Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING No.104
Held on Tuesday 22 October 2019 at 0930
Natural Resources Centre, 50b McKenzie St, Ceduna

EPNRM Board
Mark Whitfield (Presiding Member), Diana Laube, Justine Major, Simon Clark and Mark Dennis

Natural Resources Eyre Peninsula (NREP) and Dept. Environment and Water (DEW) Staff
Jonathan Clark, Regional NRM Manager; Jackie Green, Executive Assistant; Susan Stovell, Manager, Planning and Engagement; Seb Drewer, NRM Operations Manager; Birgitte Sorensen, A/Manager Water Planning and Security, (0940 – 1015); Tammy Cox, Ranger (1015 -1040); Liz McTaggart, Senior Natural Resource Management Officer (1230 – 1330); Andrew Sleep, NRM Officer (1230 - 1330); Tayla Westley, Ranger (1230 - 1330)

Presenters
Birgitte Sorensen, A/Manager Water Planning and Security, Dept. Environment and Water

Tammy Cox, Ranger, Dept. Environment and Water

Gallery
Craig Cooke (0935 – 1115)
Elected members and CEO of the District Council of Ceduna 1230 1330
• Geoff Moffatt, CEO
• Joyce Brewster, Councilor
• Robbie Sleep, Councilor
• Peter Codrington, Councilor

1. OPENING

1.1 Welcome
The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 0930 and welcomed those in attendance to meeting #104 of the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board. (the Board)

1.2 Apologies
Meagan Turner, Eyre Peninsula NRM Board Member; and Diana Mislov, A/Manager Business Support

1.3 Declaration of Interest (Arising from Agenda Items)
Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Previous Meetings
The draft minutes of Eyre Peninsula NRM Board Meeting No 103, held on 27 August 2019 were provided for formal endorsement.

Recommendation 104:1.4
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula NRM Board accepts the minutes of meeting No.103 held on 27 August 2019 as a true and accurate record of the business conducted at that meeting.
Moved: Diana Laube  
Second: Simon Clark  
Outcome: Carried

1.5 Review of Action List  
The list of action items arising from the previous Board Meeting was provided for information.

Recommendation 104:1.5  
That the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board notes the status of Board action items.  
Resolved

2. DEPUTATIONS

2.1 Water Security on Eyre Peninsula Project, Stage 2  
Birgitte Sorensen reported that the Board undertook a project in 2017 to investigate options for regulating water take from non-prescribed areas on the Eyre Peninsula in recognition of emerging industries and increasing demand for water from the non-prescribed areas.

Birgitte advised that the outcome of the investigation was presented to the Board in June 2018 and highlighted that there are limited options in the current legislation to adequately manage water take in non-prescribed areas that is not so time and resource intensive as required under the process for prescription. The report identified that fit-for-purpose management of non-prescribed water resources could be achieved with significant regulatory reforms.

Birgitte further reported that the Board agreed to further investigate one of the options identified in the project for an effective middle level water management tool for a less intensive approach to water management than prescription while also providing a level of certainty for water users and DEW was engaged to undertake the investigation and development of the draft report Management of Non-Prescribed Water Resources.

The draft report proposes a fit-for-purpose level 2 middle water management option which aligns with the current government’s desire for modern, strategic and outcomes-based regulation while reflecting the principles of cost-efficiency, accountability, equitability, transparency and avoiding unnecessary red tape in the way resources are managed.

It is proposed that the level 2 water management is based on a risk management approach where authorisations would be required for water take that is above a specified threshold volume, depending on the nature of the resource, demand for water and potential impact on existing users and/or water depending ecosystems. The meeting noted that there would also be a requirement to meet principles for buffers for the location of take.

It was noted that this matter would be further addressed at Eyre Peninsula NRM Board meeting #105 to allow the members’ time to review the report.

2.2 Dept. Environment and Water  
Tammy Cox provided the meeting with a presentation and highlighted the following objectives and projects in the region.

