

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

19 April 2018

Meeting No. 75

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

J Booth, M Fennell, J Fort, M Marsland, C Michelmore, T Roach



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the Community Hall, Andamooka

19 April 2018 at 8.20am

Present:

C Woolford (Chair), J Booth, M Fennell, J Fort, C Michelmore, M Marsland and T Roach (OCA Members), M Sutton (Director, OCA), M Brown and B Honan (OCA staff).

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed the public gallery, OCA Members and staff to meeting 75 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA), held in Andamooka.

The Chair confirmed that an apology has been received from Ms A Hart, Manager, Office of Local Government.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2018 were circulated.

Moved by Member Roach
Seconded by Member Fort

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 21 February 2018, meeting number 74 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 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 confirmed that this matter has been included later in the agenda and therefore can be removed from the Action List.



- 4.2.2 Outback Memorial Park (Ref. agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 65, agenda item 6.4, Meeting No. 71, agenda item 6.4)
The Chair confirmed that this project is ongoing.
- 4.2.3 Asset Sustainability Levy (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No. 73)
The Chair referred to the Director who confirmed that this matter has progressed and will be included in a June workshop.
- 4.2.4 Regional Development Australia Far North (Ref. agenda item 6.3, Meeting No. 74)
The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that this matter will be discussed later in the agenda and therefore can be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.5 Innaminka Water (Ref. agenda item 8.2, Meeting No.74)
The Chair referred to the Director who advised that there has been a good outcome for the Innaminka community where an alternative source of water from Lisbeth Bore has been located, providing stability for the community. Member Fort advised that through the assistance of the OCA Governance Manager, a good result has been achieved and the Water Management Plan has commenced.
- 4.2.6 OCA Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. agenda item 9, Meeting No.74)
The Chair referred to the Director who confirmed that the final copy of the State of the Outback Report has been received and a media release will be circulated. The Director confirmed that in the future once new statistical data is available the State of the Outback Report will be updated and made available. This matter is to be removed from the Action List.
- 4.2.7 Multi Species Livestock Transshipping Hub Report (Ref. electronic meeting held during April 2018)
The Chair referred to business arising from the February meeting, meeting number 74 and subsequent electronic meeting and as a result of receiving and reviewing the draft report – Multispecies Livestock Transshipping Hub: Improving Safety, Efficiency and Profitability in the Australian Livestock Industry, the following motion was agreed to.

**Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Marsland**

That the Outback Communities Authority resolves to:

- *Note the draft report – Multispecies Livestock Transshipping Hub: Improving Safety, Efficiency and Profitability in the Australian Livestock Industry.*
- *Endorses the findings and recommendations of the draft report.*
- *Request the draft report be finalised, released and distributed to key stakeholders.*

Carried.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Draft 2018-19 Business Plan and Budget (Ref. N18-01/04)

The Chair referred to a workshop held on the previous day where the draft 2018-19 Business Plan and Budget was discussed.

The Director confirmed that key elements have been included which link to the OCA's Strategic Directions document, released in December 2017.

The OCA will continue to work closely with outback communities and will support the Community Contribution Schemes in Andamooka and Iron Knob. The Director confirmed that continuing in 2018-19 is a focus to deliver municipal services to Leigh Creek, maintenance on OCA assets with new initiatives to support and develop an Outback Tourism Strategy and supporting the implementation of the Regional Recreation and Sport Plan.

Member Fort agreed to be involved with scoping the Outback Tourism Strategy document.

**Moved by Member Marsland
Seconded by Member Fennell**

That the Outback Communities Authority resolves:

- *To approve the draft 2018-19 Business Plan and Budget to be released for consultation for a 4 week period, commencing in April 2018.*
- *That the Director seek to have the budget forward estimates reflect the actual costs related to Board expenses to be more consistent with reality and address the legacy issue.*

Carried.

