

Board Meeting Minutes

Friday 7 August 2026

RAMJO BOARD MEETING

DATE	Friday 7 August 2026
TIME	9:30am – 12:30pm
LOCATION	Club Tocumwal - Tocumwal Golf & Bowls Club
CHAIR	Cr. Ruth McRae OAM

IN ATTENDANCE	Council / Organisation	Voting Member	Non-Voting Member
	Albury City Council	Cr. Kevin Mack	Mr. Steve McGrath
	Balranald Shire Council	Cr. Louie Zaffina	Mr. Terry Dodds PSM
	Berrigan Shire Council	Cr. Julia Cornwell-McKean	Mr. Cameron Boardman
	Edward River Council	Cr. Ashley Hall	Mr. Jack Bond
	Federation Council	Cr. Cheryl Cook	Mr. Adrian Butler
	Griffith City Council	Cr. Doug Curran	Mr. Scott Grant
	Hay Shire Council	Cr. Carol Oataway	Ms. Kirstyn Thronder Mr David Webb (absent)
	Leeton Shire Council	Cr. George Weston	Mrs. Jackie Kruger
	Murray River Council	Cr. John Harvie	Mrs. Stacy Williams
	Murrumbidgee Council	Cr. Ruth McRae OAM	Mr John Scarce (absent)
	Narrandera Shire Council	Cr. Neville Kschenka OAM	Mr. Timothy Coote
	Wentworth Shire Council	Cr. Daniel Linklater	Mr. Ken Ross
	RAMJO Staff		
	Mr. Brett Stonestreet PSM	Executive Officer	
	Mrs. Susan Escott	Administration Officer	
	Mrs. Emma Avery	Regional Resource Recovery Project Manager	
	Mr. Andrew Fisher	JONZA Project Manager	
	Presenters		
	Mr. Giles Butler	Director, Regional Coordination – South, Delivery & Engagement, NSW Premier’s Department	
	Ms. Louise Taylor	Council Engagement Manager – Southern NSW and Southern/ Western Sydney, NSW Office of Local Government	
	Mr. David Heine	Chief Executive Officer, Regional Australia Bank (via Teams)	
	Invited		
	Ms. Sarimah Hellyer	Chief Executive Officer, RDA-Murray (via Teams)	
	Cr. Shari Blumer	Chair, Murray Darling Association, Councillor, Griffith City Council	

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RAMJO BOARD MEETING AGENDA

ITEM	TOPIC
1	WELCOME Acknowledgement of Country
2	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
3	DECLARATION OF ITEMS OF PECUNIARY OR OTHER INTEREST
4	MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS 4.1 15 May 2026 Board Meeting – <i>Attachment 4.1</i>
5	MATTERS AND ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS
6	PRESENTATIONS 6.1 Mr David Heine - Regional Banking Investment Alliance
7	UPDATE FROM OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT 7.1 Ms Louise Taylor, <i>Council Engagement Manager – Southern NSW and Southern/Western Sydney, Office of Local Government</i>
8	UPDATE FROM NSW PREMIERS' DEPARTMENT 8.1 Mr. Giles Butler, <i>Director Regional Coordination, Delivery & Engagement, NSW Premiers Department</i>
9	STRATEGY, ADVOCACY and POLICY 9.1 Future format of RAMJO meetings – <i>Attachment 9.1</i> 9.2 Advocacy Brochure 9.3 Regional Coordination Support Program- Advocacy to Extend Program – <i>Attachment 9.3</i> 9.4 Murray Darling Basin Communities Advocacy Campaign – <i>Attachment 9.4</i> 9.5 Murray River Tourism - Skills Based Director Vacancy - Panel Nomination – <i>Attachments 9.5a & 9.5b</i> 9.6 Policies for revision and/or adoption: • <i>Attachment 9.6a</i> - Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy • <i>Attachment 9.6b</i> – Flexible Working Arrangements Policy
10	REPORTS FOR NOTING 10.1 Draft Minutes of ARIC meeting 13 May 2026 – <i>Attachment 10.1</i> 10.2 Draft Minutes of General Managers Advisory Committee 17 July 2026 – <i>Attachment 10.2a</i> and Executive Summary - <i>Attachment 10.2b</i>
11	GENERAL BUSINESS / LATE ITEMS 11.1 Native Title Claim 11.2 Federal Water Act Review 11.3 ACCC Regional Mobile Coverage Inquiry 11.4 Call for general business by the Chair
12	MEETING CLOSE

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1 – WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Chair welcomed attendees - acknowledgement of country provided by Berrigan Shire Mayor Cr. Julia Cornwell-McKean.

