



Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board

Meeting No. 43

MINUTES OF MEETING

8th and 9th April, 2014

Venue: Alice Springs, Chifley Resort

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, Sydney Chamberlain, Michael Haynes, Gary Lewis,
NR AW Staff	Matthew Ward (Regional Manager), Sue Agars (Executive Officer), Neil Collins (Sustainability, Planning & Reporting), Bruce Macpherson (Community Engagement), Saras Kumar (Landscapes, Conservation & Public Lands)
Guests	John Mungee (Chair, Mamungari Board)
Apologies:	Janet Queama, Rose Lester

1. Welcome and Apologies

Day 1 - Meeting opened at 9.10am

Acting Chair Michael Haynes welcomed AW NRM Board members, NR AW staff, and guests to Meeting 43 of the Alinytjara Wilurara (AW) Natural Resources Management Board (the Board).

Mr Haynes provided attendees with an overview of the Agenda for Meeting 43, including a briefing on discussions to be held with APY Executive following the Board meeting. The Board were asked for any additional items for discussion.

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

Apologies received: Rose Lester, Janet Queama.

Mr Haynes 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 43 was adopted and there were no declarations of Conflict of Interest.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The Summary of Minutes of Meeting 42 was reviewed by the Board, and Minutes of Meeting 42, held in Ceduna 11-12 February 2014 were **adopted**.

Motion moved by: Gary Lewis
Seconded by: Sydney Chamberlain

4. Review of AW NRM Board Meeting Actions

The AW NRM Board Action Sheet from Meeting 42 was reviewed, with Actions Arising as follows:

BOARD ACTIONS

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

Discussion around possible promotion of Governance.

Action Arising: Regional Manager to investigate dates of other NRM Board meetings for AW Board members to attend (ie. AMLR).

COUNTRY ACTIONS - No actions arising.

PEOPLE ACTIONS - No actions arising.

WATER ACTIONS - No actions arising.

LONG TERM ACTIONS - No actions arising.

Motion: The AW NRM Board notes the Actions as presented in this item, with some issues for further discussion during the relevant sessions.

***Moved: Michael Haynes
Seconded: Gary Lewis***

5. Board Report - Presiding Member

Parry Agius (Presiding Member AW NRM Board)

Mr Agius provided the Board with an overview of his activities conducted since the last AW NRM Board Meeting, (held 11-12 February, 2014 in Ceduna) as follows:

Representation

- 5th National NRM Conference in Launceston, Tasmania
- 12th National Chairs Forum in Launceston, Tasmania

Strategic and Policy Positioning

- Chaired the AW Strategic Water Planning Committee during March 2014
- Continuing to work with Regional Manager on 'Thinkers in Residence' program
- Initiated a meeting with NR AW to discuss Community Engagement monitoring, and outcomes of the National Chairs Forum and Conference

Governance

- Chaired AW NRM Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Reviewed and contributed to correspondence on behalf of the Board

Broader State NRM delivery

- Met CEO of DEWNR (Allan Holmes) along with other Presiding Members re: future savings strategies
- Ongoing communication between other Presiding Members and DEWNR CE

Discussion around National NRM Conference and concerns re: AW NRM role and funding. Matthew Ward advised he had met with Christa Clift to discuss funding opportunities. Parry Agius advised it was important to raise the profile and awareness of AW NRM and a draft agreement had been developed between Landcare and AW NRM (for further discussion).

Motion: The AW NRM Board accept the Presiding Members Report.

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

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 43, and advised of the upcoming AW NRM **Audit and Risk Committee Meeting** to be held in Adelaide on Tuesday 6th May, 2014.

Key activities from Regional Managers Report:

- The Board were asked to consider DEWNR attendees as representatives on the Board
- New Australian Government Programs: National Landcare Program, and meeting with Krista Clift (SA Director) to provide update on current programs, risks, and future challenges
- Palya Kalkuni – support to Presiding Member in developing discussions with APY Executive in relation to Palya Kalkuni between AW NRM Board and APY Executive
- Human Resources – Pitjantjatjara Language classes promoted by NR AW gaining DEWNR wide recognition, and interviews conducted for new Aboriginal Graduate to assist in the Business Stream
- Board Actions – ongoing work on Actions

DEWNR issues include:

- DEWNR Strategic Business Review
- DEWNR Reconciliation and Aboriginal Engagement
- Co-Management – Maralinga Lands Unnamed Conservation Park Co-Management Board Meeting during May 2014, Breakaways Co-Management Board Meeting (March 2014), Far West Coast – plans for future park to feed in to AW NRM plans. Co-management funding agreements being prepared for Co-management EA and Officer

Following discussion around DEWNR attendees at AW NRM Board Meetings, it was decided a clear mandate was required for confidentiality reasons so that attendees would not undermine the Regional Manager's position.