6.2 Proposed Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreements Incorporating a Community Contribution for Andamooka and Iron Knob for 2018-19 (Ref. N18-02/04)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who advised that the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association and Iron Knob Progress Association have requested that the OCA enter into Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements for 2018-19, incorporating Community Contribution Schemes. The Director confirmed that the current CARM agreements incorporating Community Contribution Schemes with both Associations will expire 30 June 2018, noting that the requests are for the 2018-19 agreements to be similar to the current agreements.

The Director tabled a consultation plan, should consultation on the respective CARM agreements progress.

The Director confirmed that once the consultation feedback has been considered, the new CARM agreements would contain similar methodology as the current agreements, being:



- A community contribution would apply from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.
- Property units would be adopted as the calculation basis for determining the contributions attributable to a particular property.
- An aggregation of contiguous land would be the method of assessment.
- Contributions would be set having considered the consultation feedback, however it is expected they would be the same as what is in place in 2017-18, that is \$400 per annum in Andamooka and \$240 per annum in Iron Knob.
- The OCA's Concessions Policy on rebates, remissions, hardship and postponements would apply.

The Chair, along with the Members agreed that the meeting with APOMA and also the Andamooka community was a fruitful exercise and worked very well resulting in strengthening the relationship between the OCA and APOMA.

The OCA noted that it committed additional expenditure of \$306,583 (operational) plus \$130,699 (capital) equaling \$437,282 above the approved CARM Agreement budgets. This amount (\$437,282) was primarily brought about due to the political imperative to support the Andamooka community in the early years of the Community Contribution Scheme and supported the development of the administration building adjacent to the community hall. The OCA notes that it will not seek to recover the amount of \$437,282.

The Chair confirmed that the Iron Knob Progress Association are keen to progress the consultation on the 2018-19 CARM Agreement including a community contribution and that there is a positive way forward now for both Associations.

Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Roach

That the OCA:

- *Notes the request from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA) Inc. to consider a new Communities Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2018-19, further noting the amendment to the 2018-19 budget after discussions with APOMA and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*
- *Notes the request from the Iron Knob Progress Association Inc. to consider a new Communities Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2018-19 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*

Carried.

6.3 Dunjiba Governance Assistance (Ref. N18-03/04)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that a request for assistance with administration support has been received from the Chairperson of the Dunjiba Community Council (Dunjiba). The Director confirmed that the Dunjiba Community Council is the Aboriginal community council within the Oodnadatta township and has experienced governance continuity difficulties for many years.

The Director advised that the Oodnadatta Progress Association also operates as a community based body in Oodnadatta and unfortunately both groups have experienced difficulty in providing day to day services in the township.

The Director advised that the OCA manages the delivery of municipal services to Oodnadatta made possible by 'MUNS' funding received from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI).

The Director confirmed that Dunjiba are seeking a contract for strategic coordination support to work closely with stakeholders to develop strategies that will result in better management of local issues within Oodnadatta and implement the Dunjiba Community Plan 2017-2021.

The Members agreed that it is worthwhile for the OCA to support the Dunjiba Community Council's request, that this is a very good initiative and if successful will have a beneficial impact on the Oodnadatta community.

The Director explained that this initiative will be monitored by the OCA's Community Development Officer, confirming that appropriate acquittal and reporting measures will be undertaken at the completion of 2018-19 (financial year).

On behalf of the Members, the Chair congratulated the Office for the OCA for their commitment to supporting the Oodnadatta community and the very likely positive outcome from this initiative.

**Moved by Member Marsland
Seconded by Member Fennell**

The OCA resolves to:

- *Seek Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure approval for the allocation of \$13,440 (plus gst) from the 2017-18 MUNS allocation for Dunjiba Community Council Incorporated and a similar allocation of \$13,440 (plus gst) from the 2018-19 MUNS allocation to fund Strategic Coordination support to the Dunjiba Community Council Incorporated.*
- *Once approved, enter into a Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement that outlines this allocation and reporting requirements.*

Carried.

