

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

20 August 2020

Meeting No. 95

Members:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member)

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

# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Outback Communities Authority Office, 12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta

20 August at 9.15 am

Present:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member), J Fort, F Frahn,  
M Marsland, C Michelmore, T Roach and L Warmington (OCA Members)  
M Sutton (Director, OCA), B Gough (Governance Manager, OCA)  
and B Honan (Business Services Manager, OCA).

### 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Presiding Member welcomed everyone to meeting 95 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) being the first meeting that Members have been able to attend since COVID-19 restrictions were put in place.

No apologies have been received.

### 2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

The Presiding Member informed the Board that he no longer has a business interest in Flinders Management Services, effective 30 June 2020.

### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2020 were circulated.

Moved by Member Marsland  
Seconded by Member Roach

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 18 June 2020, meeting number 93 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting with amendment.*

Carried.

4.2 The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2020 were circulated.

Moved by Member Roach  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 2 July 2020, meeting number 94 as circulated to Members, be adopted with amendment, as a true and accurate record of that meeting.*

Carried.

4.3 Business arising from minutes.

4.3.1 Risk Management – Strategic Management Planning (Ref. agenda item 6.6, Meeting No.87)

The Director confirmed that this matter has been dealt with as part of the Risk Register review and can therefore be removed from the action list.

4.3.2 Outback Futures Project (Ref. agenda item 6.1, Meeting No. 93)

The Director confirmed that the Terms of Reference have been finalised and that the oneOutback newspaper special edition has been produced, therefore this matter to be removed from the action list.

4.3.3 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (Ref. agenda item 6.2, Meeting No.93)

The Director confirmed that projects have been confirmed for this program, therefore this matter to be removed from the action list.

4.3.4 Declaration of Community Contribution – Andamooka (Ref. agenda item 6.4, Meeting No 93)

The Director confirmed that the declaration of the community contribution for Andamooka was gazetted on 6 August 2020, therefore this item to be removed from the action list.

4.3.5 Declaration of Community Contribution – Iron Knob (Ref. agenda item 6.5, Meeting No.93)

The Director confirmed that the declaration of the community contribution for Iron Knob was gazetted on 6 August 2020, therefore this item to be removed from the action list.

4.3.6 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. agenda item 8, Meeting No.93)

The Director referred to the workshop held the day before where the 2019-20 Report Card was provided for consideration to the Board, therefore this matter to be removed from the action list. The Members agreed that the Report Card should accompany the 2020-21 Business Plan and Budget when it is forwarded to stakeholders.

4.3.7 Presiding Member's Report (Ref. agenda item 9, Meeting No.93)

The Director confirmed that the responses to the Premier of South Australia has been completed and therefore this item to be removed from the action list, however correspondence to the President of Livestock SA is pending.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Use of Delegations (Ref. N20-01/08)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the record of actions taken under delegation for 2019-20, noting the use of financial delegation conferred on the Office for the OCA as assigned by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (now the Department of Infrastructure and Transport).

The OCA noted the use of financial delegations for 2019-20 by the Office for the Outback Communities Authority as set out in the record of actions as tabled.

6.2 Drought Communities Programme (Round 2) (Ref. N20-02/08)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who referred to the OCA meeting held on 20 February 2020 when the Board endorsed a list of projects to be submitted to the Drought Communities Programme, Round 2. The Director confirmed that the following projects have been approved for funding:

- Andamooka – Community facilities
- Beltana – Cellar Art Gallery
- Blinman – Community hall renovations
- Copley – Community hall renovations
- Iron Knob – Solar panel installation
- Manna Hill – Community hall renovations
- Olary – Community generator
- Oodnadatta – Community hall toilets
- Parachilna – Public conveniences and shower facility replacement
- Penong – Community storage shed
- William Creek – Race club kitchen upgrade
- Yunta – Infrastructure upgrades
- Outback water station upgrades – Marree, Innamincka, Kingoonya, Yunta, Beltana, Marla and Oodnadatta.

The OCA noted the list of projects approved for funding through the Drought Communities Programme second allocation of \$1m for the unincorporated areas of South Australia, and were very pleased to hear that positive comments have been received from the outback communities approved to receive funding.

Moved by Member Michelmore  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*That the OCA forward correspondence to the Hon David Littleproud MP, providing a copy to Mr Rowan Ramsay MP acknowledging gratitude from the Outback community for the Drought Communities Programme Funding Round 2 allocation.*

Carried.

6.3 OCA Risk Management Register - Review (Ref. N20-03/08)

The Chair referred discussion to the Governance Manager who tabled the OCA's Risk Register, recently reviewed and updated.