2 – APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr David Webb, Mr John Scarce, Mr Cameron Templeton, Ms Jesmine Coromandel and Ms Rachel Whiting

Resolved:

That apologies be **accepted** and that leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Wentworth **Seconded:** Griffith City

Carried

3 – DECLARATION OF ITEMS OF PECUNIARY OR OTHER INTEREST

No declarations noted

4 – MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 15 May 2026 Board Meeting

The Draft minutes of Board Meeting of 15 May 2026– *Attachment 4.1 were tabled*

Resolved:

That the minutes of the RAMJO Board Meeting held 15 May 2026 be **adopted** as a true and correct record.

Moved: Murray **Seconded:** Leeton

Carried

5 – MATTERS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS

ACTIONS IN PROGRESS

MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	STATUS
13/2/2026	7.2 Office of Local Government Update	OLG to seek clarification to identify who should pay rates when developers lease farmland and land is rezoned	OUTSTANDING Awaiting response from OLG
15/5/2026	4 Minutes of previous meeting	Update minute format to clearly identify actual attendees	COMPLETED

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ACTIONS IN PROGRESS

MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	STATUS
15/5/2026	6.1 Andrew Cottrill, nbnCo	Andrew Cottrill to share presentation with Members	COMPLETED Andrew advised he is unwilling to share presentation to Board as he noted "these are not very self-explanatory and not for general public consumption. I feel it would be better if I offer to provide each Council and exec team a face-to face update on plans and investment" Referred to Digital Connectivity Working Group
		Councils to support community awareness campaigns around fibre upgrades and digital inclusion.	ONGOING
15/5/2026	7.1 Office of Local Government Update	Louise took on notice to answer question of who is to pay if code of conduct matter is to appear at Land & Environment Court?	ONGOING Awaiting more information – do not have an answer as yet
15/5/2026	8.1 NSW Premiers Department Update	RAMJO to write a letter to Premiers Dept, State and Federal Government representatives, and others identified by Giles, to advocate for regional fuel security for agriculture-dependent communities	COMPLETED Report provided to GMAC 17/7/26
15/5/2026	9.1 Q3 25/26FY Operational Budget Review	EO to Prepare report for next Board meeting to: - Clarify restricted vs unrestricted funds - Provide recommendations on internal reserves	ONGOING Will be provided once financials are completed for Audit
15/05/2026	9.2 Executive Officers Update	EO to Investigate shared or reduced cost ARIC model	ONGOING Report provided to GMAC 17/7/26
15/05/2026	9.3 Draft Budget 2026/2027	EO to arrange purchase of vehicle from Albury City or Murrumbidgee to meet contractual agreement and report back to Board	COMPLETED Report provided to GMAC 17/7/26
15/05/2026	11.4 Change of location of meetings	EO to investigate meeting in Sydney with ministers once a year. Speak with other JOs and Megan Mulroney, EO if REROC, and report to August meeting.	ONGOING As per August meeting discussion

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Resolved:

That the Board **note** the status of matters and action items arising from previous Board meetings.

Moved: Berrigan **Seconded:** Balranald

Carried

6 – PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Mr David Heine, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Australia Bank

Mr David Heine, CEO of Regional Australia Bank, outlined the impact of ongoing regional bank branch closures despite population growth in regional Australia. He explained that face-to-face banking services are costly to provide and increasingly disconnected from profitable banking activities due to advances in digital banking.

Mr Heine presented the Regional Banking Investment Alliance proposal for a Community Service Obligation (CSO) model, funded across the banking sector, to support the ongoing provision of regional bank branches. The Alliance estimates that regional branches cost approximately \$1 million per annum to operate and that a banking industry levy of approximately \$153 million could support branch viability nationwide.

Mr Heine advised that the proposal has support from Treasury, economists and a coalition of regional banks and councils.

