

Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

21 March 2019

Meeting No. 83

Members:

C Woolford (Chair)

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



Minutes

Outback Communities Authority

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

21 March 2019 at 9.30 am

Present:

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

1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to meeting 83 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA).

The Chair confirmed that apologies have been received from Members Fennell, Marsland and Roach and also from the Manager, Office of Local Government.

2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

A deputation was received from the Chief Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Far North which included the quarterly report for October – December 2018. The Chair acknowledged the very informative deputation.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2019 were circulated.

Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Fort

That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 24 January 2019, meeting number 82 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 2018-19 OCA Budget (Ref. agenda item 4.3.2, Meeting No. 75)

The Chair referred to the Director who confirmed that the OCA's budget amendment to reflect the OCA's business needs remains ongoing.



4.2.2 OCA Strategic Direction (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No.79)

The Chair referred to the Director who confirmed that this matter had remained in abeyance due to the OCA's recent budget bid. The Board agreed to remove this matter from the Action List.

5. ADJOURNED MATTERS

Nil.

6. OCA BUSINESS

6.1 Proposed Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreements incorporating a community contribution for Andamooka and Iron Knob for 2019-20
(Ref. N19-01/03)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who confirmed that the current Community Affairs Resourcing and Management agreements with the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association (APOMA) and the Iron Knob Progress Association (IKPA) incorporate a community contribution and both agreements expire on 30 June 2019.

The Director confirmed, that APOMA and IKPA have approached the OCA expressing their in-principle approval to enter into a similar agreement for 2019-20.

The Director confirmed that if implemented, both community contributions would:

- apply from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020;
- property units would be adopted as the calculation basis for determining the contributions attributable to a particular property;
- the method of assessment would be an aggregation of contiguous land;
- once feedback has been considered after the consultation period, contributions for both communities would be set.
- the OCA's Concessions Policy on rebates, remissions, hardship and postponements would apply.

The Director confirmed that it is expected that the community contribution for Andamooka would be \$400 per annum, while the Iron Knob contribution would be \$240 per annum; both contributions remaining the same as in 2018-19.

The Director advised that once the consultation has been completed, Ministerial approval for the dollar value of both community contributions is required and that the Board will be provided with a report which will include the outcomes of the consultation and recommended action.

The Director tabled the consultation plan for Andamooka and Iron Knob that would be undertaken, once approval is received to go to consultation.



Moved by Member Booth
Seconded by Member Fort

That the OCA notes the request from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc to consider a new Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2019-20 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.

That the OCA notes the request from the Iron Knob Progress Association Inc to consider a new Community Affairs Resourcing and Management Agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2019-20 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.

Carried.

6.2 2018-19 Budget Monitoring Report as at 28 February 2019 (Ref. N19-02/03)

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the Budget Monitoring Report as at 28 February 2019.

The Director explained that the net deficit is related to two quarterly Financial Assistance Grant payments, forwarded to the OCA in late June 2018, for the 2019-20 year, \$60,000 carried over from the Leigh Creek budget in 2017-18 and savings in the employee expenses budget, due to the resignation of the Leigh Creek Manager (the position remains unfilled).

The Director confirmed that monitoring of the Community Affairs Resourcing and Management agreements is ongoing with the OCA continuing to encourage all communities to be compliant with milestone requirements.

The Outback Communities Authority noted the February 2019 Budget Monitoring Report.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

7.1 OCA 2019-20 Business Plan and Budget

The Chair referred to the workshop held on the previous day where the draft 2019-20 Business Plan and Budget was discussed and developed.

The Director referred to key priorities and strategies developed following a workshop held in January that have been incorporated into the 2019-20 document and also confirmed that outside of the core activities relating to working with communities and seeking external partnerships, the OCA will focus on:

- Facilitating and supporting the development of an Outback Tourism Strategy
- Develop partnerships with service providers and provide specific and targeted advice to government relating to outback services
- Be involved in strategic priorities that include roads, communications and community service infrastructure
- Continue to support the implementation of the OCA Regional Recreation and Sport Plan
- Annually publish the State of the Outback Report



- Finalise new public conveniences, including showers, at Innamincka
- Deliver four Outback Water Stations
- Deliver upgrades to the Oodnadatta and Marla aerodromes, if a recent grant submission is successful.