Decision: The AW NRM Board supports the proposal for a DEWNR representative to sit on the AW NRM Board, on the condition that a clear mandate exists on attendee roles and responsibilities.

Action: Regional Manager to write to CE DEWNR indicating the AW NRM Board support the proposal for a DEWNR representative to sit on the AW NRM Board, on the condition that a clear mandate exists on attendee roles and responsibilities.

Regional Manager Matthew Ward went on to advise:

- CfoC is now called Landcare under the new Government
- Funding - NR AW must focus on developing programs over the next 3 months, or risk losing funding
- A meeting had been arranged with APY Executive for Thursday 10th April (following the AW NRM Board Meeting), to discuss Palya Kalkuni between AW NRM Board and APY Executive
- An overview of the new Ministry and DEWNR senior executives (no change) was provided to the Board for noting

Discussion around tapping into IEP for Training with outcomes of employment. It was agreed by the Board that the Regional Manager will further explore this aspect.

Decision: The AW NRM Board support the proposal that the Manager, Community Engagement should further explore the aspect of tapping into IEP for training with outcomes of employment.

Matthew advised he had also attended a DEWNR approved Leadership Course in Boston, USA.

Motion: *The AW NRM Board accept the Regional Manager Report for Meeting 43.*

*Moved: Michael Haynes
Seconded: Sydney Chamberlain*

7. Board Correspondence

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

- Acknowledgement from SANTOS re: possible future meeting date to discuss current exploration mining activities in the AW Region

Discussion around current exploration activities by mining companies.

Action: Regional Manager to seek update from DMITRE (Ian Hopton) re: current exploration mining activities in the AW Region.

8. Manager Report – Regional & Business Partnerships

Regional Manager Matthew Ward presented the Board with an overview of the Monthly Transaction Report. Anomalies were found within the report, and the Board requested the reports be presented in a more simplified manner ie. graphs depicting income v expenditure.

Action: Regional Manager to request more simplified version of Monthly Transaction Reports from Manager, Regional and Business Partnerships ie. graphs

Matthew Ward advised outcomes of the Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting which was held on 12th March, 2014, which included:

- Procurement Policy to be ratified at next meeting (May, 2014)
- Contracts Register was reviewed and the Board requested the policies be numbered on the Register

Action: Manager, Regional and Business Partnerships to update Contracts Register with numbering.

Matthew Ward advised that the outcomes of the May 2014 Audit and Risk Committee would be provided to the Board during the next AW NRM Board meeting (June, 2014.)

9. Regional Session: YALATA

Chair: Mima Smart

Bruce Macpherson, Manager Community Engagement.

Mima Smart opened the session and handed over to Bruce Macpherson. Bruce provided an overview of projects and activities in the Yalata region, and advised the following:

- The CfoC and Women's programs formed the bulk of the programs and projects within IPA.
- A meeting had been held with Greg Franks (CEO of Yalata Council), and the School's program was now in place. A further meeting will be held on 7th May in Yalata to commence the program.
- Training is forming a large part of the NR AW workload this year, with TAFE acting as a de-facto arm of AW NRM in Yalata and Oak Valley. Baseline measuring of skill-sets was now being discussed with TAFE, and a model of assessment was to be rolled out.

Discussion around history of training since 1998, and issues with 'non-recognised' certificates of skills achieved. Gary Lewis indicated there was a need for future planning for employment and training, and government assistance was required to assist with participants receiving appropriately recognised certification, and the bigger picture of community members actively running AW projects in the region.

Regional Manager Matthew Ward queried the status of the 5 year strategy for implementation, and Bruce Macpherson advised he would provide a presentation to the Board at the next meeting.

Action: Manager, Community Engagement to provide a presentation to the Board on 5 Year strategy for implementation at next AW NRM Board meeting (June, 2014).

Michael Haynes suggested AW employ the strategy of pairing with a labour hire company which has proven effective for long-term employment outcomes.

Discussion around other Yalata issues included reports of baiting in the community.

Action: Manager, Landscapes, Conservation & Public Lands to make urgent enquiries into who may be placing baits throughout the Yalata community.

