

MEETING MINUTES

RCA Board Meeting

Date: **Tuesday 22 November 2022**

Time: 3:05pm – 4:00pm AEDT
2:05pm – 3:00pm AEST
1:35pm – 4:30pm ACST
12:05pm – 3:00pm AWST

Location: **Video Conference**

Attendees

- Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council (RCA Chair)
- Mr Frank Zaknich – CEO, Albury City Council
- Mayor Jaysen de San Miguel – Mayor, City of Bunbury (RCA Deputy Chair)
- Mr Mal Osborne – CEO, City of Bunbury
- Cr Mathew Dickerson – Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council (RCA Secretary)
- Cr Grant Henley – Mayor, City of Busselton (WA Representative)
- Mr Tony Nottle – Director, City of Busselton
- Mr Ross McKim – CEO, City of Greater Geraldton
- Cr Doug Curran – Mayor, Griffith City Council (NSW Representative)
- Mr Ken Diehm – CEO, Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Cr Kellie O’Callaghan – Mayor, Latrobe City Council (VIC Representative)
- Mr Steven Piasente – CEO, Latrobe City Council
- Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Project Manager and Secretariat (Managing Director, Collective Position)
- Ms Edwina Blackburn – RCA Secretariat

Guests

- Mr Andrew Brien – CEO, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Cr Russell Webb – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council
- Cr Debbie Arnott – Mayor, Warrnambool City Council

Apologies

- Mayor Shane Van Styn – Mayor, City of Greater Geraldton (RCA Treasurer)
- Cr Matt Paterson – Mayor, Alice Springs Town Council
- Mr Robert Jennings – CEO, Alice Springs Town Council
- Cr George Seymour – Mayor, Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Mr Brett Stonestreet – GM, Griffith City Council

- Mr Murray Wood – CEO, Dubbo Regional Council

The meeting was declared open at 2:51pm AEDT.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council, opened the meeting and welcomed members to the meeting.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council, tabled the draft minutes from the previous August 2022 meeting.

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat provided an update on the actions from the RCA August Board Meeting. Members received and noted the minutes and updates.

Mayor Jaysen de San Miguel – Mayor, City of Bunbury moved the minutes as a true and accurate report of the meeting. Cr Grant Henley – Mayor, City of Busselton seconded.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus from members on the minutes.

3. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the October 2022 Treasurer’s report for endorsement.

Members received and noted the financial update. Cr Grant Henley – Mayor, City of Busselton moved to endorse the October 2022 Treasurer’s Report, Cr Russell Webb – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council seconded.

4. SECRETARIAT UPDATE

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat, tabled the following reports and registers for discussion and noting:

- 1) October Membership Status;
- 2) October Stakeholder Report; and
- 3) October Communications Report.

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat noted the RCA Stakeholder Communications would be reviewed and a proposal would be tabled at the February 2023 Board Meeting for consideration by members.

Members received and noted all reports and registers. RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus to endorse the October 2022 reports from members.

ACTION

4.1 RCA Secretariat to draft an RCA Communications proposal for the consideration of the Board at the next meeting.

5. REGIONAL CAPITALS AUSTRALIA POLICY

2022-23 Federal Budget Report

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the 2022-23 Federal Budget Report for discussion and noting.

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat provided an overview of the 2022-23 Federal Budget measures and noted there was an opportunity for RCA to provide input to the development of guidelines for the Growing Regions Program and the Regional Precincts and Partnership Program.

Members noted the 2022-23 Federal Budget Report.

RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper for discussion and feedback.

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat provided an overview of the paper and outlined the recommendations for members' information. Members noted the opportunity to engage with The Hon Catherine King MP - Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government on regional funding guidelines.

Members agreed to review the RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper and provide feedback on the document by 29 November 2022.

Cr Kellie O'Callaghan - Mayor, Latrobe City Council moved to endorse the RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper, noting members will provide any feedback on the full document. Mayor Jaysen de San Miguel – Mayor, City of Bunbury seconded.

ACTIONS

5.1 RCA Members to provide feedback on the RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper by 29 November 2022.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

Regional Funding

Mr Ken Diehm – CEO, Fraser Coast Regional Council noted infrastructure projects costs are fast exceeding the original estimates provided in federal grants due to the rising cost of materials and the strain on resources.

Members discussed writing to the Federal Government to extend support to existing infrastructure projects impacted by rising costs across all RCA members.

Members agreed to provide RCA Secretariat case studies of infrastructure projects where costs have exceeded the original estimates. Members agreed to write to relevant Ministers in support of additional funding for infrastructure commitments to address the increased cost of materials and labour.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus from members on the agreed action.

ACTIONS

6.1 RCA Members agreed to provide RCA Secretariat case studies of infrastructure projects where costs have exceeded the original estimates; and

6.2 RCA Secretariat to write to relevant Ministers to seek a review of funding provided in federal grants where costs are exceeding estimates in approved grant applications.

Draft RCA 2022 Meeting Schedule

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council tabled the Draft RCA 2022 Meeting Schedule for noting by members.

Members received the Draft RCA 2022 Meeting Schedule noting the Schedule will be reviewed once the 2023 Federal Sitting Calendar and ALGA National General Assembly dates are released.

Members noted ALGA National General Assembly presented an ability to gather RCA's membership in Canberra, however agreed a delegation would be unnecessary. Members agreed a Board Meeting would be held in June coinciding with the ALGA National General Assembly – however a delegation will not take place.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus from members on the Draft RCA 2023 Meeting Schedule, noting the calendar will be reviewed once the Federal Sitting Calendar is released.

ACTION

6.3 RCA Secretariat to circulate the Draft RCA 2023 Meeting Schedule once the Federal Sitting Calendar is released.

The meeting was closed at 3:48pm AEDT.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Task	Responsibility
RCA Secretariat to draft an RCA Communications proposal for the consideration of the Board at the next meeting.	Secretariat
RCA Members to provide feedback on the RCA Draft Federal Funding Position Paper by 29 November 2022.	Members
RCA Members agreed to provide RCA Secretariat case studies of infrastructure projects where costs have exceeded the original estimates.	Members
RCA Secretariat to write to relevant Ministers to seek a review of funding provided in federal grants where costs are exceeding estimates in approved grant applications.	Secretariat
RCA Secretariat to circulate the Draft RCA 2023 Meeting Schedule once the Federal Sitting Calendar is released.	Secretariat