



Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board

Meeting No. 49

MINUTES OF MEETING

31 August – 1 September, 2015

Venue: Comfort Inn Haven Marina, Glenelg

Statement of Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we are meeting upon here today.

We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal people to country.

We also pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia/Australia present here today.

In Attendance:	
AW NRM Board Members	Parry Agius (Presiding Member), Mima Smart, Brian Queama, Mick Haynes, Ian Crombie, Gary Lewis, Debbie Hansen, Rose Lester
NR AW Staff	Matthew Ward (Regional Manager), Bruce Macpherson (Community Engagement), Thuy Phan (Business & Partnerships), Timothy Moore (Strategy, Knowledge & Sustainability), Casey Reynolds (Trainee), Executive Officer
Guests	Greg Franks (Yalata), Jon Bok (Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission), Dirk Holman (Marine Parks)
Apologies:	Michael Garrod (DEWNR)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Meeting opened at 9.30am

Presiding Member Mr Parry Agius welcomed AW NRM Board members, guests and NR AW Staff to Meeting 49 of the Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board (the Board). Mr Agius raised intention to invite other stakeholders to future meetings.

Mr Agius declared the meeting open and acknowledged the area's traditional Aboriginal custodians, past and present. An overview of the Agenda for Meeting 49 was provided, and the Board were asked for any additional items for discussion.

Casey Reynolds (NR AW Trainee) was introduced and he provided the Board with an overview of his role and background.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Agenda for AW NRM Board Meeting 49 was adopted and there were no declared conflicts of interest. Mick Haynes requested opportunity to discuss Joint Ranger Program and Green Army - to be discussed during Bruce Macphersons RMT report. Presiding Member, Parry Agius requested review of the Board Action Register be added to the Agenda.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Summary of Minutes & Actions of Meeting 48, held in Ceduna 20-21 April, 2015 were reviewed and discussed. The Minutes & Summary of Minutes of Meeting 48 were adopted without amendment.

Moved by: Mima Smart
Seconded by: Mick Haynes

4. Board Report - Presiding Member

Parry Agius, Presiding Member, AW NRM Board

Mr Agius provided an overview of his role as Presiding member, and activities conducted since Meeting 49 including:

- Meeting with CEO DPTI to discuss role of the Board in the Region (with Regional Manager)
- Made a presentation on behalf of the Board at 'People, Parks and Wellbeing Conference' on behalf of the Board. Concept of 'Wellbeing' to be further discussed with possible Policy to be created
- Attended CEO's meeting in Ceduna
- Represented the Board at a National Round Table on Indigenous Property Rights in Broome. Discussion around content and outcomes of meeting
- Audit and response to the Auditor
- Presentation to FWC to start discussions on progressing MoU
- Attended PM's Forum re: future of NRM Model
- Various other meetings

Discussion around plan for NRM and Healthy Country Plans for APY. Role of Board to be considered with APY Land Management. Gary Lewis raised query around service delivery for Anangu. Planning process to be implemented with raised priority. Request for assistance from Gary or liaison with APY Executive.

Motion: *The AW NRM Board note and accept the Presiding Members Report for Meeting 49*

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Brian Queama

5. Manager Report – Regional Manager

Matthew Ward, Regional Manager

Matthew Ward provided an overview of purpose of the report and progress towards Schedule 5, and key activities as indicated in the Regional Managers Report:

Key Outcomes for the AW NRM Board include areas of Governance, Relevance, Relationship with DEWNR, MoU's with stakeholders, and Emerging Issues (refer to Report). Discussion around:

- MoU with APY – new Executive appointed, ALT need to establish relationship with new Executive
- MoU with Yalata – to be reviewed with new General Manager
- MoU with MT – discussions have been held – to progress
- MoU with FWC – to progress
- HR within NR AW branch – grants lost resulting in loss of \$1.3million and 4 staff positions lost, Manager of Co-management & Public Lands position advertised for EOI. Overview of NR AW staffing chart reviewed.

Key Outcomes for NR AW: (refer to Report).

