



Minutes - Public Meeting 142
SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
Thursday 26 October 2017 – Berri NRC

1. Meeting Procedure

261017-142-1.1 Attendance Present:

Chair: Sharon Starick

Members: Rod Ralph, Deana Mildren, Gioia Small, Kim Blenkiron, Andrew Kassebaum, Garry Fyfe, Dan Jordan and Tim Smythe

NRM Group Member: Nil

Ex Officio: Mike Williams, Claire Stephenson, Amy Goodman, Denise Fowles, Sonia Dominelli, Sandy Gunter and Renee Clark (minutes)

Apologies: Peter Duggin, Owen Love, Ben Fee and Melanie Rowe

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Opening

The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians. The Board is pleased that the WAP has been approved and the collaboration and courage of the key stakeholders, the Minister and all involved Ian Warne has resigned from the Rangelands group and the Board sincerely thank him for his contribution. The Board wish to acknowledge the great team efforts with the Australian government performance framework and that obligations have been met resulting in a lesser requirement for the following 6 months.

261017-142-1.2 Declaration of Interest

Nil

261017-142-1.3 Consent Schedule

Topic	Motion
Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting No. 140 held on 28 September 2017	The Board approves the Minutes of Meeting 141 held on 28 September 2017 Board notes the attachments (presentations)
Presiding Members Report	The Board notes the report. To send a letter to the Minister and Premier thanking him for the announcement for River Murray allocations under dry times.
Regional Directors Report	The Board notes the report.
Development Planning Summary	The Board approves the Planning Summary for September.
Update – Flows for the future	To note activities and implementation progress of the F4F program.
Little Corella impacts in SAMDB	To note the strong partnerships of NR SAMDB with Local Governments and the wide variety of works being undertaken to support stakeholders with Little Corella impact management.
Update of instruments of appointment	To approve the appointment of Tanya Michelle Milne and Ryan Peter Knapp who have successfully completed the NRM Authorised officer training and are deemed competent to be appointed as a regional authorised officer. To affixing the Boards common seal to the instrument of appointment forms attached in line with Board policy and the instrument of authorisation.

Discussion:

NAB Environmental Well-being Sustainable Regions Grants

- There is potential for alignment with the Australian Wine Institute as they are doing work in NRM.

Corella Management

- If Corella are just pushed around the region they will eventually return.
- The Corellas are a big issue at a local government level.
- DEWNR are setting up policy frameworks.
- Landholders are able to use control methods on their lands.
- On crown lands the government will decide on a method of control.

Andrew Kassebaum left the meeting 12:53

261017-142-1.4 Action Sheet

Board received and noted the Action Sheet to September 2017 meeting.

Action item - letters to be written on behalf of the Board to the award recipients from the Landcare conference

Action item 3 – Amy will set up a phone link between participants before tabling with the Board

Action item 6 – has been completed

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the Action Sheet for information. - Resolved

2. Board Matters

261017-142-2.1 Unified Work Health and Safety Policy

The completed unified work health and safety policy was included in the Board papers for the Board to review and adoption

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To adopt the Unified Work Health and Safety Policy - Resolved

261017-142-2.2 NLP 2 Update

Amy Goodman, Manager Planning and Evaluation provided a verbal update to the Board on NLP2.

Discussion:

- The smart farm partnerships there will be large and small grants available.
- The Regional Land partnerships will be a procurement process.
- Tenders will open in November and close in Jan/Feb. In the consultation the service providers will be announced in March.
- Working through the tender and who the partners will be.
- The state NRM partners have provided a letter to Ministers and heads of Departments. The State NRM Partners signed off on the letter but the Local Government Authority were unable to sign without agreement of all 69 councils.
- Risk, and NLP 2 in terms of the partnerships NRM Boards are well positioned to be the strong lead.
- Some organisations have indicated they do not have the capacity to take on the work that the Board does.
- The Board questioned if the funds would be evenly distributed? There is no indication of the funds being distributed evenly it is more likely to be competitive nationally.
- There might be some projects with a landscape approach the application may focus on a unit but include other management partnerships.
- The Board agreed to have a phone link in January if required.

- The current programs are being wrapped up and is extremely busy with energy being put into the completion.
- The Manager Planning and Evaluation has been taken off line to focus solely on NLP 2.
- The Regional Director with included regular updates in his Board report.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To submit a proposal for the regional land partnerships For work to be done on opportunities for smart farms

261017-142-2.3 Update on treaties between the SA Government and Aboriginal nations

Lachlan Sutherland, Aboriginal Partnerships Coordinator provided the board with a presentation on the work being done on treaties between the SA Government and Aboriginal nations.

