



# Minutes

## Outback Communities Authority

23 March 2022

Meeting No. 109

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

23 March 2022 at 11:39 am.

Present:

W McIntosh AM (Presiding Member), J Fort, F Frahn, S Johnson OAM,  
A Vaughan ASM and T Wright (OCA Members).  
M Sutton (Director, OCA) and J Greatbatch (Executive Officer, OCA).

### 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES

The Presiding Member welcomed everyone to meeting 109 of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA).

An apology has been received from Member Warmington.

### 2. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Standing OCA Declaration of Interest 2021-22	
Member	Declaration of Interest
Presiding Member	Member of the Blinman Sports Club Director, Gum Creek Station Pty Ltd Trustee, McIntosh Family Trust
Member Fort	Chair, Flinders Ranges and Outback SA Tourism Inc Director/Owner, Innamincka Hotel
Member Frahn	Director/Owner, R Warwick Pty Ltd Trustee, Holowiliena Pastoral Trust
Member Johnson	Board Member, Regional Development Australia Far North CEO, District Council of Mount Remarkable
Member Vaughan	CE, Royal Flying Doctor Service Central Operations
Member Warmington	Secretary, Penong & Districts Progress Association LJ & GM Warmington (Farming)
Member Wright	Director/Owner, Wrightsair Pty Ltd Director/Owner, LA & AM Matthews Pty Ltd Director/Owner, William Creek Hotel Member of the William Creek Progress Association Board Member, Regional Development Australia Far North

#### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2022 were circulated.

Moved by Member Vaughan  
Seconded by Member Fort

*That the minutes of the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) meeting held on 24 February 2022, meeting number 108 as circulated to Members, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.*

Carried.

4.3 Business arising from minutes.

4.3.1 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 a flexible planning process relating to the OCA's 5-year Strategic Management Plan, therefore this matter is pending.

4.3.2 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 Project, therefore this matter is pending.

4.3.3 Authorisation Under Treasurer's Instruction 8 – Financial (Ref. agenda item 6.1, Meeting No.103)

The Director confirmed the process of increasing the Presiding Member's financial delegation to an amount of not higher than \$1.5m is still ongoing, therefore this matter is pending.

4.3.4 Oodnadatta Health Service (Ref. agenda item 7.2, Meeting No.103)

The Director confirmed correspondence is yet to be forwarded to the Chair of the Eyre and Far North Local Health Network SA Health regarding the health service at Oodnadatta, therefore this matter is pending.

4.3.5 Mental Health Support for Outback Tourism Operators (Ref. agenda item 10, Meeting No.103)

The Director confirmed correspondence is yet to be forwarded to the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and appropriate Ministers seeking mental health support services for tourism operators in Outback SA, therefore this matter is pending.

4.3.6 EPA Request for OCA Assistance with Licenced Asbestos Disposal at Andamooka (Ref. agenda item 7, Meeting No. 108)

The Director confirmed correspondence is ready to be sent to the EPA requesting more information on what assistance they would like from the OCA and clarification on what has been done to resolve this issue to date. This matter can be removed from the action list.

4.3.7 Pastoral Board Correspondence on the Outback Futures Project (Ref. agenda item 9, Meeting No. 108)

The Director confirmed a response has not been sent to the Pastoral Board regarding feedback received on the Outback Futures Project, however they will be directed to the OCA's website to see the OCA's response to questions that were asked during the two Outback Futures online meetings as this will provide relevant information. This matter can be removed 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 (Ref. N22-01/03)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who confirmed both the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc. (APOMA) and the Iron Knob Progress Association are currently being consulted with to confirm their in-principle approval to entering into Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements for 2022-23, similar to what is currently in place. Both of these CARMs incorporate a community contribution and expire 30 June 2022.

Consultation on CARM agreements and community contributions is required before the OCA can make an informed decision about entering into agreements for 2022-23. Consultation will include a draft budget for each community.

The Director confirmed that if community feedback suggests general acceptance of the CARM agreements, a similar methodology to the current agreements will be adopted, being:

- A community contribution to apply from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.
- Property units remain the basis for determining the contributions attributable to a particular property.
- The dollar value of community contributions would be set having considered the consultation feedback, however it is expected to be the same as for the 2021-22 year's contribution ie \$400pa in Andamooka and \$240pa in Iron Knob.
- The OCA's Concession's Policy on rebates, remissions, hardship and postponements would apply.

The Director confirmed that Ministerial approval for the dollar value of each community contribution is required.

Once consultation has been completed, a recommended action report will be put to the OCA.

The Director tabled the Consultation Timeline and Community Engagement Strategy checklist for the Members.

