

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly
Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 15th January 2021

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 15th January 2020.

Cllr Daryl Barron	Cllr Deirdre Heney
Cllr Emma Blain	Cllr Janet Horner
Cllr Aoife Breslin	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr Fintan Brett	Cllr Pamela Kearns
Cllr John Browne	Cllr Conor Keelan
Cllr Emma Coffey	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Laura Donaghy	Cllr Tony McCormack
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Pádraig McEvoy
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr Aisling Moran
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Peter O'Brien
Cllr Tom Fortune	Cllr Damien O'Reilly
Cllr Mary Freehill	Cllr Aengus O'Rourke
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Robert Power
Cllr Alison Gilliland	Cllr Una Power
Cllr Mary Hanafin	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr David Healy	

Apologies received from: Ms. Joan Martin, Louth County Council.

In Attendance:

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA
Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA
Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA
Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA
Ms. Pauline Riordan, EMRA
Ms. Nicci Nolan, EMRA
Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA
Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA
Mr. Alan Lambe, EMRA
Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA
Dr. Owen Douglas, EMRA
Mr. John Daly, EMRA, NWRA & SRA
Ms. Helena Stormberg, EMRA/IREO –
Ms. Teresa Lennon, IREO
Ms. Agata Kolodynska, IREO

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 11th December 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly held on the 11th December 2020 were proposed by Cllr D Heney and seconded by Cllr M Freehill.

This was **APPROVED**

ITEM 2

Planning Items

i) Draft Longford County Development Plan

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the draft observations on the **Draft Longford County Development Plan**

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr J Gildea, Cllr G Walsh, Cllr D O'Reilly, Cllr C Murray and Cllr J Browne.

Cllr C Murray proposed the observations on the Draft Longford County Development plan and was seconded by Cllr J Browne.

This was **APPROVED**.

ii) National Development Plan review

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the draft submission to the National Development Plan review for members.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr D Healy, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr J Horner, Cllr T Fortune, Cllr D Heney.

Cllr K Feeney proposed the submission to the National Development Plan review and was seconded by Cllr E Coffey.

This was **APPROVED**.

iii) NTA Review of the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy.

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the draft observations on the NTA Review of the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr J Horner, Cllr D Healy, Cllr P Kearns, Cllr L Donaghy, Cllr G Walsh, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr C Dwane Stanley.

Cllr M Hanafin proposed the observations to the NTA Review of the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy and was seconded by Cllr K Feeney.

This was **APPROVED**

ITEM 3

Nominations to the Association of Irish Regions

The Director Mr J Conway requested nominations from the members to fill the two vacant roles for the Association of Irish Regions.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Heney, Cllr T McCormack, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr C Murray, Cllr P O'Brien, Cllr C Fitzgerald, Cllr C Dwane Stanley, Cllr K Feeney and Cllr T Fortune.

Cllr D Heney proposed Cllr E Fitzpatrick, this was seconded by Cllr T McCormack.

Cllr C Murray proposed Cllr J Gildea, this was seconded by Cllr A Moran.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 4

Nominations to Programme Monitoring Committees

The Director Mr J Conway requested nominations from the members to fill the vacant roles on various Programme Monitoring Committees.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Lacey, Cllr P Kearns, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr J Browne, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr A Moran, Cllr A Cronin and Cllr D Heney.

PEACE PMC alternate member:

Cllr D Lacey proposed Cllr M Freehill, Cllr P Kearns seconded.

This was **AGREED**

Ireland Wales Operational PMC alternate member:

Cllr J Gildea proposed Cllr A Cronin, Cllr A Moran seconded.

This was **AGREED**

Southern & Eastern Regional Operational PMC alternate member:

Cllr J Gildea proposed Cllr A Moran, Cllr D Heney seconded.

This was **AGREED**

ITEM 5

Update on preparation of EU funding

The Director presented the Assembly with an update of the preparation of EU funding and the EMRA's role regarding future funding.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr M Freehill, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Lacey and Cllr P Kearns.

ITEM 6

Final audited AFS 2019

Mr J Conway presented the final audited AFS 2019 for the EMRA.

This was **NOTED**

ITEM 7

Correspondence

The director Mr J Conway informed the members of a letter received from the National Transport Authority requesting 4 nominations for a Strategic Policy Committee.

It was **AGREED** that An Cathaoirleach would be nominated to represent the Regional Assembly.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Lacey, Cllr D Heney, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr L Donaghy, Cllr J Horner, Cllr A Moran, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr E Blain, Cllr C Keelan, Cllr E Coffey, Cllr P Kearns, Cllr M Hanafin, Cllr D O'Reilly, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr C Fitzgerald, Cllr B Manton and Cllr P McEvoy.

Cllr D Lacey proposed Cllr A Gilliland, this was seconded by Cllr D Heney.

Cllr D Healy proposed Cllr J Horner, this was seconded by Cllr L Donaghy

Cllr A Moran proposed Cllr E Blain, this was seconded by Cllr J Gildea.

Cllr D Heney proposed Cllr K Feeney, this was seconded by Cllr D O'Reilly.

A roll-call vote with each member selecting their preferred nomination with the results followed: Cllr A Gilliland 11 votes, Cllr K Feeney 8 votes, Cllr E Blain 6 votes, Cllr J Horner 5 votes and 1 abstention.

Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr E Blain as well as An Cathaoirleach Cllr P McEvoy being nominated.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 8

AOB

An Cathaoirleach reminded the members that when attending a conference on behalf of EMRA, a report on the conference is to be submitted to the Cathaoirleach.

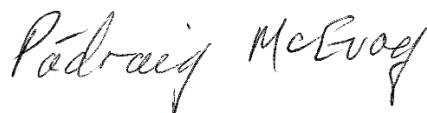
Cllr E Fitzpatrick discussed the recent announcement by Bord Na Mona to cease peat extraction in the Midlands and the opportunity for EMRA to take a position on this.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Healy and Cllr M Hanafin.

ITEM 9

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is due to be held on **Friday 12th February 2021 at 11:00am.**



Signed:

**Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy
Cathaoirleach EMRA**



**Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA**

Date: 12 February 2021