Discussion:

- Australia is the only commonwealth state that does not have a treaty with their first peoples.
- The South Australian State Government in 2017 announced that they would enter into treaty negotiations.
- 3 Nations have been asked to join in the treaty negotiations.
- DEWNR are looking at the principles for the new relationship
- The Board questioned the current agreements in place that offer compensation and are legally binding what does a treaty add?
- Is there any decent with nations that weren't invited to the conversations. The 3 current are advanced and is the right place to start.

Action: treaty update at future Board meeting within in-camera

261017-142-2.4 Setting Strategic Directions

Amy Lee, Team Leader planning and MERI provided a paper to the Board with an update on the process for setting NRM Strategic directions.

Discussion:

- AMLR have done similar work recently, they have moved to looking at the issues causing concern in the regional areas.
- The start and end point are the same but the process of getting there is different between the two regions.
- It would be useful to have just the NRM chairs attend. We have sold it to the groups that we are working on the issues in their area they need to fully understand the process. As Board representatives we should be making it clear to the groups. Groups need to be kept in the loop and the November workshop would do that.
- It won't be for the groups to lobby for their patch it's a level above.
- The Board propose that the NRM Group Chairs are invited to the session in November.

The Board endorsed the recommendations:

To note the information provided in relation to process for setting strategic direction with regards to the RAP and to note the proposed date and timing for the workshop.

Resolved

3. Finance and Risk

261017-142-3.1 Finance and Risk Committee Report

Board members were provided with the following to note and approve:

- Financial Reports and Statements to the 30 September 2017
- Minutes of the Financial Governance Committee meeting held in October

Discussion:

- SLA, there will be conversation amongst Business Manager across the regions.
- Acknowledge that the working capital has been utilised, the amount was appropriate.

261017-142-3.2 Cash Management Strategy

The Finance and Risk committee provided a paper to the Board to outline options and a preferred approach to support development of a longer term cash management strategy for the Board.

Discussion:

- The committee are recommending a 5 year option. How that would happen would need to be worked through.
- The Board questions why the \$2m interest free wouldn't be an ongoing option into the future.
- DEWNR on behalf of the Board approached Treasury this was not a long term solution.
- The Board questioned the ability to obtain the retained earnings from Treasury. An application would be made to Treasury to release the retained earnings.
- The next step is to identify how to achieve the savings.
- The finance and Risk committee will investigate what principals need to be put in place, and rigor around the figure that is required for the first few months of the year.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To provide in principle support regarding option 2b (rebuild cash over a longer term – i.e. greater than 2 financial years)

To support the Finance & Risk Committee to further develop the principles, approach and timeframes associated with this strategy, for the Board's further consideration.

4. Correspondence and Information Items

261017-142-4.1 Correspondence

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

- **To note the correspondence received - Resolved**

5. Board Committees and NRM Groups

261017-142-5.1 Board Committees - Reports and Minutes from Meetings

Ranges to River:

The new group members and chair attend the meeting it was a great chance for everyone to meet and Sarah provided a great overview of the region. The new members have provided a good mix of people.

Mallee and Coorong

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the minutes of the meeting held on September 28 2017.

To note the next meeting of the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group will be held on 1 November which will be a combined meeting with the Upper South East NRM Group at Coonalpyn.

Rangelands

The Group had questions around the review. They have a new member who is very active and has become the chair of an industry body they are keen to see what opportunities lie there with NLP 2.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note this report and the minutes of the Riverland NRM Group meeting held on 14 August 2017.

Rod Ralph attended the long nose fur seal working group. Deena questioned if the Board still needed to be involved. They are starting to move into major works which is combative to climate change. The need for the steering committee may no longer be required.

Andrew Kassebaum – River forum at the Murray Bridge RSL, Murray darling association AGM the snowy hydro presentation was impressive.

6. Presentations/Overview of Meeting

261017-142-6.1 Board Presentations Overview

- The program reviews have been valuable
- John Fosters presentation was great and very well done.

261017-142-6.2 Board Meeting Overview

The format is working well with the deep dives.

The late papers is a pain and takes a long time to address with no ability to investigate prior to the meeting.

Late papers to go into drop box instead of email.

261017-142-6.3 Items for future Board Meetings

Change the name to Monique White/Peta and Lyz

Remove Leah as she has left PIRSA.

261017-142-6.4 Any other business

261017-142-6.5 Next Meeting

Thursday 23 November 2017 Murray Bridge NRC

261017-142-6.6 Public Meeting closed at 3:30pm

Presiding Member Sharon Starick
Presiding Member
SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board