Moved by Member Johnson  
Seconded by Member Frahn

*The OCA notes:*

- 1. The Office for the OCA will confirm in-principle approval from the Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc. to consider a new Community Affairs Resourcing and Management agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2022-23 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*
- 2. The Office for the OCA will confirm in-principle approval from the Iron Knob Progress Association Inc. to consider a new Community Affairs Resourcing and Management agreement incorporating a community contribution for 2022-23 and approve the consultation plan as tabled.*

Carried.

6.2 Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2022-23 (Ref. N22-02/03)

The Presiding Member referred to the Director who tabled the draft 2022-23 Business Plan and Budget document.

The Members requested a revised draft document be provided at the next OCA meeting.

6.3 MoAA Between the OCA and DIT for Leigh Creek Aerodrome Upgrade Works (Ref. N22-03/03)

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who provided a Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement (MoAA) with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) for the OCA to engage DIT to upgrade the Leigh Creek aerodrome runway. The project has a budget for the works of \$990,000.

This project is funded by Commonwealth Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program (RAUP) grant funding of \$500k with matching State Government co-funding which brings the total project budget to \$1m. \$10k has already been expended by the OCA to develop the scope of works which is outlined in attachment 1 of the MoAA.

In accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 8, approval is required from the OCA to execute the MoAA with DIT to undertake the upgrade works as the agreement amount exceeds the delegated authority given to the Director.

Moved by Member Johnson  
Seconded by Member Vaughan

*The OCA execute the Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) to undertake the Leigh Creek Aerodrome upgrade works with a total project value of \$990,000.*

Carried.

6.4 Outback Futures Update (Ref. N22-04/03)

The OCA notes the questions raised at the online meetings held on 22 and 23 March 2022 which were attended by 40 people in total.

Moved by Member Johnson  
Seconded by Member Wright

*The OCA confirms its commitment to a shared financial responsibility model and:*

- 1. Requests the Presiding Member arrange a meeting with the Minister for Local Government.*
- 2. Prepares a written response to the questions raised at the meetings to circulate publicly as soon as practicable.*

Carried.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

The OCA has received a Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement (MoAA) from the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) for the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program Far North Project. The program aims to identify and guide actions to build the region's resilience to future droughts and participation was supported by the OCA at their June 2021 meeting.

In accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 8, approval is required from the OCA to execute the MoAA with DIT to undertake the upgrade works as the agreement amount of \$297,000 exceeds the delegated authority given to the Director.

Moved Member Johnson  
Seconded Member Frahn

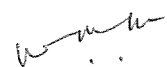
*The OCA execute the Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement with the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development for Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program Far North Project grant funding.*

Carried

8. BUSINESS PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Presiding Member referred discussion to the Director who tabled the 2021-22 Business Plan Action Plan.

The Members noted the Business Plan Action Plan.



## 9. PRESIDING MEMBERS REPORT

The Presiding Member summarised the activities he has been involved in leading up to the OCA meeting which included contacting the Member for Giles and Shadow Minister for Local Government to give them an update on the Outback Futures Project.

The OCA noted the Presiding Member's report.

## 10. MEMBERS REPORT

Member Fort provided an update on the Aussie Travel Code (ATC) campaign's progression as a finalist for a Banksia Award in the Communications for Impact category and again acknowledged her appreciation for the OCA's support for the ATC.

Member Frahn reported 2022 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the Overland Telegraph which, passing through outback South Australia, linked Australia to the global network in 1872. Many events are planned across SA and NT to celebrate the sesquicentenary.

Member Wright reported the William Creek/Coober Pedy road is still out of action to heavy transport due to the rainfall event earlier in the year which is having major implications to the delivery of freight and a large increase in fuel surcharge costs causing economic loss to effected communities.

Member Vaughan reported there has been distribution of Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits across the Outback which was achieved with OCA support. He also reported the Royal Flying Doctor Service has secured a partnership for delivering first aid courses across the Outback free of charge which will be a great opportunity for Outback residents to refresh or improve on their first aid skills.

## 11. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director tabled his report for the period leading up to the March meeting which included a large focus on Outback Futures and Leigh Creek Transformation work.

The Director has continued to participate in the Remote and Vulnerable Communities Zone Emergency Support Team and also participated in a flood recovery stakeholder reference group established by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT).

The Director tabled a list of activities undertaken by the Office for the OCA since the February 2022 meeting.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

The Director tabled the Correspondence Register for the period 22 February to 12 March 2022.

The OCA noted the Correspondence Register.



13. CONFIDENTIAL ORDERS

Nil.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The OCA noted that the next scheduled meeting will be a teleconference on 5 April followed by a meeting on 4 and 5 May 2022 at Port Augusta.

The meeting closed at 1:25 pm.

*W. M. Hutchings*

5-5-22