



## Minutes - Public Meeting 135

### SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board Thursday 23 March 2017 – Murray Bridge NRO – 12.30pm

#### 1. Meeting Procedure

##### 230317-135-1.1

##### Attendance

##### Present:

Chair: Sharon Starick

|             |                 |                       |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Members:    | Deana Mildren   | Rod Ralph             |
|             | Gioia Small     | Nick Bakkum           |
|             | Peter Duggin    | Dan Jordan            |
|             | Ben Fee         | Owen Love             |
| Ex Officio: | Mike Williams   | Amy Goodman           |
|             | Denise Fowles   | Mel Rowe              |
|             | Sonia Dominelli | Renee Clark (minutes) |
|             | Sandy Gunter    |                       |

##### Apologies:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Kerry Simcock     | Andrew Kassebaum |
| Kim Blenkiron     | Garry Fyfe       |
| Claire Stephenson |                  |

#### Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Opening

The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledge the traditional custodians. The Chair acknowledged the Ranges to River group's successful soils forum.

##### 230317-135-1.3

##### Declaration of Interest

Deena Mildren declared an interest regarding the correspondence from Dr John Virtue

##### 230317-135-1.4

##### Consent Schedule

| Topic   | Att.  | Motion  |
|---|-------|---|
| Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting No. 134 held on 23 February 2017 | 2a    | The Board <b>approves</b> the Minutes of Meeting 134 held on 23 February 2017 Board notes the attachments (presentations) |
| Reporting Items   |       |   |
| Presiding Members Report  | 2b-2c | The Board <b>notes</b> the report.  |
| Regional Directors Report   | 2d    | The Board <b>notes</b> the report for information   |
| Planning Summary  | 2e    | The Board <b>approves</b> the Planning Summary for November.  |
| Better Water Planning Paper   | 2f    | The Board <b>approves</b> the paper   |

Page 7 of the Minutes from the February meeting amend the Board endorsed recommendation to 'NRM groups in the decision making'

#### The Board endorsed the recommendation:

- To approve the Minutes of the Public meeting held on the 23 February 2017 with the agreed changes as a true and correct record of the meeting.
- That the remaining items on the Consent Schedule with relevant attachments and recommendations be approved.

#### Resolved

##### 230317-135-1.5

##### Action Sheet

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

### **Discussion**

Action item 1 – the online article has been sent to Executive Officer to distribute to the Board.

### **The Board endorsed the recommendation:**

- **To note the Action Sheet for information.**

**Resolved**

## **2. Board Matters**

**230317-135-2.1 Presentation SARFIIP, RRP and CLLMM progress** Presentation Attached  
Dr Glenn Shimmin, Project Leader RRP and SARFIIP and Louisa Halliday, Program Leader - Strategy and Business SA provided a presentation to the Board on the current status of the Riverland Floodplains Integrated Infrastructure Program (SARFIIP) the Riverine Recovery Project (RRP) and the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Recovery Project.

### **Discussion**

- There are 11 potential RRP projects that will be delivered in conjunction with the land owners.
- The community are being consulted with regularly.
- Once the devices have been installed the infrastructure will become State assets. River Murray Operations will have ownership, some will be physically operated by SA Water.
- During the high water event at the end of 2017, drones were sent up over Katarapko creek [Click Here](#) and the Pike floodplain [Click Here](#). Click the links to view the YouTube videos. The footage is a representation of what the projects will achieve.

**Action: Manager Planning and Evaluation will work with the Major Projects unit of DEWNR and prepare a paper for future consideration regarding approvals for these projects.**

## **230317-135-2.2 South Australians and the Environment 2016 – Survey Final Report**

Manager Community Engagement provided a paper to the Board regarding a survey conducted by AMRL on South Australians and the Environment 2016.

### **Discussion**

- Kim Krebs and Claire Stephenson presented to MBA students to get their ideas around marketing NRM.
- The students in groups will develop projects around marketing for NRM.
- The survey will be repeated in the future to see if actions that are taking place change the outcomes.

### **The Board endorsed the recommendation:**

- **To note the findings and the influence it will have on regional communications and engagement**
- **To note the significant financial investment made by the AMLR region**
- **To note the next steps**

## **230317-135-2.3 Flows for the Future**

Presentation Attached

Kym Rumbelow, Project Manager Flows for the Future provided a presentation to the Board on the current status of the Flows for the Future project.

### **Discussion**

- The Board suggested the project look for community champions and developing community engagement as a priority. Likewise building a picture for the community to demonstrate the progress of the project.

- The Board questioned the ownership of the infrastructure and if arrangements will be put in place for servicing and maintenance. The device is handed over to the landholder and maintenance and operation will be the owner's responsibility. Details will be included in the landholders licence.
- The NRM Groups are key to the project being successful the Board suggest engaging the Groups to assist with community engagement.
- The Board questioned the future of the infrastructure and when it's at the end of its life who is responsible for replacement.
- The Water Planning Steering Committee and the Commonwealth will oversee the project.
- To ensure compliance and audit requirements there may be an obligation on the land holder to provide a photo of the devise, like is done with ~~their~~-meter reading.

