



MINUTES

6 May 2022 – Moree

(Moree Plains Shire Council)

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| Venue: | Moree Plains Shire Council Level 1 The Max Centre 30 Heber Street Moree | Date: | 6 May, 2022 | |
| Chair: | Cr Kate Dight, - Inverell Shire Council | Time: | 10am | |
| Invitees: | Mark Connelly | Moree Plains Shire Council | | |
| | Tammy Elbourne | Moree Visitor Information Centre | | |
| | Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell | QLD Police | | |
| | Philippe Benoiel | Field Solutions Group | | |
| | Hon Adam Marshall MP | Member Northern Tablelands | | |
| Attendees: | Cr Samantha O'Toole (Teams) Matthew Magin | Balonne Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Kate Dight Sharon Stafford | Inverell Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Bronwyn Petrie Darryl Buckingham | Tenterfield Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Andrew Gale | Southern Downs Regional Council | | |
| | Cr John Coulton | Gwydir Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Lisa Orchin Cr Mark Johnson Scott Macdonald | Moree Plains Shire Council | | |
| | Donna Hobbs (Teams) | Bulloo Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Jane Keir (Teams) Michael Urquhart (Teams) | Walgett Shire Council | | |
| | Cr Barry Hollman (Teams) (observer) | Bourke Shire Council | | |
| | Also in Attendance: | | | |
| | James McTavish | Cross Border Commissioner | | |
| | Jenny Rix | Regional Development Australia Darling Downs & South West | | |
| | Russell Stewart | Regional Development Australia Northern Inland | | |
| | Bill Lansbury (Teams) | Department Transport & Main Roads | | |

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| | Katie Williams (Teams) | Premier & Cabinet QLD |
| | Angela Doering (Teams) | Inland Rail (Dept Infrastructure) |
| | Jo Tait | ARTC |
| | Andrew Langford (Teams) | Dept Ag & Fisheries QLD |
| | Damon Meadows (Teams) | Dept Local Govt Racing & Multicultural Affairs |
| File Ref: | | |

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| 1. | Meeting Open | |
| 2. | Apologies | |
| | Max Eastcott | Gwydir Shire Council |
| | Anne Leahy MP | Member for Warrego |
| | Cr Suzette Beresford Cassie White | Paroo Shire Council |
| | Cr Rob Mackenzie | Goondiwindi Regional Council |
| | Janelle Saffin MP | Member for Lismore |
| | Moved: Southern Downs That the apologies be accepted. Seconded: Gwydir | |
| 3. | Minutes of Meeting – 11 February 2022 | |
| 3.1 | Matters Arising from the Minutes | |
| | Nil | |
| | Moved: Southern Downs That the Minutes be accepted. Seconded: Gwydir | |
| 4. | Correspondence | |
| 4.1 | Inwards: | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank Statements and Fixed Term Certificate - National Australia Bank & Credit Union Response from Bourke Shire Council re: invitation to join BROCC List of Priorities – Bulloo Shire Council | |
| 4.2 | Outwards: | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Appreciation to Cr Peter Petty, former Chairperson Letters inviting Bourke & Brewarrina Shire Councils to join BROCC | |
| 4.3 | Matters arising from Correspondence | |
| | Nil | |
| | Moved: Tenterfield That the correspondence be received and noted. | |

