



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

25 June 2021

Meeting No. 102

Members:

W McIntosh AM (Presiding Member)

J Fort, F Frahn, S Johnson OAM, A Vaughan ASM, L Warmington, T Wright

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

Meeting held at the OCA Boardroom, Port Augusta

25 June 2021 at 9:52 am

Present:

W McIntosh (Presiding Member), J Fort, S Johnson,
L Warmington and T Wright (OCA Members)
M Sutton (Director, OCA), M Howard (Project Manager Outback Futures), A Hart (Director,
OLG) and J Greatbatch (Business Support Officer, OCA).

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Presiding Member welcomed everyone to meeting 102 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA).

Apologies from Member Frahn and Member Vaughan have been received.

The Presiding Member on behalf of the Members acknowledged the recent passing of Member Frahn's mother, Mrs Jan Warwick.

The Presiding Member on behalf of the Board congratulated Member Johnson on being recognised for his service to local government with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM). Mr Reginal Dodd of Marree has also been recognised for his service to the Indigenous community of Marree with an OAM. The Members requested that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to Mr Dodd.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021 were circulated.

Moved by Member Fort
Seconded by Member Warmington

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 29 April 2021, meeting number 99 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Carried.

4.2 The minutes of the teleconference meeting held on 27 May 2021 were circulated.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) teleconference meeting held on 27 May 2021, meeting number 100 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Carried.

4.3 The minutes of the electronic meeting held from 8 to 15 June 2021 which was held specifically to discuss expenditure approval for the second phase of the Outback Futures Project were circulated. The minutes were amended to note that Member Johnson also participated in the electronic meeting.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Warmington

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) electronic meeting held 8 to 15 June 2021, meeting number 101 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Carried.

It is noted that Member Wright abstained from voting.

4.4 Business arising from minutes.

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

The Director confirmed that Livestock SA met with the Board on Thursday 24 June 2021, therefore this matter can be removed from the action list.

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

The Director confirmed that a workshop will be held once the Outback Futures Project outcomes are known to consider the flexible planning relating to the OCA's 5-year Strategic Management Plan, therefore this matter is pending.

4.4.3 Member's Reports – Support for Regional Tourism (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No 95)

The Director advised that a workshop will be held in the future to consider support for regional tourism at a community level, after the completion of the Outback Futures Consultation, therefore this matter is pending.

4.4.4 Farina Restoration Group (Ref. agenda item 6.3, Meeting No.99)

The Director advised he attended the official opening of Patterson's House at Farina on Friday 18 June 2021 and conveyed the congratulations of the OCA on all the hard work restoring Farina and creating an iconic Outback tourist destination. This matter can be removed from the action list.

4.4.5 Business Plan Progress Report (Ref. agenda item 8, Meeting No.99)

The Director advised correspondence is yet to be forwarded to the Minister for Tourism (the Premier) regarding the impact of increased regional tourism to both the environment and infrastructure, therefore this matter is pending.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Opportunity to engage in regional drought resilience planning through the Future Drought Fund (Ref. N21-01/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled background information on the Future Drought Fund Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program, which the OCA has been asked to participate in as the lead member of a consortium in the unincorporated area of SA. In order to proceed, an agreement between the OCA and the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) would need to be put in place for 12 months.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort

The OCA:

- 1. Note the background information on the Future Drought Fund Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program.*
- 2. Support the participation of the OCA in the Future Drought Fund Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program as lead member of a consortium that would develop a regional drought resilience plan for the OCA unincorporated area.*

Carried.

6.2 Declaration of Community Contribution - Andamooka 2021-22 (Ref. N21-02/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that since 2012 the OCA has levied a community contribution in Andamooka as a fair and equitable way of sharing the cost of improved local services.

The Director advised that as in previous years, the 2021-22 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management) CARM agreement including a community

contribution has been consulted on, consultation closing on 11 June. The Director advised that as a result of the consultation, one submission has been received.

The Director advised that APOMA has canvassed its community on the CARM agreement at a community meeting on 23 May 2021 which the Director attended via video link.