- Strengthen knowledge of country
- Enough healthy food
- Camel management
- Feral predator managements
- Visitor Management
- Fire Management
- Buffel grass eradication
- Creating employment opportunities
- Good water
The meeting noted the volume of work being undertaken in the region and commended the local staff.

3. STRATEGIC MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/ENDORSEMENT

3.1 Carryover approval and grants program
A briefing paper inviting the Natural Resources Management Board to consider how carryover funding from 2018-19 will be utilised this financial year (subject to treasury approval) and to seek Board endorsement of the proposed funding allocations. The Manager, Planning and Engagement reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:3.1
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula NRM Board approve the amount of $200,000, from carryover from 2018-19, to be used for various grants programs, as detailed in table 2, subject to treasury approval.

Moved: Diana Laube
Second: Justine Major
Outcome: Carried

3.2 EP NRMB Annual Strategic Work Plan
A briefing paper inviting the Natural Resources Management Board to monitor progress against the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board (EPNRM) strategic work plan for 2019/20 was provided. The Regional NRM Manager reported to the paper as presented and guided the meet The Board’s work plan for 2019/20. It was noted that the Board could further contribute to the Landscapes reform consultation process by providing further input as/if other opportunities arise. The meeting noted that the Board might consider options for developing advice for how key NRM reform principles can be adopted for the Eyre Peninsula.

Action 1. Prepare a briefing paper around a grass roots grants and landscape priorities fund programs.
   2. Prepare a briefing paper around partnership priorities.
   3. Prepare a briefing paper around back-to-basics delivery.

Recommendation 104:3.2
The Eyre Peninsula NRM Board note progress on the strategic priorities
Resolved

3.3 Soils CRC Landholder survey
A briefing paper to update the Natural Resources Management Board on the Soils CRC Survey of farming practices project and seek their support to partner with the Soils CRC and contribute funding to assist with project delivery costs was provided. The Manager, Planning and Engagement reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:3.3
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board;
1. become a partner to the Soils CRC Survey of farming practices project, in collaboration with EPARF and LEADA, and that
2. the contribution of $10,000 to the project to assist in covering survey costs, subject to treasury approval of carry forward funding.

Moved: Diana Laube
Second: Mark Dennis
Outcome: Carried

4. PROCEDURAL MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/ENDORSEMENT

4.1 Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board Financial Performance report.
A copy of the financial report for the financial period ending September 2019 was provided. The Regional NRM Manager reported to the paper as presented.

**Recommendation 104:4.1**

*Motion:* The Eyre Peninsula NRM Board resolves to receive the financial report as presented for September 2019.

*Moved:* Justine Major  
*Second:* Diana Laube  
*Outcome:* Carried

**4.2 Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board Risk Table**  
A briefing paper inviting the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board to assesses the risks and controls and discusses and suggested updates or amendments was provided. The Regional NRM Manager reported to the paper as presented and highlighted some actions and considerations for discussion at the meeting.

With respect to risk 1 regarding stakeholders, the inclusion of the adoption of the Aboriginal Engagement Plan as a treatment action relevant to engagement with Aboriginal stakeholders.

With respect to risk 2 regarding preparedness for drought and other emergencies, a recent meeting held between the CEOs of EPLGA, RDA WEP and EPRNM to discuss drought governance and strategy for Eyre Peninsula.

With respect to risk 3 regarding water security and management, the completion of a draft report considering water reform options for management of non-prescribed water resources.

With respect to risk 4 regarding loss of experienced and well-networked staff, considering the risks or otherwise associated with the upcoming (2020/21) review of the Eyre Peninsula Water Allocation Plan and the potential dependence of key locally and centrally based DEW staff with critical intellectual property (could be considered as a new risk).

Consideration if a new risk is required identifying the preparedness or otherwise of the regional NRM Board business for effective transition to a new Landscape Board.