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| | Seconded: Moree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. | Financial Report as at 11 April 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | <p>Transactions:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Opening Balance as at 12 January 2022</td> <td>\$15,478.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest</td> <td>0.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership - Inverell</td> <td>500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance as at 11 April 2022</td> <td>\$16,280.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>National Australia Bank – Term Deposit 42-388-8697</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lodged 27 December 2021 for 12 months @ 0.45%</td> <td>\$10,536.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maturity Date – 27 December 2022</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Warwick Credit Union – Fixed Term Deposit 100005924</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Opening Balance as at 31 January 2022</td> <td>\$ 11,401.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest Paid 0.4%</td> <td>\$ 11.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinvested 22 January 2022 @ 0.4%</td> <td>\$ 11,412.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maturity Date – 22 April 2022</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | Opening Balance as at 12 January 2022 | \$15,478.11 | Interest | 0.39 | Membership - Inverell | 500.00 | Balance as at 11 April 2022 | \$16,280.50 | | | Lodged 27 December 2021 for 12 months @ 0.45% | \$10,536.57 | Maturity Date – 27 December 2022 | | Opening Balance as at 31 January 2022 | \$ 11,401.10 | Interest Paid 0.4% | \$ 11.49 | Reinvested 22 January 2022 @ 0.4% | \$ 11,412.59 | Maturity Date – 22 April 2022 | |
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| 5.2 | <p>Matters arising from Financial Report</p> <p>Noted that the Warwick Credit Union Fixed Term Deposit has since been reinvested.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Moved: Gwydir That the Financial Report be accepted. Seconded: Balonne</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. | Guest Speakers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>10.30am James McTavish, Cross Border Commissioner (CBC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CBC is currently re-negotiating with the Government on Cross Border Commissioner’s role for NSW & QLD and it will be finalised by the end of this financial year. The CBC is looking to include a higher level of coordination with Local Government and other peak organisations. The extreme weather event in the Northern Rivers has highlighted the need for cross-border management and the recovery going forward will depend on this. It is recognised that there are some huge legacy infrastructure issues which are very difficult to untangle and engagement with the Commonwealth is required. The SA government has just tabled their Cross Border Commissioner Bill to parliament which offers a great blue print for other Commissioner Border roles and how they operate. The CBC is investigating their management of COVID, in particular, with respect to health, education and transport. A community survey has been | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>undertaken as part of the review and 3000 responses have been received to date. The findings of the review will subsequently be tabled to BROCC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cross Border Infrastructure Fund is in the process of final assessments with decisions expected on the 19 May 2022 and final announcements in June/July 2022. The full \$10M allocation is expected to be made. • The Commission has received ongoing funding allocation for another 4 years with \$13.3M enabling 14 staff to be retained. It is expected another \$20M will be available in the next round of the Infrastructure Growth Fund. • The Commission recognises the huge toll on well-being and mental health on the community from the recent extreme weather events and that it is critical that this be a part of any recovery process that the Commission implements. <p>Moved: Gwydir That BROCC write to Damien Walker, Director General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning urging the QLD Department to support the appointment of a Queensland Cross Border Commissioner.</p> <p>Seconded: Southern Downs</p> |
| | <p>11.00 am Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell, District Disaster Management Coordinator – Cross Border Disaster Management (proposal to establish a formal group covering the cross border region).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snr Sgt Mitchell presented on the disaster management processes currently in place in Qld. There are 3 tiers of response; Local (LG Government Councils), District Disaster Management and State Disaster Management (national & defense asset response) and matters get escalated depending on the event. The border creates confusion which is why a relationship with BROCC is ideal. • The Coordinator would like to implement a workshop/forum to analyse NSW & QLD disaster management functionality and response with a view to shared learning. While we are sitting outside a disaster event, it is time to come up with a disaster management framework specific to the border organisations. • The BROCC organisation unanimously agreed to support/auspice this forum in any way required and the matter is to proceed. <p>Moved: Moree That BROCC support and be represented in the initiative of the District Disaster Management Coordinator to hold a Disaster Management Workshop in which all relevant cross border agencies would be invited to participate.</p> <p>Seconded: Southern Downs</p> |
| | <p>11.30 am Philippe Benoliel, Field Solutions Group (a challenger telecommunications carrier) – Regional Connectivity Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Solutions Group (FSG) is a telco challenger organisation building infrastructure. They are the 4th mobile network with massive project activities (\$196M) currently in the build throughout all the border regions; Paroo, Bulloo, Balonne, Goondiwindi and Moree. Their mission is "Coverage |

should not be a factor”.