6.4 Public Toilets Asset Management Plan (Ref. N18-04/04)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the OCA Asset Management Plan – Public Toilets, seeking endorsement from the OCA. The Director advised that the OCA has a requirement for a long term plan for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure for public services and facilities for outback communities which has resulted in the tabled management plan, adding that the management of the outback public toilets requires approximately two-thirds of the OCA's infrastructure budget.

The Chair and Members agreed that endorsement of the Plan is not interpreted as leaving a legacy to a future Board, but rather providing a guide to the maintenance

and replacement of outback public toilets; a Plan that will influence decisions regarding the condition of outback toilets whilst adhering to budget constraints.

The Board agreed that expenditure flexibility with the public toilets accompanies the levels of service that the Board desire and that the OCA may need to seek an increase in the capital expenditure budget in forward years.

Moved by Member Fennell
Seconded by Member Roach

That the Outback Communities Authority resolves to endorse the Public Toilets Asset Management Plan.

Carried.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair congratulated the Asset and Works Officer and OCA staff for their commitment to finalising the Public Toilet Asset Management Plan and look forward to receiving Asset Management Plans for the remainder of OCA owned infrastructure.

6.5 2017-18 Budget Monitoring Report – March 2018 (Ref. N18–05/04)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Budget Monitoring Report as at 31 March 2018.

The Director confirmed that DPTI recently gifted the OCA plant and equipment located at Leigh Creek, which included the bus and commercial vehicle used by the local contractor. The Board noted that with the increase of assets namely at Leigh Creek, the OCA will need to ensure that its capital expenditure allocation is appropriate in the forward.

The Director referred to the report confirming that the public toilet budget will be over spent come 30 June and due to a timing issue of receiving tax invoices, the other joint projects budget will also be over budget. The Director advised that budget saving measures continue to be explored to address the public toilet expenditure and ongoing monitoring of community assistance funding with communities that currently have CARM agreements in place is occurring.

The Outback Communities Authority noted the March 2018 Budget Monitoring Report.

7. LEIGH CREEK UPDATE

Leigh Creek Transition Update

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that the meeting paper had been provided prior to the Northern Flinders Project Officer (NFPO) taking up a new role with SA Cricket Association in her preferred vocation of communications and marketing.



The Director summarised achievements to date regarding Leigh Creek, including but not limited to:

- Rebranding to highlight the change in management and focus for the Leigh Creek Caravan Park.
- An additional ten housing leases have been taken out in the town.
- Refurbishment of the Leigh Creek Airport continues including the installation of new runway lighting, installation of a new apron fence and exterior painting of the Terminal, with more worked planned for this area.
- Supporting Regional Development Australia Far North with setting up a Leigh Creek office to base their new Northern Flinders Economic Development Officer.

The Board noted that there has been community concern raised regarding the business model for 1834 including aspects that are counterproductive to community aspirations and will bring this to the attention of the Leigh Creek Futures committee.

The Director referred to a number of ongoing initiatives that the OCA will continue to be involved in including the ongoing participation in the Leigh Creek Futures and DPTI Transition Working groups, update to Leigh Creek Landfill Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) in line with Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) guidelines and continuing with upgrades to the Leigh Creek airport.

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

At this point the discussion moved to the Chair who advised that she will be departing on holidays in the near future and the importance of having a Board single point of contact during the absence. The Board endorsed Member Michelmore to be spokesperson during the Chair's absence.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

9. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

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

The Director referred to earlier discussion regarding the State of the Outback Report as this is prevalent in the OCA's 2017-18 Business Plan.

The Board agreed that the Office for the OCA, led by the Director have achieved business planning targets and referred to the Outback Prospectus as a very good resource guiding current and future business objectives.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action Plan.

10. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair advised that she has been attending a lot of general OCA business meetings, and is keen to reinvigorate meetings with new Ministers once the new government and associated staffing has been established.