In addition to the risk table, the Regional NRM Manager noted that at the Board’s last Risk and Audit committee meeting the committee recommended a ‘risk appetite statement’ be prepared for the NRM Board. It was reported that this suggestion has not been progressed at this stage due largely to the fact that this will be an important consideration for new Landscape Boards and that the EP NRM Board may only be in operation for another 6 months.

The meeting discussed the development of a risk appetite statement and agreed that a draft statement be presented at their December meeting for consideration, subject to the outcome of the reform process, if the NRM Board continues.

**Action 1.** The matter of risk management / risk appetite will be raised with the Director of Landscape Services  
2. The matter of risk management / risk appetite will be raised with the Council of Presiding Members  
3. Prepare a risk appetite statement, subject to the outcome of the reform process, if the NRM Board continues.

**Recommendation 104:4.2**

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board;  
1. Note actions taken to address controls;  
2. Accept the risk controls identified for each of the risks;  
3. Note and accept the residual risk; and  
4. Identify any new risks that have arisen

*Resolved*
4.3 Items & recommendations arising from Natural Resources Management Board Committee Meetings

Nil

4.4 Seasonal Outlook / Update

The NRM Operations Manager provided the meeting with a verbal update and highlighted the following points of interest;

- Eyre Peninsula received average to excellent rainfall events in the third week of September with Kyancutta receiving the highest recording of 49.3mm. Temperatures were warmer than average across the region.
- This rain will help late crops to fill seed heads however it is too late for many crops and pastures. As many cereal and legume crops have been affected by lack moisture through July, August and early September.
- Cereals have suffered from mild to extensive frost damage across Eyre Peninsula. Many of these paddocks are being cut for hay across Eyre Peninsula with some paddocks cut and bales already.
- Some pasture paddocks, particularly vetch are looking magnificent.
- All crops on lower Eyre Peninsula are looking fantastic with predicted record harvests considering the rainfall.
- Stored subsoil moisture increased in central Eyre Peninsula were the highest rainfalls were recorded however in other areas it is significantly dryer.
- Farmers are preparing to harvest cereals in some areas. Some cereals, particularly barley are only 10cm in height or very thin and once harvested will have little stubble to maintain soil cover through to next season.
- At this time there is adequate surface cover across the region with a few sandy rises and paddocks drifting particularly after the weather conditions of last weekend.
- Non-wetting sandy rises and later-sown paddocks in the Cleve and Franklin Harbour districts (which did not receive much rainfall earlier) were slow to establish and are still vulnerable to erosion.
- Concerns have been raised in regards to the lack of financial readiness for the closure of this season and plans to priorities how they will establish a crop next year. Tools such as soil testing are not being used to assist in the decisions making processes.
- Stock numbers remain low across the district.
- The Ag bureaus and farming groups have finished their sticky beak days for the spring season with good attendance at all events.
- The Board's current and planned response is to ensure meaningful support through providing a range of extension services to landholders to assist them manage drought impacts. NREP staff are working closely with PIRSA to organise and deliver these services which include;
  - Providing individual landholders with advice and information on best practice management techniques on stock management and confinement feeding, emergency tillage options and longer term sustainable land management options such as revegetation, establishment of perennial fodder and improving soil. A range of information sheets and case studies on farming during dry times is being made available to landholders.
  - NRM officers are currently working with affected landholders to address significantly impacted areas. This includes assisting landholders in developing plans for short term remedial action to prevent further soil degradation and contingency plans to prepare for future dry seasons.
  - Providing temporary electric fencing units to landholders to assist in maintaining cover on fragile sites or keep stock off sites so that cover can be established at no cost to the landholder. NREP has invested in a further four temporary electric fencing units which are being offered to landholders in need, on a loan basis and are now available.

4.5 Landscape SA legislation reform

The Regional NRM Manager provided the meeting with an update on the progress of the Landscape SA legislation and noted 3 key amendments in the legislation, boundaries, NRM levy collection and election dates.

