

State Council Minutes

Special Meeting

22 August 2022

Special meeting of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) State Council held via Microsoft Teams on **Monday, 22 August 2022**.

The Chair declared the meeting open at 4:00pm.

1. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1. Attendance

Members	WALGA President - Chair WALGA Deputy President, Central Metropolitan Zone Avon-Midland Country Zone Central Country Zone Central Metropolitan Zone East Metropolitan Zone East Metropolitan Zone Goldfields Esperance Country Zone Gascoyne Country Zone Great Eastern Country Zone Kimberley Country Zone Murchison Country Zone North Metropolitan Zone North Metropolitan Zone Peel Country Zone Pilbara Country Zone South East Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South West Country Zone	President Cr Karen Chappel JP Cr Paul Kelly Cr Ken Seymour President Cr Phillip Blight Cr Helen Sadler Cr Paige McNeil (Deputy) Cr John Daw President Cr Laurene Bonza President Cr Cheryl Cowell President Cr Stephen Strange Cr Chris Mitchell JP (<i>from 4:19pm</i>) Cr Les Price Mayor Mark Irwin Cr Russ Fishwick JP President Cr Michelle Rich Mayor Peter Long (<i>from 4:38pm</i>) Mayor Ruth Butterfield Cr Doug Thompson Mayor Carol Adams OAM Mayor Logan Howlett JP President Cr Tony Dean
Secretariat	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Member Services Executive Manager Advocacy Executive Manager Infrastructure Executive Manager Policy Chief Financial Officer Manager Strategy & Association Governance Executive Officer Governance	Mr Nick Sloan Mr Tony Brown Ms Narelle Cant Mr Ian Duncan Ms Nicole Matthews Mr Rick Murray Mr Tim Lane Ms Kathy Robertson

1.2. Apologies

East Metropolitan Zone Great Southern Country Zone North Metropolitan Zone Northern Country Zone Northern Country Zone South East Metropolitan Zone	Cr Catherine Ehrhardt President Cr Chris Pavlovich Cr Frank Cvitan JP President Cr Moira Girando JP Cr Isabelle Scott (Deputy) Cr Carl Celedin
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1.3. Announcements

1.3.1. Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which people are remotely participating in this meeting and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, State Councillors must declare to the Chair any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before State Council as soon as they become aware of it.

3. MATTERS FOR DECISION

3.1. WALGA Best Practice Governance Review – Principles

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services and Tim Lane, Manager Corporate and Association Governance

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The principles to inform WALGA's future governance model, as per the attached *Principles* document, be endorsed; and
2. The Annual General Meeting agenda item, as attached, be endorsed.

ALTERNATE MOTION

Moved: Cr Les Price
Seconded: Cr Phil Blight

Cr Chris Mitchell joined the meeting at 4:19pm.

That:

1. The principles to inform WALGA's future governance model, as per the attached *Principles* document, be endorsed subject to the following amendments:
 - a. *'Principle Component' – 'Size'*

'Governance Implications' – 'Status quo or potential reduction in the size of the overarching governing body'
 - b. *'Principle Component' – 'Diversity'*

'Component Description' – 'WALGA's governance recognises the diversity and experiences of its members'

'Governance Implications' – 'Members of the Association may wish to retain the right and responsibility to elect their representatives to the governing body'
2. Delete.
3. The Governance Model Principles, as amended and the report on the governance review, be considered through the Zone process at the February/March 2023 Zone Meetings; and
4. If necessary, the matter be put before a specially convened General Meeting of the Membership or at the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

LOST

MOTION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: Cr John Daw

That:

1. The principles to inform WALGA's future governance model, as per the attached *Principles* document, be endorsed, subject to replacing all references to "members" to "Local Government members"; and
2. The Annual General Meeting agenda item, as attached, be endorsed.

RESOLUTION 373.6/2022

CARRIED

Executive Summary

- State Council commissioned a Best Practice Governance Review to consider and engage with members to ensure that WALGA's governance model is contemporary and agile and maximises engagement with members.
- The Steering Committee, appointed by State Council to oversee the project, has put forward principles for State Council consideration with the intent of the principles being considered by members at the 2022 Annual General Meeting.
- Following consideration of the principles at the 2022 Annual General Meeting, a thorough consultation and engagement process will be undertaken with members on potential future models.

Attachments

1. Best Practice Governance Review Principles
2. Draft Annual General Meeting Agenda Item – WALGA Best Practice Governance Review Principles

Background

State Council commissioned the Best Practice Governance Review in March 2022 and appointed a Steering Committee comprising the WALGA President, Deputy President, State Councillors, and sector representatives to guide the project.

The attached draft Annual General Meeting agenda item provides an overview of the Best Practice Governance Review project and the Steering Committee's deliberations to date. Accordingly, that material is not repeated in this report.

The Steering Committee, at their 10 August 2022 meeting, endorsed principles, as attached, to guide the development of potential governance models for member consultation and engagement.

As detailed in the draft AGM item, embedded in the governance implications are considerations for potential changes as well as principles that will be adhered to in the development of models.

Following consideration of the principles at the 2022 Annual General Meeting, an extensive consultation and engagement process will be undertaken with members on potential governance model options.

The consultation and engagement process will be undertaken during October, November, and December 2022. The intent is that feedback from member submissions, workshops, and discussions will inform a final report to be considered at February 2023 Zone meetings and subsequently, the March 2023 State Council meeting.

Constitutional amendments will then be prepared for consideration by State Council and the broader membership at the 2023 Annual General Meeting. As per WALGA's Constitution, amendments to the Constitution require endorsement by a 75 percent majority at both State Council and a general meeting of members.

Comment

The principles and a draft AGM agenda item are put forward for State Council consideration.

3.2. Local Government Honours Program – CONFIDENTIAL

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Mark Irwin

Seconded: Cr Russ Fishwick

Mayor Peter Long joined the meeting at 4:38pm.

A confidential motion was endorsed by State Council.

RESOLUTION 374.6/2022

CARRIED

4. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at **4:44pm**.