Key points included:

- Nearly 40% of regional bank branches have closed since 2017.
- Face-to-face banking services are expensive to provide but generate limited direct revenue.
- Regional branches are increasingly subsidising customers of larger metropolitan-based banks.
- Approximately 40% of cash transactions undertaken through regional bank branches ultimately benefit other banking institutions.
- Regional branches cost approximately \$1 million per annum to operate.
- The Alliance proposes a Community Service Obligation (CSO) model funded across the banking industry to support regional branch viability.
- The proposed CSO model would cost approximately \$153 million annually and would support access to banking services in regional communities.

ACTION: David Heine to provide Board members with a copy of the presentation and a template letter seeking support for the Community Service Obligation proposal.

Resolved:

That the Board **note** the presentations from Regional Australia Bank

Moved: Murray River **Seconded:** Balranald

Carried

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7– OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UPDATE

7.1 Office of Local Government Council Engagement Manager Update

Ms Louise Taylor, *Council Engagement Manager* – Southern NSW and Southern/Western Sydney to provide an update and discuss current focuses of the Office of Local Government in the absence of Mr Cameron Templeton, Council Engagement Manager – Riverina and Far South-West provided an update and discussed current focus of the Office of Local Government.

- Financial Assistance Grants Commission consultation.
- Proposed changes to the Code of Meeting Practice and related regulations.
- Review of the Code of Conduct framework.
- Fresh Start recruitment program including apprenticeships, cadetships and traineeships.
- Nominations for the 2026 Women in Local Government Awards.

Resolved:

That the Board **note** the update provided by Ms Louise Taylor of Office of Local Government.

Moved: Federation **Seconded:** Wentworth

Carried

8 – NSW PREMIERS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

8.1 NSW Premiers Department Update

Mr Giles Butler, Director – Regional Coordination South, Delivery & Engagement, provided an update and discussed current focus of the NSW Premiers Department.

- NSW Government priorities leading into the March 2027 election.
- Delivery of election commitments.
- South West Renewable Energy Zone consultation processes.
- Water allocation consultations.
- Riverina Murray Regional Integrated Transport Plan consultation.
- Parliamentary inquiries, including Modern Slavery.

SunRice Employment Impacts

The Board discussed anticipated job losses associated with SunRice operational changes and concerns regarding regional economic impacts linked to water policy settings.

Resolved:

That RAMJO seek a delegation with the Minister for Regional NSW and the NSW Minister for Water to discuss concerns regarding potential regional job losses associated with SunRice restructuring and broader water policy settings.

Moved: Leeton **Seconded:** Edward River

Carried

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Regional Funding Concerns

Members expressed concern regarding the perceived lack of regional investment and limited progress on regional development proposals.

Resolved:

That RAMJO write to the NSW Government expressing dissatisfaction regarding:

- the limited allocation of recent funding initiatives to regional areas;
- the lack of new funding directed toward regional infrastructure, housing and economic development priorities;
- the inadequate visibility of unsuccessful funding applications and unmet regional demand; and
- delays in responding to regional projects and proposals, including those requiring government decisions rather than direct funding assistance.

Further, that RAMJO advocate for greater recognition of the needs of regional communities and increased investment in infrastructure and development opportunities across the region.

Moved: Leeton **Seconded:** Edward River

Carried

Resolved:

That the Board **note** the update provided by Mr Giles Butler of the NSW Premiers Department.

Moved: Wentworth **Seconded:** Griffith City

Carried

Break for morning tea at 10.35am

MORNING TEA BREAK – 15 Mins

Returned from morning tea at 10.50am

9 – STRATEGY, ADVOCACY and POLICY

9.1 Future format of RAMJO Board meetings

At the May Board meeting a Notice of Motion by Cr Cornwall McKean was endorsed. The Board discussed the future format of RAMJO meetings utilising **Attachment 9.1** as a guide.

The Board held an extensive discussion on improving the strategic focus of Board meetings and reducing duplication with General Managers Advisory Committee discussions.

Discussion included:

- Focusing Board agendas on strategic and advocacy matters.
- Presenting one strategic pillar at each meeting.
- Moving operational presentations and detailed administrative matters to GMAC where appropriate.
- Additional reporting from strategic subcommittee chairs.
- Reviews of regional plans and emerging advocacy matters.
- Workshops prior to meetings where appropriate.
- Holding one Board meeting annually in Sydney to facilitate engagement with Ministers and Government agencies.