Motion: *AW NRM Board note and accept the Regional Manager's Report for Meeting 49*

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Brian Queama
All in Favour

Paper – Overview of Governance

(Refer to Report)

Overview of NRM Boards, roles, and staffing provided. Discussion around Key National Programs and funding allocations. Discussion around supporting role for stakeholders through MoU and HCP.

Overview of Board meeting and reporting cycle.

Paper – Royal Commission Nuclear Fuel Cycle Submission

(Refer to Report)

Paper for review and discussion prior to presentation by Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission (NFCRC) at Meeting 49 (Jon Bok). Overview of submission by AW NRM Board to NFCRC by the Board provided.

Discussion around questions and considerations for Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission presentation (Meeting 49).

6. Manager Report – Regional & Business Partnerships

Thuy Phan (Manager Regional & Business Partnerships)

Purpose, role and background provided. Outcomes and overview of financial statements reviewed as follows:

- Board Project income overviewed 2015-16 (including DEWNR contribution)
- Projected income 2105-16
- Projected Board income for 2015-18
- Estimated expenses for 2015-16
- Summary Income and Expenditure as at 26 August 2015
- Draft Financial statement has been sent to Auditor General

Discussion around Retained Earnings (\$2.4m).

Action: Regional Manager to write to the Chief Financial Officer DEWNR re: seek advice on retained earnings \$2.4m.

Board Interim Audit 2014-15

Completed in July – two issues raised:

- Signing of SLA (SLA not finalised until June 2015)
- Conflict of Interest Declarations

Instrument of Delegation

Delegations for 2015-16 as follows were reviewed and endorsed by the Board, and signed by the Presiding Member:

1. Authorisation to undertake the procurement of goods and services
2. Delegation to make payments
3. Authorisation to approve that a contract, including for the purchase of goods and services, be executed
4. Delegation to execute contracts, including for the purchase of goods and services, on behalf of the Board
5. Authority to affix the common seal of AW NRM Board

Transfer of Asset to APY

Discussion around transfer of Toyota Land Cruiser (Troop Carrier WWS153) to APY. Concern raised about liability of transferring used vehicle.

Review of Palya Kalkuni with NR AW Staff

Not discussed – for review Meeting 50.

Motion: The following Recommendations were noted and accepted by the AW NRM Board:

- The Board note and approve the budget and financial reports 2015-16
- The Board note the draft of financial statements 2014-15

- The Board note the issues raised by Auditor-General and approve the response letter in regarding to the 2014-15 Interim Audit
- The Board approve the updated Instrument of Delegations 2015-16
- The Board approve for vehicle WWS153 be transferred to APY Lands subject to rewording of the statement to include insurance risk

The following recommendation was not accepted (for reason indicated):

- The Board review and sign the Palya Kalkuni with NR AW staff for 2015-16 (deferred to next meeting)
- The Board complete and sign the “Conflict of Interest Declaration” as recommended by Auditor-General (RMT to complete with Board members on an individual basis)

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Rose Lester

The AW NRM Board expressed their thanks to Thuy and staff for good Audit and Risk Report results.

7. Nuclear Fuel Royal Commission – Guest Speaker

Acting Chair – Mick Haynes

Guest Speakers – Jon Bok, Chad Jacobi & Greg Ward, Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission

Speakers offered thanks for the submission and invitation to attend and address the Board.

Overview of process provided. RC started in March 2015, with issues papers sent out in March requesting submissions. Process of reviewing submissions currently underway. Internal research being conducted re: current situation. 4 elements of cycle include: mining process, nuclear power for the state, managing and storing/disposing of waste products. Opportunities and risks to be considered and how recommendations to proceed with expanding into NFC risks may be managed and mitigated. Community and environmental perspectives to be considered. Collecting information to assist with understanding. Public hearings/ sessions about to commence 9/9/15 to end of 2015. Main aim is to bring expertise into public forum to better understand gaps in knowledge and issues raised. Sessions around topics of interest – 9/9/15 Climate Change and Energy Policy, more specific issues to be discussed covering around 25 topics. Available via internet and in public auditoriums. 1st session RA Oz in CBD. Some sessions from the Commissions offices. Regional centres to also hold sessions. Consolidation of results in new year, with tentative findings released Feb 16. Further comment on results will be requested. Final comments and recommendations to Government in June 2016. Communities not required to make decisions, but to make comment on conclusions or recommendations.

