



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

8 August 2024

Meeting No. 142

Members:

J Ferguson OAM (Presiding Member)

L Day, W Fennell, N Sylvanius, A Triggs, A Vaughan ASM, R Wallace

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J Ferguson".

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the OCA Boardroom, Port Augusta
8 August 2024 at 9:35am

Participating:

J Ferguson OAM (Presiding Member), L Day, W Fennell,
A Triggs, T Vaughan ASM and R Wallace (Members)
M Howard (Director) and J Greatbatch (Executive Officer)

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

An apology has been received from Member Sylvaniaus.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Standing OCA Declaration of Interest 2024-25	
Member	Declaration of Interest
Presiding Member	Director, Invasive Animals Ltd Chair/Director, Nature Foundation Ltd Director, Frankenia Pty Ltd Member of the Parachilna Progress Association Secretary of the Beltana Progress Association
Member Day	Chair, Andamooka Opal Fields Tourism Association Inc Chair, SA Arid Lands – Kingoonya Landscape Group Chair, Flinders Ranges and Outback SA Tourism Member, Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Member, BHP Stakeholder Engagement Group
Member Fennell	Board Member, Operation Flinders Foundation Partner, Piper Alderman
Member Sylvaniaus	Treasurer, Flinders Ranges Tourism Operators Association Executive
Member Triggs	Director, Mental Health, Eyre and Far North Local Health Network
Member Vaughan	CE, Royal Flying Doctor Service Central Operations Board Member, Regional Development Australia Far North
Member Wallace	Partner, Fowlers Bay Caravan Park

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2024, Meeting No. 141 were circulated.

All Members agreed that the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority meeting held on 19 June 2024, meeting 141 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Carried.

4.2 Business arising from minutes.

4.2.1 The Director continues to partner with the Royal Flying Doctor Service to deliver high speed public WiFi across Outback SA. This item is ongoing.

4.2.2 The 2024-25 Community Contribution for Andamooka has been approved by the Minister for Local Government and declared. This item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.3 The 2024-25 Community Contribution for Iron Knob has been approved by the Minister for Local Government and declared. This item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.4 The 2024-25 Community Contribution for Leigh Creek has been approved by the Minister for Local Government and declared. This item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.5 2024-25 CARM agreements approved at the June meeting have been issued to communities and staff are following up with communities that did not meet deadlines in 2023-24 therefore this item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.6 Consultation on the revised Public Consultation Policy and Procedures commenced on 27 June 2024 and closed 29 July 2024 therefore this item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.7 The 2024-25 meeting schedule has been published on the OCA website. This item can be removed from the action list.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Authorisations under Treasurer's Instruction 8 (Ref. N24-01/08)

The Authority approved the current Financial Authorisations and Delegations at their September 2023 meeting, sub delegated to staff by the Presiding Member. The Financial Authorisations and Delegations have been updated to reflect current positions.

The Outback Communities Authority approves the updated Financial Authorisations and Delegations for Outback Communities Authority staff.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.2 Use of Financial Authorisations 2023-24 (Ref. N24-02/08)

A record of financial authorisation actions for 2023-24 was tabled for the Authority to review.

The Outback Communities Authority note the use of financial delegations for 2023-24 by the Presiding Member and staff as described in the record of actions.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.3 Financial Management Compliance Program 2024-25 (Ref. N24-03/08)

The 2024-25 Financial Management Compliance Program report was tabled for the Authority to review.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the 2024-25 Financial Management Compliance Program report.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.4 Revised Risk Management Policy (Ref. N24-04/08)

The Risk Management Policy has been updated and tabled for the Authority to review. As this is an internal policy it does not require community consultation.

The Outback Communities Authority approves the revised Risk Management Policy.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.5 Risk Register - Review (Ref. N24-05/08)

The Director tabled the Risk Register that is to be reviewed annually by the Authority. Minor updates have been made to the Risk Register including the impact of the upcoming Machinery of Government change from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport to the Department for Housing and Urban Development, installation of Starlink on three vehicles so staff will still have connectivity when travelling remotely, and improved maintenance of public toilets due to increased State Government appropriation.