**Action: The Manager of the Flows to the Future team be requested to update the Board after the early community engagement has taken place and provide an update on future operations and maintenance.**

### **230317-135-2.4 Unified WHS Policy for NRM Boards - Draft**

The Board were supplied with a draft copy of the NRM Boards Safety Policy out of session for comment.

#### **Discussion**

- When a severe weather event is declared by the Police or SES Board and Group members should comply with their direction. If no declaration has been made by an agency then it is a personal choice to travel. The policy is intended for people to not take unnecessary risks.
- The policy will be distributed to the Board and Groups once released.
- If the Board or Groups are unable to meet due to an event and there is a critical need then there are other options for example phone link or video conference.
- Risk assessments need to be carried out if it is safe to hold a meeting.
- Suggested that re-wording of the paragraph around completing risk assessments this could be completed by the Executive Officer of the Board or Group.
- As private citizens whom must abide by the road traffic act there is no requirement for Drivers Licences to be provided.

**Action: The Board comments will be provided to the DEWNR WHS unit for information**

## **3. Correspondence and Information Items**

### **230317-135-3.1 Correspondence**

#### **Discussion**

All 8 boards have been contact by David Spiel the Minister is supportive of a few Presiding Members~~Sharon~~ to meet with David.

**The Board endorsed the recommendation:**

- **To note the correspondence.**  
**Resolved**

## **4. Board Committees and NRM Groups**

### **230317-135-4.1 Board Committees - Reports and Minutes from Meetings**

#### **Discussion**

##### **Ranges to River Group**

- Are awaiting the resignation of a Group member. It is time now for the Board to step in and get the resignation. The Board questioned if there is potential for amendments to the terms of reference to include a clause that the Board can remove a member of the Group if deemed necessary.
- They are keen to engage with the flows to the future project.

- Consideration for succession planning. The Chair's term finishes at the end of the year.

### **Mallee Coorong Group**

- The Group have been advised that the agency do not have the resources to deal with compliance and that the Board want to promote that land holders be proactive.
- If a Board member is unable to attend a Group meeting between now and May arrangements can be made with another Board member to attend.
- The Presiding Member has spoken to Roger Wicks regarding the land holder brochure which will not be produced this year.
- Rent at the Murray Bridge NRC was questioned in the Report to the Board. The Presiding Member and Regional Director will consider how to respond..

### **Riverland Group**

- The Chair vacancy is being worked through. After the Executive meet they will put forward the best candidate for the Board to endorse.

## **The Board endorsed the recommendation:**

- **To note the reports.**

### **Resolved**

#### **230317-135-4.2          Members Reports**

Nil

## **5.          Financial Management and Governance**

#### **230317-135-5.1          Financial Reports**

Reports Attached

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

- Financial Reports and Statements to the 28 February 2017
- Minutes of the Financial Governance Committee meeting held in February and March were noted for information

### **Discussion**

- The Board running cost issue was due to the budget being set incorrectly. The Board will be involved in setting the future budget.
- The Regional Director's budget issue is that they was no budget set and costs have been incurred.
- OFIEE, there is still works being completed. More care needs to be taken when signing agreements. Investigations continue into getting a better deal with the Commonwealth.
- The issue regarding cash flow for the first quarter, reports are positive but is still in progress.
- The Regional Director and Manager Business Services are formulating potential cost reductions.
- In preparation the Regional Director and Regional Management Team will identify programs for the Board.
- Better provisions for doubtful debts, \$12,000 for general business and \$20,000 for bad debts.
- Treasury are looking at efficiencies and effectiveness within different areas of the agency.
- A process will be developed regarding bringing in-camera minutes back to the Board to be released to the public if appropriate.

## **The Board endorsed the recommendation:**

- **To note the Financial Reports to the 28 February 2017**

### **Resolved**

## **6.          Presentations/Overview of Meeting**

#### **230317-135-6.1          Board Presentations Overview**

- The Board suggest to the Flows for the Future team to be aware of the history and the Boards involvement. There needs to be a strong links back to the history.

- Flows for the Future is the Boards biggest risk at the current time. There are great opportunities for the community and promoting the great initiative of the project into the community is important.
- Ongoing operations and maintenance and management for the long term will be important to communicate. The future expenses of the project should be worn by the wider community not just the irrigators as it is a benefit for all of the region.
- Dan Jordan provided an update on the Basin plan and SARFIIP.
- Ben Fee provided an update on the SARMS project, [the Loxton Research Centre redevelopment](#) and requested Board Members to promote it.

**230317-135-6.2 Board Meeting Overview**

Nil

**230317-135-6.3 Items for future Board Meetings**

Nil

**230317-135-6.4 Any other business**

- A River Murray Advisory Committee member has moved to New Zealand the Executive Committee will review.

**230317-135-6.5 Next Meeting**

**230317-135-6.6** Public Meeting closed at 15.56pm

Presiding Member Sharon Starick

**Presiding Member**

**SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board**