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# Regional Capitals Alliance

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Western Australian Regional Capitals Alliance  
Meeting**

# MINUTES

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# Minutes

## 1 OFFICIAL OPENING

Meeting opened by the Chair at 10.30am

## 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

### Members:

Peter Long	Mayor City of Karratha (Chair)
Chris Adams	CEO City of Karratha
Dennis Wellington	Mayor City of Albany
Andrew Sharpe	CEO City of Albany
Harold Tracey	Mayor Shire of Broome
Andrew Graffen	Director of Infrastructure Shire of Broome
Victoria Brown	Shire President Shire of Esperance
Matthew Scott	CEO Shire of Esperance
Shane van Styn	Mayor City of Greater-Geraldton
John Walker	CEO City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
John Bowler	Mayor City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Chris Antonio	Shire President Shire of Northam
Jason Whiteaker	CEO Shire of Northam
Paul Rosair	Executive Officer RCAWA
Jane Lewis	Executive Assistant to the Executive Officer RCAWA

### Dial in:

Malcolm Osbourne	CEO City of Bunbury
Grant Henley	Mayor City of Busselton
Tony Nottle	City of Busselton

### Guests:

Hon Peter Tinley, Minister for Housing; Veterans Issues; Asian Engagement  
 Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Mines & Petroleum; Energy, Industrial Relations  
 John Langoulant, Chair Designate, Infrastructure WA

### Apologies:

Sam Mastrolembro	CEO Shire of Broome
Fredrick Riebeling	Commissioner Town of Port Hedland
David Pentz	CEO Town of Port Hedland
Gary Brennan	Mayor City of Bunbury
Mike Archer	CEO City of Busselton
Ross McKim	CEO City of Greater Geraldton

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

### **4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Attachment: 1. Outstanding Business Arising Items and Actions Sheet

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#### **OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION**

Minutes of the July RCAWA meeting had not been distributed so were not considered by the Board.

## 5 CORRESPONDENCE

Date of Report: 1 August 2019  
Report Author: Executive Officer – Paul Rosair  
Disclosure of Interest: Nil  
Attachment(s) Correspondence In and Out

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### Correspondence In:

Katrina Hernandez; Appointments Secretary Office of the Hon. Dave Kelly MLA Minister for Water; Fisheries, Forestry; Innovation and ICT; Science

### Correspondence Out:

Nil

## 6 FORMAL PRESENTATIONS

**Date of Report:** 1 August 2019  
**Report Author:** Executive Officer – Paul Rosair  
**Disclosure of Interest:** Nil  
**Attachment(s)** Minister Tinley Agenda  
John Langoulant presentation

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### **Purpose:**

The Alliance to receive a presentation at 11.00-11.30 from:

- **Hon Peter Tinley, Minister for Housing; Veterans Issues: Asian Engagement**
- **Ministerial Office Staff:**
  - **Kim Giddens**
  - **Kay Hammer**
  - **Brendon McShanag**

Then a presentation at 11.30 -12.00 from:

- **Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy, Industrial Relations**
- **Katie McKenzie (PPA) and / or Paul Meyerkort (SPA)**

Then a presentation at 12.15

- **John Langoulant, Chair Designate, Infrastructure WA**

### **Background:**

Leading up to this meeting, Alliance members were canvassed about issues pertinent to the portfolios of the presenters: a consolidated list is provided in the discussion and has been forwarded to the relevant presenters as appropriate.

### **Discussion:**

#### **11.00 am Presentation:**

Topics :

The EO met with Minister Tinley on 23 July and discussed the attached agenda items.

#### **11.15 am Presentation:**

Topics (as per email sent to Minister Johnston):

Items for discussion:

1. **Access to Land for Development**
  - Need for a structured resolution pathway to address mineralisation and mining tenure
    - Challenging for the regions and medium to large industry to obtain land for growth

- The process is unwieldy
- Mining tenure around some areas often held by businesses with limited or no capacity to complete exploration or mining activities

The Alliance has endorsed the Kimberley regional groups Land Tenure Policy which proposed streamlined approach to resolving government approvals in this area.

## **2. Native Title**

- Existence of overlapping claims increases complexity, costs, timeframes and risk
  - This has the potential to place a focus on immediate financial compensation as opposed to long term benefit.
  - Determination of Native Title claims requires assistance from Dept of Premier and Cabinet (Aboriginal Policy and Coordination Unit) to move claims forward to determination

## **3. Energy**

The following items relate specifically to Kalgoorlie Boulder and the Goldfields; however, they also have some relevance across regional WA.

- Reliability and line loss charges are a crucial issue
  - Goldfield line loss charges are the highest in WA and the South West Integrated Network (SWIN), adds 16-23% to power cost
  - The high number of outages and time taken to recover power is a concern for business
  - Local generation needs to be part of the solution
  - Access to electricity from the SWIN constraining growth
  - No ‘referenced power’ is available for new significant loads, this means increased costs as redundancy solutions are require
  - Increased capacity needs to happen quicker; delivery has been too slow and out-step with industry needs

The RCAWA held an energy forum in Kalgoorlie last year with Horizon Power, Synergy, Western Power and the Public Utilities Office which discussed the government’s policy and legislative agenda and also focussed on off-grid renewable energy sources. The Alliance would like an update on the government’s priorities and legislative agenda in this space.

