



## Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board

### Meeting No. 42

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

Venue: Ceduna Natural Resource Centre (Day 1)  
and Ceduna Foreshore Hotel (Day 2)

#### 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:	
<b>AW NRM Board Members</b>	Parry Agius (Presiding Member), Mima Smart, Brian Queama, Sydney Chamberlain, Michael Haynes, Gary Lewis, Rosemary Lester
<b>NR AW Staff</b>	Matthew Ward (Regional Manager), Sue Agars (Executive Officer)
<b>SA Govt. Rep's</b>	Nil
<b>Guests</b>	John Mungee (Chair, Mamungari Board)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Janet Queama

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

#### Day 1 - Meeting opened at 9.50am

Presiding member Mr Parry Agius welcomed AW NRM Board members, NR AW staff, and guests to the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Alinytjara Wilurara (AW) Natural Resources Management Board (the Board).

One minutes silence was observed for community members who have passed on.

Mr Agius provided attendees with an overview of the Agenda for Meeting# 42, including AW NRM Policies to be discussed and developed. The Board were asked for any additional items for discussion.

Rose Lester queried the outcomes of Parliamentary members visit to APY. To be discussed at a later date.

Mr Agius welcomed Mr John Mungee, Chair of the Maralinga Lands Unnamed Conservation Park Co-Management Board, and an overview of Mr Mungee's position was provided by NR AW Regional Manager, Matthew Ward.

Mr Agius then declared the meeting open and acknowledged the area's traditional Aboriginal custodians

### 2. Adoption of Agenda and Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

**The Agenda for Meeting 41 was adopted with the following additions:**

- No conditions

**There were no declarations of Conflicts of Interest.**

- No Conflict of Interest declared

### 3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Presiding Member Parry Agius highlighted and endorsed the new Summary of Minutes from Meeting# 41.
- The AW NRM Board **adopted** the Minutes from Meeting# 41, held in Adelaide on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 without further amendment.

**Motion moved by: Gary Lewis**  
**Seconded by: Sydney Chamberlain**

### 4. Review of AW NRM Board Meeting Action Sheet

The AW NRM Board Meeting ACTION SHEET from Meeting #41 was reviewed by those present, with Actions Arising as follows:

#### **BOARD ACTIONS**

*From Item 29 Develop a project proposal for Board to establish baseline of understanding/perception of the NRM Board / SWAT for ongoing evaluation (Ongoing).*

Update provided by Matthew Ward and Parry Agius. Discussion around measuring and standards of Board activity. Gary Lewis queried funding and control of programs with community, council and Skill-Hire. Parry Agius recommended list of funding to communities for projects is provided for next meeting.

**Action Arising:** Regional Manager to provide list of funding/monies for differing communities.

*From Item 93 Consider nominations for guest speakers for future meetings (Complete).*

**Action Arising:** Regional Manager to create Policy on Authorised Attendees and Guest Attendees of AW NRM Board Meetings.

#### **COUNTRY ACTIONS**

*From Item 83 Manager, Sustainable Landscapes, Planning & Evaluation to request a briefing on amendments to Native Vegetation Act and their relation to native species being used for commercial purposes (Ongoing)*

**Action Arising:** Manager Sustainability, Landscapes & Conservation to research Land Rights Act and implement into Policy.

#### **PEOPLE ACTIONS**

Rose queried status of Community Action Plans. Parry Agius raised NRM Plan's for the various communities. Recommended NRM Plans be created and linked to Community Action Plans. Policy to be created on process. Matthew Ward provided insight into which IPA's currently exist and identified a risk of duplication. Matthew advised funding currently available to develop NRM Plans with Communities. Anticipated a 5 yr plan for collection and collation of community plans. Plan for AW to collate community plans ie. where no IPA's exist a NRM Plan to be implemented. Parry Agius expressed importance of continuance. AW role to lead, show and collate for region. Rose Lester said she considered the existing plans were too various, with members not on the 'same page' with the many varying types of plans going on.

