

**Hunter Joint Organisation Board Meeting Minutes**

**11:00 – 2:00pm, Thursday 12 August 2021**

**Hunter JO Boardroom, 4 Sandringham Ave Thornton (videoconference)**

**Voting Directors Present**

Cr Bob Pynsent,	Cessnock City Council
Cr John Connors,	Dungog Shire Council
Cr Kay Fraser,	Lake Macquarie City Council
Cr Loretta Baker,	Maitland City Council
Cr Sue Moore,	Singleton Shire Council
Cr David West,	MidCoast Council
Cr Maurice Collison	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Cr Ryan Palmer,	Port Stephens Council
Cr Rod Scholes,	Muswellbrook Shire Council

**Non-Voting Members Present**

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

**Apologies**

Cr Nuatali Nelmes,	Newcastle City Council
Jeremy Bath,	CEO, Newcastle City Council

**Staff in attendance**

Joe James, CEO, Hunter Joint Organisation  
Steve Wilson, Director, Regional Policy and Program Division, Hunter JO  
Melinda Curtis, Policy and Program Manager, Hunter JO  
Tim Askew, Policy and Program Manager, Hunter JO  
Louisa Bulley, Executive Officer, Hunter JO (Secretariat)

**Also Present**

Virginia Errington	Council Engagement Manager, Office of Local Government
Jacinta Ledlin	Deputy Mayor, Muswellbrook Shire Council

*The meeting opened at 11:00am.*

## **Item 1 Welcomes and Apologies**

### **1.1 Acknowledgment of Country**

*The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting, and noted the apologies. The Chair welcomed Cr Rod Scholes to the meeting as the new Mayor of Muswellbrook Shire Council.*

**Resolved:**

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

***Moved: Sue Moore***

***Seconded: Kay Fraser***

***Carried.***

### **1.2 Conflicts of Interest**

*The Chair called for any conflicts of interest to be registered by members of the Board.*

*The Mayor of Port Stephens' standing declaration of interest on matters relating to the Newcastle Airport was noted. No other conflicts were noted.*

## **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

### **2.1 Minutes of Meeting 10 June 2021**

*The minutes were taken as read.*

### **2.2 Minutes of Extraordinary meeting 29 June 2021**

*The minutes were taken as read*

## **3. Confirmation of Minutes & Business Arising from Minutes**

**Resolved:**

- ***That the minutes of previous meetings of 10 June 2021 be adopted***
- ***That the minutes of previous meetings of 29 June 2021 be adopted***

***Moved: Loretta Baker***

***Seconded: Sue Moore***

***Carried.***

## **4. Presentations**

### **4.1 Hunter Central Coast Resource Recovery Strategy Presentation**

*Eloise Lobsey gave a presentation on the review and updating of the Regional Waste & Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy.*

### **4.2 Updates – Circular Economy Roadmap & Procurement Projects**

*Tim Askew provided a presentation and overview of the directions and recommendation included in the draft Regional Circular Economy Roadmap.*

## **5. Correspondence**

The correspondence was taken as read. The Board noted that an attachment had been included in the papers that should be removed from the documents prior to their publication on the Hunter JO Website.

**Resolved:**

- ***That the update be received and noted***

***Moved: Sue Moore***

***Seconded: Ryan Palmer***

***Carried.***

## **6. Reports**

### **6.1 CEO Report – Collaboration & Advocacy**

The report was taken as read. The Board asked that the CEO seek feedback on the Hunter JO submissions to the BLER Fund, particularly those where the Hunter JO was unsuccessful.

**Resolved:**

- ***That the update be received and noted***
- ***That the CEO seek feedback on the Hunter JO's submissions to the BLER Funding***

***Moved: Bob Pynsent***

***Seconded: John Connors***

***Carried.***

### **6.2 Hunter JO June 2021 EOFY Profit & Loss Statement**

The CEO spoke briefly to the report.

**Resolved:**

- ***That the Profit and Loss Statement for period ending June 2021 be received and noted***

***Moved: David West***

***Seconded: Ryan Palmer***

***Carried.***

### **6.3 Hunter JO Program Delivery Highlights**

The Director RPPD spoke to the report.