The Director advised that the 2021-22 community contribution is similar to the previous year's levy, being \$400.00 per property unit on rateable land in Andamooka.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Wright

The OCA:

- *Seek the approval of the Minister for a fixed charge of \$400.00 per annum per property unit for community contributions in Andamooka.*
- *Subject to the Minister consenting to the fixed charge for Andamooka, execute the 2021-22 CARM agreement with Andamooka and on execution of the 2021-22 CARM agreement declares:*

A community contribution for the land over:

- *The township of Andamooka, and*
- *Those sites immediately adjacent the town of Andamooka not within the Andamooka Precious Stones Field or excluded from the operations of the Opal Mining Act 1995 held in Fee Simple, occupied under Crown Lease or Crown Licence, and*
- *Those portions of Section 1500 Out of Hundreds (Andamooka) occupied under Crown Licence (known as White Dam).*

Fixes a charge of \$400.00 per property unit on rateable land for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services and support to the community of Andamooka:

Pursuant to Section 181 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the community contribution be payable in four equal or approximately equal instalments as follows:

- *first instalment payable in September 2021;*
- *second instalment payable in December 2021;*
- *third instalment payable in March 2022; and*
- *fourth instalment payable in June 2022.*

Carried.

6.3 Declaration of a Community Contribution – Iron Knob 2021-22 (Ref. N21-03/06)

The Director advised that the OCA has levied a community contribution in Iron Knob since 2013 for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services to support the Iron Knob community.

The Director advised that the Iron Knob Progress Association (IKPA) on behalf of the Iron Knob community have requested that a community contribution continue in 2021-22.

The Director advised that the IKPA has canvassed its community on the CARM agreement at a community meeting on 8 June 2021 which was attended by the OCA's Community Development Officer and Assets and Works Officer.

Consultation on the 2021-22 CARM Agreement including a community contribution was finalised on 11 June, noting no submissions were received.

The Director added that the 2021-22 community contribution will be similar to previous years; \$240.00 per property unit on rateable land in Iron Knob.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Wright

The OCA:

- *Seek the approval of the Minister to a fixed charge of \$240.00 per annum, per property unit for community contributions in Iron Knob.*
- *Subject to the Minister consenting to the fixed charge for Iron Knob execute the 2021-22 CARM agreement with the Iron Knob Progress Association and on execution of the 2021-22 CARM agreement declares:*

A community contribution for the rateable land over the township of Iron Knob and fixes a charge of \$240.00 per property unit on rateable land for the purposes of raising revenue for the provision of services and support to the community of Iron Knob.

Pursuant to Section 181(2) of the Local Government Act 1999, the community contribution be payable in four equal or approximately equal instalments as follows:

- *first instalment payable in September 2021;*
- *second instalment payable in December 2021;*
- *third instalment payable in March 2022; and*
- *fourth instalment payable in June 2022.*

Carried.

6.4 Isolated Children's Parents' Association and School of the Air Port Augusta Fundraiser (Ref. N21-04/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled a request from the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) and School of the Air (SOTA) Port Augusta for sponsorship support. ICPA and SOTA Port Augusta have a joint fundraising initiative that is aimed at being long-lasting and involves the production of a fishing shirt which will be available for the wider community to purchase.

Sponsorship will help subsidise the cost of the design and printing of the shirts. The OCA logo would also be printed on the shirts as acknowledgement of one-off gold sponsorship of \$1,000 or greater.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Wright

The OCA is unable to support the sponsorship proposal as submitted for the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) and School of the Air (SOTA) Port Augusta 2021 fishing shirt fundraiser.

Carried.

6.5 Regional Development Australia Far North Quarterly Report to 31 March 2021 (Ref. N21-05/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Regional Development Australia Far North (RDA FN) Quarterly Report to March 2021. The Director referred to significant achievements mentioned in the document including commencing a Seasonal and Regional Workforce Program which links employees with employers, funded for six months by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions and drafting an infrastructure priority list to support the Regional Visitor Strategy document.

The OCA noted the RDA FN Quarterly Report to 31 March 2021.

The Project Manager Outback Futures joined the meeting at this time.

6.6 Outback Communities Authority Member Microsoft Office 365 Accounts (Ref. N21-06/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who advised of changes to the State Government's email policies, procedure and setup.

