REGIONAL ARTS NSW

THE TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGIONAL ARTS NSW LTD (ACN 001 382 690) COMMENCING AT 10.00AM ON FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER, 2019 Held by teleconference

The Chair, Julie Briggs, declared the meeting open at 10.04am.

1. **Welcome to directors**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the teleconference

Present by teleconference

Julie Briggs	Chair
David Dwyer	Director
Bridget Guthrie	Director (left meeting at 11.01am and returned at 11.19am)
Travis Holland	Director
Sarah Parsons	Director (phoned in at 11.32am)
Nicholas Pickard	Director
Elizabeth Rogers	CEO
Patrick Healey	General Manager
Prudence Tan	Manager, Programs

2. Acknowledgement of country

The Chair acknowledged various lands from which everyone was phoning in and paid respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

3. Apologies

Paul Scott- Williams	Director
Sharni Jones	Director

The Chair noted the board's condolences to Paul Scott-Williams on the death of his husband Warren.

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked if there were any declarations of conflict of interest and none were made.

5. Minutes of last meeting *(for adoption)*

Ratification and adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 September, 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 5 September 2019 be ratified and adopted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Patrick Healey (Director to 21 September 2019)
Seconded: Julie Briggs accepted
Carried

6. Minutes - matters and actions arising

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Actions Arising

a. The CEO advised the board of the actions that have been undertaken since the last meeting, noting Patrick Healey had been hired as General Manager. The Board welcomed Patrick to his first meeting as General Manager.
b. Draft letter to Regional Arts Australia confirming Regional Arts NSW position on RAA membership to be signed by Paul Scott-Williams. Given Paul's personal circumstances, draft not yet written.
c. Meeting with Ben Franklin, MLC, Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts. The Chair, Julie Briggs, and CEO, Elizabeth Rogers, met with Ben Franklin on 20 November 2019 and reported: They had a broad ranging conversation about the state of the network; the Create NSW review of service agencies; and, the general level of uncertainty about grants. Subsequent to that meeting, Ben Franklin gave a speech in parliament celebrating Artstate Tamworth.

7. **Report - Financial**

7.1 2019 Financial statements to date. *(for adoption)*

David Dwyer spoke to the financial statements to date. Assets and Liabilities have gone up due to grants received in advance. Equity slightly down but nothing concerning. A deficit was budgeted for Y.T.D currently still in surplus. Also noted, some insurance have gone up but will come down again when invoices have been generated for RADOs.

7.2 2019 Artstate Tamworth financial statement update (*for adoption*)

The CEO spoke to the Artstate Tamworth financial report. This report is as of 31 October and close to being finalised. Still some invoices due and a couple of disputed invoices being sorted out. Final will be presented to the Board at the March 2020 meeting.

Artstate 2020 budget not yet finalised. The CEO submitted the forward plan for core business to Create NSW and this has been accepted. Waiting to submit the Artstate forward plan until the budget can be finalised.

7.3 2019 RAF Admin (*for adoption*)

The board noted the RAF report.

7.4 2020 Budget (for *adoption*)

The board discussed the 2020 budget noting a slightly higher deficit. RANSW now being charged for electricity as now tenants are metered separately. As part of budget 2020 the budget provision for Artstate Wagga Wagga from RANSW reserves is $70,000.

RESOLVED that the Board adopt the Regional Arts NSW 2020 budget.

Moved: David Dwyer
Seconded: Bridget Guthrie
Carried

RESOLVED that the board move to adopt the December 2019 financial reports

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Moved: David Dwyer
Seconded: Bridget Guthrie
Carried

8. **Reports - Grants**
Manager, Grants Programs and Projects Report *(for noting and adoption)*
The CEO congratulated Lexie Reeves on running two successful grants programs this year.

The CEO advised that Federal Arts Minister, Paul Fletcher, announced all RAF successful projects the day after Artstate. The CEO drew the Directors attention to the attached list of successful applicants funded in NSW and the high quality and calibre of the projects was commended. RANSW has also been given approval to advise successful CASP recipients but the announcements remain under embargo.

The CEO advised the board of a requested amendment to RAF guidelines to enable QUICKS creative recovery projects for people impacted by bushfires in Northern NSW. Approx. $20,000 has been reserved for this round and the RADOs have been advised.

The board noted the review of RAF guidelines for the 2020 – 24 agreement would result in national guidelines for all States and Territories.

