

Voting Directors Present

Cr Jay Suvaal,	Cessnock City Council
Cr John Connors,	Dungog Shire Council
Cr Kay Fraser,	Lake Macquarie City Council
Cr Philip Penfold,	Maitland City Council
Cr Claire Pontin,	MidCoast Council
Cr Nuatali Nelmes,	City of Newcastle
Cr Steve Reynolds,	Muswellbrook Shire Council
Cr Sue Moore,	Singleton Shire Council (Chair)

Non-Voting Members Present

Ken Liddell	General Manager, Cessnock City Council
Gareth Curtis,	General Manager, Dungog Shire Council
Morven Cameron,	CEO, Lake Macquarie City Council
Jeff Smith,	General Manager, Maitland City Council
Adrian Panuccio,	General Manager, MidCoast Council
Jeremy Bath,	CEO, City of Newcastle
Derek Finnegan,	General Manager, Muswellbrook Shire Council
Tim Crosdale,	General Manager, Port Stephens Council
Greg McDonald,	General Manager, Upper Hunter Shire Council
Jason Linnane,	General Manager, Singleton Council

Apologies

Cr Maurice Collison,	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Cr Ryan Palmer,	Port Stephens Council
Scott Goold,	Deputy Director Regional Development, Regional NSW

Staff in attendance

Joe James, CEO,	Hunter Joint Organisation
Louisa Bulley,	Executive Officer, Hunter JO (Secretariat)
Steve Wilson,	Director Regional Policy and Programs, Hunter JO
Kali Somerville,	Media and Communications Officer, Hunter JO
Lisa Lord,	Manager of Finance and Administration, Arrow & Hunter JO
Bonnie Gradwell,	Business Administration and Events, Hunter JO

Also Present

James Patterson	Managing Director, JMP Consultants
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The formal meeting opened at 10.51am.

Item 1 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Acknowledgements of Country

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the Board with an Acknowledgement of Country.

Resolved:

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

Moved: Steve Reynolds

Seconded: John Connors

Carried.

1.2 Conflict of Interest

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

1.3 Closed Session

*Board closed session from 10.00am to 10.51pm. At the direction of the Chair, the Board held a closed session for confidential matters. **It was agreed the matters discussed would remain in closed council.***

Item 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.1 Minutes of 8 June 2023

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meetings of 8 June 2023 be adopted

Moved: John Connors

Seconded: Jay Suvaal

Carried.

Item 3 Confirmation of Minutes & Business Arising from Minutes

Resolved: That the Action Registers be noted, and that items HJO-20-65, HJO-20-71 and HJO-23-007 be

Removed

Moved: Jay Suvaal

Seconded: Steve Reynolds

Carried.

3.1 Hunter Joint Organisation Board Action Register

The report was taken as read.

3.2 Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan Action Register

The report was taken as read.

3.3 Subcommittee for Economic Evolution

The report was taken as read.

Item 4 Presentations

Nil.

Item 5 Correspondence

Resolved: That the update report be received and noted.

Moved: Jay Suvaal

Seconded: John Connors

Carried.

Item 6 Items for Hunter JO Board – For Decision

6.1 Hunter JO Interim Leadership Arrangements [Confidential Item]

6.2 Royalties for Rejuvenation: Ministerial Appointment [Confidential Item]

6.3 Hunter JO Procurement Issue

Resolved:

- 1. That GMAC be asked to report to the next meeting of the JO on the feasibility of transferring all staff engaged in the regional policy and program delivery unit from Arrow to the JO.***
- 2. That as an interim measure pending a consideration of the report anticipated in 1 above and advice from the Minister for Local Government (3 below), the circumstances set forth in confidential annexure 'A' to this recommendation be considered as extenuating circumstances pursuant to s.55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act.***
- 3. That a copy of this recommendation (including confidential annexure 'A') be forwarded to the OLG referencing our earlier meetings and correspondence and seeking concurrence to the action now taken and requesting advice on the current position with respect to the request to the Minister as to the possible breach(s) of s.55 of the Local Government Act.***
- 4. In accordance with Section 10A (2)(a) Local Government Act 1993 Annexure A remain confidential as deals with 'personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)'***

Moved: John Connors

Seconded: Steve Reynolds

Carried.

6.4 Hunter JO Funding and Grant Opportunities

Steve Wilson Director Regional Policy and Programs, Hunter JO spoke to this report providing an update and sort endorsement from the Board.

Resolved:

- 1. Note the outcomes of previous grant applications endorsed by the Board***

2. Endorse submission of the new “Resilient Hunter Central Coast Platform” funding proposal.

Moved: Jay Suvaal

Seconded: Kay Fraser

Carried.

6.5 Major Event Feasibility Study

Kim Carland, Program Lead, Hunter JO spoke to this report providing an update and sort endorsement from the Board.

Resolved:

- ***The Board receive the Major Events Feasibility Study and note its findings and recommendations.***
- ***The findings and recommendations of the Study be considered and, where appropriate, integrated into the Accelerating Event Economies Report and Presentation requested on resourcing options (i.e Action Item HJO-23-009).***

Moved: Steve Reynolds

Seconded: Claire Pontin

Carried.

Item 7 Items for Hunter JO Board – For Noting

7.1 CEO Report

The report was taken as read and noted. Cr Jay Suvaal, Mayor Cessnock City Council thanked the Mayors for being present and engaging on his and the Chair’s behalf at the ALGA Conference and the CEO Joe James for his support at that time.

Resolved:

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

Moved: Jay Suvaal

Seconded: Sue Moore

Carried.

7.2 Hunter JO Financial Report

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the Income Statement for period ending June 2023 be received and noted.

Moved: John Connors

Seconded: Jay Suvaal

Carried.

7.3 Hunter JO Advocacy Update

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the Hunter JO Advocacy Report be received and noted.

Moved: John Connors

Seconded: Kay Fraser

Carried.

7.4 Hunter JO Sub-Committees Standing Update

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the Board receive and note the updates on the Hunter JO Sub-Committees.

Moved: Kay Fraser

Seconded: Steve Reynolds

Carried.

7.5 Progress Report: Hunter JO Strategic Plan, Communications & Engagement Strategy

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the Board receive and note the six-monthly progress reports for the Hunter JO Strategic Plan and Communications and Engagement Strategy.

Moved: Steve Reynolds

Seconded: Claire Pontin

Carried.

7.6 Environment Program Annual Report

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the Board receive and note the annual Environment Program report.

Moved: Kay Fraser

Seconded: Jay Suvaal

Carried.

7.7 Hunter JO Program Status Report & Highlights

The report was taken as read and noted.

Resolved: That the report be received and noted.

Moved: Claire Pontin

Seconded: Jay Suvaal

Carried.

7.8 Regional NSW Standing Update

No update to be provided to the August 2023 Hunter JO Board Meeting, due to staffing change within Regional NSW.

Item 8 Matters Raised by Members

Nil.

Item 9 General Business

9.1 Compliance & Governance Calendars

The report was taken as read and noted.

Moved: Jay Suvaal

Seconded: Steve Reynolds

Carried.

Meeting closed 11.21am.