Action: The Regional Manager will advise Members of the outcome of the
Landscape SA legislation.

4.6 Inundation mapping web application
A briefing paper to update the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board about the progress made towards creating an inundation mapping web application that will be available to the public and to request $8,650 to contribute towards its development was provided. The Manager, Planning and Engagement reported to the paper as presented. The meeting noted that additional information will be presented at Eyre Peninsula NRM Board meeting No 105 in December 2019.

Action: Prepare a briefing paper around the risks associated with releasing the inundation tool.

Recommendation 104:4.6
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board
1. Note the information provided in this briefing; and
2. Approve the expenditure of $8,650, from carry over EPICCA funding, subject to Treasury approval, to contribute towards the inundation mapping web application.

Moved: Justine Major
Second: Diana Laube
Outcome: Carried

4.7 1st ¼ SLA progress report
A briefing paper for the Natural Resources Management Board to discuss and note the 1st Quarter Progress Report on implementation of services as indicated in Service Schedule 3 of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for 2019-20 was provided. The Regional Manager reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:4.7
The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board notes the achievements in delivery of activities as outlined in Service Schedule 3 for 2018-19 and approves the release of the NREP Quarterly Report to key stakeholders.

Resolved

4.8 Eyre Peninsula NRM Board meeting schedule 2019 – 2021
A briefing paper inviting the Board members to consider amendments to the meeting schedule for 2020 and 2021 was provided. The Regional NRM Manager reported to the paper as presented. The meeting discussed the various impacts of the proposal for ¼ board meetings, including media engagement.

Recommendation 104:4.8
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board consider and approve the proposed meeting schedule, effective February 2020 as presented.

Moved: Diana Laube
Second: Simon Clark
Outcome: Carried

4.9 Instruments of Delegation for functions under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004
A briefing paper advising the Board that the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 outlines the functions and powers assigned to Natural Resources Management Boards. Under sections 193 - 199 of the Natural Resources Management Act 2004, the Board can delegate selected functions and powers to be carried out on their behalf. While sections 194 and 196 can be performed by an authorised officer (in accordance with the Natural Resources Management Act 2004), there is also scope for them to be undertaken by “another person authorised by the
relevant authority for the purpose” was provided. The NRM Operations Manager Reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:4.9
Motion: The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board
1. That the Board delegates its powers under Chapter 9, Part 1 (Orders issued by NRM Authorities) of the NRM Act 2004 to the Regional NRM Manager, Eyre Peninsula and NRM Operations Manager;
2. That the Board delegates its powers under Chapter 9, Part 1 (Orders issued by NRM Authorities) of the NRM Act 2004 to the NRM Operations Manager, Section 193 (1) (6) (7) (8);
3. That the Board delegates its powers pursuant to Section 193 of the NRM Act 2004 as detailed on the attached Instrument of Delegations; and
4. Authorise the affixing of the common seal to the Instruments of Delegation

Moved: Simon Clark
Second: Justine Major
Outcome: Carried

4.10 EPLGA Corporate Sponsorship
A briefing paper advising the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board that Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association (EPLGA) is offering sponsorship packages for the 2020 EPLGA conference to be held in Wudinna on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 February 2020 was provided. The Regional NRM Manger reported to the paper as presented. Following extensive discussion the Board agreed that there would be no sponsorship of the 2020 Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association Conference

Recommendation 104:4.10
The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board review the 2020 Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association Conference sponsorship prospectus and select a level of sponsorship; no sponsorship of the 2020 Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association Conference

Resolved

A briefing paper requesting that the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board conduct an out of session endorsement of the 2018 – 19 Annual Report Package was provided. The Regional Manager reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:4.11
Motion: That the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board note that the Board will be required to conduct as out of session endorsement the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board 2018 – 19 Annual Report Package so as to ensure that the report can be forwarded to the Minister by the due date as required.