Query from the Board if experience of community from past experience is considered ie. Maralinga. Yes.

Query from the Board – history and background of Ian Crombie into Maralinga situation. High rates of sickness ie. cancer. Greg advised NFRC has no involvement with military activities but acknowledgement provided for past activities. Not well handled. Community views are important. Important that the risks are fully examined.

Mima advised that lots of families had been lost from past experience. Very frightening and dangerous. Nuclear waste is not wanted in MT, Oak Valley, or Yalata.

Discussion around use of uranium for energy. Concerns over waste sites and leakage into the water table. Consideration will be given to issues of concern ie. water table and these issues need to be very clearly established.

Reference to letter sent by Parry – re: which models are good and why? Water Plan – available to NFRC though DEWNR. Any specific issues can be re-visited.

Discussion around health impacts if facilities in TOR were to be implemented. Data from World Health Organisation available and United Nations Scientific Community. Consideration of types of facilities. NFRC not asked to consider impacts of past activities – only facilities proposed ie. mining, conversion, storage.

Query re: time frame from closure of NFRC and implementation of any activity.

Regional Manager provided an overview of governance AW NRM Board for benefit of the guest speakers. Explained HCP process for region which complements Regional Plan.

(Further discussion - Day 2)

Review of submission to Royal Commission for Nuclear Fuel Cycle.

Response to Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission decided by the Board:

'The AW Region is to be a nuclear free zone as voiced by the people, based on past history'. Concerns raised by the AW NRM Board include:

Country & People

- Past history – worried about the destruction to country from the bombing – no return to country
- Sickness – cancer, emphysema, lung disease, damaged connection to country, food chain contamination and transference, elders have had sickness and it's psychologically part of our DNA
- Worried about hunting and connection to country – loss of food chain
- Worried about loss of campsites on country, loss of enjoyment and cultural activity
- Spiritual wellbeing
- Worried about work health safety of people on our country (cultural safety)

Science and Environment and NRM

- Air quality
- Kuka and Mai / plants and animals
- Kapi (water contamination and extraction/use)
- Animal extinction
- Fear of risk of explosion – wider impacts
- Transport of material through our country – potential for accidents/leakage/contamination
- Want to be part of a future economy ie. organic cattle, and renewable energy solution, but not nuclear

Too many risks to flora, fauna and culture. Not enough answers, however some answers are already known from past research. Prior and informed consent.

Future of our region - strong healthy pristine sustainable country wanted. Place where the animals will want to be. Strong culture. Future for our people based on above.

Motion: The AW NRM Board supports the Presiding Member writing to the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission recommending that the AW Region as a whole be a nuclear free zone

Moved: Ian Crombie
Seconded: Rose Lester

Action: Presiding Member to write to the NFCRC recommending that the AW Region as a whole be a nuclear free zone

Paper to be shared with SAAL and alliance with Pastoralists/LHA's.

8. Manager Report – Strategy, Knowledge & Sustainability

Tim Moore, Manager Strategy, Knowledge & Sustainability

Purpose, role and overview of report provided.

Discussion on improving Governance for Board financial and program reporting and planning. Advised approx. 18 months to implementation. Opportunity for Economic Development using sustainable development with Pastoral Working Group in APY. Meetings being conducted and works plan 2015-16. Sustainable Pastoral Development Plan for 10 year strategy. Discussion around Sustainable Grazing Business Plan.

Discussion around Threatening Processes – increasing capacity for regional partners to take responsibility and deliver pest management in line with state and community aspirations.

Request from Tim for Board to report back re: Anangu experiences with feral animals on roads. Need to demonstrate accurate level of issue with Govt.

Seeking funding from Native Vegetation Council for first year of program for removal of Buffel Grass. Consideration to be given to hygiene standards in program ie. wash down areas.