## **4. FIFO Workers:**

Some members of the Alliance would like to promote and seek further FIFO flights in regional cities. for example, Albany already has established FIFO Services, existing workforces, infrastructure, community development and support services suitable for increased relocation for the metropolitan area. Most regional cities have a competitive edge in liveability, housing affordability and location, health care, environment and community amenity as well as the aviation infrastructure required.

The balance between residential-based workers and FIFO is a challenge facing alliance members and they are keen to understand the Ministers position and policy on the FIFO situation in WA.

**12.15pm Presentation**

When the RCA WA wrote to the Premier and the Minister for Planning expressing interest in the Alliance being a member of the Infrastructure WA, the government suggested we make contact directly with John Langoulant, the Chair Designate of Infrastructure WA. The EO subsequently met with John and discussed possible ways the Alliance could be involved with Infrastructure WA. He is attending this meeting for further discussion with the Alliance.

**Link to Strategic Directions:**

Advocacy and Policy Influence

Representation

Partnership and Collaboration

**Budget Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

Nil. RCAWA to continue to liaise with Department of Communities, Department of Mines and Infrastructure WA re matters that are pertinent to the organization.



## 7 INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND EXPRESSION OF INTEREST DOCUMENT

Date of Report:	1 August 2019
Report Author:	Executive Officer – Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Investment Framework EOI

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**Purpose:**

To update the Alliance members on the current status of the Investment Framework paper expression of interest.

**Background:**

At the RCAWA July meeting a discussion was held regarding the proposed combining of the Alliance's Investment Framework and Busselton's Implementation Strategy. It was considered that by building the paper around the state governments Agenda for Growth and the nine priorities outlined within, a more solid submission to government would be achieved.

By combining the RCAWA members forward capital investment plans, and totalling the investments of all ten Alliance members themed along the lines of the state government's nine priorities (demonstrating growth in jobs, tourism and other themes), the submission could be made to government to match that investment in order to achieve a much better integrated outcome and chance of success.

In addition, the paper could highlight the fact that regional communities are also responsible for their own infrastructure such as art centres, performing arts centres, race courses, airports and other community facilities which metropolitan councils often have funded from the state or commonwealth.

The expectation by the Alliance members is for the Executive Officer to:

- Write an Expression of Interest for the provision of services to develop an infrastructure paper and submission on behalf of the Alliance to the state government using project funds within the alliance budget. (Attached)
- Provide a quote for consideration by Alliance members from NAJA Business Consulting Services (NAJA) for carrying out the work outlined in the expression of interest.
- Manage the contract accordingly, if the Alliance wishes to seek external quotes and does not engage NAJA to carry out the services.

**Discussion:**

NAJA Business Consulting Services believes that it can develop, in concert with Mann Advisory Services, the submission to government in the vicinity of \$22,000. If the Alliance

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wishes to pursue this option, a more detailed quote will be made available. If, however, an EOI process is undertaken, than an Alliance member would have to administer that process as NAJA would be putting a bid into the process.

If NAJA was unsuccessful in that process was unsuccessful in that process, the Executive Officer would still be able to administer the contract.

Members need to discuss the attached expression of interest and agree on the scope of works and the procurement model they would like to adopt.

**Link to Strategic Directions:**

Advocacy and Policy Influence  
Partnership and Collaboration  
Collaboration

**Budget Implications:**

Nil at present

**DECISION:**

That the Executive Officer work with RCAWA CEO's to revise the proposed EOI Consultants brief with the key outcomes of the EOI's being:

- A compelling case for additional investment in RCAWA locations.
- A clear list of projects/initiatives within RCAWA member localities that should be funded.
- Alternative models for funding the agreed projects (ie not using existing, traditional grant methods)

Moved Mayor Shane Van Styne

Second: Cr Harold Tracy

Carried Unanimously

## 8 WALGA WORKING GROUP - REVIEW OF STATE COUNCIL AND ZONES, STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

<b>Date of Report:</b>	1 August 2019
<b>Report Author:</b>	Executive Officer – Paul Rosair
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	Proposed new WALGA Zone Model

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### **Purpose:**

To seek the Alliance members proposed RCAWA's model recommendation for WALGA's review of its state council and zones structures and processes.

### **Background:**

Following on from the 11 April meeting in Perth, and discussion between the Executive Officer and the new CEO of WALGA, Nick Sloan, on 21 May, the RCAWA was invited to nominate a representative to join a newly formed working group to undertake a review of WALGA's state council and zones structures and processes. At the RCAWA July meeting, Harold Tracey was endorsed as the Alliance representative.