*From Item 87 Provide the AW Board with Community Action Plans for all communities relevant to AW (Ongoing)*

**Action re-assigned:** Regional Manager to provide 'examples' of Community Action Plans for AW Board Review

#### **WATER ACTIONS**

No actions arising.

#### **LONG TERM ACTIONS**

No actions arising.

## 5. Board Report - Presiding Member

*Parry Agius (Presiding Member AW NRM Board)*

Parry Agius provided the Board with an overview of his activities conducted since the last AW NRM Board Meeting, (held 11-12 December, 2013) as follows:

### Representation

- No official representations since December 2013.

### Strategic and Policy Positioning

- Meeting with Paul Dalby re: *Thinkers in Residence* for Board development.

**Action (96): Regional Manager to find Reconciliation Australia's Economic Report and investigate a potential guest speaker.**

- Planned meeting with FWC didn't occur due to other Board commitments. An ongoing effort will be made to facilitate a meeting and demonstrate forward developments.

### Governance

- Approved and sent final Business Plan 2014-17 to Minister for approval.
- Review and contribution to correspondence on behalf of the Board (refer AW NRM Board Correspondence Incoming/Outgoing – tabled for the Board to review)

### Broader State NRM delivery

- Ongoing communication from other PM's and DEWNR following meeting with CEO and Presiding Members

## 6. Manager Report – Regional Manager

*Matthew Ward (Regional Manager, Natural Resources AW)*

Matthew Ward provided an overview of Agenda items to be discussed during Meeting 42, and outlined the Policy development session. The Board were also advised of the AW NRM **Audit and Risk Committee Meeting** to be held in Adelaide on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

**Welcome and introduction:** New NR AW Staff Graeme Armstrong (Fire Management Co-ordinator), and Lynda Marshall (Buffel Grass Coordinator) were introduced to, and welcomed by the Board. Both Graeme and Lynda will be based in Ceduna.

### Key Points of Regional Managers Report:

- Feedback regarding Green Army being provided through the Rangelands Alliance.
- 'Palya Kalkuni' – supporting PM with discussions with FWC Aboriginal Corporation.
- Aboriginal Traineeships are being developed for Year 12 students. An agreement from TAFE and Skill-Hire will develop opportunities in the future.
- Human Resources - late January 2014, new staff commenced at AW with Matthew providing instruction to new staff. New staff include:
  - **Adam Pennington** (Landscape Ecologist) based in Adelaide, and will work on developing NRM Plans and collation with AW Plans
  - **Graeme Armstrong** (Fire Management Coordinator) based in Ceduna
  - **Lynda Marshall** (Buffel Grass Coordinator) based in Ceduna
  - **Dan Bailey** (Sustainable Resource Coordinator) based in Adelaide and working with Neil Collins to look at plans around declared pest management and mining.
  - **Saras Kumar** (Manager, Protected Areas & Public Lands) based in Adelaide and will drive co-management directions.

Parry Agius queried the number of Aboriginal applications received for vacant positions recently advertised, and the level of encouragement given to current employees for development. Matthew Ward advised there were no Aboriginal applications or expressions of interest received. Discussion around developing Aboriginal staff and training opportunities and recommendation to make concerted effort to encourage.

Discussion around PRD's and training needs to be identified by Regional Manager and Team with improvements to be made to developmental requirements. Bruce completing Employment Strategy for AW – suggested development strategy could be combined with this. Parry Agius advised he would like for each Aboriginal Employee a plan of targeted development for career path/plans. Matthew advised of AW's target of increasing Aboriginal Employment by 20%.

Discussion around opportunities which may be available in the future (ie. end of contracts). Additionally targeted Aboriginal Executive Officer in Ceduna, Mamungari EO (Anne Baird employed for MT). Reconciliation Action Plan for DEWNR is assisting with aligning of documents and increasing Aboriginal employment. Locally, good relationships exist with TAFE and training institutions.

