



MEETING MINUTES

REGIONAL CAPITALS AUSTRALIA

BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday 21 November 2023

Location: Videoconference

Time:

5:00pm – 6:00pm AEDT
4:00pm – 5:00pm AEST
3:30pm – 4:30pm ACST
2:00pm – 3:00pm AWST

Attendees

- Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council (Chair)
- Mr Frank Zaknich – GM, Albury City Council (Treasurer)
- Mayor Peter Carter – Mayor, Town of Port Hedland (Deputy Chair)
- Cr Mathew Dickerson – Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council (Secretary)
- Mr Murray Wood – Dubbo Regional Council
- Mayor Jerry Clune – Mayor, City of Greater Geraldton (WA Representative)
- Mr Ross McKim – CEO, City of Greater Geraldton
- Cr George Seymour – Mayor, Fraser Coast Regional Council (QLD Representative)
- Cr Trent Sullivan – Mayor, Greater Geelong City Council (VIC Representative)
- Cr Doug Curran – Mayor, Griffith City Council (NSW Representative)
- Mr Brett Stonestreet – GM, Griffith City Council
- Cr Jim Hickey – Deputy Mayor, Broken Hill City Council
- Mr Jay Nankivell – GM, Broken Hill City Council
- Mayor Phill Cronin – Mayor, City of Busselton
- Mr Tony Nottle – CEO, City of Busselton
- Mayor Glenn Wilson – Mayor, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Mr Andrew Brien – CEO, City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
- Mr Ken Diehm – CEO, Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Cr Darren Howe – Mayor, Latrobe City Council
- Mr Steven Piasente – CEO, Latrobe City Council



- Cr Russell Webb – Mayor, Tamworth Regional Council
- Mr Paul Bennett – GM, Tamworth Regional Council
- Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Project Manager and Secretariat (Managing Director, Collective Position)
- Ms Edwina Blackburn – RCA Secretariat

Apologies

- Mayor Chris Mitchell – Mayor, Shire of Broome
- Mr Sam Mastrolembro – CEO, Shire of Broome
- Cr Des Hudson OAM – Mayor, City of Ballarat
- Mr Evan King – CEO, City of Ballarat
- Mr Peter Thompson - GM, Wagga Wagga City Council
- Mayor Jaysen de San Miguel - City of Bunbury
- Mr Alan Ferris - CEO, City of Bunbury
- Cr Tom Kennedy – Mayor, Broken Hill City Council
- Ms Ali Wastie – CEO, Greater Geelong City Council
- Cr Dallas Tout – Mayor, Wagga Wagga City Council
- Mr Carl Askew – CEO, Town of Port Hedland
- Cr Ben Blain– Mayor, Warrnambool City Council
- Mr Andrew Mason – CEO, Warrnambool City Council
- Mayor Daniel Scott – Mayor, City of Karratha
- Ms Virginia Miltrup – CEO, City of Karratha

The meeting was declared open at 4.37pm AEST.

1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council, tabled the draft minutes from the previous October 2023 meeting.

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

Cr Mathew Dickerson – Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council moved the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cr Doug Curran – Mayor, Griffith City Council seconded the motion. RCA Chair, Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus from members to endorse the RCA October Meeting Minutes.



3. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the draft October 2023 Treasurer's Report for endorsement.

Mr Ken Diehm – CEO, Fraser Coast Regional Council provided an overview of the accounts to date for the information of members. Members noted the update.

Mayor Peter Carter – Mayor, Town of Port Hedland moved to endorse the October 2023 Treasurer's Report as true and accurate. Cr Doug Curran – Mayor, Griffith City Council seconded the motion.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus to endorse the October 2023 Treasurer's Report.

4. SECRETARIAT UPDATE

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

1. Membership Status;
2. Stakeholder Report;
3. Communications Report;
4. Seat at the Table Register; and
5. Analysis of the Federal Regional Funding Guidelines.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus to endorse the October 2023 reports from members.

5. REGIONAL CAPITALS AUSTRALIA – HOUSING REFORM

Updated Draft RCA Aviation Policy and RCA Analysis of Flight Routes

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the updated draft RCA Aviation Policy and RCA Analysis of Flight Routes for feedback and endorsement by members.

Members discussed the updated Policy Paper and agreed the additional section on the vulnerability of regional aviation routes was an accurate reflection of the strain experienced by regional airports.

RCA Chair Cr Kylie King – Mayor, Albury City Council noted consensus to endorse the updated RCA Aviation Policy Paper for inclusion in RCA advocacy.

Members noted the updated RCA Aviation Policy Paper would be submitted to the Federal Government's Aviation White Paper submission process.



Independent Strategic Review of Infrastructure Investments Program

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the RCA Analysis of Independent Strategic Review of Infrastructure Investments Program Project Changes for the information of members.

Members noted the analysis of project changes as outlined by the Independent Strategic Review of Infrastructure Investments Program and agreed to monitor the Federal Government's approach to funding infrastructure projects in regional Australia.

Draft 2024-25 RCA Pre Budget Submission

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the draft RCA 2024-25 Pre Budget Submission for review and feedback by members.

Members discussed the draft RCA 2024-25 Pre Budget Submission and noted an additional housing section would be included following the finalisation of the RCA Housing Case Studies.

Members noted the draft RCA 2024-25 Pre Budget Submission would be circulated to members following the meeting for further review and feedback.

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the Housing Working Group Update for discussion by members.

ACTIONS

5.1 RCA Secretariat to include the updated RCA Airports Policy Paper in RCA advocacy activities.

5.2 RCA Secretariat to submit the updated RCA Airports Policy Paper to the Federal Government's Aviation White Paper submission process.

5.3 RCA Secretariat to develop a watching brief on the Federal Government's approach to funding infrastructure project costs.

5.4 RCA Secretariat to circulate the draft RCA 2024-25 Pre Budget Submission to Board members following the November meeting for review and feedback.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

Draft RCA 2024 Meeting Schedule

Ms Rachael Sweeney – RCA Secretariat tabled the draft 2024 RCA Meeting Schedule and 2024 Federal Sitting Calendar for the information of members.

Members noted the draft 2024 RCA Meeting Schedule would be circulated for final feedback following the meeting before finalisation.

Next Meeting



RCA Chair Cr Kylie King - Mayor, Albury City Council noted the next RCA Board Meeting was proposed to be held on 7 February 2024, in Canberra ACT, pending finalisation of the 2024 RCA Meeting Schedule.

ACTIONS

6.1 RCA Secretariat to draft and issue a letter of thanks to Cr Henley for his involvement in RCA.

The meeting was declared closed at 5.17pm AEDT.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Task	Responsibility
RCA Secretariat to include the updated RCA Airports Policy Paper in RCA advocacy activities.	Secretariat
RCA Secretariat to submit the updated RCA Airports Policy Paper to the Federal Government's Aviation White Paper submission process.	Secretariat
RCA Secretariat to develop a watching brief on the Federal Government's approach to funding infrastructure project costs.	Secretariat
RCA Secretariat to circulate the draft RCA 2024-25 Pre Budget Submission to Board members following the November meeting for review and feedback.	Secretariat
RCA Secretariat to circulate the draft 2024 Meeting Schedule to the Board for review and feedback on proposed meeting dates.	Secretariat