The Governance Manager advised that the OCA's Risk Management Policy outlines its commitment to the proper management of risk to maximise opportunities and to minimise the effect of hazards. The Governance Manager explained the minor amendments that have been made to the register.

Moved by Member Marsland  
Seconded by Member Warmington

*That the OCA endorse the tabled Risk Register as reviewed and that the Director provides assurance to the Board at each meeting that risks are being appropriately managed in accordance with the risk register.*

Carried.

6.4 Financial Management Compliance Program (Ref. N20-04/08)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the OCA's 2019-20 Financial Management Compliance Program assessment and also a Minute received from the Acting Director, Financial and Procurement Services in the Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure. The Director referred to the Minute confirming that the Control Self-Assessments analysis indicates a high level of compliance with the financial management compliance objectives. This has resulted in reasonable assurance that OCA operations are being managed and that no major findings were identified that would result in a significant impact to the OCA's financial operations.

Moved by Member Michelmore  
Seconded by Member Fort

*That the OCA endorse the OCA's 2019-20 Financial Management Compliance Program assessment and note the Minute from the Acting Director, Financial and Procurement Services in the Department of Transport and Infrastructure to the Director of the Office for the OCA re the Financial Management Compliance Program Report 2019-20 and*

Carried.

6.5 OCA Board Meeting Schedule 2020-21 (Ref. N20-05/08)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled proposed meeting dates for the remainder of 2020-21.

Moved by Member Warmington  
Seconded by Member Marsland

*That the OCA resolve to meet on the following dates, at the recommended locations, noting that if the meeting schedule is to change, notification will appear on the OCA website immediately.*

- *Wednesday 19, Thursday 20, August 2020 at Port Augusta.*
- *Wednesday 23, Thursday 24 September 2020 at Port Augusta.*
- *Wednesday 21, Thursday 22 October 2020 at Port Augusta.*
- *Thursday 19 November 2020, a teleconference (to be confirmed).*
- *Wednesday 16, Thursday 17 December 2020, Adelaide (to be confirmed).*
- *Thursday 21 January 2021\*, a teleconference (to be confirmed).*
- *Wednesday 24, Thursday 25 February 2021, Port Augusta.*
- *Thursday 25 March 2021, a teleconference (to be confirmed).*
- *Wednesday 28, Thursday 29 April 2021, Yunta.*
- *Thursday 20 May 2021, a teleconference (to be confirmed).*
- *Wednesday 23, Thursday 24 June 2021, Port Augusta.*

Carried.

6.6 Regional Development Australia Far North Quarterly Report to June 2020 (Ref. N20-06/08)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Regional Development Australia Far North Quarterly Report to June 2020. The Director referred to significant achievements highlighted throughout the report.

The Director explained the economic outputs for the Outback region.

The OCA noted the Regional Development Australia Far North quarterly report to 30 June 2020.

6.7 Finance Report 30 June 2020

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Finance Report as at 30 June 2020.

The Business Services Manager explained variances across the budget and advised that due to the move to the Attorney General's Department it is very likely that there will be a delay in loading the 2020-21 budget.

The Board noted the Finance Report as at 30 June 2020.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2020 -21 Business Plan Action Plan. The Director referred to the new format of the Business Plan

Action Plan explaining that reporting is against one month into the new financial year and therefore is quite limited. The Director informed the Board that quite a few of the strategies are being captured during the current Outback Futures Consultation.

The OCA Noted the Business Plan update and format and would like to investigate the implementation of a flexible planning process that will allow the Board to be more adaptive.

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:

- 7 July the Presiding Member participated in an ABC interview regarding the Outback Futures Consultation explaining the background to the community engagement and encouraging Outback people to participate in the consultation.
- 14 July the Presiding Member attended the Drought Forum held in Hawker which was a follow up to the Forum held in February 2020. The Hon. Tim Whetstone MP was present providing a personal response to matters raised at the February Forum and offering the opportunity for people to comment on ongoing issues; matters raised included kangaroo management, restocking and the over-subscribed water infrastructure subsidy scheme. The Presiding Member informed the Board that after the forum he attended a dinner at the invitation from the Hon. Stephen Marshall MP Premier of South Australia where the Hon. David Speirs, the Hon. Tim Whetstone MP and the Hon. Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP also attended. The discussion over dinner provided the opportunity to discuss matters specific to the Outback. Also on 14 July the Presiding Member approved a letter to DPTI relating to standard end of financial year processes, regarding the risk of fraud in the OCA.
- Late in June the Presiding Member participated in many discussions with the Director regarding planning for the Outback Futures consultation, ensuring that the Outback Futures Committee were in a confident position leading up to the commencement of the consultation process.
- 4 August the Presiding Member participated in a telephone conference with OCA Members regarding the Outback Futures Committee, the appointment of the Project Manager and provided a briefing regarding the Outback Futures Consultation.
- 18 August the Presiding Member responded to an interview request from ABC Adelaide regarding the progress of the Outback Futures Consultation, providing the opportunity to explain the consultation and the themes that had been raised during community meetings already held.

