

MEETING MINUTES

RCA Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday 26 October 2021

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm AEDT
10.30am-11.30am ACST
9:00am-10:00am AWST

Location: Videoconference

Attendees:

- Cr Kevin Mack – Mayor, Albury City Council (Chair)
- Cr Grant Henley – Mayor, City of Busselton
- Mr Mike Archer – CEO, City of Busselton
- Cr Col Murray – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council
- Mayor Shane Van Styn – Mayor, City of Greater Geraldton
- Mr Ross McKim – CEO, City of Greater Geraldton
- Cr Daniel Moloney – Mayor, City of Ballarat
- Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Project Manager and Secretariat (Managing Director, Collective Position)
- Ms Kate Behm – RCA Secretariat

Guests

- Cr Darriea Turley – Mayor, Broken Hill
- Mr Jay Nankivell – CEO, Broken Hill

Apologies

- Mr Paul Bennett – GM, Tamworth Regional Council
- Mr Evan King – CEO City of Ballarat
- Cr George Seymour – Mayor, Fraser Coast Regional Council (Treasurer)
- Mr Ken Diehm – CEO, Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Cr Greg Conkey – Mayor, City of Wagga Wagga
- Mr Peter Thompson – GM, City of Wagga Wagga
- Cr Matt Paterson – Mayor, Alice Springs Town Council
- Mr Robert Jennings – CEO, Alice Springs Town Council
- Mr Frank Zaknich – CEO, Albury City Council

The meeting was declared open at 12.00pm AEDT.

1. WELCOME

RCA Chair Cr Kevin Mack Mayor, City of Albury welcomed RCA members to the Board Meeting and noted the apologies.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat, tabled the draft minutes from 28 September 2021 to the Board Meeting. Ms Rachael Sweeney provided the following updates:

Secretariat will continue to follow up RCA membership invoices;

- Arts and Culture survey have been sent out to Members;
- Pre-Election Policy Work Plan has been updated to reflect requested changes from

Members; and

- An RCA Value Proposition has been prepared and will be circulated to Board Members for approval.

Members received and noted the minutes and updates. Cr Col Murray – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council moved the minutes as a true and accurate report of the meeting. Cr Daniel Moloney – Mayor, City of Ballarat seconded.

ACTION

2.1 Secretariat to circulate RCA Value Proposition to Board Members for approval.

3. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat, tabled the September 2021 Treasurer's report for endorsement. Members received and noted the financial update. Cr Daniel Moloney – Mayor, City of Ballarat moved to endorse the September 2021 Treasurer's Report, Cr Col Murray – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council seconded.

4. SECRETARIAT UPDATE

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

- Issues Register – September 2021;
- Membership Status Grid – September 2021;
- Communications Report – September 2021;
- RCA Stakeholders Register – September 2021;
- Communications Approach Overview; and
- RCA Key Message Register.

Members noted the following updates for the Issues Register:

- Secretariat to meet with the Hon Alex Hawke MP – Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, to discuss regional migration policy;
- Secretariat to meet with the new Executive Director of the Regional Universities Network (RUN), Mr Alec Webb to confirm ongoing MoU and strategic partnership with RCA;
- Members are in the process of providing feedback on the National Farmers' Federation's 'regional development precincts' model; and
- RCA draft policy positions for the upcoming federal election have been sent out to Board Members for review.

Members noted the following updates in relation to the Membership Status Grid:

- RCA Chair Cr Kevin Mack Mayor, City of Albury has met with Alice Springs Town Council recently to discuss ongoing RCA Membership, and expects feedback in November 2021;
- City of Bunbury have elected a new mayor, Mayor Jaysen De San Miguel. Cr Grant Henley – Mayor, City of Busselton will meet with the new mayor on 29 October 2021 to discuss RCA Membership.

Members received and noted all reports and registers. Cr Col Murray – Mayor, Tamworth

Regional Council moved to endorse the reports and registers, Cr Daniel Moloney – Mayor, City of Ballarat seconded.

5. THE HON CATHERINE KING MP

RCA Chair Cr Kevin Mack Mayor, City of Albury welcomed Hon Catherine King MP to the meeting. Cr Daniel Moloney – Mayor, City of Ballarat introduced Hon Catherine King MP as the local member for Ballarat and Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development.

Hon Catherine King MP discussed the following issues:

- Regional growth was high on the agenda, particularly given there has been a 200% increase in net growth to regional centres and regional areas during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Regional grant programs were an issue that was firmly in her purview, indicating that the ALP would be reviewing the equity of the current scheme; and
- She acknowledged that building resilient regions is reliant on connected, liveable and diversified local economies, with access to needs-based funding.

RCA highlighted the pressing need for underlying infrastructure investment to match the population growth.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Members discussed and noted/agreed to an online/virtual Delegation for November 2021. RCA Chair Cr Kevin Mack Mayor, City of Albury noted that it was Cr Col Murray's – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council last RCA meeting, and thanked him for his service and membership with RCA since 2014. The meeting was closed at 1:05pm AEDT.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Task	Responsibility
Secretariat to circulate RCA Value Proposition to Board Members for approval.	Secretariat