Ordinary Meeting of the Board
Tuesday 10th October – 5pm
Renmark Resort – Meeting Room

MINUTES - MEETING No. 369

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1   Present

Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	Region 1
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council	Region 2
Cr Leigh Byron	Balranald Shire Council	Region 3
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	Region 5
Cr Barry Featherston *	Alexandrina Council	Region 6
Cr David Shetliffe	Town of Walkerville	Region 7
Cr Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	Region 8
Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	Region 9
Pete George *	MDA	Treasurer
Emma Bradbury	MDA	CEO
Angus Verley **	MDA	Senior Officer
Annette Waters **	MDA	Administration Trainee
Bobby Brook **	Moira Shire Council	Region 2

*   Attendance via phone
**   Non-board member – attendance by invitation

1.2 Apologies

Cr Darriea Turley	Broken Hill City Council	Region 4
Cr Richard Marsh	Balonne Shire Council	Region 12

Motion: That the apologies be accepted.

L Byron/P Hunter   **Carried**

1.3 Declarations

No declarations

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion: That the minute of Meeting 368 held 10.30am AEST Thursday 7 September 2017 be accepted.

P Hunter/P Mansfield   **Carried**

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Ratification of resolution to note the Financial Statements

Motion: That the board note the 2016/17 Financial Statements and Management Letter.

D Shetliffe/D Clark   **Carried**

3.2 Appointment of Auditor.

As a tier 2 association, it is not a requirement for the resolution to be put to the AGM.

Motion: That the board appoint MGR Accountants as auditor for the 2017/18 year.

D Shetliffe/L Byron   **Carried**

3.3 Ratification of resolution to note the Annual Report

Cr Shetliffe suggested that region reports should form part of future annual reports.

Motion: That the board note the 2016/17 Annual Report

P Hunter/P Maytom   **Carried**

4. REPORTS

4.1 Region Reports

Region 1	Albury City Council	Cr Thurley reported that Dr Terry Hillman of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists address the most recent meeting of Region 1. Cr Thurley also reported that former Region 1 Chair Arch McLeish passed away, and Region 1 had sent its condolences.
Region 2	Moira Shire Council	Cr Mansfield reported that the next meeting of Region 2 was planned for late November.
Region 3	Balranald Shire Council	Cr Byron reported that the next meeting of Region 3 would be its AGM, to be held in late November/early December.
Region 4	Broken Hill Shire Council	Apology
Region 5	Renmark Paringa Council	Cr Hunter reported that at the last meeting of Region 5, CEWO Local Engagement Officer Michelle Campbell spoke about environmental watering.
Region 6	Alexandrina Shire Council	Cr Featherston noted that his region is concerned the MDBA doesn't engage that well with communities.
Region 7	Walkerville Town Council	Cr Shetliffe spoke about a project he was involved in to develop a better understanding of the water supply situation to Adelaide.
Region 8	Northern Areas Council	Cr Clark reported on the membership status of his region.
Region 9	Leeton Shire Council	Cr Maytom reported that there was confusion in his community around the 450 gigalitres of upwater and where it would come from.
Region 10	Vacant	
Region 11	Vacant	
Region 12	Balonne Shire Council	Apology

4.2 Chief Executive Officer's report

The CEO tabled the Annual Report and Conference Program in lieu of a monthly report, noting that the past month had been largely occupied by conference preparations.

4.3 **Finance Report**

Cr Shetliffe requested that future Finance Reports include a performance against budget report, along with an exception report.

Cr Clark and others noted that the financial reports could be concise, so long as they highlighted the fundamentals.

Cr Mansfield raised the need for a benefactor or sponsor to support the MDA financially. He said this would help the MDA undertake research and advocacy.

Motion: That the reports be accepted.

P Mansfield/D Clark　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Carried**

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 **Basin Community Committee nomination**
Following notification from the BOC of their decision that local government membership is not appropriate at BOC or Ministerial Council, the MDA has been invited to nominate for the Basin Community Committee.

Motion: That the MDA nominate the National President David Thurley or a proxy to a position on the Basin Community Committee.

P Maytom/P Hunter　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Carried**

5.2 **MDA Strategic and workplan planning workshop 2018 – Building regional capacity**
The date and location of the 2018 strategic planning workshop were discussed.

Motion: That the CEO conduct a poll to determine the most suitable date for a strategic planning workshop to develop the focus and workplan for the year ahead, to be held in Albury in mid to late January 2018.

D Shetliffe/P Maytom　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Carried**

5.3 **Location of 2019 AGM**
2019 will be the 75th anniversary year for the AGM – a celebratory milestone that brings with it a wealth of opportunity for raising the profile of the MDA, and increasing membership and engagement.

Ms Bradbury proposed that Toowoomba could be a suitable host for the 75th National Conference and AGM, given Region 12, under the chairmanship of Mayor Richard Marsh and the Balonne Shire Council, had worked hard and made significant advances in raising the profile of Northern Basin communities at state and federal level among Southern Basin counterparts. Discussions with the Mayor Paul Antonio, and previously also with CEO Brian Pidgeon have indicated that Toowoomba Regional Council would be pleased to host the event, and work with MDA and Region 12 in preparing for it.

Cr Mansfield also raised the prospect of holding the conference in Canberra.

Recommendation: That the CEO investigate both Toowoomba Regional Council and Canberra as potential hosts of the 75th National Conference and AGM.

P Mansfield/L Byron　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Carried**

6. CLOSE