

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

13 December 2017

Meeting No. 73

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

J Booth, M Fennell, J Ferguson, J Fort, M Marsland, C Michelmore



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure,
77 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

13 December 2017 at 12.15pm

Present:

C Woolford (Chair), J Booth, J Ferguson, J Fort, C Michelmore and
M Marsland (OCA Members), M Sutton (Director, OCA), B Gough and
J Greatbatch (OCA staff).

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to meeting 73 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA).

An apology was received from Member Fennell.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2017 were circulated.

Moved by Member Ferguson
Seconded by Member Fort

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 9
November 2017, meeting number 71 be adopted.*

Carried.

4.2 The minutes of the special meeting held on 6 December 2017 were circulated.

Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Fort

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) special meeting held on
6 December 2017, meeting number 72 be adopted with amendments as discussed.*

Carried.



4.3 Business arising from minutes.

- 4.3.1 Oodnadatta Development Project (Ref. agenda item 3.1, Meeting No. 55; agenda item 4.2.5, Meeting No. 5; agenda item 4.2.2, Meeting No. 60)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that this matter will be deferred to the next meeting in February 2018 as the office is waiting for a letter from the Dunjiba Community Council Inc.
- 4.3.2 Auditor General's 2015-16 Report (Ref. agenda item 6.5, Meeting No. 65, agenda item 6.1, Meeting No. 66, agenda item 6.1 Meeting No. 67, agenda item 6.2)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that this matter has been included later in the agenda. This matter can therefore be removed from the Action List.
- 4.3.3 Outback Memorial Park (Ref. agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 65, agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 71, agenda item 6.4)
The Chair advised that this is a priority and will be ready for the meeting in February 2018. This matter is ongoing.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Auditor General's Report (Ref. N17-01/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that the report from the Auditor General regarding the 2016-17 audit of the OCA has been received.

The Governance Manager advised that the Auditor General has requested a written response to three matters identified for action in the audit report, namely:

- the establishment of sub-delegations
- implementation of a Risk Management Framework and
- implementation of a Financial Management Framework.

The Governance Manager advised that both the Risk Management Framework and the Financial Management Framework are now complete. The response to the Auditor General will bring this to his attention.

Members discussed the establishment of sub-delegations and the difference between a sub-delegation and the Instrument of Delegation (Financial and Procurement) which has already been authorised by the Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). The members agreed that it is important for there to be compliance to all instructions by the Auditor General. The Governance Manager will seek further clarification from the Auditor General regarding sub-delegation however that the Auditor General be advised that sub-delegations for all staff will be established as a matter of priority.



Moved by Member Marsland
Seconded by Member Michelmore

That the Outback Communities Authority resolves to:

- *Note the Auditor-General's report.*
- *Note that a response to the Auditor-General will be provided outlining the matters raised, namely the adoption of both a Risk Management Framework and Financial Management Framework along with advice that the OCA will establish sub-delegations for all staff.*
- *Accept periodic reports on progress toward full compliance with the Auditor-General's recommendations.*
- *Seek further clarification from the Auditor-General on sub-delegations in order to ensure full compliance is undertaken.*
- *Ensure the annual report is prepared in a timely manner according to the requirements timeline.*
- *Future iterations of the Annual Report will be submitted by the due date with a copy of the financial statements included (audited or unaudited) in compliance with legislative requirements with a note of explanation included that the audited financial statements will be provided once received from the Auditor General if the audit is not finalized at the time of submission.*

Carried.

6.2 Risk Management Policy (Ref. N17-02/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Governance Manager who advised that in association with DPTI a Risk Register has been developed specific to the OCA's business along with a draft Risk Management Policy for approval.

The Governance Manager confirmed that the draft Risk Management Policy outlines the OCA's commitment to proper management of risk to maximise opportunities and to minimise the effects of hazards.

The Governance Manager explained that the Risk Management Policy will be the overarching document in the OCA's Risk Management Framework; the Framework is to be included in the Risk Register and Risk Treatment Plans which are still being developed.

The Members discussed a few amendments to be made to the Risk Register to make it clear that the OCA Board will evaluate and review any risks that are above the accepted risk appetite.

Moved by Member Ferguson
Seconded by Member Marsland

That the OCA resolves to:

- *Adopt the draft Risk Management Policy.*
- *Approve a process to inform communities of the new policy.*

Carried.



6.3 Funding for Signage Audit Eyre Peninsula and Far West (Ref. N17-03/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that the OCA has been approached to consider contributing financially toward a signage audit in the Eyre Peninsula and Far West area, including those areas within the OCA region.

