

**Special Executive Board Meeting No. 6A - 17 April 2007**  
**with Minister Jay Weatherill to discuss Commonwealth Housing Funding Proposal**

**Present:**

SAG - Minister Jay Weatherill, Danny Bertossa, Joslene Mazel, Lynda Forrest

APY - Bernard Singer, Leonard Burton, Tony Campbell, Rex Tjami, Ken Newman, Nicola Thompson, Charlie Anytjipalya, Gary Lewis, Sean Williamson, David Miller (Proxy for Anton Baker)

Povey Stirk John Stirk, Stewart Mooney

The meeting first commenced at 9:30 am and Bernard Singer welcomed the Minister to Umuwa and invited him to speak to Executive members. A quorum was reached by 10:30 am.

**Jay Weatherill** advised that the message he has received was a need for more housing, better education and real jobs, not CDEP for the APY Lands. He has been talking with the Commonwealth and there is now an offer on the table, but there are strings attached.

**Offer:**

1. The offer is for 113 Houses - 69 upgrades, 44 new houses. The offer is worth \$25M and would be done over 2-3 years. Local people would be involved in construction and building those houses.
2. The SAG would put 4 more police on the APY Lands and the Commonwealth will pay for houses for them. The Commonwealth want the houses on communities. SA Police want them at Umuwa. There would also be 2 new Police Stations.
3. SAG will put 4 social workers/counsellors in schools to follow up on non-attendees.
4. A Federal Police effort will take place to curb trafficking of drugs, etc.. (cross state)

**Demands:**

1. Review of the permit system. They want people to be able to come on main roads and townships without restrictions. Initially it was thought it would need changes to the APY LR Act. However, the SAG believes permits could still be required but could be eased up so people could go for fuel and provisions.

This would need a slight change to how permits could be issued at certain times of the year but the control still stays with APY

2. They want long term (99 year) residential and commercial leases that can be held by Anangu and Non – Anangu. With the APY LR Act, we can currently give Anangu unlimited leases but others are only for a maximum of 10 years. They want changes to the Act to allow the ability to give 99 year leases for Anangu and non – Anangu for houses or businesses.

3. They want a portion of the houses to be managed by the State Government Housing authority (OAH).

**Options:**

- 1) Say No, forget it.
- 2) We can do some things. Can we get some of the money?
- 3) Will the Commonwealth change their mind?

**Jay Weatherill** suggests we send a delegation to go to Canberra and tell them what we want, put it to them.

**Bernard Singer** said the Substance Misuse Amendment Bill was passed last year. APY wants to see it enforced. A tight permit system enables this. There are still issues with Mintabie etc. We want better policing to enforce the existing law

**Rex Tjami** said Anangu will get confused with houses being linked to permits and leases. Houses are a health issue.

Is there room for some compromise with the Federal Government?

We could say, Let's get a start – start houses, extra Police, Social workers, etc.

After a brief break, the Meeting resumed at 11:00 am with a full Quorum of Executive Board Members.

**Jay Weatherill** briefed everyone again on the issues to be considered.

Where there is a need for housing to improve health, there should not be conditions attached to receiving those houses.

We should first discuss with the Commonwealth to start the houses.

The Minister and his party left at 11:35 to enable the Executive Board Members to discuss the matter. When he returned the following was the view of APY Executive Board members.

**APY Position**

1. Houses should not be linked to the permit system. Housing is health related.
2. If we agree to look at permits and leases we **must** consult with T/O's. This takes time.
3. APY Delegation to go to Canberra and tell them what we want. Jay Weatherill would go along. \$25M is not enough to do what is required for housing on the APY Lands.

**Delegation to Canberra – 14 people to travel**

6 x Executive: Bernard Singer, Anton Baker, Sean Williamson, Gary Lewis, Max Kenny, Leonard Burton,  
 4 x Anangu: Lee Brady, Ronnie Brumby, Frank Young, Trevor Adamson,  
 Staff: Rex Tjami, Ken Newman, Nicola Thompson  
 Povey Stirk: John Stirk

The meeting ended at 1.10pm with Minutes taken by Ken Newman