



# MINUTES

## 12 August 2022 – Thargomindah (Bulloo Shire Council)

<b>Venue:</b>	Kullilli Room Echidna Place 37 Dowling Street Thargomindah QLD 4492	<b>Date:</b>	12 August, 2022
<b>Chair:</b>	Cr Kate Dight, - Inverell Shire Council	<b>Time:</b>	9am
<b>Invitees:</b>			
<b>Attendees:</b>	In person:		
	Cr Samantha O'Toole Matthew Magin	Balonne Shire Council	
	Cr Kate Dight Sharon Stafford	Inverell Shire Council	
	Cr Rob Mackenzie	Goondiwindi Regional Council	
	Cr John Coulton Alex Eddy	Gwydir Shire Council	
	Cr Lisa Orchin Nick Tobin	Moree Plains Shire Council	
	Cr John Ferguson Amer Tawfik Donna Hobbs	Bulloo Shire Council	
	Cr Suzette Beresford	Paroo Shire Council	
	Via Teams:		
	Cr Bronwyn Petrie Darryl Buckingham	Tenterfield Shire Council	
	Cr Andrew Gale	Southern Downs Regional Council	
	Also in Attendance:		
	James McTavish (Teams) Kellie Urquardt Amy Mouafi	NSW Cross Border Commissioner	
	A/SSgt Chris Mitchell	Qld Police Service	
	Jenny Rix (Teams) Trudi Bartlett	RDA Darling Downs & South West	
	Bill Lansbury (Teams)	Department Transport & Main Roads QLD	
	Katie Williams (Teams)	Premier & Cabinet QLD	
	Angela Doering (Teams)	Inland Rail (Dept Infrastructure)	
	Jo Tait (Teams)	ARTC	
	Nikki Seymour (Teams)	Dept Ag & Fisheries QLD	
	Danika Green (Teams)	Department Infrastructure	







	comment on this section.
	<p><b>Bill Lansbury – Qld Department of Transport and Main Roads</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department of Transport and Main Roads in Qld is overwhelmed with \$62m worth of flood damage.</li> <li>• There have been 40 declared events since November 2021 which the Department are working through to rehabilitate and reconstruct main roads throughout Southern Qld.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Katie Williams – QLD Department of Premier &amp; Cabinet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BROCC has undertaken considerable advocacy to instate a Qld Cross Border Commissioner and while the Department has stated that this is not something that will be implemented in the near future, it is working with a new model for regional coordination that they hope to be more effective. It will always be about raising the profile of rural and regional communities and the Department still promotes the importance of the relevant agencies and acknowledged them as an important point for issues raised by BROCC.</li> <li>• Katie informed us that she is leaving her role at the end of August which gave BROCC the opportunity to thank her for her efforts with the group over many years and to wish her well in her future endeavours.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Jenny Rix – Director Darling Downs SW RDA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability with water is the critical issue and the Cross Border Water Forum initiated by BROCC is really important for the future management of water in the border regions.</li> <li>• The Qld Regional Water project is in its final stages and of the 121 recommendations, cross border collaboration was in the top 3 recommendations.</li> <li>• The NSW Regional Water Strategy Plans are also in motion and are further progressed with their consultation period already closed. As such collaboration between NSW &amp; Qld is out of sync but it will be prioritised in early 2023. In the meantime the Cross Border Commissioner confirmed for the group that it sits on the NSW Regional Water Strategy Board and represents on water infrastructure and flood mitigation. If BROCC has items of advocacy he invited the collaboration.</li> </ul>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Guest Speaker</b>
	<p>Donna Hobbs – Bulloo Shire Council, Rural Services Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural services at the Bulloo Shire Council support a wide cross section of activities; from rural counsellor services, biosecurity services, specialist services (ie fish scientist and field days), agforce support, LLS services and other expertise opportunities that are appropriate to their rural landholders. They accept that they are the major service provider for the community and as such aim to provide that which is needed.</li> </ul> <p>Tammy – Bulloo Shire Council, Tourism &amp; Economic Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With 8 staff and a quickly expanding tourism operation in Thargomindah, this area of the Council is busy. They run 2 festivals per year, the Shearers Shindig attracting the traditional Thargomindah community who have been a part of this primary industry for generations and the Channel Country Music Muster which attracts a slightly more diverse audience from near and far. 207 caravans attended last year's event and they also managed to get shopper</li> </ul>





	<p>region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Advocate for the best outcomes for the region at a state and federal government level</li> <li>iii. Ensure the sustainability, and where possible, the growth of the region through contributing to the effectiveness of all member councils</li> <li>iv. Undertake projects that have a material benefit to some or all member councils of the Organisation to promote regional cooperation and the efficiencies of individual councils. Areas of regional strategic importance include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Attracting Population and industry</li> <li>o Transport networks</li> <li>o Disaster Recovery, Management &amp; Betterment</li> <li>o Health Services</li> <li>o Housing</li> <li>o Education &amp; Childcare</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
9.4	<p><b>Carbon Farming (socio economic impacts)</b></p> <p><b>Paroo Carbon Credit – Mayor Suzette Beresford</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon Credit take up has had an overwhelming impact on the Paroo Shire with 33% of Qld carbon credits taken up with land holdings in Paroo. As such the population decline since 2012 has been significant as landholders have taken the opportunity to retire and exit the industry with financial remuneration. Huge tracts of mulga lands have been locked away for credits which has led to a lack of landuse management and significant problems for both flora &amp; fauna. In conjunction, the mulga land valuation have increased having a huge impact on rates and other ensuing roll on effects. With carbon credit agreements ranging from 20-30 years, the Shire has witnessed generational change never seen before and the Council has worked exceptionally hard since then to arrest the decline in population.</li> </ul> <p><b>Copy of Carbon Farming presentation made to SWQ CEO’s titled ‘Darling Downs Land Restoration Fund’ kindly provided by Balonne Shire Council and will be circulated with the minutes.</b></p>
9.5	<p><b>Queensland Funding for Preschools and / or Kindergartens</b></p> <p>Goondiwindi Regional Council to investigate matter further. Matter to be held over to next meeting.</p>
9.6	<p><b>Flood Gauges, Access to state Asset Flood Cameras, Standardising Gauges and Reporting</b></p> <p>Goondiwindi Regional Council to investigate matter further. Matter to be held over to next meeting.</p>
9.7	<p><b>Exclusion Fencing</b></p> <p>Noted that update on this matter has been provided previously.</p>
10.	<p><b>Action Log</b></p>
	<p>Item to be held over to next meeting.</p>
11.	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>

	24 November, 2022 at Goondiwindi (Goondiwindi Regional Council) commencing at 2pm (**later changed to 1 December, 2022 commencing at 1pm (Qld time). (** Note: Date later changed to Thursday 1 December 2022)
<b>12.</b>	<b>General Business</b>
	Nil.
<b>13.</b>	<b>Meeting Closed</b>
	There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 12.10pm.