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Resolved:

That RAMJO supports the proposed standard Board meeting agenda outlined in Attachment 9.1, as follows:

1. Report from EO
2. New, current and emerging advocacy issues including open or upcoming consultations
3. Items for decision based on recommendations from GMAC
4. Reports from non-voting members with the inclusion of:
 - Reports from Strategic Committee Chairs; and
 - Review of State and Federal Government Regional Plans and items of strategic significance relating to the strategic pillars of RAMJO.
5. Notes the desire for RAMJO Board meetings to maintain a strategic focus and minimise duplication of operational matters considered by the General Managers Advisory Committee.
6. Extends future meeting arrangements to include a workshop component, to be held prior to Board meetings where appropriate, with timing and format to be determined by the EO in consultation with the Chair.
7. Holds one Board meeting annually in Sydney to facilitate engagement with Ministers, Government agencies and other key decision-makers on strategic regional priorities.
8. Structures the remaining three annual Board meetings around RAMJO's three Strategic Regional Priority pillars, with one pillar forming the primary strategic focus of each meeting.
9. Allows for emerging and time-critical regional issues to be included within the agenda, where required, in addition to the designated strategic pillar.
10. Provides for hybrid attendance arrangements where practical to support participation by all member councils.

Moved: Leeton

Seconded: Berrigan

Carried

Recorded Dissent: Cr Neville Kschenka (Narrandera) requested his dissent be recorded regarding the commitment to hold an annual meeting in Sydney, preferring the wording "consider a meeting in Sydney" rather than mandating it.

9.2 Advocacy Brochure

The Board considered a Notice of Motion submitted by Cr Julia Cornwell-McKean proposing development of an advocacy brochure aligned to RAMJO's Strategic Regional Priorities.

Resolved:

That RAMJO staff develop an advocacy brochure that utilises material from RAMJO's *Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities* and related subcommittee material to highlight key advocacy points for the upcoming state election with the final content of the brochure to be agreed by GMAC before the next RAMJO meeting.

Moved: Balranald

Seconded: Albury City

Carried

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9.3 Regional Coordination Support Program- Advocacy to Extend Program

Regional Resource Recovery Project Manager, Emma Avery presented a report, **Attachment 9.3**, regarding the Regional Coordination Support Program.

The Board acknowledged the importance of ongoing state funding to support regional waste collaboration and associated staff resources.

Resolved:

That the Board supports the proposed advocacy position on WaSM 2 funding.

Moved: Murray River **Seconded:** Leeton

Carried

9.4 Murray Darling Basin Communities Advocacy Campaign

The Executive Officer presented a report regarding a proposed regional advocacy campaign relating to the Murray-Darling Basin Plan Review and associated water reform impacts on Basin communities.

Cr Shari Blumer, Chair of the Murray Darling Association, addressed the Board regarding opportunities to strengthen advocacy on behalf of communities affected by water recovery measures and water policy decisions.

Members noted that despite ongoing advocacy by local government, irrigation groups and industry organisations, there remains limited awareness within metropolitan areas of the economic and social impacts being experienced by Basin communities. Recent announcements regarding operational changes at SunRice were referenced as an example of broader concerns regarding the long-term impacts of water policy settings on regional employment, investment and community sustainability.

Discussion included:

- The need for a coordinated and community-focused campaign that highlights the impacts of water recovery and water reform on regional communities, rather than focusing solely on agricultural production.
- The importance of targeting audiences outside Basin communities, particularly metropolitan decision-makers, media outlets and political representatives.
- Utilisation of short-form digital and social media content to communicate community stories and increase engagement.
- Opportunities to leverage upcoming state elections in Victoria and New South Wales to increase awareness of Basin issues.
- Collaboration with industry organisations, irrigation groups, local government and community stakeholders to deliver a consistent and unified message.
- Participation in national forums, including opportunities for advocacy at the National Press Club, Country Mayors events, National Bush Summit and Murray Darling Association conferences.
- The importance of developing measurable campaign outcomes and engagement metrics.
- The opportunity to utilise remaining funds from the existing water advocacy budget allocation of approximately \$25,000.
- The need to clearly communicate the contribution Basin communities make to Australia's food and fibre production and the potential consequences of ongoing water recovery on regional economies.
- The importance of ensuring advocacy messaging presents both the challenges facing Basin communities and potential policy solutions.

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Members also discussed opportunities for coordinated media engagement, including preparation of media releases, video content and social media material to be distributed through participating councils and partner organisations.

