



WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday 28 November 2024

Tammin Lesser Hall

WEROC Inc. | Incorporating the Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Tammin, Westonia and Yilgarn

A PO Box 5, MECKERING WA 6405 E rebekah@150square.com.au

M 0428 871 202

CONTENTS

1.	OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	3
2.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES.....	3
2.1	Attendance.....	3
2.2	Apologies.....	3
2.3	Guests.....	3
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.....	3
4.	MINUTES OF MEETINGS.....	3
4.1	Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held 29 November 2023.....	3
5.	CHAIRS REPORT.....	4
6.	TREASURERS REPORT.....	5
7.	ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2024.....	6
8.	ACCEPTANCE OF THE WEROC INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024.....	6
9.	APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR THE 2024-25 FINANCIAL YEAR.....	7
10.	ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.....	8
10.1	Election of Chair.....	8
10.2	Election of Deputy Chair.....	8
10.3	Election of Secretary/Treasurer.....	8
10.4	Election of Board Members.....	9
11.	SPECIAL BUSINESS.....	10
12.	GENERAL BUSINESS.....	10
13.	CLOSURE.....	10

WEROC Inc.

Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Inc.

Shires of Bruce Rock, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Tammin, Westonia, Yilgarn

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 28 November 2024.

MINUTES

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Lisa O'Neill as Interim Chair of WEROC Inc. welcomed Members of the Board and opened the meeting at 9.34am.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

Mr. Mark Crees

Mr. Wayne Della Bosca

Mr. Mark Furr

Mr. Raymond Griffiths

Ms. Lisa O'Neill

Mr. Bill Price

Mr. Ramesh Rajagopalan

Ms. Emily Ryan

Ms. Charmaine Thomson

Mr. Nic Warren

Mr. Craig Watts

Ms. Rebekah Burges, Executive Officer

2.2 Apologies

Nil

2.3 Guests

Mr. Andrew Malone

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NIL

4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

4.1 Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held 29 November 2023

Attachment 1: Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held 29 November 2023

The Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 29 November 2023 have been previously circulated and are provided again as an attachment to the meeting agenda.

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 29 November 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Mr. Mark Crees

Seconded: Ms. Emily Ryan

That the Minutes of the WEROC Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 29 November 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5. CHAIRS REPORT

Author: Ms. Renee Manning

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 13 November 2024

Attachments: Nil

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

Executive Officer Comment:

The Chair's report for the 2023-24 financial year is presented.

I am pleased to present the Chairperson's report for the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils Inc for the 2023-2024 financial year. We have had a busy year, engaging in robust discussions amongst ourselves and with stakeholders on key issues, progressing and reshaping legacy projects, and commencing new pieces of work that align with emerging pressures on our economy and community, all helping us progress towards the WEROC vision of a growing and prosperous Wheatbelt East.

I was fortunate to have chaired WEROC for a little under 12 months as the Shire of Merredin representative. This year, the organisation experienced a turnover in Board Membership, and at the AGM in October 2023 Emily Ryan (Kellerberrin) vacated the Chair after two years in the position. We farewelled Tony Crooks (Bruce Rock), Glenice Batchelor (Tammin) and Mark McKenzie (Merredin), and welcomed new members, Ram Rajagopalan and Charmain Thomson. Throughout the 2023-24 financial year we also said goodbye to a few of our CEO's. Lisa Clack (Merredin), Joanne Soderlund (Tammin) and Darren Mollenoyux (Bruce Rock) left, and we have welcomed Craig Watts (Merredin) and have had John Merrick on the Board for most of the year while he was acting in CEO's positions at Kellerberrin, Merredin and Bruce Rock.

We commenced the year with the first in a series of sessions looking at the Wheatbelt East's economic future. This identified some focus areas for the coming years, including an initiative to progress operational efficiency and effectiveness across the six Shires, with commencement of a comprehensive review and assessment process to identify a cross WEROC Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

Robust discussions were had on the emerging challenges around land use change driven by decarbonisation and the provision of housing to support economic growth and service delivery, laying the foundation for ongoing areas of work. WEROC progressed projects aligned with our strategic plan, including the Corella Management project with Wheatbelt NRM, CBH and AROC; the Town Team Partnership; the development of the Eastern Wheatbelt self-drive trail, that saw an active campaign to lift the profile of the region's tourism assets; and our Shires played host again to students participating in the Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program.