Moved: Diana Laube
Second: Simon Clark
Outcome: Carried

4.12 PIRSA Directions Paper for new Biosecurity Act
A briefing paper inviting the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board to note the information provided concerning the new Biosecurity Act and proposed changes that affect the Natural Resources Management (NRM) Act 2004 and approve the draft letter to PIRSA providing comment from the Board was provided. The Regional NRM Manager reported to the paper as presented. The meeting noted that the Presiding Member will make some amendments to the draft letter to PIRSA.
Recommendation 104:4.12
That the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board note the information provided in this briefing.

Resolved

4.13 PIRSA Aquaculture policy
A briefing paper inviting the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board note the information provided below in this briefing paper concerning the new Draft Aquaculture Policy and approve the draft letter to PIRSA providing comment from the Board was provided. The Manager, Planning and Engagement reported to the paper as presented.

Recommendation 104:4.13
That the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board notes the information provided in this briefing and approve the draft letter to PIRSA providing comment from the Board to be sent.

Resolved

At 1230 the meeting broke for lunch with staff and elected members of the District Council of Ceduna for a presentation by Liz McTaggart, Senior Natural Resource Management Officer; Andrew Sleep, NRM Officer; and Tayla Westley, Ranger, who highlighted activities in the region regarding pest plant & animal management, aboriginal engagement, water, coast and marine and native vegetation, sustainable agriculture and upcoming projects. The meeting reconvened at 1335.

5. PAPERS FOR NOTING
Copies of the agenda items relating to papers for noting were provided.

5.1 Presiding Member report
The Regional NRM Manager thanked the Presiding Member for his invaluable contributions at the recent opening of the NLP Shorebirds Project at Pt Neill and the presentation to the Natural Resources Committee of Parliament Off Road Vehicle Inquiry.

5.2 Regional NRM Manager report
5.3 Regional Intelligence Reports
5.4 Eyre Peninsula NRM Board Governance Schedule
5.5 Executed Contracts of the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board
5.6 Communications and Media report
5.7 Eyre Peninsula NRM Board Advisory Committee Minutes – Nil
5.8 Ag Innovation and Research EP

Action: update the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board Governance schedule to reflect new meeting schedule

Recommendation 104:5
The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board resolve to note the Papers for Noting as presented.

Resolved

6. CORRESPONDENCE
Copies of the agenda items relating to correspondence were provided.

6.1 Correspondence inward
6.1.1 Ref 102:4.8 Wild Dog Trapper Program
6.1.2 Ref 104:4.13 PIRSA Aquaculture policy

6.2 Correspondence outward
6.2.1 Ref 103:4.12 off road vehicle inquiry response
6.2.2 Ref 103:4.11 Gorse eradication
6.2.3 Ref 103:2.1.2 Policy options for feral goat management in pastoral areas
6.2.4 Ref 103:1.2.1 SA Wild Dog policy
6.2.5 Development Plan Amendment
Recommendation 104:6
The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board resolve to note the Correspondence as presented.

Resolved

7. NEXT MEETING & ONGOING SCHEDULE
7.1 Meeting Schedule 2017/20
A schedule of upcoming Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board and Committee meetings for 2018/20 is provided for information.

The next Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board meeting (#105) is scheduled for Tuesday 17 December 2019 in Port Lincoln.

The meeting noted that Eyre Peninsula NRM Board meeting No106 coincided with the EPLGA conference in Wudinna on 25 February 2020, so it was agreed that meeting No 106 would occur on Tuesday 18 February 2020 in Whyalla.

8. REVIEW OF MEETING

8.1 Summary of actions
The Executive Assistant provided the meeting with a summary of the action items.

8.2 Feedback on meeting structure, content and process
Nil

8.3 Board Claims and Administration Items
The Presiding Member reminded members to complete their claim forms.

9. CLOSE
With there being no further business to discuss The Presiding Member thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution and declared the meeting closed at 1445.