Tourism Strategy: how to implement Board Tourism Policy. Consideration to stakeholders ie. Yalata Council, MT Council, APY etc. Cross-regional tourism policy.

(further discussion Day 2)

Discussion around development of a Regional Policy / Strategy including Co-Management Boards/Advisory Committee's. Suggestion to develop. Create consultation group to help create policy/strategy.

Motion: Engage appropriate personnel to develop a regional tourism plan and policy, and report progress back to the Board.

Moved: Brian Queama
Seconded: Ian Crombie
All in favour

Action: develop a regional tourism plan and engage someone to develop regional tourism policy and report back to Board on progress

Water – Implement the Boards Water Policy and Plan. NR AW to appoint staff member to be responsible for water planning. DPTI advised to ensure appropriate consultation is conducted.

Motion: The Board agree to implement the AW NRM Board Water Policy and Plan. A staff member from NR AW will be appointed to take responsibility for water planning.

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Mima Smart

Action: Appoint NR AW staff member to be responsible for water planning and implementation of the AW NRM Board Water Policy and Plan.

Other Strategic Issues: SROI / finding new investment. Draft Policy provided for discussion and comment:

'Understanding and measuring impact' policy:

In undertaking work that fixes up country, we create benefit in many ways. We will seek to understand and measure the change we create for society and the impact we make for people, for communities, for the environment, and for culture when we undertake any NRM work in our Region.

Change to proposed wording – benefit? Change? Protocol??

Motion: The Board agree to establish a policy on SROI as worded above.

Moved: Brian Queama
Seconded: Rose Lester

Action: develop a policy on SROI and *'Understanding and measuring impact'* worded as follows: *In undertaking work that fixes up country, we create benefit in many ways. We will seek to understand and measure the change we create for society and the impact we make for people, for communities, for the environment, and for culture when we undertake any NRM work in our Region.*

9. Regional Update – APY

Timothy Moore, Manager Strategy, Knowledge and Sustainability

Acting Chair, Rose Lester

Overview of NRM Activities Dec 2014 – June 2015

- Large Feral Herbivore Control – complete.
- Weed Management – Buffel Grass – complete. Video of on country work being produced over next few weeks to show people what work happens.
- Fire Management – complete.
- Threatened Species Monitoring – complete.
- Supporting TO's in sustainable Land Management practices – complete.
- MoU with APY – continuing.
- Pastoral Monitoring.

Action: Liaise with Commonwealth, APY Executive, Pastoral Manager, Land Management and APARA Mikiri Puntji IPA Management Committee re: trade-off between IPA and cattle business. Ascertain what community desire is at Amata

- Community Training and Workshops

Rose raised: Mentoring support for Anangu on the ground, and AW NRM Boards role in that- models to be investigated.

Proposal for APY Region to be a nuclear free zone - for further discussion

Pastoral Board working group.

Action: Regional Manager to hold higher level discussions with TAFESA re: Training & Employment Strategy

Gary advised new APY GM to be appointed

Action: Tim Moore – return to APY Pastoral Manager/Executive follow up letter Willie Edwards - application has not been received / addressed.

Good news story – Mimili now has all female CFS Brigade.

10. Other Business

- **20% funding for communities** (paper)

- **Natural Resources AW Strategic Planning**

(not discussed)

Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board

Meeting No. 49

Day 2 – Tuesday 1 September, 2015

Meeting Opened at 9.00am

12. Regional Update – Maralinga Tjarutja

Bruce Macpherson, Manager Community Engagement

Background and overview provided.

Overview of current joint activities provided. Update on change of Managers/Federal programs. Mamungari Board meeting scheduled for 22-24 Sept – planned to re-establish Oak Valley program.

Action: NR AW staff to provide a schema of what AW NRM Board activities are re: involvement with different communities (APY/MT/Yalata)

Discussion around contracts. Annual negotiations with mid-year review. Overview of 2014-15 project outcomes and employment detail provided.

13. Regional Update - Yalata

Bruce Macpherson, Manager Community Engagement

Overview of engagement activities for 2014-15 provided.