- Executive Officer - Professional Services \$33,365
- WEROC insurance \$5,954

The **closing cash balance** of the WEROC Inc. **Community Solutions One** account on 30 June 2024 was \$69,785.

The **closing cash balance** of the WEROC Inc. **Term Deposit** account on 30 June 2024 was \$100,000.

The current signatories to the WEROC Inc. accounts are Mr. Raymond Griffiths (Board Member), Ms. Lisa O'Neill (Interim Chair), Mr. Craig Watts (Board Member) and Ms. Rebekah Burges (Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer).

Recommendation:

That the Treasurer's Report for the 2023-24 financial year be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Ms. Emily Ryan

Seconded: Mr. Ram Rajagopalan

That the Treasurer's Report for the 2023-24 financial year be received.

CARRIED

7. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2024

Author: Rebekah Burges, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 1 November 2024

Attachments: *Attachment 2: 2024 Audited Financial Statements*
Attachment 3: 2024 Management Letter

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

Executive Officer Comment:

The audited financial report and management letter for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 are presented.

Recommendation:

That:

- 1) The final audited financial report be accepted; and
- 2) The management letter be noted.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Mr. Wayne Della Bosca

Seconded: Ms. Charmaine Thomson

That:

- 1) The final audited financial report be accepted; and
- 2) The management letter be noted.

CARRIED

8. ACCEPTANCE OF THE WEROC INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Author: Rebekah Burges, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 13 November 2024

Attachments: Attachment 4: Draft WEROC Inc. Annual Report 2023-24

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

Executive Officer Comment:

The Draft WEROC Inc. Annual Report for the 2023-24 financial year is provided as an attachment. The Annual Report highlights the key activities and achievements of WEROC Inc. over the 2023-24 financial year.

Recommendation:

That the Draft Annual Report of WEROC Inc. for the 2023-24 financial year be accepted.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Mr. Nic Warren

Seconded: Ms. Charmaine Thomson

That the Draft Annual Report of WEROC Inc. for the 2023-24 financial year be accepted.

CARRIED

9. APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR FOR THE 2024-25 FINANCIAL YEAR

Author: Rebekah Burges, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 1 November 2024

Attachments: Nil

Financial Implications: As per quote supplied.

Consultation: Audit Partners Australia

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

Background:

The WEROC Inc. Constitution states under Rule 23. Appointment of Auditor, that:

“WEROC will at each Annual General Meeting, appoint an Auditor for a period of one year, who is not a Member of WEROC. The Auditor will be eligible for reappointment by WEROC and WEROC Board has the power to fill any temporary vacancy in the office of Auditor”.

Executive Officer Comment:

Audit Partners Australia (APA) completed the financial audits for WEROC Inc. for the 2019-2020, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years. The cost for the 2023-24 financial audit was \$950 +GST and disbursements.

APA advised via email on 9 October 2024 that if they are reappointed as auditor for the 2024-25 financial year the cost will be \$1,000 +GST and disbursements.

To provide context for new members, APA has been appointed as the auditor for five successive years because they are both an efficient and reliable provider of auditing services and the most cost effective. Every couple of years alternative quotes are sourced to gauge the market and ensure that APA are still providing an economical service. This was done most recently in 2023, when two alternative quotes were sourced, and they ranged from \$1,750 ex. GST to \$4,500 ex. GST.