Moved by Member Michelmore
Seconded by Member Fort

That the OCA:

- *Writes to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government advising him of the undesirable reduction in investment in community development and new projects due to the required ongoing investment in core OCA infrastructure and services, as outlined in recent correspondence; and*
- *Approves the draft 2019-20 Business Plan and Budget to be released for consultation for a four week period, commencing in April 2019.*

Carried.

8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Chair referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2018-19 Business Plan Action Plan.

The Director provided a summary of ongoing work and anticipated outcomes.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action Plan.

9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair advised she recently attended a Barndioota Consultative Committee meeting. The Chair has been reappointed to continue on with the Committee until December 2019. The Committee is currently awaiting the Supreme Court decision before any further action can proceed. The Chair advised that if the proposed Barndioota site is chosen as a Nuclear Radioactive Waste Management Facility, there will be implications for the OCA. This will depend upon the current court proceedings and eventually the decision of the Minister.

The Chair advised that the State of the Outback report has been finalised and will be released in the next few days. A media release will be issued for the report.

10. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort provided a written report and spoke about the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) and their identified regional marketing priorities.

Member Fort advised that Flinders Ranges and Outback (FRO) have successfully applied to SATC for \$22,000 and will match this funding resulting in \$44,000 used to fund:

- Two consumer / trade shows



- Website hosting and management support for social media strategy
- Marketing Collateral and Image Gallery
- Training and development

Member Fort confirmed that FRO sees the development of the Flinders Ranges and Outback website www.flindersandoutback.com.au as a priority and that a communicator/social media specialist is currently developing a social media strategy and Heidi Lewis has been engaged to refresh images with a photo shoot scheduled in early May which will include the Far North.

In addition to improving digital capability, FRO aims to maximize investment and impact through collaboration with SATC, Regional Development Far North (RDA FN), Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North Region (RDA YMN), Flinders Ranges and Outback Tourism Operators Association (FROTOA) and Coober Pedy Retail Business and Tourism Association (CPRBTA).

11. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director advised that since the January meeting a lot of time has been dedicated to business planning which has included the Budget bid (which has been submitted) and preliminary development of the draft 2019-20 Business Plan and Budget.

The Director confirmed that the two new staff positions for Leigh Creek have recently been approved and advertised which has resulted in an internal appointment process is being undertaken.

The Director advised that he continues to represent the OCA on the Leigh Creek Task Force and that the Department for Energy and Mining is leading the Government oversight of the town.

The Director confirmed that the Governance Manager is representing the OCA on the Mintabie town closure task force, confirming that closure of the township is imminent.

Also of interest is that the Governance Manager has met with the Fines and Enforcement and Debt Recovery Unit and approximately 128 debtors have been referred to the unit. The Governance Manager confirmed that the debts relate to outstanding community contribution payments in Andamooka and Iron Knob and also water usage by Copley residents.

The Director confirmed his attendance at various meetings and provided an extensive list of activities that the Office for the OCA has been involved in. The Director advised that on a very positive note the StarClub initiative (supported by the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing) is experiencing very good success.

The Director advised a mail out to all communities recently occurred regarding correspondence received from the History Trust of SA inviting participation in commemoration of women who deserve recognition for their contribution to their communities through nomination for the "Suffrage 125 Honour Roll".

The Director tabled an extensive list of operational activities that the Office of the OCA have been involved in since the January meeting.



12. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

No Confidential Orders were discussed.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Members noted that the next meeting is a Teleconference scheduled for 18 April 2019, if required, or a formal meeting scheduled for 22 and 23 May 2019 to be held in Port Augusta.

The meeting closed at 12:20pm.

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