \$2,000*
- *William Creek Gymkhana Committee Inc.-Amount recommended \$1,000*
- *Isolated Children's Parents' Association Inc.- Amount recommended \$1,000*
- *Yunta District Hall Inc.-Amount recommended \$1,000*
- *Penong and Districts Progress Association Inc.- Amount recommended \$5,840*
- *Western United Tigers Inc.-Amount recommended \$9,352*
- *Blinman Progress Association Inc.-Amount recommended \$4,463.*
- *Farina Restoration Group Inc.- Restoration program No.6-Amount recommended \$10,000*
- *Great Tracks Cleanup Crew-Amount recommended \$4,226*
- *Gawler Ranges Progress Association Inc.-Amount recommended \$4,280*

*at a total cost to the OCA of \$47,446.*

**Carried.**

#### 7.4 Draft Debt Management Policy (Ref. N 14 – 04/03)

The Governance Manager (Gov M) advised that in January 2014 the OCA approved the use of a registered debt collection agency to deal with outstanding Andamooka Community Contribution payments. The Gov M



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confirmed that in considering outstanding debts owed to the OCA, the need for a policy on general debt management has been developed.

The Gov M confirmed that the OCA currently carries or has potential to carry debt from:

- levies or community contribution raised through section 21 *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*.
- the provision of goods and/or services.
- an expiation of an offence under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 2010*.

The Gov M advised that non-payment of an expiation fee is pursued by the Attorney General's Fines Enforcement and Recovery Unit. The OCA does not pursue the debt.

The Gov M tabled the proposed policy for approval by the Members.

**Moved by Member Booth**  
**Seconded by Member Allen**

*That the OCA adopt the Debt Management policy and informs stakeholders.*

**Carried.**

7.5 Community Audited Financial Returns (Ref. N 14 – 05/03)

The GM tabled a report advising that audited financial statements have been received from the Glendambo and District Progress Association for 2012-13.

The OCA Members noted receiving the financial statements and resolved that the Administration Grant be made available through the Community Support Package 2014-15 to the Glendambo and District Progress Association.

**Moved by Member Allen**  
**Seconded by Member Beltchev**

*That the OCA note:*

- *receiving the financial statements and resolve that the Administration Grant be made available through the Community Support Package 2014-15 to the Glendambo and District Progress Association at the conclusion of the caretaker period or as otherwise approved.*
- *note that the Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement process is currently under review and therefore the allocation of funding through the Administration Grant will be confirmed once the review has been finalised.*



**Carried.**

7.6 Amendment to Resolution- Yunta District Hall Inc Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreement (Ref. N 14 – 06/03)

The GM advised that at the OCA's September 2013 meeting (meeting number 38), agenda item 12.7 – Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) Agreements (Ref. N13 - 07/09), CARM Agreements returned signed from seven outback communities were accepted and executed by the OCA Board.

The GM confirmed that a recent review of OCA minutes and procedures identified the Yunta District Hall Inc CARM Agreement for 2013-14 was also executed at the meeting, although not formerly recorded in the meeting minutes.

**Moved by Member Frahn  
Seconded by Member Beltchev**

*That the OCA execute the 2013-14 Yunta District Hall Inc CARM agreement as approved on 11 September 2013, at meeting number 38 as per allocated funding in the approved 2013-14 budget.*

**Carried.**

**8. URGENT BUSINESS**

8.1 Draft OCA 2014-15 Business Plan and Budget.

The GM tabled the draft OCA 2014-15 Business Plan and Budget further to a workshop held earlier in the day.

The Members agreed that the 2014-15 Business Plan and Budget document is ready to be released for a 6-week consultation, noting minor amendments to Objective 2.

The Members acknowledged that preliminary work on the next OCA five-year Strategic Management Plan will commence early in the 2014-15 financial year and will focus on progressing the *oneOutback* project.

**Moved by Member Beltchev  
Seconded by Member Frahn**

*That the OCA agree to release the OCA draft 2014-15 Business Plan for a six-week public consultation.*

**Carried.**

Member Allen and the Gov M departed from meeting.