Recommendation:

That Audit Partners Australia be reappointed to undertake the financial audit for WEROC Inc. for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Ms. Lisa O'Neill

Seconded: Ms. Emily Ryan

That Audit Partners Australia be reappointed to undertake the financial audit for WEROC Inc. for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

CARRIED

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Author: Rebekah Burges, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 1 November 2024

Attachments: Nil

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

Background:

The WEROC Inc. Constitution states under Rule 14.1 Elections at Annual General Meeting, that:

- a) Elections for Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and Board members will take place at the Annual General Meeting of WEROC where the Chair will declare all positions vacant.
- b) The Chair and Deputy Chair must be from a different Local Government.
- c) Subject to Rule 14.2, a Board Member's term will be from his or her election at an annual general meeting until the election at the next annual general meeting after his or her election, but he or she is eligible for re-election to membership of the Board.

10.1 Election of Chair

Ms. Lisa O'Neill declared all positions vacant.

Mr. Craig Watts invited nominations from the floor for the election of Chair to WEROC Inc. until the next Annual General Meeting.

Ms. Charmaine Thomson nominated Ms. Lisa O'Neill for the position of Chair to WEROC Inc. Ms. Emily Ryan seconded the nomination.

Ms. Lisa O'Neill accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations Ms. Lisa O'Neill was elected unopposed for the position of Chair of WEROC Inc.

10.2 Election of Deputy Chair

Mr. Craig Watts invited nominations from the floor for the election of a Deputy Chair until the next Annual General Meeting.

Mr. Ramesh Rajagopalan nominated Ms. Charmaine Thomson for the position of Deputy Chair to WEROC Inc. Ms. Lisa O'Neill seconded the nomination.

Ms. Charmaine Thomson accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations Ms. Charmaine Thomson was elected unopposed for the position of Deputy Chair of WEROC Inc.

10.3 Election of Secretary/Treasurer

The election of a Secretary/Treasurer is a formality as the WEROC Inc. Constitution states under Rule 16.2 that:

"The Executive Officer will act as Secretary/Treasurer of WEROC and non-voting member of the Board".

Recommendation:

That the WEROC Inc. Executive Officer be appointed as Secretary/Treasurer until the next Annual General Meeting.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Ms. Lisa O’Neill

Seconded: Ms. Charmaine Thomson

That the WEROC Inc. Executive Officer be appointed as Secretary/Treasurer until the next Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

10.4 Election of Board Members

Rule 14.1 of the WEROC Inc. Constitution stipulates that the election of Board Members will take place at each Annual General Meeting and that a Board Members term will be from his or her election at an annual general meeting until the election at the next annual general meeting.

The appointment of the Board should mirror the nominated representatives (as detailed below) from each of the six Member Local Governments, who are appointed for a term of two years in accordance with Rule 6 of the WEROC Inc. Constitution.

Local Government	Nominated Representatives	Term Commencing	Term Expiring
Shire of Bruce Rock	Mr. Ramesh Rajagopalan	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Chief Executive Officer	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Proxies Mr. Tony Crooks Ms. Nerea Ugarte		
Shire of Kellerberrin	Ms. Emily Ryan	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Mr. Raymond Griffiths	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Proxy Mr. Matt Steber		
Shire of Merredin	Mr. Craig Watts	31 July 2024	30 October 2025
	Ms. Lisa O’Neill	31 July 2024	30 October 2025
Shire of Tammin	Ms. Charmaine Thomson	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	TBA Proxy Ms. Tanya Nicholls		
Shire of Westonia	Mr. Mark Crees	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Ms. Bill Price	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Proxy Mr. Ross Della Bosca		
Shire of Yilgarn	Mr. Wayne Della Bosca	30 October 2023	30 October 2025
	Mr. Nic Warren	30 October 2023	30 October 2025

Recommendation:

That those Members as nominated by their respective Local Government be appointed to the WEROC Inc. Board until the next Annual General Meeting.

Comments from the meeting:

- Ms. Charmaine Thomson nominated Mr. Andrew Malone as the second representative for the Shire of Tammin. Mr. Nic Warren seconded the nomination. There being no objections, Mr. Andrew Malone was appointed as Shire of Tammin representative.
- Mr. Ramesh Rajagopalan requested that Mr. Mark Furr be named as the second representative for Bruce Rock.

