

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

***MINUTES***

***MEETING OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND  
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY***

***HELD ON***

***FRIDAY 20th MARCH, 2015***

***IN***

***COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2***

**MINUTES OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 20 MARCH 2015 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN.**

Cllr. Paddy Bourke	Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick
Cllr. Paddy Bracken	Cllr. Mary Freehill
Lord Mayor Christy Burke	Cllr. David Healy
Cllr. Tommy Byrne	Cllr. Paddy Hill
Cllr. Mick Cahill	Cllr. Pamela Kearns
Cllr. Thomas Cullen	Cllr. Gerry Horkan
Cllr. Kieran Dennison	Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Pdraig McEvoy
Cllr. Francis Duffy	Cllr. Seamas McGrattan
Cllr. Andrew Duncan	Cllr. Maria Murphy
Cllr. Kate Feeney	Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cllr. Brian McDonagh	Cllr. Tommy Reilly
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. Pat Vance
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Daniel McLoughlin, Designated Chief Executive EMRA  
Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA  
Ms. Labhaoise McKenna, EMRA  
Ms. Susan Mahon, EMRA

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Cllrs., Sylvester Bourke, Sean Haughey, Lettie McCarthy, Fiona O'Loughlin, Neale Richmond, Cathal King, Colm Markey and Ivan Keatley.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Gerry Horkan presided

**ITEM 1**

**Adoption of Minutes**

Cllr. Cullen advised on an error in the Minutes which were amended accordingly.

Minutes of meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**

**ITEM 2**

**RESILENS**

**- Presentation by Dr. William Hynes**

Dr William Hynes introduced the presentation and outlined the context of the RESILENS Horizon 2020 project in which the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) is a partner.

Dr Hynes outlined:

- Project Overview
- Project Objectives
- Participants
- Supporters
- Critical Infrastructure
- Resilience
- Deliverables
- Pilot Demonstration

A discussion took place regarding the RESILENS project and the involvement of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly with contributions from Cllrs. Kearns, Lacey, Feeney, Freehill, Healy, Byrne, McDonagh and Reilly.

The Director summarised the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's remit in participating in EU projects. The project is using regional water infrastructure as a case study.

### **ITEM 3**

#### **Local Economic Community Plan meeting Update**

The Director reported that the EMRA executive had met with all 12 constituent local authorities regarding the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP) process.

He advised of regional meetings which have also taken place at sub region level: Dublin and Eastern.

During this item a discussion took place in relation to the strategic planning areas (SPAs). A debate took place relating to the establishment of Working Groups by the Members to consider the organisations planning remit with contributions from Cllrs. Fitzgerald, Lacey, Healy, Vance, Freehill, Feeney, Duncan and Cahill. The Director informed the meeting that the Strategic Planning Areas (SPA's) are established and that initiating formal planning processes is a matter for the Minister. He also advised members that any consideration of plans could trigger the need for SEA and AA and that caution was needed. It was suggested that the item be put on the agenda for the May meeting.

Agreed.

### **ITEM 4**

#### **Committee of the Regions Update**

The Director updated the Members on the Committee of the Regions (CoR). An annual report will issue. The next Committee of the Regions Plenary session will take place on 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April. Cllrs Freehill, Feeney, Richmond and O'Loughlin are representatives. It was agreed that the Director would include a monthly agenda item for an update of the Committee of the Regions.

An Cathaoirleach advised that he and the Director were present for the signing of the Operational Programme on behalf of the EMRA.

Cllr Freehill spoke as Head of Irish Delegation outlining the work being carried out and Cllr. Feeney also contributed.

#### **ITEM 5**

##### **Nominee to the Ireland-Wales Programme Monitoring Committee**

An Cathaoirleach Cllr. G. Horkan requested nominations for the Ireland-Wales Programme Monitoring Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. D Lacey, seconded by Cllr. P Vance  
"That Cllr. B McDonagh be nominated for the Committee".

Agreed.

#### **ITEM 6**

##### **Nomination to the PEACE Programme Monitoring Committee**

An Cathaoirleach Cllr. G. Horkan requested nominations for the PEACE Programme Monitoring Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. P Vance seconded by Cllr. M Cahill  
"That Cllr. T Byrne be nominated for the Committee".

Agreed.

#### **ITEM 7**

##### **Correspondence**

Correspondence was received from Department of Taoiseach, DECLG and the Minister of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

All correspondence was noted.

#### **ITEM 8**

##### **Any Other Business**

No conferences for noting. Director to seek clarity on members travel and subsistence.

Cllr Lacey asked for a report on the structures of the regional bodies in Ireland.

Cllr McGrattan informed of the resignation of Cllr J Dowdall and that a new Member should be available for the next meeting.

Following a discussion around meeting date it was noted that AILG and LAMA conferences have clashed with meetings of the Assemblies. It was decided to write to the AILG and LAMA asking them for an Annual Calendar of Events and if they could arrange the training around the 3 Regional Assembly's meetings.

Items for inclusion on agenda for next meeting are the sub-regions.

**ITEM 11**

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly will be held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at 11am in Dublin City Council chamber, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2.

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Cllr. Gerry Horkan**  
**Cathaoirleach EMRA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mr. Jim Conway**  
**EMRA**

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_