Regional Manager Matthew Ward then provided an overview of the following:

- All outstanding Actions and Actions completed
- DEWNR Strategic Business Review – savings models currently being developed, and may vary dependent on which Govt. is elected on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014. AW to be aware of areas of anticipated savings for Public Lands Delivery (although not expected to affect AW). Ongoing discussions being held between CE and PM's.
- Statewide Water Planning Committee – AW's Water Plan implemented under NRM Plan.
- Reconciliation and Aboriginal Engagement – sub-committee defined Terms of Reference for Aboriginal Partnerships Working Group (DEWNR).
- Draft Aboriginal Traineeship Model developed for trainees to work across multiple regions. Draft currently with Executive.

Parry Agius requested the wording 'Graduate Program' to be used instead of 'Traineeship' (policies also to reflect change of wording and thinking around training).

**Action (97):** Manager Community Engagement and Project Consultant Angela Whiting to develop a concise policy and development agreement for all staff in NR AW – in particular Aboriginal staff. Policy statement to articulate 'Employment and Graduate Employment Opportunities in NRM'

Regional Manager Matthew Ward went on to advise:

- No co-management meetings had occurred since last AW NRM Board Meeting (December 2013).
- A meeting had occurred with DEWNR Park Management Planning to ensure future park plans under FWC Co-Management plan can feed directly in to future AW NRM plans.

Parry Agius queried current status of co-management across the regions and problems are being experienced. Matthew Ward advised of revision of agreements in relation to Governance. Ranger positions may be problematic. For example, agreement to employ single Ranger – more beneficial to ensure broader community engagement instead of a single Ranger. Localised issues experienced. Discussion around differing Boards and Co-management Boards and their delegation / decision making / advisory roles. Discussion around how to manage people's 'expectations' based around Breakaway's Co-management.

**Action (98):** Discussion on Co-management Agreements to be conducted during Meeting 42 in relation to AW perspectives (Complete - discussed during Policy Workshop, Day 2)

**Regional Manager Matthew Ward tabled the following papers for AW Board review and discussion:**

**Paper to Note: Attendees and Guest Speakers at Board Meetings** (by Regional Manager, NR AW)

Matthew Ward provided an overview of the paper provided which included suggestions for potential guest speakers based on key themes which the AW Board would find beneficial.

**Recommendation:** AW NRM Board to discuss and decide upon themes and potential guest speakers

Discussion around guest speakers, their role/position and involvement with decision making. Rose Lester provided a suggestion for Education theme - Prof. Margaret Thalston. Rose advised she had heard a recent lecture on issues and challenges facing rural community today and into the future.

Parry Agius requested engagement with Chairs of Co-Management Boards. Possible invitation to be extended to Chairs and Deputy Chairs for future meetings.

**Decision:** AW Board to select Theme and fellow-Chair guests when agreeing on next AW Board meeting date.

**Outcome:** Education theme selected for Meeting 43 (speaker tba). Bob Frazer (CEO Cape York) to be invited later in the year.

Matthew Ward advised the Board they could also consider another Departmental representative, with a view to exercising due diligence.

**Paper to Note: Relationship Network for AW NRM Board** (by Regional Manager, NR AW)

Regional Manager Matthew Ward provided a draft representation of 'Relationships Network' to demonstrate AW NRM key partners, and the strength of those partnerships. Key relationships separated into 4 main areas including Land Holding Authorities, State Government, Federal Govt. and other organisations.

**Recommendation:** the Board note draft Relationship Network for AW NRM Board, and develop and further discuss the network.

Paper reviewed and discussed by the Board with amendments made as reflected in new version. Programs to be colour coded to themes and process and timing for review / evaluation of relationships to be decided upon.

**Regional Manager Matthew Ward tabled the following papers on behalf of Managers as indicated:**

**Paper to Note: Report on CfoC Funding** (by Manager Sustainable Landscapes, Planning & Evaluation, Neil Collins)

An overview of the paper was provided by Matthew Ward, including Planning Status, Project Status, and Regional Update for APY Lands.

Key points of the paper included:

- 2014-17 Regional Plan has been forwarded to Minister for approval
- Water Plan conveyed to all communities with no negative feedback. The Water Committee meeting is scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 in Adelaide.
- All core milestones have been achieved due to funding received. Base funding for next 5 years has been secured.