- They are the first network to showcase the neutral host model where multiple services can be built on the same infrastructure. This carrier diversity allows for additional connectivity and builds resilience capacity. They are government funded and currently they have an agreement with Optus but are looking to host all carriers to be asset sharing.
- FSG own all the infrastructure and maintain it. They are currently negotiating with many telcos (ie Starlink, One web, LEO Technology) and legislation is to be finalised by September 2023.

Copy of presentation kindly provided and will be distributed with minutes.

Moved: Tenterfield

That BROOC make representations to the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, in support of neutral hosting of communication infrastructure particularly for rural, regional and remote areas.

Seconded: Moree

11.45 am

Mark Connelly, Moree Plains Shire Council, Overview of Moree’s Special Activation Precinct.

- The SAP in Moree is a huge infrastructure opportunity in the region with a 40 year vision statement.
- In conjunction with the SAP, the MPSC are coordinating the Moree Hospital redevelopment, the UNE Smart Regulator Incubator, Inland Rail and the Inter-Modal Overpass, some huge infrastructure items for the future.
- The SAP is a NSW government program funded by Snowy 2.0 allowing developments to be fast tracked and the approval process to be within 30 days. It enables developers to value add bringing opportunities to the local economy and surrounds. 800 new housing structures need to be strategised by 2026 to account for the economic and social growth brought about by the SAP.

Copy of presentation kindly provided and will be distributed with minutes.

12.10 pm

The Hon Adam Marshall MP, Member for Northern Tablelands.

- The SAP will transform the entire North West of NSW and is the biggest infrastructure project since the 1970’s. Traditionally the North/South connectors have been the priority but now this development makes the east/west connector corridor (ie Gwydir Hwy) the next opportunity of significant infrastructure upgrade.
- Health Services are also a huge priority. The State government has been very good building the infrastructure but needs to ensure delivery of service. Health Services and attracting GP’s to rural, regional and remote areas is a really big issue.
- The State budget is in June which is always a critical time.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next election is in March 2023 and the strong recommendation is to advocate for issues and projects now for the remainder of this term. Road grant funding is always a huge item. The Bruxner Way is a part of the proposed hand back of roads of major significance to the state government. While this hasn't happened with the Bruxner as yet, it is still included in the proposal for Stage 2. • Request from Balonne Shire Council for communication between the NSW & QLD Transport Department to bitumen seal the gap in the highway which runs between Bourke and Hebel. • RFS Assets being forced onto Councils. • RDA success of Shearing School at Glen Innes. • Housing Shortage – Does the State Government have any means to support developers re labour shortage, supply shortages, access to kit homes, opening up Crown Land for housing development etc. • Road Funding – threat of depreciation stopping road progress. |
| | <p>At this juncture, the time being 12.45pm Cr Mark Johnson, Mayor of Moree Plains Shire Council welcomed delegates to Moree and wished BROC every success with their endeavours on behalf of the border communities.</p> <p>Damon Meadows QLD Department Local Government, Racing & Multicultural Affairs advised that he was moving on and wished BROC every success moving forward.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked Damon for his input and wished him well in his new role.</p> <p>At this juncture, the time being 12.50pm, Damon Meadows, Cr Jane Weir, Michael Urquhart and Cr John Coulton departed the meeting.</p> |
| | <p>12.55 pm Tammy Elbourne, Moree Plains Shire Council, The Wonders of Moree Plains and Working Together as a Region on Tourism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Moree Tourism Board is strongly supported by MPSC (provides 80% of funding) but is actually an industry based, non-profit organisation relying on community for volunteers and support. It employs 4 personnel and Tammy is the CEO. She works to seek tourism opportunities and products for the area. While Moree is one of the most agriculturally productive shires, it is all about arts and culture and the visitor economy is worth \$80M to the Shire. The priority is to increase the yield per stay which has increased from \$66/night to \$120/night over the last few years. New visitors are looking for connections to the community. They want back yard visits to green open spaces promoting health and well-being. The food weekend, 'Moree on a Plate' has been a huge marketing/tourism success for the last 10 years and brings huge visitation to town. They run the community services directory for the region which is a great opportunity for promotion. <p>Copy of presentation kindly provided and will be distributed with minutes.</p> <p><u>Border Tourism Trail</u></p> |

