

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

23 October 2020

Meeting No. 96

Members:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member)

J Fort, F Frahn, M Marsland, C Michelmore, T Roach, L Warmington

4.2 Business arising from minutes.

The Board noted the reference to the scheduled September 2020 meeting was deferred until October in order to allow further time for deliberation by the Outback Futures Committee.

4.2.1 Presiding Member's Report – Response to the Premier of South Australia (Ref. agenda item 9, Meeting No. 93)

The Director confirmed that correspondence has been forwarded to the Premier of South Australia regarding the receipt of the Outback Futures Committee's report. This item to be removed from the action list, the response to Livestock SA is pending.

4.2.2 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. agenda item 4.3.6, Meeting No.95)

The Director confirmed that the 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget document along with the 2019-20 Report Card has been provided to stakeholders, therefore this matter to be removed from the action list.

4.2.3 Presiding Member's Report – Response to Deputy Premier regarding Outback Futures Consultation (Ref. agenda item 4.3.7, Meeting No 95)

The Director confirmed that correspondence has been forwarded to the Deputy Premier regarding her attendance at the Outback Futures consultation meeting, therefore this item to be removed from the action list.

4.2.4 2020-21 Board Meeting Schedule - Presentation (Ref. agenda item 6.5, Meeting No.95)

The Director referred to the presentation provided earlier in the day regarding the Aussie Outback Code (Tread Lightly initiative), therefore this item to be removed from the action list.

4.2.5 Regional Development Australia Far North Quarterly Report (Ref. agenda item 6.6, Meeting No.95)

The Director confirmed that the COVID Impact Data August 2020 report was provided to the Members on 14 October, therefore this item to be removed from the action list.

4.2.6 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. agenda item 8, Meeting No.95)

The Director confirmed that the title of the Business Plan Progress Report has been amended as per discussion at the August 2020 meeting, therefore this item to be removed from the action list. It is noted that a workshop will be held in February 2021 to consider flexible planning relating to the OCA's 5-year Strategic Management Plan.

The Director referred to the current cash at bank balance which is currently inflated due to the early receipt of grant payments.

The Director gave a summary of Drought Communities Programme projects that are yet to be finalised and major infrastructure maintenance works that will need to be undertaken in the near future.

The Board again noted that the format of the financial reports is unhelpful in managing the business of the OCA and highlighted the need for a financial reporting system that more accurately reflects OCA project lines.

Moved Member Michelmore
Seconded Member Frahn

That the OCA requires a financial reporting system that more accurately reflects project lines and therefore request that the Director take the opportunity of the Machinery of Government changes to address this issue with the Attorney-General's Department.

Carried.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair put forward a Pastoral Board consultation opportunity for the OCA to provide feedback on the Pastoral Act Review by COB 23 October 2020.

The Board noted the draft response letter and endorse the letter being forwarded by the deadline.

8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2020 -21 Business Plan Action Plan. The Director was pleased to advise that all projects are currently on track and that at an operational level, it continues to be business as usual for Office for the OCA staff while being mindful of COVID restrictions.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action.

9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Presiding Member summarised the activities he has been involved in leading up to the OCA meeting:

- The Presiding Member attended Outback Futures community consultation meetings in Marree, Blinman, Yunta, Iron Knob and Penong.
- 21 and 22 September the Presiding Member attended an Outback Futures Committee (OFC) meeting where the results of the consultation process were analysed and considered, a process was decided on for providing feedback to the communities including a report on what we heard during the consultation.

The Director also provided a list of meetings that he has attended including meeting with the Minister regarding the Outback Futures project, Leigh Creek Task Force meeting, Outback Futures consultation meeting held in Penong and a community meeting in Andamooka.

The Director has been invited, on behalf of the OCA, to participate on the Growth State Water Infrastructure Corridor's Project Steering Committee.

The Governance Manager has received approval from the Director to commence on the sale of properties in Iron Knob that have been identified for non-payment of rates pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999.

The Director tabled an extensive list of activities undertaken by the Office for the OCA since the August meeting.

12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORT – OUTBACK FUTURES

The Presiding Member and Outback Futures Project Manager provided an update regarding the progress of the Outback Futures Project including:

- The initial consultation occurred in August 2020 with 10 community meetings scheduled, attended by approximately 120 people
- 42 responses were received either online or in hard copy
- A summary document 'What we heard' has been developed identifying the key themes, patterns and issues and has been distributed to stakeholders along with a compilation of 'raw' feedback and a letter from the Presiding Member
- A two-day meeting was held in September to consider consultation outcomes and as a result the 'Future Directions and Governance of the OCA' report has been developed
- Phase 2 of the Project will commence in November 2020 with an aim for maximum participation and engagement using an interactive webinar platform that functions well with low band width.

The Outback Futures Project Manager confirmed that a briefing will be provided to the Minister soon to give an update on the Outback Futures Project.

The Presiding Member advised that a report and recommendations are intended to be provided to the Minister early in 2021, with a draft provided to the OCA Board for consideration at its December meeting.

The OCA note and support the Section 11 Committee update.

The OCA request a briefing be provided to the Minister with an update on the Outback Futures Project.

The OCA note and support Phase 2 of the Outback Futures Project.

13. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Director tabled the Correspondence Register for the period 13 August to 9 October 2020.

The OCA noted the Correspondence Register.


14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The OCA noted that the next scheduled teleconference meeting is to be held on 19 November if required, or the next formal meeting is scheduled for 16, 17 December 2020 in Adelaide.

The meeting closed at 12:30pm.


16-12-20