**Paper to Note: Report on Employment Status YTD** (by Manager Community Engagement, Bruce Macpherson)

Matthew Ward provided an overview of the background to the paper, and reiterated the Board and DEWNR target for expected increase in employment of 20% by 2018.

Key points of the paper included the review of Primary Employment, Secondary Employment (Contracts), and Tertiary Employment (Casual).

Parry Agius requested change to the language in the report – ie. primary employment (to be called AW staff), secondary employment (to be called Casual/Community). Personnel employed by co-management also to be included in future reports tabled.

**Action (99):** Manager, Community Engagement to revise wording in future Employment Reports to reflect AW Staff, Contracts, and Casual/Community (instead of Primary and Secondary Employment). Personnel employed by co-management also to be included in future reports to be tabled.

Rose Lester expressed concern over how long Davies Bore project would continue. Rose advised she understood Davies Bore was a trial only and assessment is required to assess how many hours the project may require.

**Action (100):** Manager, Community Engagement to advise AW Board how long Davies Bore project is expected to continue.

Rose Lester queried the water consultation process, and where results might be available to be viewed. It appears that smaller communities have been left out of the process, and that the consultation process was not fully conducted (placed at the bottom of the Camel consultation).

Rose Lester queried the Underground Water Study - what was being examined, and how the study was conducted. Further information on this study requested by the Board. Matthew Ward requested permission to raise issues with Neil Collins within the forum of Water Steering Committee Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> March 2014 in Adelaide). Also to be raised by Matthew with Neil out of session.

Discussion raised by Mima Smart around Brian Queama going on Camel culling program in helicopter. Benefits for Board members may include gaining a visual over lands, and intelligence gathering.

Parry Agius requested Matthew Ward provide information on the process for AW NRM board members being involved with Camel culling. Clarification on consultation process for camel observation/culling is also required.

**Action (101):** Manager Sustainability, Planning and Reporting, and Manager Community Engagement to develop a Standard Operating Procedure for Community Engagement in Camel Culling Operation in southern AW region.

**Revised Budget for 2013/14 (Anticipated Savings)** (by Manager, Regional Partnerships & Business Development, Thuy Phan)

The Revised Budget for 2013-14 (anticipated savings) was reviewed and discussed by the Board. It was agreed that allocation of the anticipated savings (\$28,649) would be best spent on employment projects and IT equipment for the Board to enable efficient business continuity.

Regional Manager Matthew Ward raised discussion around promoting a paperless approach as currently being encouraged for trial by DEWNR. Matthew advised the Board may find advantages to utilising equipment such as iPads, Language Dictionary's and Pre-Paid Mobile Phones to assist with business continuity, and a paperless approach.

**Decision:** It was agreed that the AW NRM Board endorses a proposal to investigate the potential for iPads, Dictionaries, and Pre-Paid Mobile Phones for Board members from remote regions.

**Moved: Michael Haynes  
Seconded: Brian Queama**

**Action (102):** Regional Manager to write a letter to the CE of DEWNR on behalf of AW NRM Board Chair requesting support and funding for appropriate IT equipment to assist with a paperless approach.

**Motion moved to accept the Presiding Member and Regional Manager Reports**

(tabled Reports and Papers' to Note also accepted as part of Regional Manager's report)

**Moved: Rose Lester**  
**Seconded: Mima Smart**

**7. Board Correspondence**

The list of AW Board correspondence was reviewed by the members with the following noted for discussion:

- Mick Haynes queried if any response had been received to letter written to Warren Mundine. Advised no response to date.

**Signing of Governance (Board Procedures) Agreement between AW NRM Board and NR AW**

*Matthew Ward (Regional Manager, Natural Resources AW)*

Following tabling of draft document 'Palya Kalkuni' at AW NRM Board Meeting# 41, amendments were completed as requested, and Regional Manager Matthew Ward presented the AW Board members with individual Agreements for signing.