The OCA noted the Presiding Member's report.

## 10. DEPUTATION

Nil.

## 10. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort summarised the projects that she has been involved in:

- **Collaborative Funding Stills and Moving Pictures Station Stays 2020: Investment \$30K (SATC/FRO)**

Member Fort advised that she has recently participated in a 6 day journey to the Flinders for a photo and videography shoot funded using collaborative money from SATC/FRO and she is working on a 5 day Outback itinerary scheduled for late September.

- **Building Better Regions: Rising Stars Investment \$19,500 (Commonwealth)**  
Member Fort explained that the Rising Stars project is a coaching and mentoring program directed at developing local leaders and encouraging entrepreneurship in the Flinders Ranges and Outback region and it is a 5 month program, delivered online. Its purpose is to tap into potential leaders and to nurture their aspirations – in doing so there will be improved capacity at local levels to offer leadership that meets local needs. Broader social benefits beyond the term of funding will bring renewed vision to the region.

Member Fort confirmed that Flinders Ranges and Outback (FRO) is now in the process of determining the selection of 4 candidates from the region.

- **Tread Lightly Campaign: Investment \$30K (OCA)**

Member Fort advised that the main focus of this campaign is to inform visitor behavior - about respect for the environment, for traditional owners and for each other; it is a grass roots campaign to educate and prepare visitors by offering guidance on how to manage impact on the region in which they travel - the intention being that the messages are adaptable outside of FRO.

Member Fort confirmed that the Project timeline is July 2020 to December 2020 and that the first project deliverable - develop brand identity suite has been achieved. Member Fort confirmed that she would be pleased to provide a presentation to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

Member Fort explained that FRO is faced with where resources and funding is providing steep challenges which is likely to impact on the production of future Visitor Guides.

In closing, Member Fort advised that the Outback Loop cluster are reasonably positive planning for travelers in the future, adding that Arkaroola and Innamincka are on the improve.

Member Michelmores departed from the meeting.

## 11. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director confirmed that as a result of a Cabinet re-shuffle in late July and the subsequent Machinery of Government move, the OCA will report to the Deputy Premier, the Hon. Vicki Chapman MP in her capacity as the Minister for Planning and Local Government (within the Attorney General's Department). The Director advised that although the move will occur in the near future, no actual date has been confirmed.



The Director confirmed that the Outback Futures Project is progressing well and although the consultation timelines are challenging the Committee are coping well.

The Director referred to COVID-19 which has unfortunately resulted in the cancellation of a lot of outback events.

The Director advised that approval has been received for nominated projects under the Commonwealth Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program which will result in the OCA working with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport to deliver over \$2.4m of projects in the Outback.

The Director confirmed that the OCA recently purchased an allotment of land at Andamooka which will be used as a storage yard.

Member Michelmore returned to the meeting.

The Director acknowledged the outstanding effort by the Office for the OCA staff and their commitment to meeting competing deadlines and tabled an extensive list of activities that staff have been involved in.

## 12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORT – OUTBACK FUTURES

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

- the consultation process was launched on 6 July
- discussion papers are available from the OCA website
- successive mail outs to outback stakeholders have occurred
- the production of the oneOutback special edition (dedicated to the Outback Futures consultation
- frequent social media posts have been gathering momentum; and the
- organisation of 9 community meetings has occurred.

The Director assured the Members that the Office for the OCA has made every effort to ensure that the Outback community is aware of the consultation and meeting venues with the use of direct mail outs, regular social media posts and website updates and this will continue until the consultation has been completed.

The Presiding Member explained that from the consultation meetings held, it is evident that Outback communities although quite different, share some common views, for example roads and public access, communication cohesiveness and representation.

The OCA noted the Outback Futures update.

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Director tabled the Correspondence Register for the period 10 June to 13 August 2020.

The OCA noted the Correspondence Register.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The OCA noted that the next scheduled meeting is to be held on 23, 24 September 2020 in Port Augusta.

Before closing the meeting the Presiding Member acknowledged the extra work that the Office for the OCA staff have been involved in, extending the Member's appreciation.

The meeting closed at 11.45 am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. M. L. ...', is written on the page.