Mima Smart reported to the Board that feedback had been received from the Yalata Community Council and they indicated they were very happy with the MoU recently signed (between AW NRM and Yalata). Mima advised that she and Brian Queama were to speak at the meeting with APY Executive following the Board meeting in relation to MoU discussions.

10. Regional Session: MARALINGA TJARUTJA

Chair: Brian Queama

Bruce Macpherson, Manager Community Engagement

Brian Queama opened the session and handed over to Bruce Macpherson. Bruce provided an overview of projects and activities in the MT region. Bruce advised that things are looking very positive in MT, and there was discussion around a strategic plan for MT. Bruce advised that MT was covered by the AW Regional Plan and that copies of the Plan were accessible for members.

Presiding Member Parry Agius requested that Board members consider new ways of thinking about NRM – particularly other names which would stimulate new thinking and enthusiasm.

11. Regional Session: FAR WEST COAST

Chair: Michael Haynes

Saras Kumar, Manager, Landscapes, Conservation and Public Lands,

Michael Haynes opened the session and handed over to Saras Kumar. Saras advised she had recently attended the MT Council meeting to discuss past and current projects. Saras advised there was an aim to unify areas and requested the Board consider a more co-ordinated approach. A future workshop will be held with AW staff involvement and outcomes will be reported to the Board.

Saras advised the following key points:

- The Mamungari Board Meeting will be held in Ceduna on 14th May, 2014
- The Fire Management Strategy was close to being finalised
- Marine Park update on State and Commonwealth network waters – rollout delayed
- No extra resources for AW Region coming from Marine Parks

Saras provided an overview of the differing zones of the Marine Parks ie. Restricted and Conservation areas.

Action: Saras Kumar to provide a summary paper on Far West Coast Marine Parks Restricted / Conservation zones. To be tabled at next AW NRM Board Meeting (June).

Adam Pennington (NR AW Landscape Ecologist) provided the Board with an overview of the Healthy Country Plans. Discussion around the need for a longer term plan ie. 5 years in conjunction with community consultation.

12. Guest Speaker Presentation

Colleen Rosas, Director, Aboriginal Interpreter Service

Day 1 Meeting Close 5.00pm

Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board

Meeting No. 43

Day 2 – Wednesday 9th April 2014

Meeting opened at 8.45am

Presentation: National Park Delegations

Matthew Ward, Regional Manager NR AW

Matthew Ward provided a presentation to the Board on delegations for areas covered under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act (1972)*. An overview was given into the areas of land managed under the Act which include: Mamungari, Tallaringa, Nullarbor, Yumburra, and Yellabinna. The three tiers detailing roles and responsibilities in relation to decision making were discussed, and organisational chart showing the structure of governance was displayed. Discussion followed on governance structure, responsibilities, and delegatory powers.

Michael Haynes requested a paper on old, new, and current delegations and Matthew Ward advised this was being developed for when the Board's meet in July, 2014.

Matthew Ward suggested the Board consider a submission to cover all areas (one plan for all areas including public lands). The Board agreed they were interested in exploring this opportunity further, and requested a paper be developed to explain the concept.

Decision: The Board agreed they were interested in exploring the concept of having delegatory powers under the National Park Act. Paper to be developed.

Moved: Gary Lewis

Seconded: Sydney Chamberlain

Action: Matthew Ward to develop discussion paper on the concept that the AW NRM Board be given delegatory powers under the National Parks Act.

14. Strategic Meeting – National and SA Landcare (Statement of Common Purpose)

Presiding Member, Parry Agius

Parry Agius advised the Board that a meeting had been held between AW NRM and Landcare during December 2103 with the aim of strengthening relationships.

Matthew Ward provided background and history of Landcare's development and role and linkage to NRM Boards. A 'Statement of Common Purpose' has been developed between AW NRM Board and Landcare, and Matthew requested the Board note and discuss this item.

Parry advised that AW were one of 56 NRM Boards, and it would be a significant step forward for AW if they were to be the first to create such an agreement. Parry requested the Board consider providing approval to further explore a Memorandum of Understanding / Agreement, or Statement of Common Purpose between AW NRM Board and Landcare SA and National.

Decision: The AW NRM Board agree that further discussions are to be held and a draft Agreement be developed between SA and National Landcare bodies and the AW NRM Board.

Moved: Michael Haynes

Seconded: Mima Smart

Action: Two AW NRM Board members to work with Bruce Macpherson and Matthew Ward on developing a draft Agreement between Landcare SA and National bodies, and AW NRM Board.

