

Hunter Joint Organisation Board

Annual General Meeting Minutes, Wednesday 1 December 2021

Hunter JO Boardroom, 4 Sandringham Ave, Thornton NSW (VideoConference)

Voting Directors Present

Cr Bob Pynsent,	Cessnock City Council
Cr Sue Moore,	Singleton Shire Council
Cr Kay Fraser,	Lake Macquarie City Council
Cr David West,	MidCoast Council
Cr Ryan Palmer,	Port Stephens Council
Cr Rod Scholes,	Muswellbrook Shire Council

Non-Voting Members Present

Greg McDonald,	General Manager, Upper Hunter Shire Council
Gareth Curtis,	General Manager, Dungog Shire Council
Jeremy Bath,	CEO, Newcastle City Council
David Evans,	General Manager, Maitland City Council
Morven Cameron,	CEO, Lake Macquarie City Council
Lotta Jackson	General Manager, Cessnock City Council
Adrian Panuccio,	General Manager, MidCoast Council
Wayne Wallis,	General Manager, Port Stephens Council
Fiona Plesman,	General Manager, Muswellbrook Shire Council
Alison McGaffin	Director, Hunter & Central Coast, Regional NSW (DPIE)

Apologies

Cr Loretta Baker,	Maitland City Council
Cr Nuatali Nelmes,	Newcastle City Council
Cr John Connors,	Dungog Shire Council
Cr Maurice Collison,	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Jason Linnane,	General Manager, Singleton Council

Staff in attendance

Joe James, CEO
Lisa Lord, Head of Finance
Steve Wilson, Director, Regional Policy & Programs
Louisa Bulley, Executive Officer (Secretariat)

Also in Attendance

Cameron Hume, RSM Australia Partners

Meeting opened at 1:03pm

Item 1 Welcomes and Apologies

1.1 Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair welcomed the Directors to the meeting, and noted the apologies.

Resolved:

- ***That the apologies be noted.***

Moved: Sue Moore

Seconded: Kay Fraser

Carried.

Item 2 Adoption of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were noted.

Resolved:

- **That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of 14 November 2019 be endorsed and adopted by the Board**

Moved: David West

Seconded: Sue Moore

Carried.

Item 3 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Nil.

Item 4 Nomination of Chairperson

It was noted that the election of a new Chairperson would take place in 2022, as the current Chairperson Cr Bob Pynsent would be retiring as Mayor of Cessnock.

Item 5 Financial Reports

5.1 Hunter Joint Organisation Annual Audited Accounts 2020-21 and Management Representation Letter

The CEO spoke to the audited financial statements for 2020-21. Cameron Hume, RSM Partners spoke to the audit reports.

Resolved:

- ***That the annual audited accounts for 2020-21 be accepted.***

Moved: Kay Fraser

Seconded: Sue Moore

Carried.

5.2 Appointment of Auditors

As per the Local Government Act 1993, Division 3, Section 422, the NSW Auditor General's Office will act as the auditor for the Joint Organisation.

Resolved:

- ***THAT the auditors be appointed by the NSW Auditor General's Office***

Moved: David West

Seconded: Kay Fraser

Carried.

Item 6. General Business

6.1 Tabling of Public Interest Disclosures 2020-21

The Hunter JO Public Interest Disclosures for 2020-21 for all member of the Board and the CEO were provided to the Chair within the meeting for tabling.

Resolved:

- ***That the Public Interest Declarations for the Hunter JO Board Members for the 2020-21 financial year be tabled and noted.***

Moved: David West

Seconded: Sue Moore

Carried.

6.2 Hunter JO Annual Performance Statement 2020-21

The report was taken as read.

Resolved:

- ***THAT the Hunter JO Annual Performance Report 2020-21 be endorsed for delivery to the Office of Local Government***
- ***That the Hunter JO Annual Performance Statement 2020-21 be endorsed for publication on the Hunter JO Website***
- ***That the Hunter JO Annual Performance Statement 2020-21 be circulated to councillors of all member councils following the first meeting of the Hunter JO in 2022***

Moved: Sue Moore

Seconded: Ryan Palmer

Carried.

6.3 Delegation of Authority following Local Government Election

The report was taken as read.

Resolved:

- **The General Manager Advisory Committee recommends that:**
 - **The Hunter JO Board delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, Joe James, authority to carry out business of the Hunter JO following the Local Government Elections on 4 December 2021, until the first meeting of the new Hunter JO Board when the election of the new Chair will be held**
 - **That this delegation to the Chief Executive Officer only be exercised in maintaining the regular business of the Hunter JO and its project delivery**

Moved: David West

Seconded: Sue Moore

Carried.

Meeting closed 1:22pm