The Chair confirmed that Member Marsland accompanied her to the Adelaide 500 event which provided an opportunity to meet and discuss local government matters with other Mayors from around South Australia.

The Chair confirmed that she sits on the Barndioota Low to Medium Level Radioactive Waste Management Committee and recently the second round of the Community Grants were announced. The Chair was pleased to confirm that the OCA in partnership with Regional Development Australia Far North (RDA FN) assisted in the coordination of a successful grant application seeking \$500,000 to create a better telecommunications solution for the Hawker to Lyndhurst area. The Chair advised Telstra have committed to matching grant funds toward the project. The Chair further advised that the OCA are working with RDA FN and Telstra for a larger 'whole-of-region' telecommunications upgrade to the existing mobile phone network through an application to the Commonwealth Governments Regional Growth Fund that is calling for projects of a minimum of \$20m.

11. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort reiterated that the Governance Manager has well supported Innamincka stabilising the water for the community and that ongoing support is required for the upgrading of the Innamincka aerodrome. Member Fort advised that she attended a Flinders Ranges and Outback South Australia Tourism (FROSAT) meeting; the group is reinvigorated, continues to work on a business plan and will be more visible in the future.

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 the period since the OCA's February meeting has been dominated by the State election process, confirming that the OCA's Minister is The Hon Stephen Knoll, BCom, MP who is the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government and Minister for Planning. The Director advised that the Minister has been provided with incoming government briefings about the OCA although it has not been determined when the Chair might meet with the Minister.

The Chair referred to the briefing notes that have been prepared for the Minister on behalf of the OCA and as a matter of priority requested that correspondence be forwarded to the Minister, introducing the OCA, including matters of concern and requesting a meeting between the Minister and the Chair.

The Director announced that since the February meeting the OCA has lost two staff members, Miss Courtney Harrington, Northern Flinders Project Officer and Mr Benjamin Simes (Community Development Trainee), confirming that neither position will be replaced at this point in time.

The Director confirmed that the OCA has been successful in obtaining grant funding under the STARCLUB Field Officer Program provided for up to three years and will be managed as part of the Community Development Officer duties.

The Director provided a summary of significant operational matters currently being managed by the office, including:

- Innamincka water supply and aerodrome
- Oodnadatta Aerodrome
- Copley water supply
- Andamooka town management and 2018-19 budget.

The Director advised that he has attended various meetings representing the OCA, including the QANTAS Flight Training Academy which was particularly interesting. The Director referred to the Outback Bushfire Management Committee meeting on 14 March where information relating to extreme heat and storm events could have real implications for the OCA's region.

The Director also tabled an extensive list of operational activities that the Office for the OCA has been involved in since the February meeting.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair extended her appreciation to Ms Courtney Harrington for the valuable work achieved whilst in her role as the Northern Flinders Project Officer, recognizing the support provided to the Leigh Creek Transition project and noting that her expertise was not limited to this project.

The Chair also congratulated Mr Benjamin Simes, Community Development Trainee on successfully achieving Certificate 4 in Community Development and Certificate 3 in Business whilst with the Office for the OCA for the last two years. The Chair wished Ms Harrington and Mr Simes every success for the future.

The Members noted the Director's report.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

- 14.1 The OCA will from time to time at the declaration of the Chair, hold discussions 'in camera' where any issues are subject to legal advice from the Crown Solicitors office or are of a sensitive nature (Ref. CO-06).

Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Marsland

That the OCA move into camera due to the confidential nature of discussions regarding CO-06.

Carried.



Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Marsland

That the meeting resume out of camera.

Carried.

The meeting resumed out of *'in camera'* session.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Members noted that the next scheduled meeting is a teleconference to be held on 17 May, if required, or a formal meeting scheduled for 13, 14 June to be held in Port Augusta.

The meeting closed at 12.15 pm.

