



Minutes - Public Meeting 143
SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
Thursday 23 November 2017 – Murray Bridge NRC

1. Meeting Procedure

231117-143-1.1 Attendance

Present: Chair: Sharon Starick

Members: Rod Ralph, Deana Mildren, Gioia Small, Kim Blenkiron, Peter Duggin, Garry Fyfe, Dan Jordan and Ben Fee

NRM Group Member: Nil

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

Apologies: Owen Love and Andrew Kassebaum

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Opening

The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledged the traditional custodians. The Board wish to congratulate Melanie Rowe on winning the position of Manger Business Services. The Board wished to thank Mike Williams, Amy Goodman and Jem Tesoriero on the great work done in hosting the forum on NLP2 with the LAP groups. The Presiding Member acknowledged the great job done by the connecting communities working group. The Board wish to acknowledge PIRSA and the SARMS program for winning a Prime Minster award. The Presiding Member advised the Board that Mr Allan Piggott has been appointment as the President of Sheep Producers Australia and Mr Joe Keynes has been appointed as the President of Livestock SA.

231117-143-1.2 Declaration of Interest

Nil

231117-143-1.3 Consent Schedule

Topic	Motion
Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting No. 142 held on 26 October 2017	The Board approves the Minutes of Meeting 142 held on 26 October 2017 Board notes the attachments (presentations)
Presiding Members Report	The Board notes the report.
Regional Directors Report	The Board notes the report.
Development Planning Summary	The Board approves the Planning Summary for October.
Approval of Fees for Allocation transfers from Minister's water account - COFFIE	To approve the collection of fees associated with the transfer of water allocation for the 2017/2018 water use year from the Minister's water account SA282017-1-10009 to the COFFIE applicants that undertook permanent water entitlement transfers during 2016/2017 water use year
Update – Flows for the future	To note activities and implementation progress of the F4F program.
2016-2017 Annual Report Achievements Document	To approve the annual report To be tabled separately as soon as available

Discussion:

- Flows for the future – The Board questioned that only 88 people had been engaged in 2 months and if there was an increased risk. The project has been more challenging than first thought and very cutting edge and the targets were set high. Kim Rumbelow is working on this and the risk is no more elevated than at the start of the project.
- Annual report – amendments still need to be made and will be sent out for final approval to the Board before the cut off on Thursday 30 November.
- The Board questioned where the accommodation strategy was up to? A minute is with the Chief Executive and financial analysis is currently being done. Manager Business Services Melanie Rowe is working on a document to come to the Board on the other sites. The Karoonda council are happy to co-locate with the NRM staff and Mike would like to progress the opportunity. This opportunity offers 5 days of counter availability and great facilities for the staff. Mike will write to the Acting Chief Executive to progress the Karoonda Council option.

231117-143-1.4 Action Sheet

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

- There is an action missing from the list: Letter to be written to the Premier and Minister Hunter regarding the desalination plant within the WAP.
- Action item 2 has been completed

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the Action Sheet for information. - Resolved

2. Board Matters**231117-143-2.1 SA Murray Regions Water Resource Plan**

Lisa Stribley, Principal Policy Officer provided a presentation and paper to the Board regarding the SA Murray Region Water Resource Plan (WRP)

Discussion:

- The Board enquired around how the region is tracking against the other states to achieving accreditation? QLD has accreditation and the other states are lagging but what NSW are saying at the officer level is comforting. The other states are approaching it differently and are opposed to having their legislation accredited. The other states will struggle to meet the target.
- It is politically symbolic the accreditation should be a formality and is important. Legally it is not critical to be done by 1 July.
- It's been put forward as it was seen to be easy but has turned out to be quite complex. The regional staff have been a huge support to the process.
- The last time the Board saw the words around the aboriginal engagement there was concern around managing expectations. Work has been done and the issues addressed to manage the expectations as they may be different between each nation.

The Board endorsed the recommendation to:

Note the presentation from Lisa Stribley on the SA Murray Region Water Resource Plan (WRP) in its current close to final draft;

Note the process of developing the WRP and the linkages with the Board's Water Affecting Activity Policies and amendments to the Mallee WAP and Peake, Roby and Sherlock WAP; and

Note the next steps in finalising the SA Murray Region WRP.

Resolved

231117-143-2.2 Connecting Communities

Board member Deana Mildren provided a paper to the Board on behalf of the Connecting with Communities working Group.