The SA Government has implemented a whole of government email archive solution to ensure all agencies are retaining their email records. This protects against unauthorised loss or destruction and ensures records remain discoverable, retrievable and usable for specified periods according to State Records General Disposal Schedule.

Each Member has been set up with their own Microsoft Office 365 account which is to be used for all OCA business.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort

The OCA:

- 1. Note the changes to the State Government's email policies, procedure and setup.*
- 2. Note the creation of individual government email accounts for all OCA Members.*

Carried.

6.7 Outback Futures Project (Ref. N21-07/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Project Manager Outback Futures who updated the Members on progression of the second phase of the Outback Futures Project which will include a strategic planning workshop at Coober Pedy in September and in community consultation for some communities in October.

Progress Associations have received correspondence about the next steps in the Outback Futures Project along with a registration of interest form, an information flyer about the Coober Pedy workshop and a draft 'in community' consultation schedule for October. Copies of each have been provided to the Members.

The final stage of consultation in November will likely occur via Zoom given the financial, time and availability costs of bringing people together in one location. An exemption will need to be sought from the Department so the OCA can purchase a Zoom licence to run webinars.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort

That the OCA:

1. *Note the Outback Futures Project update.*
2. *Prepare a brief in partnership with JAC Comrie Pty Ltd or a similar consultant to develop Outback Futures levy modelling.*

CARRIED

6.8 Delegation and Execution of Grant Agreements (Ref. N21-08/06)

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The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who has received advice on the process for the execution of Grant Agreements entered into by the OCA.

As a result of the Machinery of Government transition from the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) to the Attorney General's Department (AGD), existing internal processes have been reviewed and either reaffirmed or updated. The process for the execution of Grant Agreements and the associated delegations covered under section 13 of the OC Act is one process that has required an update.

Future Grant Agreements over the Director's delegation and under the amount of \$1.5m will need to be provided to the OCA for approval for execution.

The OCA's instrument of sub-delegation requires substantial amendment to ensure compliance with the Treasurer's Instructions TI8. AGD has not yet finalized these documents, however they are expected to be completed before the next OCA meeting and will be provided at that meeting.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort

The OCA:

1. *Note the advice on the process for the execution of Grant Agreements entered into by the OCA.*

2. *Approve for the Instrument of delegation and sub delegation be upgraded to comply with the Treasurer's Instruction 8.*

Carried.

6.9 Drought Communities Programme (DCP) Extension Round 2 – Agreement of Variation (Ref. N21-09/06)

The Director tabled an Agreement of Variation for the Drought Communities Programme Extension (DCP Round 2) to the value of \$1m.

The original DCP Round 2 agreement stipulated all projects needed to be completed by 1 March 2021, however due to a combination of COVID-19 community gathering protocols for two projects and builder unavailability at the time for the other fifteen projects the due date was unable to be achieved and an extension was sought which was approved by the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (Commonwealth). The Agreement of Variation allows an extension to 1 March 2022.

Due to the value of the Agreement of Variation, approval from the OCA is required to execute the Agreement.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Warmington

The OCA execute the Agreement of Variation between the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (Commonwealth) and the OCA for the Drought Communities Programme (DCP) Extension Round 2 to the value of \$1m.

Carried.

6.10 Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 8 – Leigh Creek Aerodrome Runway Resealing Project (RAUV111000122) (Ref. N21-10/06)

The Director tabled a Grant Agreement between the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (Commonwealth) and the OCA for the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 8 – Leigh Creek Aerodrome Runway Resealing Project for the value of \$500k.

The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon. Corey Wingard MP has approved SA Government co-funding of \$500k towards this project bringing the total project funding amount to \$1m.

Due to the value of the Grant Agreement, approval from the OCA is required to execute the Agreement.

Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Wright

The OCA execute the Agreement between the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (Commonwealth) and the OCA for the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program Round 8 – Leigh Creek Aerodrome Runway Resealing Project of the value of \$500k.

Carried.

6.11 Grant Offer for Aboriginal Lands – Municipal Services Program South Australia – OCA for Dunjiba (Ref. N21-11/06)

The Director tabled the grant offer from the Office of Local Government, Attorney General's Department for the municipal services on Aboriginal Lands (Dunjiba) for 2021-22. The OCA has been provided a similar grant for many years to support the provision of municipal services to the Dunjiba Community in Oodnadatta. These services include waste collection and management, animal management, open space management and minor works programs.

