

# Far South West Joint Organisation

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

Wentworth Shire Council Civic Centre

27 August 2018, 11:00am (AEST)

#### 1. Opening of the Meeting

11.08am

#### 2. Present

##### Voting Members

Mayors:

Cr Leigh Byron (Mayor)

Cr Melisa Hederics (Mayor/Chairperson)

Cr Marion Browne (Deputy Mayor)

Balranald Shire Council

Wentworth Shire Council

Broken Hill City Council

##### Non-Voting Members

Deputy Mayors:

Cr Alan Purfill

Cr Tim Elstone

General Managers:

Michael Kitzelmann

James Roncon

Greg Hill

Peter Kozlowski

Balranald Shire Council

Wentworth Shire Council

Balranald Shire Council

Broken Hill City Council

Central Darling Shire Council

Wentworth Shire Council

##### State Representatives:

Ashley Albury

Karen Purser

Department of Premier and  
Cabinet

Office of Local Government

##### Observers

Cr Ron Page

Cr Christine Adams

Broken Hill City Council

Broken Hill City Council

Note: Broken Hill City Council representatives and State representatives used Video Conferencing to participate in the meeting.

#### 3. Apologies and Leave of Absence

Administrator Greg Wright Central Darling Shire Council

Mayor Councillor Darriea Turley Broken Hill City Council

**4. Confirmation of Minutes**

**Resolution**

That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 26 July 2018 be confirmed as circulated.

**Moved: Cr Hederics**

**Second: Cr Browne**  
Carried.

**5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflicts of Interest**

Nil.

**6. Report on the Executive Officers Forum Held on 15/8/18**

The Executive Officer presented a verbal report to the meeting. The forum was a good opportunity to share information. In terms of networking a good opportunity to do that, the network will continue and will be valuable. Good opportunity for information sharing.

Note: The Interim Executive Officer advised that the forum was productive and a valuable source of information sharing. He advised that the forum was likely to continue as an executive officer network.

**Resolution**

That the Board notes the report.

**Moved: Cr Browne**

**Second: Cr Hederics**  
Carried.

**7. Report on the Inaugural Regional Joint Organisation Network Meeting Held on 16/8/18**

The Inaugural Regional Joint Organisation Network meeting was held in Sydney and was attended by the Chairperson for the FSWJO, Mayor Melisa Hederics and the Interim Executive Officer, Peter Kozlowski.

The Chairperson provided a verbal report at the meeting. The forum was a good opportunity to share information and the status of each joint organisation. 13 JOs throughout the whole State attended. Many of the JOs are confident in the directions they are moving and there was general agreement that the new regional concept needed to work. The chairpersons will meet on a regular basis. There was general agreement that government funding would be needed to keep JOs working well into the future.

The next network meeting is to be held in October in Albury at the Local Government Conference.

**Resolution**

That the Board notes the reports.

**Moved: Cr Browne**

**Second: Cr Hederics**  
Carried.

**8. Report on the Western Division Mid Term Meeting Held on 6/8/18**

The Western Division Mid Term Meeting was held in Cobar. All member Councils of the FSWJO are also members of the Western Division.

**Note: Balranald Shire Council representatives entered the meeting at 11.19am.**

James Roncon reported that the meeting was essentially broken into two parts

- update of the regions in relation their JOs and governance models for each
- candidate forum which was an opportunity to meet three of the candidates for the seat of Barwon and their vision for the electorate

It was also reported that the future of the Division was discussed including keeping the Western Division and to continue to meet with a view to strengthening its political advocacy role and for the Joint Organisations to focus on strategic issues.

#### **Resolution**

That the Board notes the report.

**Moved: Cr Byron**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

### **9. Discussion on Regional Priorities for Tourism and Culture Fund**

The FSWJO is entitled to a \$5 million dollar fund for tourism and culture. Although there are no guidelines at present the meeting took the opportunity to consider priorities for the fund. It was also noted that the Office of Local Government Implementation Action and Timeline indicated that a statement of regional strategic priorities (separate to the tourism and culture priorities) should be adopted by December 2018.