### **Discussion:**

Subsequent to the July meeting, the Executive Officer has consulted with a number of CEOs and Harold to better understand the requirements of the Alliance members and what the model may look like going forward for WALGA zone and council representation. The resultant concept model for the Alliance to consider is:

- Rather than 26 members of the WALGA state council, the Alliance is proposing that the council membership be retained within 10 members. These ten members would be made up of five metropolitan and five regional council representatives based on the following criteria:
  - One group-four council representative to be elected by group-four council members in the city and one group-four council representative to be elected by the group-four members in the country.
  - Similarly, one group-three council representative from the city and one group-three representative from the country, again to be elected by group-three council members.
  - Group one and two council members to be elected in a similar fashion.

That would give ten councils representation on the state council: five from the city and five from the country. A draft model is attached for discussion. It can be quickly seen that the distribution of councils across the four bands makes it difficult to get a balance of representation given the number of councils in Band 1 of the metropolitan area and Band 4 of the country area.

Discussion around the number of Zone representatives from within each Band, both metropolitan and country, needs to consider the number of local governments they represent and the population distribution across the bands to achieve balance representation across the sector.

For example:

- 4 representatives from Band 1 Metropolitan
- 2 representatives from Band 2 Metropolitan
- 1 representative from Band 3 and 4 Metropolitan
- 1 representative from Band 1 Country
- 1 representative from Band 2 Country
- 2 representatives from Band 3 and 4 Country

This may be a more balanced representation model for the Alliance to consider.

- The mechanism for state council members to consult with councils within their zones would be left up to the nominated representative on the state council. In the case of a group-one, and potentially a group-two country council, this may be done via the Regional Capital Alliance of Western Australia.

This model will in no way replace the need for governments and local governments to form voluntary regional groups such as the Kimberley Regional group or to interfere with local issues as they do now.

**Link to Strategic Directions:**

Advocacy and Policy Influence  
Partnership and Collaboration  
Collaboration

**Budget Implications:**

Nil

**DECISION**

**That:**

1. Mayor Dennis Wellington be endorsed as RCAWA representative of the WALGA review process in the event that Cr Harold Tracey is unable to participate.
2. The RCAWA position on the review of WALGA Governance structure is that the WALGA board should be structured around the following principals:
  - A board of 10 representatives with eight (8) LGA Elected reps and 2 independent Board members.
  - The eight (8) LGA elected should be made up of four (4) city based Councilors and four (4) regional based Councilors who all represent the LG industry rather than specific localities/districts.
  - The SAT banding structure should be used as the basis for selecting the eight (8) LG representatives.

- Selection of Board Representatives should be a skills based selection rather process rather than via popular vote.

Moved: Cr Chris Antonio  
Second: Cr Harold Tracey.

Carried Unanimously

## 9 MACWA AWARDS

Date of Report: 10 July 2019  
Report Author: Executive Officer – Paul Rosair  
Disclosure of Interest: Nil  
Attachment(s) Confidential Judging Panel Score Sheet

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### **Purpose:**

To advise the Alliance members on the status of the MACWA Awards.

### **Background:**

The MACWA awards for 2019 have been advertised and promoted since March 2019, with a closing date of 12 July 2019. Promotion has largely been through WALGA, with Ryan Campbell (City of Bunbury), Melissa Northcott (award judge), Bruce Langoulant (award judge), Julie Waylen (award judge) and the RCAWA Executive Officer.

### **Discussion:**

Since July, the following activities have been carried out:

- Nick Sloan, CEO WALGA became unavailable as a judge, however Kirstie Davis became WALGA's representative
- 12 applications were received: 7 Metropolitan, 5 Regional Capital/City, and 1 regional Shire/Town.
- Judging was completed on 24 July
- Tony Brown contacted re awards presentation and arrangements are underway

As a result of the judging, the following winners were decided:

Overall Winner - Geraldton

Regional Town – Augusta

Regional Capital – Geraldton

Metro – Cockburn

Highly Commended – Wanneroo and Mandurah

Some nominations were very sophisticated this year. Some councils prepared last minute submissions as a result of the extension deadline and understandably the quality was not as well developed.

A review of the MACWA Awards and processes will be carried out within the next month to improve, streamline and provide better guidance to potential nominees.

**Link to Strategic Directions:**

Partnership Collaboration

Representation

**Budget Implications:**

\$500 – Winner, \$500 - Melissa Northcott ambassador fee, \$500 – Incidentals if required

**DECISION:**

That RCAWA note the update.

**Moved:** John Walker

**Second:** Matthew Scott

**Carried Unanimously**

## 10 OTHER BUSINESS

- RCAWA Baseline Project:

Steve Grimmer advised that simple instructions to support the spreadsheet are being prepared and should be released to all participants in early August. All data to be entered and returned by the end of September so that findings can be reported in November.

**Item noted**

- Items for discussion for Executive Officers meeting with Hon Simone McGurk MLA; Minister for Child Protection; Women’s Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services; Member for Fremantle. Monday 26 August

**Item noted**

- The Premier's office rang on 25 July requesting dates of RCAWA meetings in 2020 as he and Alannah MacTiernan would like to attend a meeting together.

**Item noted**

## 11 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.40pm

Next Meeting 28 November 2019