



Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Alice Springs

12 February 2014

Meeting No 7

Meeting commences at 10.30am

Present: Bernard Singer (Chairman), Trevor Adamson (Deputy Chairman), Alex Baker, Mrs Paddy, Willy Pompey, Anton Baker, Charlie Antjipalya, Owen Burton (via phone)
Admin staff: Rex Tjami (Director) Lesley Johns

Guests: Andrew Collett (lawyer), Leanne Liddle (DPC-AARD), Rick Starkie (DPC-AARD).

Chairman: Welcomed people to the meeting. Discussion about passing previous minutes.
Deferred this action for a future Exec Meeting.

Other Business brought forward while waiting for guests to arrive.

Discussion re pastoral issues.

Resolution:

That Andy Dale prepares a report for the Executive that explains the true position of pastoral businesses.

Moved: Charlie Antjipalya

Second: Willy Pompey

Vote: all in favour

Discussion re Mining Trust Account. – suggestion that Lesley Johns works out the Trust account position. More discussion in language

Owen Burton: expresses concerns about the way the Sean McCarthy matter is being dealt with.

Chairman: It had to be done quick. We had an obligation to address the bullying complaint. This board is working for all anangu – not for one.

Morning tea break 11.10

Meeting resumes 11.45

Discussion re NintiOne

Discussion re finding funding to help people/visitors/tourists through the Lands. Discussion that interim GM should try to find some funding so senior Anangu can act as guides.

Correspondence: Tabled Letter from DPC-AARD's Nerida Saunders to Bernard Singer.

Meeting breaks for lunch 1.00pm

Meeting resumes at 1.50 – Guests (as above) attend

Chair: Im concerned that Sean McCarthy has been speaking about the investigation. I don't want to be criticised for what I've been through and for what my people, APY have been through. You try meeting up with him at Umuwa and no way. It sickens me. English is my second language. This stuff really depresses us. For us words do slip out when we are under pressure.

Andrew Collett: Thankyou – I have a better understanding of what pressure you are under.

Chair: The last three general managers have left. This is not working out for us. We really have had enough. There has to be change happening. Let's find the right person this time.

L Liddle: APY is in the best position to make changes by make sure people are accountable to the board. We need to make sure contracts are tight, that's where we can help out. And to make sure you get proper reports. Introduces Rick Starkie. Rick and I looked at ways APY can generate money. We looked at upgrading of staff housing, government agencies paying for leases – that went to Cabinet. That money should go to APY and it will.

Rick Starkie: The lease agreement provides annual money for APY Infrastructure and Housing. Payments will start this year and be phased in over three years. You will get \$21,700 in the first year, \$33,000 in the 2nd year and \$45500 in the 3rd year. That's from State Government houses. Any new houses in future will bring more money. It's a good revenue source and it's untied.

Deputy chair: I think this is a good thing. It's good for APY.

L. Liddle: Next week at the Special General meeting we will bring the documents for signing.

Chair: We need also to look at overcrowding in houses.

L Liddle: Perhaps you could write to the Commonwealth about housing.

Discussion around \$3.6 million re landfill sites

Chair: APY wants to be involved in the tender process.

L Liddle: She will advise the State Government that APY Exec wants to be involved. And that AARD would advise APY Exec the outcome of discussion

Chair: Discussion about the Roads to Recovery funding, and that APY should be involved in all tenders on the Lands. We want to employ Anangu – that should be written into all contracts.

L Liddle: We will make sure the landfill procurement arrangements come back to the Board.

L Liddle: APY licensing DPTI wants a pilot.

Chair: APY Exec agree to the pilot program but would like it to be expanded to two projects... East and West.

More discussion on Roads to Recovery and need to move so as to avoid risk of losing funding.

Resolution:

That LJ to work with Rex to ensure that the Indulkana contract is awarded.

Moved: Charlie Antjipalya

Second: Willy Pompey

L Liddle: discusses plans for the Special General Meeting to be held on the 20 and 21st Feb. The Review panel will fly in at that meeting people will have questions. Advises she is sourcing interpreters for the meeting.

L Liddle: We need to know what you want to do about the recruitment for General Manager. We have an interest in this position. We pay the money for this position. We want to make sure you get the right person to do the job. We know the legislation. We have had 123 inquiries so far. Applications close Friday. All we have done so far is send an information package. The board needs to decide the short list process and the interview process. There is a lot of money from our budget for this position. We would be reluctant to not have a role. But the process is yours. This is a 3 year contract. This is the board's choice.

Chair: We cant put up with anything like we've had for the last 3 years.

Deputy chair: We need to get a taste of the person. How can he help. They come in with family. We need to be careful. We need to give them a chance. We have to look at this properly. Those 4 managers past, didn't take us further. A lot of people do wrong things. We need to control the process.

Chair: We both – the Exec and the General Manager need governance training.

Andrew Collett: Trevor is right when he said APY needs to control the process. You need to decide how and if you want AARD to be involved.

Discussion about how that could work. DPC-AARD offered to provide staff to short-list/ do checks/ gather information.

3pm – DPC-AARD staff leave the room

Andrew Collett: You have two options. You can go outside and use a private recruitment agency or you can use AARD to do the reference checks, facebook, google searches. But you must do this the proper way. I don't have a view either way. I can help supervise it. I suggest the board could have a meeting and have 10 shortlist applicants and go through them to shortlist for interview.

Discussion:

Deputy chair: Maybe Andrew, Chariman and Executive Director could do that.

Andrew Collett: No doubt it's cheaper for AARD to do the checking work, maybe I can do the checks, go in and check on them. I could do that with Rex.

Resolution:

The process of checking the candidates to be continued by AARD with Andrew Collett and Rex Tjami to spot check the work. AARD to produce a recommendation of 10 candidates to the Director and Chair.

Moved: *Anton Baker*

Second: *Mrs Paddy*

Vote: 7 for 1 against (Trevor)

Resolution:

The interview panel will consist of the Director and two board members - Charlie Antjipalya and Bernard Singer.

Moved: *Alex Baker*

Second: *Anton Baker*

Andrew Collett: advised the meeting regarding the progress of the Sean McCarthy matter. Some of the contents are confidential. The board instructed Mr Collett to proceed with the investigation. Mr Peter Gardner has been appointed to investigate matters. Mr Collett asked for permission to instruct the investigator.

Vote: all in favour

Discussion about the Review Special General meeting.

Andrew Collett: We need to confirm the appointment of Lesley Johns as interim General Manager. We have looked at the APY Act and you have to call her interim General Manager and she needs to have all the conditions and Delegations of the General Manager.

Resolution:

Lesley Johns is confirmed as interim General Manager.

Motion: Charlie Antjipalya

2nd: Willy Pompey

All in favour.

Chair: As two senior elders recently passed away we need to change the PDL owners. Rex is in line to take one. We need to instruct Anthropologists to do this work.

All: Palya

Chair: one last matter, there was a media report last Saturday about me verbally abusing a staff member. I just want to advise the Exec of how I was feeling. I was feeling pressure. The pressure I get from Anangu-tjuta means I have a short fuse, sometimes.

Meeting closed 4.22

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