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| | <p>Moved: Balonne That BROC encourage Visitor Information Centre Tourism Managers to collaborate and formulate a position on the merits of establishing a focused Tourism Trail (eg geographic features/arts & culture) throughout the BROC local government areas.</p> <p>Seconded: Moree</p> |
| | At this juncture, the time being 1.30pm, Russell Stewart departed the meeting. |
| | <p>1.40pm Jenny Rix, Interim Director, Regional Development Australia, Darling Downs and South West.</p> <p>Jenny briefed the group on important work that is currently underway to plan for the water needs of the future. The QLD Regional Water Assessment team continues to engage with the NSW Dept of Planning & Environment as they continue to work on their Border Rivers Regional Water Strategy which has both a similar focus and stakeholders. It was noted that there may be cross border water supply options along the Border Rivers that need to be looked at. RDA suggested that both these agencies along with additional speakers be brought together to conduct a Cross Border Workshop.</p> <p><u>Cross Border Water Workshop</u></p> <p>Moved: Tenterfield That BROC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Encourage Regional Development Australia, Darling Downs and South West to engage and collaborate with relevant water agencies with a view of holding a Cross Border Water Forum; b) BROC members, agencies and organisations from both QLD and NSW be invited and encouraged to participate; and c) It was noted that Moree Plains Shire Council offered for the Workshop to be held in Moree. <p>Seconded: Balonne</p> |
| 7. Items Listed | |
| | <p>Water Forum Idea</p> <p>Dealt with in conjunction with Cross Border Water Forum above.</p> |
| | <p>Advocacy Opportunities - List of Priorities from Individual Councils</p> <p>To be held over to next meeting.</p> |
| | <p>Bursary Suggestion (Tenterfield Shire Council)</p> <p>Additional information provided by Tenterfield Shire Council was received and noted. No further action.</p> |
| | <p>QLD Cross Border Commissioner (Balonne Shire Council)</p> <p>Copy of letter requesting reconsideration of decision to not support creation of</p> |

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| | <p>QLD Cross Border Commissioner role received and noted.</p> <p>Dealt with in conjunction with address by Cross Border Commissioner, James McTavish earlier in the meeting.</p> |
| | <p>Carbon Farming (Balonne Shire Council)</p> <p>To be held over to next meeting.</p> |
| | <p>Cross Border Disaster Management (Balonne Shire Council)</p> <p>Presentation by District Disaster Management Coordinator, Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell received and noted.</p> <p>Dealt with in conjunction with address by Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell earlier in the meeting.</p> |
| 8. | Action Log |
| | <p>Moved: Inverell That:</p> <p>a) the Action Log be received and noted; and b) the following items, which have been actioned, be removed from the Action Log:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinvite Bindaree Beef to a future meeting - Exclusion Fencing - The Coffey Scheme - Engagement with NSW and Queensland State Government - Fast Internet Connectivity - Bursary Suggestion - Chairpersons Report AGM - Presence at BROCC meetings - Invitation to Join BROCC (Bourke & Brewarrina) <p>Seconded: Moree</p> |
| 9. | Next Meeting |
| | <p>12 August, 2022 Thargomindah (Bulloo Shire Council) commencing at 9am.</p> |
| 10. | General Business |
| | <p>Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer – Bruxner Way</p> <p>Moved: Tenterfield That BROCC provide a letter supporting the application made by Tenterfield, Inverell, Gwydir and Moree Plains Shire Council to transfer the Bruxner Way to the NSW Government as part of the Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer.</p> <p>Seconded: Southern Downs</p> |
| 11. | Meeting Closed |

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| | There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 2.19pm. |
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