

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 17th January 2020

IN

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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2020, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2.

Cllr John Browne	Cllr David Healy
Cllr Emma Coffey	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Conor Keelan
Cllr Eamon Dooley	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Pdraig McEvoy
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr Robert Power
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr Mary Freehill	

Apologies received from;

Cllr Fintan Brett, Cllr Pamela Kearns, Cllr Francis Duffy, Cllr Lawrence Hemmings, Cllr Mary Hanafin and Cllr Deirdre Heney.

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, Louth County Council, Designated CEO of the EMRA

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA

Ms. Pauline Riordan, EMRA

Ms. Nicci Nolan, EMRA

Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Mr. Alan Lambe, EMRA

Ms. Brid Greenan, EMRA

Dr. Michael Brennan, EMRA

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 13th December 2019.

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 13th December 2019 were proposed by Cllr D Lacey and seconded by Cllr E Fitzpatrick.

This was **APPROVED**

ITEM 2

Update on the negotiations of the next round of European Structural and Investment Fund by Michael McGrath, EU Cohesion Policy Unit, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

A presentation was given by Michael McGrath, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform covering topics such as the Commission's Legislative package, CRP/ERDF/CF changes, ETC changes, CPR Negotiating Blocks and Legislative Package Negotiations.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr M Freehill, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr E Dooley and Cllr D Lacey.

ITEM 3

Planning Items

Proposed Draft Variation 1 - Kildare County Development Plan 2017 – 2023.

Mr M Bradley informed the members of the proposed Draft Variation 1 – Kildare County Development plan 2017 – 2023.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr R Power, Cllr B Fitzgerald, Cllr P Meade and EMRA designated Chief Executive Ms J Martin.

The submission was proposed by Cllr P McEvoy and seconded by Cllr R Power.

This was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 4

Briefing on SPA committees

Mr M Bradley highlighted to the members that the recommencement of the SPA meetings will occur this year and a report on the commencement of the MASP committee will be brought to the members at the next assembly meeting.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 5

Care-Peat project

Dr M Brennan gave a presentation on the EU-funded Care-Peat project covering topics such as overview of the project, progress to date, next steps, and EMRA's involvement in the project.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr E Fitzpatrick and Cllr E Dooley.

ITEM 6

Programme of Works Q4 update

The Director presented to the Assembly the Q4 update of EMRA's programme of works for 2019. Topics covered included, Introduction, Delivery of Corporate Plan, Effective Governance, Corporate, Human Resources, Finance, Stakeholder Engagement, Policy and Research, Projects, Planning, Implementation of Regional Planning Guidelines, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES), Economic Strategy, European Affairs, Committee of the Regions, EU Funding Programmes, European Territorial Cooperation programmes, Capacity building and communications, Elected Members participation on relevant committees.

The Director informed the Assembly of the new Committee of Regions mandate effective on 26th January 2020.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr M Freehill, Cllr E Dooley, Cllr P McEvoy and Cllr D Lacey.

Members of the Assembly thanked Cllr M Freehill for all her contributions that she had made to the EMRA as her mandate with CoR has come to an end.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 7

Annual Financial Statement 2018

The Director presented the signed AFS 2018 to the members.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 8

Conference attendance report

The Director informed the members that following the Government's auditor's request, Members will be required to fill in a form when they attend conferences. He also announced that a new Travel and Subsistence form will be issued to members.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 9

Correspondence

Mr M Bradley gave an update on the Ministerial Direction.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr M Freehill, Cllr D Healy, Cllr D Lacey and Mr. J Conway.

The members proposed to request a meeting with the board of the National Transport Authority and the Chief Executive.

This was **AGREED**.

Cllr D Lacey asked if a mention could be added to the final RSES stating it was amended by the Minister. This proposal was seconded by Cllr M Freehill. The Director J Conway replied he would seek advice on the matter and get back to members.

Mr M Bradley gave an update on the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund call launch, correspondence was received from Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to this effect.

This was **NOTED**.

Item 10

Any other business


Open consultations, the director informed members about three consultations to which EMRA will respond;


- On the future partnership agreement
- On the future Peace Plus programme
- On the future EMFF operational programme for the sustainable development of the seafood sector for the 2021-2027

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is due to be held on Friday 14th February 2020 at 11:00am in Dublin City Council Chamber, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2.

Signed:


Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy
Leas Cathaoirleach EMRA


Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 14/2/2020