The CEO attended a Regional Australia Institute (RAI) event and discussed current RAI research on the value of arts to regional economies and the strong case for its public value. The board discussed other possible organisations – APRA/AMCOS, Charles Sturt University - that could also provide valuable research and asked the CEO to include research in the forward plan for 2020/21.

ACTION: Directors to send any research to Patrick Healey to collate.

The board briefly discussed the need for drought focused funding to include arts program funding and acknowledged the Create NSW drought and bushfire affected funding initiative.

ACTION: CEO will inform board as more information on this initiative comes through.

RESOLVED than the Grants Report be adopted
Moved: Bridget Guthrie
Seconded: Nicholas Pickard
Carried

9. **Report - Chief Executive Officer** *(attached)*
The board noted the CEO report and recognised the high level of CEO travel in response to the need to support RADOs E.g. supporting the process of recruiting new Executive Directors.

Bridget Guthrie left the meeting at 11.01am

10. RAA Discussion

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The CEO attended the Regional Arts Australia (RAA) AGM and paid the affiliate fees for 2019. The recent RAA Summit in Canberra was well attended by representatives of the arts sector and federal government. A new approach to Artlands was announced at the event. The next Artlands will be held as part of the Junction Arts Festival in Launceston, September 2020.

11. Create NSW process Terms of Reference

The CEO advised the board she had received a draft terms of reference from Create NSW and was asked to provide feedback. The board discussed the document and provided the CEO with the following points for feedback.

- The timetable outlined is not realistically achievable
- The scope of the review as outlined in the document does not reflect its own objectives. (The draft questions would not provide answers to the stated objectives)
- The draft does not provide details on process. Will the recommendations be put out for further consultation before finalisation?
- Did other service organisations also receive this draft document? Why is Regional Arts NSW seemingly singled out?
- Language in the document infers that Create NSW is not clear on the nature of the organisation of the Regional Arts NSW network. (The RADOs are independent, not for profit organisations and therefore do not come under the organisational jurisdiction of the state government)

ACTION: Directors to send CEO any further comments ASAP for CEO to include in feedback to Create NSW by morning of Monday 9 December.

12. Affiliate members (see attachment A, p 2)

RESOLVED that Old School Gallery Inc, Qld, and Colour City Creatives Inc, NSW, be adopted as affiliate members of Regional Arts NSW

Moved: Travis Holland
Seconded: Nicholas Pickard
Carried

13. Future meeting dates 2020 ***(****for Discussion & Decision)*

• March	Thursday 5	Board Meeting
• April	Wednesday 15	Advisory Council & AGM
	Thursday 16	Board Meeting
• July	Thursday 2	Board Meeting
• September	Thursday 3	Board Meeting
• November	Thu 5 – Sun 8	AST Wagga Wagga
• December	Thursday 3	Board meeting

The board discussed the suggestion to hold the April Advisory Council and AGM at NSW Parliament House. To do this the meeting would have to moved to a sitting day, either 1st or 2nd April 2020. The board agreed to this proposal.

ACTION: Julie Briggs to follow up with Ben Franklin to be host and whether Parliament House meeting room is available these dates.

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Further Business

a. Julie Briggs advised she would be attending the launch of TAFE NSW new Creative Industries degree.

Bridget Guthrie re- entered meeting at 11.19am

b. The CEO advised Artstate Tamworth reporting was ongoing and the circulated Artstate report was still a draft document. The board recognised the outstanding support from Arts North West and Tamworth Regional Council, particularly Bridget Guthrie, Peter Ross and Caroline Downer. The CEO circulated a copy of the Hansard Report and drew the Directors attention to Artstate Tamworth's strong outcomes for the local Aboriginal community. As a direct outcome having a presence in the Tamworth Town Hall during Artstate, Amy Hammond's work will now be stocked in the gift shop of the Art Gallery of NSW. Four members of the NSW parliament attended Artstate Tamworth and there has been subsequent conversations regarding taking Caroline Downer's exhibition *Art- Word- Place* to Parliament House.

Sarah Parsons rang into the meeting at 11.32am

c. The Chair moved a motion of thanks for the work of the CEO and RANSW team in 2019 and on the very successful Artstate Tamworth event.
   Moved: Julie Briggs
   Seconded: Bridget Guthrie
   Carried

d. The CEO advised the board of the RANSW office closedown over Christmas, 22 December 2019 to 6 January 2020.

As there was no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at at 12.16pm

Signed as a true and correct record:

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Chair

_____
Date

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