Other strategic issues:

- draft application for Green Army being considered for current round
- reduced funding has led to significant staff cuts impacting on Community Capacity to oversee Contracts
- Yalata to be involved in the Working Party to develop Regional Training Plan
- Meeting date for September to finalise joint work program for 2015-16

Presiding Member, Parry Agius extended thanks to Greg Franks for being a friend to the AW NRM Board, and his commitment to the Yalata Council – big picture thinking. Regional Manager, Matthew Ward also extended thanks to Greg Franks for his involvement with the AW NRM Board.

14. RMT Report – Manager, Community Engagement

Bruce Macpherson, Manager Community Engagement

Aboriginal employment update provided. 3 types of employment outlined: Direct, Contract and Casual.

Request for data on length of time, areas and skills levels of people who are employed (Mick) ie. with a view to monitoring sustainable employment in the Region. NR AW staff to investigate if this can be built in to future reporting.

Update on progress toward the vision of an Indigenous AWNRM provided (total 8.23FTE to date). 43% increase over 2 years.

Discussion around appropriately 'set up' contractors for AWNRM Board contracts. Impacts on budget funding and possibly working with govt (25 hours per person per week). Discussion around level of influence AW NRM Board may have on other job providers re: increasing numbers of people employed/trained in light of budget reduction. NR AW to investigate interacting with other providers to assist ie. Complete Personnel and create a submission / paper to work in line with the Restricted Debit Card and 25 hours per person per week.

Action: Matt/Bruce to consider ideas for employment proposal and prepare a submission advocating a different approach for the region re: improving strategy for employment by interacting with other providers

Strategic Regional approach to Land Management Training discussed.

Motion: The AW NRM Board accept the Report of Manager, Community Engagement, and Manager, Strategy, Knowledge & Sustainability.

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Mima Smart

15. Regional Update – Far West Coast & Marine Parks

Matthew Ward (on behalf of Samantha Doudle, Manager, Co-management & Public Lands)

Update on Co-management Bodies provided – Yumbarra Co-Management Board and Nullarbor Advisory Committee. Board meeting held 28-29 July. Next meeting December, 2015. Overview of Healthy Country Planning Working Group (held May 2015). HCP on Country held end August 2015. Providing cultural support to researchers (scientific permits for caving groups). Co-Management Executive Assistant, Belinda Margan appointed .5FTE (based in Ceduna).

Current Issues:

- FWC Parks Roles and Responsibilities
- Co-management Board Meetings
- FWCAC Board Meeting
- Approval for scientific permits for FWC Parks
- Cultural Monitoring

Approval process for Scientific Permits overviewed (in and out of session).

Future challenges: Clarification of roles/responsibilities, HCP Consultation, Out of Session work and payments, and Payment system difficult to work with.

Park Ranger Training Exercise 7-12 Sept for Spinifex Rangers, Oak Valley community, MT Lands, Unnamed Conservation Park Board reps, NRAW reps, NREP reps.

Discussion around Buffel grass areas of infestation and how to minimise impacts and spread.

Action: Regional Manager to advise Manager, Co-management and Public Lands re: vehicle washdown / biosecurity training to be held as part of the training exercise 7-12 Sept

Update on developments and topics for discussion with Maralinga Lands Unnamed Conservation Park Co-management Board overviewed (see slide).

Future Challenges: Manager, Co-management & Public Lands role, and inconsistent land management work in the Park.

Motion: the AW NRM Board endorse the report as provided by the Manager of Co-management and Public Lands.

**Moved: Ian Crombie
Seconded: Mima Smart**

16. Marine Parks Update

Guest Speaker: Dirk Holman, Manager Eyre Peninsula Marine Parks

Overview of role provided. Review of former GAB Marine Park (Commonwealth waters) being conducted. Sanctuary zones displayed. Restricted access zones during whale season. No boats/fishing.

Discussion around Multiple Use Zones re: drilling.