15. Regional Session – APY LANDS

Neil Collins, Manager Sustainability, Planning and Reporting

Neil provided an overview of the status of 2013-14 programs and funding. Neil advised the following key points:

- The updated 2014-17 Regional Plan had been accepted by the Minister
- There will be a reduction in projects for 2013-14 with the aim to improve reporting and better align projects with the Business Plan

- The first 6 month reports have gone to MERRIT. If approved this will provide the next series of funding
- Contracts must be in place by EOFY to ensure any unspent funding will be carried over
- Camel cull in MT area employed 4 people (surveillance) however improvements to the consultation and culling process are being developed for 2014-15.
- TAFE Chainsaw and Chemical Training program was conducted in Umawa with training results being recorded at the Umawa Training Centre.

Matthew Ward provided a brief update on the Warru Recovery Program, stating that APY were to take a greater role co-ordinating the project (AW taking a lesser role) due to lesser funding.

Neil advised that all documentation relating to the items detailed above was available to view at the meeting.

16. Guest Speaker

Dave Couzner, Skill Hire

Neil Collins, Manager Sustainability, Planning and Reporting, introduced the guest speaker and provided a background and overview of the working relationship the AW NRM Board has with Skill Hire and APY.

Dave Couzner thanked the Board for inviting him to attend the meeting and went on to advise the following in relation to current Skill Hire projects:

- 5 year vision to have Anangu in all positions in APY
- Current activities include: Davey's Bore, School Cleaning, Remote School Attendance Strategy, Amata School Landscape project (Ernabella in future), and minor projects
- A 'work-ready' program to lift literacy and numeracy levels

Discussion resulted in the Board indicating concern over ongoing training and actual working hours as opposed to full-time employment.

Presiding Member, Parry Agius thanked Dave for his time and presentation.

17. AW NRM and APY Executive - MoU Preparation Discussion

Presiding Member, Parry Agius

Parry Agius introduced the item for the AW NRM Board to provide consideration to the development of a Memorandum of Understanding or 'Promise' document between AW NRM Board and APY Executive.

Discussions amongst the Board included:

- what do AW NRM Board want to share/talk about/discuss with APY Executive
- NRM programs in APY
- APY and AW NRM shared visions and purpose
- Targets/Strategies
- Development of partnership/relationship
- Governance
- Long-term sustainable future

The successful meeting was conducted following the AW NRM Board Meeting, and resulted in the following outcomes:

- The AW NRM Board and APY Executive decided an agreement between the two parties be drafted for further discussion and review
- The two parties agree to meet three times yearly for discussions
- NR AW Regional Manager and APY General Manager to support the Board in building 'One Story', develop an Action Plan, and coordinate a communication and engagement strategy for communities and other stakeholders.

18. Update on Water Planning

Paul Dalby, Water Planning

Paul Dalby provided an update to the Board on developments relating to water planning including:

- Water permit process with APY Executive, Government, and AW
- Proposal currently with APY for mining camp – more information is still required, however the Board will be kept informed on progress
- Groundwater study (APY Region) is nearing conclusion. Draft report is available and indicates 2mm recharge rate in APY. The report will be useful for considering future applications for use of groundwater and will be supplied to the Board upon its release

Matthew Ward advised it was agreed at the **AW NRM Board Regional Water Strategy and Planning Committee** meeting (held 6 March 2014), that AW NRM would utilise the SAAL permit process.

19. Communications – Key Messages

Refer to Summary of Meeting # 43

20. Other Business

1. Authorised Officer to AW NRM Board – Dan Bailey

Neil Collins provided recommendation to the Board to consider endorsing Dan Bailey (NR AW Sustainable Resource Coordinator) as Authorised Officer to the Board. Neil advised there was a requirement under the Act for the Board to have at least one Authorised Officer.

Presiding Member, Parry Agius endorsed the recommendation and signed the *Instrument of Appointment* in the presence of the Board.

2. Board Member Replacement

Brian Queama queried process and options available to the Board for member replacement.

Action: Matthew Ward to contact the Minister's office to confirm process for replacing Board members.

21. Meeting Close & Next Meeting

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 3.50pm on Wednesday 12th February, 2014.

- The next AW NRM Board meeting will be held:

Monday 2nd and Wednesday 4th June, 2014 in Adelaide
(Tuesday 3rd June reserved for Board member training)

Draft Minutes reviewed by Presiding Member:



Date:

26 / 5 / 2014