The Director confirmed that the Local Government Tourism Advisory Group that is facilitated by the Regional Development Australia Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula Board have agreed to investigate funding for a signage audit from Border Village to Whyalla.

The Members discussed if the budget would allow the contribution to be funded and agreed that there were too many other priorities that needed financial support. However, the Board will be open to supporting recommendations made by the audit on a case by case basis for the benefit of Outback communities.

*Moved by Member Ferguson
Seconded by Member Fort*

That the OCA resolves not to approve a contribution towards a signage audit in the Eyre Peninsula and Far West area including the OCA region.

Carried.

6.4 William Creek Weather Station (Ref. N17-04/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that the OCA has partnered with the SA Arid Lands Natural Resource Management (SAAL NRM) Board in the acquisition of a weather station at William Creek and is in the process of obtaining tenure over the site.

The Director explained that a weather monitoring blackspot at William Creek was identified by the Marla/Oodnadatta District NRM Group as part of its regional plan. The Director explained that to address this matter, the Marla/Oodnadatta NRM group were successful in obtaining a grant from the SAAL NRM Board, to establish a weather station at William Creek, however that there was a shortfall of funding to complete the project.

The Director confirmed that that in consultation with the OCA Chair, delegated authority was used and on behalf of the OCA agreed to contribute toward the installation and all ongoing costs for the operation of the weather station. The Director acknowledged that the OCA will own the weather station and tenure over the site where the weather station is located needs to be finalised.

The commissioning and formal opening of the weather station was performed by the Director at William Creek on 24 November.

The OCA noted the acquisition of a weather station at William Creek and the process of obtaining tenure over the site.



6.5 Regional Development Australia Far North Local Government Funding - Update (Ref. N17-05/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the quarterly report received from the Regional Development Australia Far North for the period 1 July to 30 September 2017, noting the achievements to date.

The OCA noted the quarterly Local Government Core Funding Agreement report provided by Regional Development Australia for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 September 2017.

6.6 2017-18 Budget Monitoring Report – October 2017 (Ref. N17-06/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Budget Monitoring report as at 31 October 2017.

The Director advised that income and expenditure is aligning closely to early predictions and that the two OCA owned Land Cruisers have been sold which will result in additional income for the 2017-18 year. The Director confirmed that approval for carry overs sought from 2016-17 have not been received to date.

Follow up is still being undertaken to ensure non-compliant communities are supported to meet the milestones to become compliant and therefore receive funding where possible.

The Members noted the October 2017 Budget Monitoring Report.

6.7 Funding for Star Club Field Officer (Outback Sports and Recreation) (Ref. N17-07/12)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that he is seeking approval to submit an Expression of Interest through the Office for Recreation and Sport to the STARCLUB Field Officer (SFO) Program. The Director confirmed that the SFO's role is to support local sport and active recreation clubs and associations in a variety of ways including understanding government legislation, developing skills of club coaches and being able to better manage club finances. The Director tabled the STARCLUB Field Officer Strategic Plan 2015-18 and the STARCLUB Expression of Interest form.

The Director confirmed that in 2016 Neil Tredwell Management was awarded the contract to review the Outback Region Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2005-2020 and also prepare a new Outback Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy. It is envisaged that the new Strategy will guide the provision and management of sport, recreation and open space in the outback for the next 5-10 years.

The Director explained that if the Expression of Interest is successful the OCA would look to take on a leadership role in sport and recreation in the outback for the next 3 years.



It is proposed that the current Community Development Officer (CDO) position be adjusted to include 0.5 FTE as SFO and 0.5 FTE as CDO.

Moved by Member Marsland
Seconded by Member Joyleen Booth

That the OCA approve the submission of an Expression of Interest to the STARCLUB Field Officer Program 2018-2021 through the Office for Recreation and Sport for a dedicated STARCLUB Field officer for the area administered by the OCA.

Carried.

7. LEIGH CREEK UPDATE

Leigh Creek Transition Update

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who summarised achievements to date regarding Leigh Creek, being:

- The Leigh Creek Community Progress Association (LCCPA) has formed a Strategic Advisory Group of regional, business and agency leaders who can provide input into and influence funding, policy and decision making processes.
- The Leigh Creek Caravan Park Expression of Interest was opened to public tender on 31 October and closed on 16 November and assessments are currently being undertaken before the Department of State Development and DPTI undertake necessary negotiations and finalise a lease arrangement.
- The removal of the former parking bay at the entrance to Leigh Creek.

The Director referred to a number of ongoing initiatives that the OCA will continue to be involved in including participation in the Leigh Creek Futures and DPTI Transition Working groups, installation of Wi-Fi hotspot to the Leigh Creek Airport Terminal and working with the landfill waste management contractor to expand current services and include a recycling option.

