

Hunter Joint Organisation Board Meeting Minutes  
1.00pm, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Singleton Council (12-14 Queen Street, Singleton NSW 2330)

**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 Steve Reynolds,   | Muswellbrook Shire Council      |
| Cr Ryan Palmer,      | Port Stephens Council           |
| Cr Sue Moore,        | Singleton Shire Council (Chair) |
| Cr Maurice Collison, | Upper Hunter Shire Council      |

**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   |
| Jason Linnane,    | General Manager, Singleton Council   |
| Greg McDonald,    | General Manager, Upper Hunter Shire Council                                    |
| Shaun O’Sullivan, | Director Regional Coordination & Delivery – Hunter New England<br>Regional NSW |

**Apologies**

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cr Nuatali Nelmes, | City of Newcastle |
|--------------------|-------------------|

**Staff in attendance**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Steve Wilson,  | Director, Hunter JO                        |
| Tim Askew      | Director of Programs, Hunter JO            |
| Louisa Bulley, | Executive Officer, Hunter JO (Secretariat) |
| Lisa Lord,     | Chief Operating Officer, Arrow             |

*The formal meeting opened at 1.00pm*

## **Item 1 Welcome and Apologies**

### **1.1 Acknowledgements of Country**

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

### **1.2 Conflict of Interest**

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

***Recommendation: That any Conflicts of Interest be declared and noted.***

***NB: The recommendation was not formally carried. To be considered at 11th April 2024 Board Meeting.***

## **Item 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

### **2.1 Minutes of Meeting 14 December 2023**

*The minutes of meeting 14 December 2023 were taken as read.*

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

***Resolved: That the minutes of the Hunter JO Board Meeting held on 14 December 2023 be received and noted.***

***Moved: Cr Jay Suvaal***

***Seconded: Cr Ryan Palmer***

***Carried.***

## **Item 4 Hunter JO Risk Register & Reporting**

***Recommendation:***

- ***That the Hunter JO Board note the Hunter JO Risk Register.***
- ***That the Hunter JO Board identify any new risks for inclusion on the Risk Register***

***NB: The recommendation was not formally carried. To be considered at 11th April 2024 Board Meeting.***

## **Item 5 Presentations**

*Nil.*

## **Item 6 Correspondence**

***Recommendation:***

- ***That the correspondence be received and noted.***
- ***In response to the correspondence from City of Newcastle, that the Hunter JO host a Hunter Region Ministerial Roundtable that:***
  - ***Broadens the list of Ministerial invitations to include the Hon. Tara Moriarty, MLC Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional New South Wales, and other***

*Ministers holding portfolios that link directly to the Hunter JOs core advocacy priorities is delivered in place of an existing scheduled Hunter JO Board meeting.*

**NB: The recommendation was not formally carried. To be considered at 11th April 2024 Board Meeting.**

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

### **7.1 Planning for 2024 ALGA National General Assembly**

*Steve Wilson Director Policy and Programs, Hunter JO spoke to this report and sought endorsement from the Board for the recommendation.*

**Resolved:**

**That the Hunter JO Board confirm interest in the Hunter JO team:**

- **Commencing planning to convene meetings of Federal Members and Local Government Councillors during the 2024 Annual General Assembly between 2-4 July 2024**
- **Coordinating a process to develop a list of shared regional motions to be put forward on behalf of the ten Member Councils (due date for all motions is 29 March 2024)**

**Moved: Cr Steve Reynolds**

**Seconded: Cr Jay Suvaal**

**Carried.**

### **7.2 Hunter JO Funding and Grant Opportunities**

*Steve Wilson Director Policy and Programs, Hunter JO spoke to this report and sought endorsement from the Board for the recommendation..*

**Resolved:**

**That the Board**

- **Note the update provided on the status of previously endorsed funding applications.**
- **Endorse the Hunter JO seeking Letters of Support from each member Council to support the Round 2 DRF Final Proposal being prepared.**

**Moved: Cr Clare Pontin**

**Seconded: Cr Steve Reynolds**

**Carried.**

## **Item 8 Items for the Hunter JO Board: For Noting**

### **8.1 Hunter JO Financial Report**

*The report was taken as read and noted.*

**Resolved:**

- **That the Income Statement for period ending December 2023 be received and noted.**
- **That the summary of Credit Card expenditure for Hunter JO for Q1 and Q2 of the 2023-24FY be received and noted.**
- **That the Board note that the Member Contributions for the 2024-25FY, for both the Hunter JO and Environment Program will be calculated and presented to the Board at the April 2024 meeting.**

**Moved: Cr Jay Suvaal**

**Seconded: Cr Steve Reynolds**

**Carried.**

#### **8.2 Hunter JO Program Status Report**

*The report was taken as read and noted.*

**Resolved: That the report be received and noted.**

**Moved: Cr John Connors**

**Seconded: Cr Jay Suvaal**

**Carried.**

#### **8.3 Hunter JO Program 6-Monthly Program Report**

*The report was taken as read and noted.*

**Resolved: That the report be received and noted.**

**Moved: Cr John Connors**

**Seconded: Cr Claire Pontin**

**Carried.**

#### **8.4 Regional NSW Standing Update**

*The report was taken as read and noted.*

**Recommendation: That the Board note the Department of Regional NSW update.**

**NB: The recommendation was not formally carried. To be considered at 11th April 2024 Board Meeting.**

#### **Item 9 Matters Raised by Members**

*Nil.*

#### **Item 10 General Business**

*The Chair, Cr Sue Moore noted that it was the last meeting for Louisa Bulley, Hunter JO Executive Officer. The Chair thanked Louisa for her considerable work in supporting the Board and wished her all the best in the future.*

*Meeting closed 1.50pm*