Action: Dirk Holman to provide an address and copy of submission to the Presiding Member of the AW NRM Board, re: Multiple Use Zone and possible future drilling. Presiding Member to write letter of support.

Invitation to Yalata members to attend Whale disentanglement refresher in June. Coastal raptor survey being conducted between Venus and Streaky Bay. Source funding for whale disentanglement and stranding training from the Commonwealth, business case being prepared for extra boat in Ceduna. Sharks and aquaculture project, Regional Impact Assessment statements, Offshore sea lion surveys, and compliance work in new marine parks boat.

Upcoming Projects: marine debris surveys, Whale Day 16/9, Mulloway project with Yalata, Dog Fence to Head of Bight compliance patrol.

Australian Seal Lion surveys at Bunda Cliffs being conducted over summer. Numbers declining due to gill net fishing in past. New restrictions may assist with numbers building.

17. STRATEGIC BUSINESS

17.1 Update on AW Community Foundation

(not discussed)

17.2 Board Work Plan

Matthew Ward, Regional Manager

Cycle of Board Meetings overviewed.

AW NRM Board Priorities for 2015-18 reviewed – Implementing Regional NRM Plan, Diversifying Funding Opportunities, Leadership and Governance.

Next year priorities – make water plan more 'live' and scope future strategy, refine and embed employment and business models, Healthy Country Planning. Establish new meaningful partnerships outside of NRM, Explore alternative governance arrangements, build capacity to lever against Return on Investment. Make MoU's live and accountable, Build upon the role and strengths of the Board, Scope leadership program in region and role of the Boards.

Proposed Governance Cycle overviewed: August 2015 – Review Budget, Review Employment, Nov 2015 – Track, Feb 2016 – Policy & Planning, May 2016 – Track Budget, Review 16-17 Budget, Review 16-17 SLA with DEWNR.

Proposed Strategic Work Plan for 2015-16 was overviewed: August 2015 - Water Plan and Leadership & Governance, Nov 2015 - MoU's, Feb 2016 - Policy and Return on Investment, April 2016 MoU's.

Recommendation: That the AW NRM Board:

- Approve 2015-18 priorities
- Approve the work plan 2015-16
- Review May 2016

Motion: The AW NRM Board approve the proposed 2015-18 Board Priorities, and 2015-16 Work Plan, with a review of progress to be held in May 2016

Moved: Mick Haynes
Seconded: Mima Smart

17.3 Natural Resources AW – what does it take to support the Branch

(not discussed)

18. Board Correspondence to note

An overview of the Board Correspondence was provided, with the following item noted for discussion:

- Submission to Nuclear Fuel Royal Commission. This item was reviewed by the AW NRM Board, and discussed previously (refer to Item 7)

19. Action Items and Business Arising

The list of Board Actions were reviewed in conjunction with the Summary of Minutes from Meeting 48. (Refer to AW NRM Board Actions spreadsheet).

20. Other Business

20.1 Wild Dog Strategy 2015-18

(not discussed – deferred to next meeting following consultation with community members)

Action: RMT members to consult with community members before next Board meeting to ascertain the cultural significance of the Wild Dog. Statement to be written at next meeting for inclusion in Wild Dog Strategy 2015-18.

20.2 MoU between DEWNR & the Dept. for Health and Ageing

(not discussed due to time constraints – deferred to next meeting)

21. Communications – Key Messages from Meeting 49

KEY MESSAGES:


- Nuclear Royal Commission
- Marine Parks
- Approve Workplan and strategic priorities
- Reviewed budget and employment and good audit results
- Tourism strategy policy
- Water user pays system
- Leadership and Governance
- Contribution to APY cattle...

22. Meeting Close & Next Meeting

There being no further business to discuss, AW NRM Chair Parry Agius provided thanks to members for their attendance and contribution, and NR AW Staff for supporting the Board with their meeting requirements. The meeting was then declared closed at 5.05pm on Tuesday 1st September, 2015.

- The next AW NRM Board meeting will be held:
in **Ceduna** 30 November & 1 December, 2015

Draft Minutes reviewed by Presiding Member:



Date:

2 / 10 / 2015