



CANBERRA REGION
JOINT ORGANISATION

CRJO Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, 26 March 2021

10:00 – 13:30pm

Zoom Videoconference

Meeting ID 910 5131 6457

Our Region...

Dynamic

Innovative

Connected

...Compelling!

Contents

1.	Opening Meeting	4
2.	Apologies.....	4
3.	Presentations	4
3.1.	Public Service Commission – Regional Workforce (10:30am)	4
3.2.	DPIE – Special Activation Precincts (11:00am)	4
4.	Urgent Business	5
4.1.	IPART Review – Local Government Rate Peg.....	5
4.2.	Minister for Planning – Media Release regarding upcoming \$400m boost for infrastructure for NSW Councils	5
5.	Confirmation of Minutes.....	6
6.	Reports to CRJO Board.....	6
6.1.	A new CRJO Strategic Plan	6
6.2.	Southern Lights NSW – Project Update	6
6.3.	EPA Bushfire Generated Green Waste Data Collection Initiative.....	6
6.4.	A Regional Community Strategic Plan.....	7
6.5.	The Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit	7
6.6.	Incoming Councillors Induction – Proposal from the Australian Institute of Company Directors.....	7
6.7.	Outcome of the 2019/2020 Audit.....	9
6.8.	CRJO Operational Report	9
6.9.	CRJO Financial Report.....	10
7.	Network Updates	10
7.1.	ACT Government.....	10
7.2.	Resilience NSW	11
7.3.	Regional NSW.....	11
7.4.	Office of the Cross Border Commissioner.....	11
7.5.	Office of Local Government	11
8.	Confidential Matters	12
9.	Close.....	12

MEMBERS	
Bega Valley Shire Council	Mayor Cr Russell Fitzpatrick Ms Leanne Barnes OAM
Eurobodalla Shire Council	Mayor Liz Innes Mr Lindsay Usher
Goulburn Mulwaree Council	Mayor Bob Kirk Mr Warwick Bennett
Hilltops Council	Mayor Brian Ingram Mr Anthony O'Reilly
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council	Mayor Tim Overall Mr Peter Tegart
Snowy Monaro Regional Council	Mayor Peter Beer Mr Peter Bascomb
Snowy Valleys Council	Mayor James Hayes OAM – Deputy Chairperson Mr Matthew Hyde
Upper Lachlan Shire Council	Mayor John Stafford Ms Colleen Worthy
Wingecarribee Shire Council	Mr Les McMahon – (A/ General Manager) Mr Viv May PSM – (Interim Administrator)
Yass Valley Council	Mayor Rowena Abbey – Chairperson Mr Chris Berry
ACT Government	MS Wilhelmina Blount
East Gippsland Shire Council	Mayor Mende Urie Mr Anthony Basford
Wagga Wagga City Council	Mayor Greg Conkey OAM Mr Peter Thompson
Canberra Region Joint Organisation	Ms Kalina Koloff Ms Natasa Sojic
GUESTS	
Resilience NSW	Mr David Butt
Office of Local Government	Ms Alison Murphy
NSW Government – Regional NSW	Ms Megan Cleary
NSW Cross Border Commissioner and Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator	Mr James McTavish
NSW Public Service Commission	Ms Anat Hassner
Dept Planning Industry and Environment	Ms Anthea Sargeant

1. Opening Meeting

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 10:04am.

2. Apologies

The Board resolved that the apologies of Cr Mende Urie (East Gippsland Shire Council), Mr Anthony Basford (East Gippsland Shire Council), Cr John Stafford (Upper Lachlan Shire Council) Mr Viv May PSM (Interim Administrator Wingecarribee Shire Council) and Matthew Hyde (Snowy Valleys Council), David Butt (Resilience NSW) be accepted.

Tim Overall / Peter Beer

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1. Public Service Commission – Regional Workforce (10:30am)

Reporting officer: Anat Hassner, Assistant Commissioner, Regional Workforces, Public Service Commission

Attachment: Approach to Achieving Regionalisation Principles (PowerPoint)

REPORT

In February 2021 Anat joined the Public Service Commission as Assistant Commissioner, Regional Workforce. The role is a 6 months secondment to drive the new regionalisation strategy announced by the Deputy Premier on the 3rd of February, 2021. Anat has held senior roles in Woolworths and Lend Lease and ran a private consulting business for 7 years, where she led strategic reforms in private and public organisations. Anat has a PhD in change and project management, a Masters in Organisational Psychology and has lectured for 5 years at the University of Sydney.

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

- 1. Note the verbal report by Anat Hassner*
- 2. Resend the presentation from Regional Cities re: Shift portal email to Ms Hassner*

Liz Innes / Peter Beer

Carried

Peter Tegart left the meeting at 11:00am

3.2. DPIE – Special Activation Precincts (11:00am)

Reporting officer: Anthea Sargeant, Executive Director DPIE

REPORT

Anthea Sargeant is the Department of Planning and Environment Executive Director - Key Sites and Industry Assessments for the Department of Planning and Environment responsible for overseeing State Significant development assessments for key projects in NSW including Special Activation Precincts.