Due to the value of the Grant Agreement, approval from the OCA is required to execute the Agreement.

**Moved by Member Johnson
Seconded by Member Fort**

The OCA acknowledge and accept the grant offer between the Office for Local Government, Attorney General's Department and the OCA for Municipal Services on Aboriginal Lands (Dunjiba) of the value of \$133,980 (GST inclusive).

Carried.

6.12 Finance Report (Ref. N21-12/06)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Finance Report as at 31 May 2021.

The Director referred to the Minister's approval for the continuation of the Project Manager Outback Futures and the creation of one ASO5 Community Development Officer position to support the Outback Futures process.

The Director also referred to revenue to be received from AGD for the Oodnadatta CWMS upgrade.

The OCA noted the Finance Report as at 31 May 2021.

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 confirmed some actions are ongoing due to the Outback Futures Project not being completed yet.

The Director referred to the State Government's SA Regional Development Strategy that was released on 21 April 2021. Both the OCA and RDA FN had input into the development of this plan and an RDSA regional workforce summit was held on 3 June 2021 in Hahndorf.

The Director also referred to partnership with the Flinders Ranges and Outback Tourism Committee on the Aussie Travel Code project.

oneOutback continues to be published quarterly with the most recent edition being printed in June 2021.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action.

9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Presiding Member referred to the helpful and informative presentation made by John Comrie in a workshop held on Thursday 24 June 2021.

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

- State Bushfire Coordination Committee (SBCC) meeting as the OCA nominee on 14 May 2021
- Meeting with the Minister along with the Director on 19 May 2021 in order to provide more information and discussion on the Outback Futures Project recommendations
- Attended the Mannahill Field Day at the invitation of the SA Arid Lands Landscapes Board and participated in a short panel presentation along with other agencies reviewing current priorities and activities
- RDA FN briefing and dinner on 10 June 2021 in Port Augusta which was a good opportunity to meet with local government representatives from the region
- Radio interview with 5MU regarding the Pastoral Business Review project to be carried out in the region from Craddock to Leigh Creek by Rural Business Support.

The Presiding Member also referred to a meeting with Livestock SA held on Thursday 24 June 2021 where the OCA agreed to maintain an ongoing dialogue with Livestock SA on the Outback Futures Project.

The OCA noted the Presiding Member's report.

10. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Wright reported poor road conditions and the lack of facilities being an ongoing issue in the region.

Member Warmington also reported poor road conditions continuing to be an area of concern with increased visitation to the region.

Member Fort reported new visitor guides for the Flinders and Outback have been produced and an online version will soon be available on the Flinders and Outback website. Digital content for the Aussie Travel Code continues to be produced.

11. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director tabled his report referring to ongoing work on HR recruitment and end of financial year activity around audits, budgets, policies and procedures.

Field personnel have visited the communities of Marree, Oodnadatta, Marla, Kingoonya, Glendambo, Iron Knob, Lyndhurst, Copley, Leigh Creek, Beltana, Parachilna, Blinman and Yunta. Many of these communities continue to work hard on community based projects funded by the Commonwealth secured with assistance from the OCA.

The Director provided a list of meetings that he has attended including weekly Leigh Creek Task Force Implementation Committee meetings, monthly Leigh Creek Task Force meetings, Regional Development Strategy – Steering Committee meetings and the RDSA 2021 Annual Summit, Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC) meetings, Water Infrastructure Corridors meeting and attending the official opening of 'Patterson's House' at Farina. The Director also met with the Minister for Planning and Local Government along with the Presiding Member in May.

The Director tabled a list of activities undertaken by the Office for the OCA since the April meeting.

12. SECTION 11 COMMITTEE REPORT

Nil.

13. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Director tabled the Correspondence Register for the period 23 April to 3 June 2021.

The OCA noted the Correspondence Register.

14. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The OCA noted that the next scheduled meeting will be a teleconference held on 29 July 2021 followed by a meeting in Port Augusta on 18, 19 August 2021.

The meeting closed at 12:30 pm.