Discussion:

- In the first instance it was hard to think outside the structure. With the assistance of Emily Jenke the group were able to think outside the square. The group focused on how to achieve "More people doing more NRM".
- The Board discussed at length the need to connect with the community and what the best mechanisms maybe for the region.
- The groups have no staff or budget and we want them to have a work plan but and away to do the work.
- The Board discussed many different options including:
- Using GARP to provide funding to other groups that do great work for NRM and the community. If the funding for the groups was quarantined for projects.
- Using the RAP for the groups and the Board giving them a strategic priorities at a local level and to continue to work in this space.
- In the Riverland there are many different groups that connect to the community and also the staff have access to the community they need. There are many ways in the Riverland to communicate the NRM message and the great work being done and it's not necessary through an NRM Group.
- When AMLR dissolved the groups there was a self-managing group that are still together "opt in model"
- It was suggested to elevating the Groups, Board papers in the Board pack to show that the Board are interested.
- The Rangelands have bi-monthly meetings it is a small community across a large area the Group structure doesn't fit well for them or the community.
- If we were to consider an alternative model we could start providing signals early so they are able to remobilise and realign themselves to the community groups.
- The Board suggest that a 12 month transition period is undertaken.
- Options for disseminating information into the community could come through the 3 Riverland LAP groups and RMAC on behalf of the Board or potentially holding a quarterly NRM forum with the key influences invited to hear about what is happening in the NRM space.
- The Board questioned if it would it be better to have the champions in the community instead of the Groups?

Action: Claire and Board member to attend the Rangelands and Riverland final group meetings to explain the changes and piloting ways of connecting to the community.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To retain the Ranges to River and Mallee and Coorong groups and encourage them to explore additional community connections.

The majority of the Rangelands and Riverland group membership's lapse at the end of January the Board will dissolve the two groups and explore alternatives ways to connect within these communities.

The Board endorse Jo Gebhardt to be the acting chair of the Rangelands group.

Resolved

231117-143-2.3 NLP2 Update

Amy Goodman provided a verbal update and presentation on NLP 2

Discussion:

- One of the deliverables is around engaging with aboriginal entities, with smart farms this is not a focus but will need to be built on within the investment in that space.
- There is a meeting on the 24 November to discuss what partnerships mean and what the expectations are, what is realistic which will help at a regional scale.

231117-143-2.4 Carp Workshops

Sandy Gunter, Team Leader Communications & Engagement and Claire Stephenson Manager Community Engagement provided a paper to the Board regarding the National Carp Control Plan Program's intentions to roll out a series of stakeholder workshops.

Discussion:

- The Board questioned if members will need to present on fish recovery? Clarity has been sought on what is required from the Board members. Darren Willis will be speaking as a subject matter expert.

Action: Claire to provide additional information for the Board on requirements for the day and Renee to send out the list of key stakeholders for the Carp Control Plan Program.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the information provided about the proposed consultation on the NCCP.

Resolved

3. Finance and Risk

231117-143-3.1 Finance and Risk Committee Report

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

- Financial Reports and Statements to the 31 October 2017
- Minutes of the Financial Governance Committee meeting held in November

Discussion:

- The Finance and Risk committee endorsed the cash strategy
- Financial statements are with the auditor general for sign off hopefully by the 28 November.
- Water levy receivables have come out of the financial statements and the journal completed and a note will be included.
- Interest revenue has been broken down and spread differently it doesn't affect the figure just how it is distributed.
- Key management personnel – only needed to be half of the regional director's salary and has been amended.
- The interest that the Federal Government may want returned is still waiting on the audit results and it is hopeful to be completed this month. The discussions have been open and that is a positive sign they will provide a response once the audit finding have been completed.
- The current overspend will have an effect on the Boards cash balance however most of the impact has already been felt.
- With regards to the sponsorship for the Thriving Women's Conference, the way it has been presented looks as though the Board are sponsoring a cocktail event. The Board is providing a small amount of funding to have a speaking opportunity at the pre-conference event as to have a speaking slot at the conference was just too expensive.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the Finance and Risk Committee papers and reports - Resolved

4. Correspondence and Information Items

231117-143-4.1 Correspondence

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

To note the correspondence received - Resolved

5. Board Committees and NRM Groups

231117-143-5.1 Board Committees - Reports and Minutes from Meetings

Ranges to River:

The new members of the group need to be inducted Deana will talk to Sarah Lance to arrange a suitable time.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:**To note the above highlights from the 9 October meeting - Resolved****The Board endorsed the recommendation:****To note the above highlights from the 6 November meeting - Resolved****Mallee and Coorong****The Board endorsed the recommendation:****To Support the Ag forum to be held on the 23 February, through a \$2000 contribution from the Groups discretionary fund.****To note the next meeting of the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group will be held on 31 January 2018
Resolved****The Board endorsed the recommendation:****To note the draft minutes - resolved****6. Presentations/Overview of Meeting****231117-143-6.1 Board Presentations Overview**

- Chris Hedger's presentation was great and it really shows how passionate he is about his job
- Wendy was nervous but still did a great presentation.
- The Board would like to invite Lisa back to present as she doesn't get so ingrained in the technical which makes it easier to understand.

231117-143-6.2 Board Meeting Overview

A lot was achieved today and timewise very good

231117-143-6.3 Items for future Board Meetings

Nil

231117-143-6.4 Any other business

The Minister has sent a letter regarding the amendments to the Murray Darling WAP and the Mallee prescribed and Roby Sherlock areas.

The Board endorsed the recommendation:

That the Presiding Member be authorised to respond to the Minister on the Board's behalf in support of the amendments, unless there are material changes which will need to come back to the Board.

231117-143-6.5 Next Meeting

Friday 15 December 2017 Location Mount Barker NRO

231117-143-6.6 Public Meeting closed at 5:30pm

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