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

Note the report by DPIE Special Activation Precincts

Russell Fitzpatrick / Tim Overall

Carried

4. Urgent Business

The Chairperson will call for any Additional Business pursuant to Clause 9.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice. Any additional business to be discussed requires a Board resolution or a ruling by the Chairperson that the matter is of great urgency.

The CRJO Board may resolve to accept any late item, information, or urgent business to be discussed and/or determined at this meeting.

4.1. IPART Review – Local Government Rate Peg

Reporting Officer: Peter Tegart

4.2. Minister for Planning – Media Release regarding upcoming \$400m boost for infrastructure for NSW Councils

Reporting Officer: Warwick Bennett

The meeting noted:

- councils only increase rates income by IPART rate peg, new growth in assessments, or SRV
- submissions on the IPART review of the rate peg is due 3 May 2021 (before next Board)
- current rate peg includes change in LGCI less productivity, plus other (incl RFS charge)
- review proposes to add a population growth factor to the rate peg calculation
- concerns the threshold for consideration for population growth is LGA or cohort specific, and dependent that growth exceeds the NSW average
- concerns DPIE uses ABS and other lag indicators to forecast growth, rather than lead indicators such as dwelling approvals, water/sewage consumption used by ID Profiler
- regional councils are experiencing post-COVID growth in population and property demand
- the combination of the NSW PC report on infrastructure contributions and this new rate peg review, are expected by Government to accommodate development growth

RESOLVED

1. *That the Board receive a paper via GMAG for the purpose of submission on the Rate Peg Review regarding:*
 - a) *operation and limitations of the Bill enabling member councils to access a margin on the rate peg to reflect population growth, or implement an infrastructure levy,*
 - b) *potential population cohorts based on CRJO sub-regions or FERs*
 - c) *potential use of ID Profiler to guide estimates and impacts of population growth*
 - d) *demands on services and infrastructure as consequence of population growth*
2. *That the Board seek a report on how CRJO councils can influence population projections and planning by DPIE, to focus on lead indicators rather than lag indicators*

Tim Overall / Bob Kirk

Carried

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Attachment: CRJO Board Meeting Minutes 11 December 2020

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board meeting minutes from 11 December 2020 be confirmed.

James Hayes OAM / Tim Overall

Carried

6. Reports to CRJO Board

6.1. A new CRJO Strategic Plan

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

Attachment: A new Statement of Strategic Priorities for the CRJO (PowerPoint)

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

- 1. Note the updated DRAFT CRJO Strategic Plan*
- 2. Provide input and propose any revisions before finalisation of the plan and endorsement by new CRJO Board in September 2021*

Russell Fitzpatrick / James Hayes

Carried

6.2. Southern Lights NSW – Project Update

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

- 1. Note the progress of the Southern Lights NSW Project*
- 2. Endorse the decision of the CRJO General Managers to withdraw from the Southern Lights Project at June 30, 2021 at the conclusion of Phase 1 of the project.*

Russell Fitzpatrick / Bob Kirk

Carried

6.3. EPA Bushfire Generated Green Waste Data Collection Initiative

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board note the progress of the Bushfire Generated Green Waste – Data Collection Initiative.

Russel Fitzpatrick / Bob Kirk

Carried

6.4. A Regional Community Strategic Plan

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

Attachment: Projectura Proposal

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board note the outcome of the procurement and the appointment of Projectura to develop a Regional Community Strategic plan.

Russell Fitzpatrick / Tim Overall

Carried

6.5. The Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board note the progress of the Climate Resilient Housing Toolkit project.

Russell Fitzpatrick / Bob Kirk

Carried

6.6. Incoming Councillors Induction – Proposal from the Australian Institute of Company Directors

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

Attachments: AICD CRJO Proposal

The CRJO Board instructs the CEO to follow up with AICD to investigate if previous attendance at AICD training will be recognised as prior learning on new course frameworks. The CEO is to make provision in the 2021/22 CRJO budget for the 1 Day AICD Board training on an opt-in basis for Councils.

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *Note the AICD proposal*

2. *Endorse the decision of the CRJO General Managers to:*
 - 2.1. *Organise AICD Training for new CRJO Board*
 - 2.2. *Invite Councils to take up 2 day AICD courses in pairs*

Liz Innes / Les McMahon

Carried

DRAFT

6.7. Outcome of the 2019/2020 Audit

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

Attachments:

- 6.7.1 Independent Auditors Report
- 6.7.2 Report on the Conduct of the Audit

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *Note the outcomes of the 2019/2020 Audit*

Bob Kirk / Tim Overall

Carried

6.8. CRJO Operational Report

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff

Attachments

- 6.8.1 JO Forum – Representation on Working with JOs
- 6.8.2 CRJO Representation on Emergency Services Levy
- 6.8.3 Response from Minister Hancock on Emergency Services Levy
- 6.8.4 CRJO Submission – Fairer Rating Review
- 6.8.5 CRJO Submission – Inland Rail Inquiry
- 6.8.6 CRJO Submission - NSW Property Tax
- 6.8.7 CRJO Submission – NSW Agricultural land Use