In relation to the tourism and culture fund it is being proposed to set up a committee, similar to those which operated for mergers, including the local State members, when evaluating regional priorities.

It was noted that for funds to be received by the JO a bank account is required.

Ashley Albury referred to two additional amounts of money available to the JO, being \$250,000 for public works assistance and \$250,000 for the strategic road network. Ashley will connect up with relevant agencies in this regard.

Ashley also reiterated that the JO now had a seat at the Leadership Executive table as a voting member.

Considerable discussion centred on how priorities should be set for the tourism and culture fund, input from individual member Councils, and the value on a regional basis. The meeting was informed that Chris Hangar (State) was establishing guidelines for the fund (water and health were used as examples by Ashley).

In relation to the Statement of Regional Priorities discussion centred on links to the Community Strategic Plans of Councils, the need to differentiate local government priorities from State and Federal responsibilities,

Note: Ashley Albury left the meeting at 11.33am

#### **Resolution**

That the Board considers and determines regional priorities for tourism and culture.

**Moved: Cr Bryon**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

**10. Discussion on Governance Models for the Board**

At the last Board meeting it was resolved to give consideration to extended membership of the FSWJO. Discussion occurred in regard to consideration of indigenous representation, Far West RDA representation and any other groups the Board determines will enhance the role of the FSWJO.

The meeting recognised the importance of setting up the foundation of the JO in the first instance, including the appointment of an Executive Officer, and that representation on the JO could be discussed at future meetings.

**Resolution**

That the matter of extending the non-voting members of the Board be deferred until such time as an Executive Officer is appointed

**Moved: Cr Byron**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

**11. Communication and Engagement Plan**

There has been some discussion about the need for a Joint Organisation to develop a Communications and Engagement Plan. It is understood that the Plan is not compulsory. It may be appropriate to consider such a plan at a future meeting when other priority issues are dealt with.

Broken Hill CC will provide a copy of its Communications and Engagement Plan to the Interim Executive Officer for distribution and consideration by the Board.

**Resolution**

That the matter of developing a Communications and Engagement Plan be deferred until such time as an Executive Officer is appointed

**Moved: Cr Byron**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

**12. Matters for Feedback from member Councils**

At the last Board meeting the following matters were referred to individual Councils in order for the Board to consider the feedback. It may be possible for these items to be processed by each Council prior to the next Board meeting.

- a) Draft Charter
- b) Broken Hill City Council Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities Policy
- c) Draft Code of Meeting Practice

The Board noted the Office of Local Government Implementation Action and Timeline at its last meeting which stated that point a) and b) above are to be adopted within three months (i.e. end of October 2018).

**Resolution**

That the Board notes the report.

**Moved: Cr Byron**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

**13. Change of Joint Organisation Name**

At the last Board meeting it was resolved to change the Joint Organisation name from the Far South West Joint Organisation to the Far West Joint Organisation. The

change will be gazetted after the Office of Local Government receives a copy of the confirmed minutes of the last Board meeting.

**Resolution**

That the Board notes the report.

**Moved: Cr Browne**

**Second: Cr Byron**

Carried.

**14. Recruitment of a Fulltime Executive Officer**

The Board at the last meeting resolved to move formally to adopt a recruitment process to engage a fulltime Executive Officer.

Discussion centred on the number of hours for the position, the recruitment process (LGNSW), when to recruit, and the location of the main office, and the residence for the officer (preference to reside in the region).

**Resolution:**

The Board requests the interim Executive Officer to engage LGNSW for the recruitment of the permanent Executive Officer and that the initial term be 12 months full time with the option to extend to a further term of 12 months and remuneration is to be set at industry standards.

**Moved: Cr Byron**

**Second: Cr Browne**

Carried.

**15. Next Meeting Date/Time/Location**

Balranald Friday 28 September 2018 at 11am (AEST)

Central Darling Shire Council on Sunday 21 October 2018 (in Albury during the LGNSW Annual Conference at 4pm (AEST), venue to be confirmed).

**16. Meeting Closed:**

12:20pm