The Members discussed emerging issues specific to Leigh Creek. The Director and NFPO have visited Leigh Creek to speak to community members and addressed issues as they have arisen. Some redundant assets in Leigh Creek and their possible use or relocation were discussed. Any asset that is being looked after by DPTI would need DPTI approval prior to use.

The Members discussed and noted that the lack of health services in Leigh Creek is an emerging issue, and while not being an OCA area, feedback can be passed on as the opportunity arises.

The OCA noted the continued work relating to the Leigh Creek transition and successes to date.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

8.1 Strzelecki Track

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who gave a summary on the information provided to the members earlier in the day during workshop 2.

Moved by Member Fort
Seconded by Member Ferguson

As a result of the workshop this morning where the draft report – Economic and Community Benefits of Sealing the Strzelecki Track was considered, the Outback Communities Authority resolves to:

- *Note the draft report – Economic and Community Benefits of Sealing the Strzelecki Track.*
- *Endorses the findings of the draft report.*
- *Asks for the draft report to be finalised and distributed to key stakeholders.*

Carried.

9. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2017-18 Business Plan Action Plan.

The Director reported that the media statement is still being worked on and should be ready for the February meeting.

The Board discussed the OCA Strategic Direction document. All members were happy with both the document and the feedback it has received. The Members agreed that although the financial information provided in the document won't stay relevant, the views and goals of the OCA reflected within it stay unchanged.

The Members noted the Business plan action plan.

10. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair summarised activities that she has been involved in since the last OCA meeting including a number of Leigh Creek Futures meetings.

The Chair confirmed she recently spoke at a national forum called Climate Services Australia about the OCA and the Climate Change Adaptation Plan. A power point presentation was shown using some of Martin Ollman's photos which was well received. This allowed to the OCA to be shown in a different light.

The Chair also attended various meetings with Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, Member for Stuart, Dan van Holst Pellekaan, Member for Flinders, Peter Treloar and with Minister Brock. A meeting with the Member for Giles, Eddie Hughes is scheduled for next week.



The Chair advised that throughout the meetings it was clear the Asset Sustainability Levy (ASL) will need more consideration before being implemented and Members agreed that continuing to work on this and having it all prepared and ready for when it is able to be implemented is the best way forward. The Members agreed to progress on the ASL during a workshop at the February 2018 meeting.

The Chair congratulated Beltana on winning a KESAB award recently.

The Chair thanked the Members for the special meeting held earlier in the month where the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) grant application was discussed and approved and will soon be submitted.

The Chair advised that the OCA Board recruitment process is still ongoing. An update will be given when possible.

11. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort reported it has been a productive year and is currently working on redefining the Outback Loop driving itinerary which will include the Oodnadatta track and will act to drive tourism into the region. The Outback Loop Website aims to be up and running soon.

Member Marsland reported the changing electoral boundaries may impact on the OCA area and will be something to keep informed about.

Member Michelmore attended a meeting with Tony Lawry, Corporate and Investor Relations, and Justyn Peters, Executive Chairman, from Leigh Creek Energy recently where the Leigh Creek Energy project at the old Leigh Creek coal mine was discussed.

12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 There are no Section 11 Committees operating, therefore no matters to consider.

13. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled his report and advised that since the OCA's November meeting he has visited Leigh Creek, Lyndhurst, Innamincka, Andamooka and William Creek communities holding informal conversations with members from each community.

The Director also accompanied the Chair in a round of meetings with State and Commonwealth members of Parliament covering the OCA's area and also met with Minister Brock in Adelaide.

The Director summarised operational activities that have occurred since the November meeting including, but not limited to:

- The launch of oneOutback.
- The transition of the Copley water supply to SA Water
- A successful grant application through the Better Regions grant process for the Oodnadatta Hall

- Visits by OCA staff to various communities
- Undergoing a Dog and Cat Management audit
- Managing the annual community insurance review.

The Director tabled a list of operational activities that have occurred since the previous meeting.

The Members discussed the progression of the Outback Roads Action Group meeting.

The Chair requested to be kept updated on any emerging issues from regional meetings that arise during staff discussions with community members.

The Members noted the Director's report.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

There were no Confidential Orders discussed.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Members noted that the next scheduled meeting is a teleconference to be held on 18 January, if required, or a formal meeting scheduled for 14, 15 February 2018 to be held in Port Augusta.

Workshops to be included in the February 2018 meeting on the ASL and the Risk Register.

The meeting closed at 3 pm.