The Board noted the opportunity for RAMJO representatives attending the Country Mayors Association Conference and National Bush Summit to coordinate advocacy messaging and identify opportunities to raise Basin community concerns directly with Federal representatives, including the Prime Minister.

ACTIONS:

- **Mayors and General Managers to review and provide comments on the draft media release by close of business on 7 August 2026.**
- **Final draft media release containing quotes from Mayors to be distributed to regional media outlets and RAMJO Councils Monday 10 August 2026**
- **Water Subcommittee to work with Cr Shari Blumer and participating councils to develop advocacy messaging for upcoming national and state forums.**
- **Executive Officer to circulate the draft campaign brief and media materials to member councils once prepared in conjunction with Cr Blumer and Water Subcommittee.**
- **RAMJO Board members to submit question regarding Basin community impacts and water policy outcomes to EO by Wednesday 12 August 2026.**
- **EO to determine final question in consultation with the chair.**
- **EO to submit question to CMA secretariat and Prime Ministers Office in advance of the Country Mayors Association Conference Dinner with the Prime Minister.**

Resolved:

That the RAMJO Board:

1. endorse the development of a community-led, short-form advocacy campaign highlighting the effects of water recovery and water reform on Basin communities;
2. authorise the Executive Officer to work with the Murray Darling Association and relevant industry and local government partners to prepare a campaign brief, obtain quotations and progress the campaign within the existing allocation of approximately \$25,000;
3. require the campaign to include a clear call to action, a mechanism to measure community engagement, and coordinated distribution through participating councils and partner networks;

Moved: Albury City **Seconded:** Murray River

Carried

9.5 Murray River Tourism - Skills Based Director Vacancy - Panel Nomination

Executive Officer presented a report, *Attachment 9.5a*, regarding a request from Murray River Tourism for nomination to Skills Based Director Vacancy Panel as per email attached *Attachment 9.5b*.

Resolved:

That RAMJO decline participation on the Murray River Tourism Skills-Based Director Selection Panel.

Moved: Albury City **Seconded:** Murray River

Carried

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9.6 Policies for revision and/or adoption

Endorsement of the RAMJO Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy, *Attachment 9.6a* and Flexible Working Arrangements Policy, *Attachment 9.6b*, was discussed.

Resolved:

That the Board adopt the RAMJO Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy and the RAMJO Flexible Working Arrangements Policy.

Moved: Albury City **Seconded:** Leeton

Carried

10 – REPORTS FOR NOTING

10.1 Draft Minutes of the ARIC Committee Meeting 13 May 2026

The draft minutes of the Audit Risk Improvement Committee held 13 May 2026, *Attachment 10.1*, were tabled.

10.2 Draft Minutes of General Managers Advisory Committee 17 April 2026

The draft minutes of the General Managers Advisory Committee meeting held 17 July 2026, *Attachment 10.2a* and the Executive Summary *Attachment 10.2b* were both tabled

Resolved:

That the Board note the reports provided in items 10.1 – 10.2.

Moved: Albury City **Seconded:** Federation

Carried

11 – GENERAL BUSINESS / LATE ITEMS

11.1 Native Title Claim

Members discussed correspondence received from the National Native Title Tribunal regarding the Wiradjuri Native Title Claim and the potential implications for affected councils.

Resolved:

That the Executive Officer:

- Liaise with all affected councils, REROC and Wagga Wagga City Council.
- Seek information and advice from Crown Lands.
- Convene a collaborative meeting of affected councils and key stakeholders to discuss implications, legal considerations and options for a coordinated response.

Moved: Griffith City **Seconded:** Edward River

Carried

11.2 Federal Water Act Review

The Executive Officer advised the Board that submissions to the Australian Government's review of the Water Act 2007 are due by 31 August 2026. Members discussed the significance of the review, noting that it provides an important opportunity for local government to influence future water policy settings affecting communities throughout the Murray-Darling Basin.

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Board members acknowledged that substantial advocacy work has already been undertaken by RAMJO, member councils, irrigation industries, community groups and the Murray Darling Association in relation to water recovery, environmental water management and the social and economic impacts of Basin Plan implementation. It was noted that the current review presents an opportunity to ensure these concerns continue to be communicated to decision makers and reflected in future legislative and policy frameworks.