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board

1. *Receive the CRJO Operational Report*
2. *Note the correspondence with the Minister for Local Governments in relation to representations on the Emergency Services Levy and:*
 - 2.1. *Advise the Minister of Local Government that her letter does not reflect the current situation of most regional and rural Councils Emergency Services Levy increases either surpasses the quantity of the 2020/21 rate cap or consume the majority of the rate cap increase,*
 - 2.2. *Seek an immediate review her decision*
 - 2.3. *Recommend member Councils only pay the Emergency Service Levy in 2021/22 the amount equivalent to that paid in 2020/21 plus the approved rate cap increase*
 - 2.4. *Share the CRJO board resolution with other the Joint Organisations, Country Mayors, Regional Organisations of Councils, Local Government NSW and local members.*
 - 2.5. *Advocate for a separate line item to be included in the Annual Rates Notice to reflect the costs associated with the Emergency Services Levy.*

Bob Kirk / Liz Innes

Carried

6.9. CRJO Financial Report

Reporting officer: Kalina Koloff and Jennifer Lang

Attachments:

- 6.9.1 Balance Sheet
- 6.9.2 Profit and Loss
- 6.9.3 Profit and Loss – Climate Toolkit
- 6.9.4 Profit and Loss – Contaminated Lands
- 6.9.5 Profit and Loss CRC Education
- 6.9.6 Profit and Loss – CRJO Operations
- 6.9.7 Profit and Loss – EPA Green Waste Project
- 6.9.8 Profit and Loss – Household Chemicals
- 6.9.9 Profit and Loss – Regional Coordination

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board receive the CRJO Finance Report and note the financial position of the Organisation as at 28 February 2021.

James Hayes / Tim Overall

Carried

Cr Russell Fitzpatrick left the meeting at 12:24pm.

7. Network Updates

7.1. ACT Government

Reporting Officers: Wilhelmina Blount

The ACT Government reported that:

- It is supportive of the CRJO to seek opportunities for the Climate Change office of ACT to work with the CRJO regarding the Climate Resilient Housing toolkit.
- Notes the continued illegal dumping impacts from ACT infrastructure projects on surrounding Councils and sees opportunities to work more closely with the CRJO members on strategies and programs.

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *Note the report by Wilhelmina Blount, ACT Government*

James Hayes/ Bob Kirk

Carried

7.2. Resilience NSW

Reporting Officer: David Butt / Kalina Koloff

That the report by Kalina Koloff on behalf of David Butt, Resilience NSW, be noted

James Hayes/ Bob Kirk

Carried

7.3. Regional NSW

Reporting Officer: Megan Cleary

Regional NSW reported on the updated 20-Year Economic Vision for NSW. A copy of the strategy can be found at: https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-02/20%20Year%20Vision%20for%20RNSW_0.pdf

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *That the verbal report by Regional NSW be noted*

Peter Beer / Tim Overall

Carried

7.4. Office of the Cross Border Commissioner

Reporting Officers: James McTavish/Emma Watts

The Cross Border Commissioner reported that:

- The Cross Border MOU between NSW and Victoria is close to final and will be circulated for comment within the next couple of weeks
- Emma Watts (Assistant Cross Border Commissioner) to engage with Kalina Koloff (CRJO CEO) to investigate opportunities in waste management and renewables
- That NSW is currently reviewing Procurement Guidelines with opportunities to share supplier lists to create additional regional efficiencies

On behalf of CRJO Members, Leanne Barnes acknowledged the outstanding work of the Office of the Cross Border Commissioner during the difficult Christmas border closures and thanked the team for their efforts.

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *Note the verbal report by Office of the Cross Border Commissioner*

James Hayes / Tim Overall

Carried

Brian Ingram left the meeting at 12:42pm.

Wilhelmina Blount left the meeting at 12:53pm.

7.5. Office of Local Government

Reporting Officers: Alison Murphy

OLG reported that:

- Minister is writing to JOs on appointment of consultant and timing of upcoming JO review.
- Consultation discussion paper on remote meetings is open and submissions are invited until 3rd May
- Noted that information on OLG support for upcoming council election is on website and available
- Confirmed that iVote will be made available for council elections administered by the NSW Electoral Commissioner from September 2021. iVote will operate at council elections in the same way it operates for State elections and will have the same eligibility criteria with some minor and temporary modifications in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information available from the electoral commission or at:
<https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Policy-library/Technology-Assisted-Voting-Approved-procedures-for>

RESOLVED

That the CRJO Board:

1. *Note the report from Office of Local Government*

Bob Kirk / James Hayes

Carried

8 Confidential Matters

The CRJO Board must resolve to move into Closed Session to deal with any items under s10 Local Government Act 1993.

9 Close

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 1:08pm.

Next meeting will be 11th June .