## 9. STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The GM tabled the OCA Strategic Management Plan, 2013-14 Business Plan progress report. The Members noted the progress. On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked the OCA staff for their diligence in ensuring the progress of the key strategies and acknowledging the constraints that the staff have worked within, due to the recent SA Government Election caretaker mode.

## 10. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair thanked the Penong and Districts Progress Association not only for their wonderful hospitality and beautiful food, but for having an open and serious conversation about how they view the OCA and their future relationship with the OCA.

The Chair reported that she and Member Heylen had attended the Premier's Adelaide Festival Reception which had proved to be a very worthwhile networking experience.

The Chair also advised that she also attended on behalf of the OCA the V8 Supercar event held in Adelaide and Minister Gago's International Women's Day breakfast event, again both occasions proving to be good networking opportunities valuable for the OCA.

The Chair confirmed that she will be chairing the rangelands working group on dry conditions on 25 March which will be looking at responses to the continuing dry conditions.

The Chair advised that she will be attending a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government Association of South Australia, Ms Wendy Campana to discuss the connections between the OCA and local government and will also be speaking at the Governors Leadership Program on 21 March.

## 11. MEMBER'S REPORT

Member Beltchev reported that he had been working on the OCA's draft 2014-15 Business Plan document and had also spoken at the recent Australian Medical Association conference.

Member Heylen reported that on 27 February along with the OCA's Chair she had attended the Premier's Adelaide Festival Reception which provided a good networking opportunity with State and Local Government contacts and along with Member Beltchev had provided input into OCA draft 2014-15 Business Plan document.

Member Booth reported that she had received a visit from Mr Trent Mader, Group Executive Director, Department of Primary Industries and Regions who was visiting the region to familiarise himself with the outback and outback issues. Mr



Mader also met several members of the OCA along with the previous Chair of the OCA.

## 12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEES REPORTS

### 12.1 Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC)

The GM advised that the ATMC meeting scheduled for 11 March had been rescheduled for 26 March 2014 to be held in Andamooka.

The GM confirmed that the formal opening of the ATMC Office and community recreation area held on 4 March had been a success and was well attended.

## 13. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The GM advised that the period since the last Board meeting has been entirely within the 'Caretaker' period before the State election. This period is used by agencies to prepare for the incoming government by preparing briefings and finalizing all outstanding matters relating to the outgoing government. The Office for the OCA is not immune to this process and has been working with PIRSA in these matters.

The Office continues to be busy managing the business of the OCA and an increasing workload in managing the corporate responsibilities assigned to the Office by PIRSA.

The GM advised that he had attended meetings with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet officers to progress a model for the ongoing management of services and support to the Dunjiba Community in Oodnadatta and the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management (SAAL NRM) meeting held on 26 and 27 February 2014.

The GM provided a summary of activities undertaken by OCA personnel including the:

- Marla instrument landing.
- Kingoonya Wind Sock project.
- OCA's website – technical issues being addressed.
- Blinman Public Conveniences – meeting with Blinman Hotel and Store on 13/3/14.
- Approval to install a Dump Point in Andamooka.
- Community consultation regarding the development of the Andamooka Community Hub.
- Approval received from the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) to occupy Portion 476 for Communication Purposes – to erect an antenna for the narrow cast radio station, Big Red Radio 88FM.



- Community Administrator is now working from Iron Knob every Thursday and Port Augusta every Friday.
- Process to implement a waste management solution in Iron Knob as identified in the community plan.
- Assessment of the OCA Project Grants' applications.
- Proposed park at Lyndhurst.
- Infrastructure for the Yunta town park.
- Copley war memorial project management.
- Outback youth week project.

The GM also advised that the waste facility at Iron Knob is being reviewed and it is envisaged that waste skips will be provided for the removal of household waste.

The GM confirmed that the OCA will soon have to commence consultation on the 2014-15 CARM Agreement for Iron Knob and Andamooka and a Community Contribution Scheme if either of the two communities indicate that this is their preferred management option for 2014-15.

#### **14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next OCA meeting has been scheduled to be held in Port Augusta on Thursday 22 May 2014.

The meeting closed at 2.50 pm.