The Agreements were updated to include:

- The demonstrated example in the Agreement to be labelled as 'Example Only' to be clear
- The term 'travel allowance' to include fuel and meals for travel
- Daily rate for meals to be indicated on the Agreement
- Clarification included on what is 'travel allowance' and what is 'meal allowance'
- Clarification that accommodation would be arranged up to 3 weeks prior for members who travel to the meeting
- Amended colours and pictures used on the document

Board member attendance fees and potential losses (due to absence etc.) was demonstrated by Parry Agius and the calendar of dates for forthcoming meetings was explained by Executive Officer, Sue Agars.

**The AW NRM Board signed the individual agreements, thereby agreeing to abide by all conditions as written. Original copies of the agreements retained by Executive Officer, Sue Agars.**

**8. Far West Coast Memorandum of Understanding Discussion**

Not discussed due to unavailability of FWC delegates. Deferred.

**Day 1 Meeting Close 5.00pm**

**AW NRM Board Meeting 41**  
**Day 2 – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

**Day 2 – Meeting opened at 9.30am**

**9. AW NRM Policy Workshop**

Regional Manager Matthew Ward provided presentation on AW NRM Policies currently under development, and requested discussion and input from the Board.

Policies as listed below were drafted by the Board, for completion by Regional Manager. Associated Actions were recorded:

1. **Language and Interpreters** (draft complete, no actions)
2. **Wild Dog (Papa Inura)**

**Action (103):** Manager Sustainability, Planning and Reporting to develop a summary paper (1-2 pages) regarding the cultural role of *Papa Inura* and distribute summary paper including suggestions of communicating this material (including website).

3. **Baiting for Pastoralism**

Query raised by Mick Haynes as to legislation and licensing requirements for the purchase, storage, and handling of baits.

**Action (104):** Regional Manager to develop a brief for the Board on the licensing / legislative requirements for purchase, storage, and handling of 1080 baits.

4. **Baiting for Conservation** (draft complete, no actions)
5. **Co-management Agreement** (draft complete, no actions)

There was discussion around the format and presentation of the AW NRM Board Policies as presented, with members deciding the policies would remain in the current format.

**Decision:** it was agreed by the Board that AW NRM Policies would be remain in the current format.

**10. Presentation**

***Coastal Programs of Natural Resources Alinytjara Wilurara***” by Paul Gregory (Community NRM Officer), and Yasmin Wolf (Coast and Marine Officer)

Paul and Yasmin provided a visual display for the Board, outlining the current drivers, opportunities, and plans in coastal programs for progression. Some of the issues were discussed and contracts reviewed. Current status on projects including Track Rationalisation & Regeneration, Mulloway Recreational Fishing Surveys, Community Threat Assessments, Marine Debris Surveys, and Weed Management were reviewed.

Current issues raised for discussion included:

- the need for more suitable signage in the coastal region, with around 30 signs planned for development through two separate future contracts. Communication plan for car-park signage showing key species to be developed.
- remote locations and the lack of resources resulting in issues in checking of Mulloway catches.

**Decision:** The AW NRM Board support Yalata Council with size limit and enforcement. To be raised and further discussed at Yalata Community Council Meeting.

- high level use of ATV's and 56% increase in dog numbers impacting upon shore-bird nesting
- rubbish and debris building up in DTEI rest areas attracting large numbers of dogs/pests

## 10. Communications: Key Messages from Meeting

*Refer to Summary of Meeting # 42.*

## 12. Other Business

No other business was raised for discussion.

## 13. Next Board Meeting

- The next AW NRM Board meeting will be held:

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 in Alice Springs**

Followed by MoU discussions with APY Executive on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**

- Agenda items for the next meeting will be due to EO Sue Agars by:

**Close of business, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2014**

### Meeting Close

There being no further business to discuss, AW NRM Chair Parry Agius provided thanks to NR AW Staff and the regional team for supporting the AW NRM Board with meeting requirements. The meeting was then declared closed at 4.15pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Draft Minutes reviewed by Presiding Member:**



**03 / 04 / 2013**