The Authority requested a future workshop to discuss risk appetite further.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the Risk Register as reviewed.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.6 Revised Public Consultation Policy and Procedures (Ref. N24-06/08)

The Authority endorsed the draft Public Consultation Policy and Procedures for consultation at their June 2024 meeting. Consultation commenced 27 June 2024 and concluded 29 July 2024. Only one response was received during the

consultation period saying the draft policy and procedures had been read and there was no further comment.

The Outback Communities Authority approves the revised Public Consultation Policy and Procedures.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.7 Dog and Cat Management Plan (Ref. N24-07/08)

The Director tabled the draft Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024-2029 for the Authority to review.

The Board thanked staff for the significant effort it has taken to get the Dog and Cat Management Plan to this stage.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the draft Dog and Cat Management Plan be released for a one month consultation period.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.8 Strategic Blueprint for Outback SA (Ref. N24-08/08)

One of the focus areas in the 2024-25 Business Plan and Budget is to develop a Strategic Blueprint for Outback SA with an action plan to consult on and then publish a Strategic Blueprint for Outback SA that brings together the Authority's aspirations and vision with those of Outback Communities. The draft Strategic Blueprint is currently out for consultation.

The Director expects there to be expenditure on aspects of the Blueprint's development such as graphic design and printing, travel, accommodation, venue hire, catering, facilitation and research costs.

Members acknowledged efforts by staff throughout the Strategic Blueprint process.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the proposed expenditure anticipated in the development of the Strategic Blueprint for Outback SA.

**All Agreed.
Carried.**

6.9 XII International Rangelands Congress Adelaide 2025 (N24-09/08)

The Authority considered a request from the Pastoral Unit to support the XII International Rangelands Congress to be held in Adelaide from 2-6 June 2025.

The Outback Communities Authority would like to support the International Rangelands Congress but requested for the Director to seek further information on sponsorship packages and determine appropriate support with the Presiding Member.



6.10 Leigh Creek Update (Ref. N24-10/08)

The Director provided an update on the Leigh Creek transformation process which included the following:

- No further update from the Task Force
- High level of compliance with 2023-24 Community Contributions
- Rachael Schmerl is the Community Partnerships Coordinator for Leigh Creek and will be attending the AGM of the Leigh Creek Residents & Ratepayers Association
- Working with Katharine Lockwood on the 2024/25 budget
- Discussions re the landfill site
- Negotiation of Copley CCS for payment of waste collection services

The Authority noted the Leigh Creek update.

6.11 Finance Report (Ref. N24-11/08)

The Director tabled the finance report as at 30 June 2024. The Director and Executive Officer are working through the Authority's 2023-24 financial statements with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's finance team which may result in some changes to the end of year financial position.

The board thanked the staff for their efforts in getting an accurate financial report.

The Authority noted the finance report as at 30 June 2024.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Presiding Member reported on activities since the June 2024 meeting which included the following:

- Drought Resilience Plan for Outback SA – now with CSIRO for review
- Attending Strategic Blueprint meetings at Leigh Creek, Beltana and Blinman with upcoming meetings at Oodnadatta, William Creek, Marree, Innamincka, Marla and Coober Pedy
- Attending a State Bushfire Coordination Committee meeting

9. MEMBERS REPORT

No Member reports were provided.

10. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director provided a report on the following activities that have occurred since the June meeting:

- Attended the first meeting of the Flinders and Outback Bushfire Coordination Committee.
 - Overlap with ZEMC which will be raised during the statewide forum in October
- Good result with the 2023/24 finance report
- Addressing some issues with the WiFi project
- Will be on leave from 26 August to 27 September, back at work on 30 September
- Port Augusta city master plan in development
- Worked with APOMA on their 2024/25 budget with the CARM/CCS subsequently accepted by the community
- Salesforce now 'live'
- Revised website expected to go live in mid December
- Special General Meetings held at Aroona (Copley) and Oodnadatta and both Associations now have functioning committees
- Accountancy services engaged for Aroona, Oodnadatta and Marree
- Attended a meeting of the Marree & Districts Progress Association with the Community Partnerships Coordinator to discuss their finances and the LRCI projects
- Ghan Railway Heritage Trail signage project

11. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Members noted the Correspondence Register as at 30 July 2024.

12. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 18 September 2024 and will be held via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting closed at 12:08pm



18/09/2024