Cr Shari Blumer advised that submissions received during the current consultation process would inform the development of draft legislation and policy proposals, which are expected to be released for further public consultation during 2027. Members were encouraged to ensure that regional perspectives and local government concerns are captured in the current submission process to influence future policy development at the earliest opportunity.

Discussion highlighted the importance of addressing:

- The social and economic impacts of water recovery on Basin communities;
- Regional employment and industry impacts associated with reduced water availability;
- The sustainability and viability of irrigation-dependent communities;
- Food and fibre security considerations;
- The need to balance environmental outcomes with community and economic outcomes;
- Ensuring local government and community voices continue to be represented throughout future Basin Plan and Water Act reform processes.

Members agreed that the RAMJO Water Subcommittee is best placed to coordinate preparation of a submission on behalf of the organisation, drawing on existing advocacy positions and consulting with member councils and relevant stakeholders.

Cr Shari Blumer offered to assist the Water Subcommittee by providing input from the Murray Darling Association and sharing relevant information arising from upcoming Murray Darling Association conferences, Water Act consultation sessions and industry engagement activities.

Resolved:

That RAMJO's Water Subcommittee prepare and submit a RAMJO response to the Commonwealth Government's review of the Water Act 2007, by 31 August 2026, having regard to:

- Existing RAMJO policy and advocacy positions;
- The social, economic and community impacts of water recovery across the Murray-Darling Basin;
- Input from member councils;
- Advice and input provided by Cr Shari Blumer and the Murray Darling Association; and
- Any relevant matters identified through ongoing consultation with Basin communities and stakeholders.

Moved: Murray River **Seconded:** Balranald

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11.3 ACCC Regional Mobile Coverage Inquiry

Cr Julia Cornwell-McKean introduced a late motion supporting the ACCC inquiry to examine regional mobile coverage across Australia and whether regulating wholesale access to some mobile services could improve consumer outcomes that was announced on 5 August 2026 (the Inquiry)

Resolved

That the RAMJO Board:

- Supports the ACCC's inquiry to examine regional mobile coverage across Australia and whether regulating wholesale access to some mobile services could improve consumer outcomes that was announced on 5 August 2026 (the Inquiry)
- Supports domestic digital roaming and the Universal Outdoor Mobile Obligation as initial steps to improve mobile connectivity across the RAMJO catchment with a view to achieve ubiquitous coverage in the near term
- Writes to the Member for Farrer requesting that he advocates to the Australian Government on behalf of RAMJO, including to the Minister for Communications, regarding:
 - the inadequacy and unreliability of mobile services across the RAMJO catchment,
 - the importance of the Inquiry holding a public hearing within the RAMJO catchment, and
 - reducing the term of the Inquiry to no more than 6 months in order to expedite outcomes for rural, regional and remote Australians.

Moved: Berrigan

Seconded: Albury City

Carried

11.4 Call for General Business by the Chair.

Chair's Remarks

Cr Ruth McRae advised members that she will not be seeking re-election as Chair at the October 2026 AGM and encouraged members to consider nominating for leadership positions.

The Chair thanked Deputy Chair Cr Doug Curran, Board members, General Managers and staff for their support during her term.

Members acknowledged Cr McRae's leadership and contribution to the organisation.

12 – MEETING CLOSE

The next meeting of the RAMJO Board is proposed for **9am** 16 October 2026 at Edward River Council. Venue to be confirmed.

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ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING

ITEM	ACTION
6.1 Mr David Heine, CEO, Regional Australia Bank	David Heine to provide Board members with a copy of the presentation and a template letter seeking support for the Community Service Obligation proposal
9.4 Murray Darling Basin Communities Advocacy Campaign	Mayors and General Managers to review and provide comments on the draft media release by close of business on 7 August 2026.
	Final draft media release containing quotes from Mayors to be distributed to regional media outlets and RAMJO Councils Monday 10 August 2026
	Water Subcommittee to work with Cr Shari Blumer and participating councils to develop advocacy messaging for upcoming national and state forums.
	EO to circulate the draft campaign brief and media materials to member councils once prepared in conjunction with Cr Blumer and Water Subcommittee.
	RAMJO Board members to submit question regarding Basin community impacts and water policy outcomes to EO by Wednesday 12 August 2026.
	EO to determine final question in consultation with the chair.
	EO to submit question to CMA secretariat and Prime Ministers Office in advance of the Country Mayors Association Conference Dinner with the Prime Minister