**Resolved:**

- ***That the report be received and noted***

***Moved: Sue Moore***

***Seconded: John Connors***

***Carried.***

### **6.4 Department of Regional NSW Standing Update**

Alison McGaffin provided a verbal update to the Hunter JO Board, noting that the General Managers of each of the councils had been invited to the next Regional Leadership Executive Meeting on their Community Strategic Plans.

**Resolved:**

- ***That the report be received and noted***

***Moved: Sue Moore***

***Seconded: Ryan Palmer***

**Carried.**

## **6.5 Transport for NSW Advocacy Update**

*The CEO spoke briefly to the report, providing an update on advocacy conducted since the previous meeting of the Hunter JO Board.*

**Resolved:**

- ***That the report be received and noted***

**Moved: Loretta Baker**

**Seconded: Ryan Palmer**

**Carried.**

## **7. Items for the Hunter JO Board – For Decision**

### **7.1 Progressing the Economic Transformation Priority in 2021-22 to 2050**

*The CEO spoke to the report. The Chair asked Sue Moore to speak to the proposed Hunter Expert Panel, as Chair of the Hunter JO's Regional Economic Transition Committee.*

**Resolved:**

***That the Board endorse that the Hunter JO;***

- ***continue its advocacy and engagement on the regional transformation challenge as this remains an enduring strategic priority for the region***
- ***seek to support and constructively influence the implementation of the Expert Panel and Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund, the Renewable Energy Zone, Special Activation Precinct, Catalyst Areas in the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan and other relevant initiatives based on member assessments of key regional needs; and***
- ***retain a primary focus on advocacy and facilitation efforts aiming to:***
  - ***secure significant private sector investment, including through the Hunter Venture Fund concept, into new industries that can reduce long term risk and create new jobs; and***
  - ***maintain local leadership of solutions for the Hunter.***

**Moved: Sue Moore**

**Seconded: David West**

**Carried.**

### **7.2 Newcastle Airport Advocacy Opportunity**

*The CEO spoke to the report.*

*The Chair asked that the Mayor of Port Stephens declare his standing declaration of interest on matters relating to the Newcastle Airport. The Mayor of Port Stephens again flagged his standing declaration of interest for the Board to note.*

**Resolved:**

***That the;***

- ***Hunter JO support the concept of a Regional Airport Summit to maximise the likelihood of and accelerate the delivery of regional benefits from the upgraded capacity and capability of the Airport;***
- ***Hunter JO lead the delivery of a Regional Airport Summit to utilise its independence and whole-of-region reach to demonstrate leadership and advocacy in achieving whole-of-region outcomes;***
- ***Board authorise the CEO to use the OLG capacity building funding, subject to finalisation of an approved project description with OLG, to support delivery of the Summit.***

**Moved: David West**

**Seconded: Sue Moore**

**Carried**

### **7.3 World Masters Games Bid**

*Boyd Blackwell, Regional Policy & Program Manager, spoke to the report, noting the potential change of direction for this project, to a broader focus on regional events.*

*The Mayor of Port Stephens noted and endorsed the focus on a broad range of event opportunities for the region.*

**Resolved:**

**That the;**

- ***That the Hunter JO consider the opportunities and challenges outlined of a bid for the 2029 WMG and move further consideration of a bid to be within the scope of the Accelerating Event Economies (A2E) project, where research and consideration of the WMG can be done alongside other significant event opportunities for our region.***

**Moved: Ryan Palmer**

**Seconded: David West**

**Carried**

### **8. Matters Raised by Members**

*No matters were raised within the meeting.*

### **9. General Business**

#### **9.1 Hunter JO Board Induction Pack**

*The Executive Officer spoke briefly to the report.*

**Resolved:**

- ***That the report be received and noted***

**Moved: Sue Moore**

**Seconded: John Connors**

**Carried.**

#### **9.2 Compliance & Governance Calendars**

*The Board noted these items as a standing update.*

**Resolved:**

- ***That the report be received and noted***

**Moved: John Connors**

**Seconded: Sue Moore**

**Carried.**

Meeting closed 12:21 pm