

MINUTES

OF

B.P.A. SUB-COMMITTEE (BALINGUP RAIL GROUP) MEETING at
Balingup Community Meeting Room on Thursday 21 March 2024 at 1.00pm.

[Meeting transmitted via 'Teams' system]

PRESENT : M.Lee; G.Hodge; M.Copeland; H. Zampatti;

P. Scallan; G. O'Rourke

APOLOGIES : D.Gordon; A. Oades; D.Louw;

MINUTES : Minutes of Meeting 25 January 2024, previously
circulated, accepted as a correct record.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Outwards

B. Rettinger	25/1/24
Rail Heritage WA	25/1/24
G. O'Rourke	25/1;15/2;8/3/24
V. Yurisich	28/1/24
S. Giblett	28/1/24
B. Hastie	28/1/24
Linqage International	2,27/2;2,7,16/3/24
Qantas	2/2/24
PTA	5/2/24
UWA	5/2/24
D-G Transport, Executive Officer	5/2/24
Telstra	22/2/24

P. Scallan & H.Christensen re Balingup Station	4,5/3/24
Hon. R. Saffioti MLA	4/3/24
Hon. D. Punch MLA	4/3/24
M/s M. Teede, [CEO, SWDC]	4/3/24
Director, RBASW [C. Jenkinson]	8/3/24
D-G Transport, [P. Woronzow]	9/3/24
J. Kelsbie MLA	11/3/24

Inwards

S. Giblett	21/1/24
B. Hastie	22/1/24
V. Yurisich	22/1/24
Rail Heritage WA	25/1/24
H. Zampatti	27/1/24
Clr J. Boyle	29/1/24
P. Scallan	30/1/24
Roger	12/2/24
Linqage International	27/2;7/3/24
G. O'Rourke	25/1;15/2;8/3/24
D-G Transport, Executive Officer	16/2;8,11/3/24
PTA	19/2/24

BUSINESS:

1. Balance of Funds Required for Feasibility Study.

G. Hodge reported that the community grants program to encourage developments that offset the disadvantage caused by restriction of the forestry industry in the South West would be re-opened in April and an Application by BRG for a grant under that scheme would be submitted once supporting data became available from the BRG Feasibility Study

2. Feasibility Study.

(a) Community meetings held 6-19 February 2024.

Chair and G.Hodge reported that the program of meetings had been successful and reflected general community support for the BRG proposal.

In particular there was considerable interest in the commencement of a regular rail service for commuters and support for the BRG intention for the service to be based on zero emissions principles.

(b) Progress of Study

Linqage International personnel were observers at the meeting

and reported that they would be contacting Alstom, Regional Development Australia South West, rail tour operator Kevin Pearce to obtain further information and data to form the required business case for the Feasibility Study.

Survey requests will be forwarded shortly to persons who had registered interest in the BRG proposal.

3. BRG Meeting with Director-General of Transport: 29 February 2024 – (including Executive Director Freight, Ports, Aviation and Reform [Department of Transport]; and Executive Director Infrastructure, Planning and Land Services [Public Transport Authority]).

Chair and G. Hodge reported that this had been a very successful meeting for BRG which had been given full opportunity to present the strength of the case for commencement of a passenger rail service on the Bunbury-Bridgetown line and was invited to meet again with the Director-General once the BRG feasibility study had been completed with a sound business case supporting it.

4, BRG Meeting with Director Regional Development Australia SouthWest : 12 March 2024

G. Hodge reported that as the result of an oversight the Director had been unable to attend the meeting and had apologised for the inconvenience. The Director would arrange another date for the meeting.

5. BRG Invited Guests at Dinner at Manjimup Hosted by The Hon.J. Jarvis MLC on 15 March 2024.

G.Hodge reported that he and the Chair had been guests of the Minister at a dinner at Manjimup and had had the opportunity to explain to the Minister the potential benefits to flow to the South West region from the BRG proposal for commencement of a passenger rail service on the Bunbury-Bridgetown line.

6. Publicity:

The Chair reported on the following publicity events relevant to the BRG proposal:

“Preston Press” (Feb.2024) p.5 – ‘Consultation commences for commuter rail service’

Donnybrook-Balingup Community Radio Interview-- 7 February 2024

[“Soundcloud”: ‘Malcolm Lee-Balingup Rail Group’]

ABC Radio – 2 February 2024 -- “Stories From the State Archives”

[“Soundcloud” : ‘All Aboard The Reso Train’]

MEETING CLOSED AT 1.50 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, 23 MAY 2024 at 1.00pm