



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

17 April 2024

Meeting No. 139

Vide electronic means in accordance with section 10 (5) of the
Outback Communities (Administration & Management) Act 2009

Members:

J Ferguson OAM (Presiding Member)

L Day, W Fennell, N Sylvania, A Triggs, A Vaughan ASM

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Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams
17 April 2024 at 8:04am

Participating:

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

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

| Standing OCA Declaration of Interest 2023-24 | |
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| 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 Board Member, 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 Sylvanius | President, Beltana Progress Association Member, World Heritage Community Reference Group 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 |

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2024, Meeting No. 138 were circulated.

All Members agreed that the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority meeting held on 20 March 2024, meeting 138 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 Business Conduct Policy and the Business Conduct - Member Induction and Procedures document have been updated and will be reviewed during this meeting. The item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.3 CARM and CCS consultation continues with Andamooka, Iron Knob and Leigh Creek until 20 May 2024.

4.2.4 The Director is finalising the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 4 project submission to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. This item can be removed from the action list.

4.2.5 Member Vaughan and the Director have reviewed the community nominations for the SA Outback Roads Consultative Forum. This item can be removed from the action list.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Business Plan and Budget 2024/25 (Ref. N24-01/04)

The Presiding Member tabled the draft Business Plan and Budget 2024/25. The document requires endorsement by the Authority prior to it being released for a one month consultation period.

Any feedback received during the consultation period will be collated and provided to the Authority for consideration at their May 2024 meeting.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the draft Business Plan and Budget 2024/25 to be released for consultation with communities.

All Agreed.
Carried.



6.2 Outback Communities Authority Business Conduct Policy and Business Conduct Member Induction and Procedures (Ref. N24-02/04)

The Director tabled updated versions of both the Authority's Business Conduct Policy and Business Conduct – Member Induction and Procedures documents.

Once the documents have been approved by the Authority they will be made available on the OCA's website. The document is an internal policy and therefore does not need to be released for a one month consultation period.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the Business Conduct Policy and Business Conduct – Member Induction and Procedures with wording on conflict of duty to be amended as discussed.

All Agreed.
Carried.

6.3 Community Contribution Scheme – Revised Policy and Procedures (Ref. N24-03/04)

The Director tabled the proposed Community Contribution Scheme Policy and Procedures for Members to review. Once endorsed by the Authority, the policy needs to be released for a one month consultation period.

An amendment to the document was discussed changing the consultation period from four weeks to one month.

The Outback Communities Authority endorses the new Community Contribution Scheme Policy and Procedures with an amendment as discussed so that a one month consultation period can be commenced.

All Agreed.
Carried.

6.4 Potential Small Amendments to the Sponsorship Policy and Procedures and the Small Projects Funding Policy and Procedures (Ref. N24-04/04)

The Director tabled a suggested small amendment to the Sponsorship Policy and Procedures. Currently the policy specifies that Associations and individuals will only be eligible for sponsorship once in any financial year, however there are many Associations that hold multiple events each year. It is suggested the Policy and Procedures are amended to allow for up to two sponsorship applications each year.

The Director also tabled a suggested small amendment to the Small Projects Funding Policy and Procedures changing wording to make it clear that priority is given to Progress Association submissions. Funding applications from other Associations will be considered if there are resources still available after eligible Progress Association submissions have been approved.

The Outback Communities Authority:

- *Endorses the proposed change to the Sponsorship Policy and Procedures with Associations and individuals now eligible to apply twice each year.*



- *Accepts broader eligibility for Small Projects Funding however priority will be given to eligible Progress Association applications.*

All Agreed.
Carried.

6.5 Small Projects Funding – Projects for Approval (Ref. N24-05/04)

The Director tabled a list of applications received for Small Projects funding. The application process was open from 1 February to 31 March 2024.

Staff have assessed the applications against the policy and criteria in the application form. Of the 11 applications received, two have been deemed eligible for sponsorship funding and have been assessed as successful in that category. Two submissions are for moveable items and do not meet the definition of 'project'. Two have been put on hold until the outcome of the Regional Precincts Partnerships funding application is known and one is inadequately scoped and staff will work with that Progress Association so they can re-submit for the next round.

Staff have recommended five projects be approved for Small Projects funding which combined total funding of \$48,676.

The Outback Communities Authority approves expenditure of \$48,676 on the five recommended projects, according to Section 9 of the Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009.

All Agreed.
Carried.

6.6 Dog Registration Fees for 2024-25 (Ref. N24-06/04)

Suggested dog registration fees for the unincorporated area of South Australia for 2024-25 were tabled for the Authority's review, noting the fees have not been increased from 2023-24.

A recommendation has also been made to waive fees for the period 18 April to 30 June 2024 in order to encourage owners to register their cats and dogs during the vet clinic held at Copley on 18 April 2024 which is available to residents of Copley, Leigh Creek and the surrounding district.

The OCA does not currently charge for cat registrations.

The Outback Communities Authority:

1. *Approves the dog registration fees as tabled for 2024-25 and for staff to upload these into Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) by 31 May 2024.*
2. *Approves the waiving of dog registration fees for the period 18 April to 30 June 2024.*

All Agreed.
Carried.



6.7 Leigh Creek Update (Ref. N24-07/04)

The Director provided an update on Leigh Creek including the official opening of the Leigh Creek Resource Recovery Centre to be opened by the Member for Stuart on Tuesday 23 April 2024.

6.8 Finance Report (Ref. N24-08/04)

The Director provided a verbal update on the projected end of financial year position.

The Authority noted the update.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

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

- Notification of a change in the Minister for Local Government due to the Hon Geoff Brock MP stepping down from ministerial duties.
- The draft Outback SA Regional Drought Resilience Plan is in the process of being prepared. The engagement process has provided useful information in relation to consulting with outback communities.

9. MEMBERS REPORT

No Members reports were provided due to time constraints.

10. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director provided a report on the following:

- SA Outback Roads Consultative Forum nominations received were considered with Member Vaughan and the preferred community representative for west of the Stuart Highway was identified.
- LRCI Program Phase 4 project submission is ongoing with further detail being provided.
- An audit mandate letter has been received notifying the Presiding Member of the 2023-24 audit process.
- Recruitment process – the Assets and Works Manager position has been awarded to Mark Brown. Interviews have been held for the Community Partnerships Coordinator and Communications and Content Lead and an approvals process will be instigated for the preferred candidates.
- A partnership with Adelaide University was initiated for a vet services trip to Marree.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 21, Wednesday 22 May 2024 and will be held at the OCA office, Port Augusta.

The meeting closed at 9:24 am.

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