

Coast Protection Board

Minutes of Meeting 514

Date: 28 March 2025

Time: 9:30am–12:00pm

Location: DEW 81-95 Waymouth St, Adelaide, Meeting rooms 10.5 & 10.6

Welcome and Acknowledgement

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 9.30am with an Acknowledgment of Country and recognised a quorum. The Board accepted the agenda and noted where decisions were required.

2. Administration

2.1 Introductions & Apologies

Board Members

Mr Paul Caica

Professor Bronwyn Gillanders

Professor Beverley Clarke

Mr James Buder

Secretary to the Board

Mr David Osborn (Manager, Coast)

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Staff

Ms Mary-Anne Healy (Director Climate Change, Flood Risk and Coast)

Ms Robyn Morcom (A/Senior Policy Officer)

Mr. Dylan Stone, (Coastal Scientific Officer), (Item 4.1)

Mr Daniel Walton (A/Senior Planner), (Item 5.3)

Ms Shangchen Sun (Project Officer – Board Secretariat & Grants, Coast) (minute taker)

Ms Olivia D'Arienzo (Business Support Officer, Coast)

Apologies

Ms Kathryn Galpin

2.2 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Bronwyn Gillanders declared a potential conflict of interest regarding the request for extra funding for the Kangaroo Island Saltmarsh Survey Profiles, noting the involvement of her colleagues at the University.

2.3 Minutes

2.3.1 Confirmation of Minutes

The draft minutes of Meeting 513, held on 14 February 2025, were received by the Board.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the minutes of Meeting 513 held on 14 February 2025.

2.3.2 Business Arising Meeting Action Report

It was noted that the recent workshop and further upcoming workshops on the policy/strategy review will be discussed during the meeting. Similarly, upcoming field trips will be discussed. The significant developments report has been updated. Board Delegations will also be discussed but not decided at the present meeting.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Action Items from Meeting 513 held on 14 February 2025.

2.3.3 Note Key Outcomes Statement

The Key Outcomes Statement from the 14 February 2025 Board meeting was tabled for noting.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Key Outcomes Statement from 14 February 2025.

2.4 Metro & Regional Field Trip

At the previous Board meeting the Board had discussed two field trips, a single-day Metropolitan coast visit, and an overnight visit to the South East. The meeting noted the out-of-session polling for potential dates for the South East trip, and the date of 16 May was proposed for the metropolitan field trip in order for Board to observe sand pumping operations. The Board approved the dates of Friday, 16 May for the metro visit and Wednesday, 29 October to Friday, 31 October for the South East visit. Bronwyn Gillanders will be a likely apology for the field trip in October.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the field trip dates 16 May for metropolitan coast and 29-31 October for South East trip.

2.5 Draft Autumn Newsletter**The Board resolved to:**

Approve the draft Autumn newsletter noting minor edits to be made prior to circulation.

3. Strategy and Policy**3.1 Emerging Issues**

The Board discussed the importance of ensuring the safety of DEW Coast Unit staff and contractors, acknowledging the increasing challenges faced by workers, including incidents of community aggression. It was emphasized that protecting staff is critical for maintaining effective coastal management operations, and the Board requested that staff be informed that they and their efforts are valued by the Board. Training and support for both staff and contractors in managing difficult situations was discussed. The Board also recognized the need for community engagement initiatives to foster understanding and support for coastal management efforts.

The Board resolved to:

Note emerging issues.

3.2 Policy & Strategy Review Update

A policy and strategy review was conducted at a workshop on 21 March 2025 to assess the alignment of current actions with long-term coastal management goals, identifying gaps between vision and execution. A preliminary strategy framework will be developed, incorporating references to national policies and initiatives, and reviewed at the next meeting. A further workshop in late May will refine priorities. The Board also discussed its role in advocating for a State Coastal Strategy and the need for better coordination among agencies to enhance coastal resilience.

The Outward Vision Statement was discussed and agreed upon, stating: 'South Australia's coast is protected, restored and enhanced to foster resilience and support thriving ecosystems and wellbeing of communities.'

The Inward Vision Statement was also discussed and agreed upon, stating: 'The Board provides strategic leadership to foster integrated coastal management, purposeful management of the coast, and the provision of evidence-based advice and information.'

The Board agreed upon its four key roles, namely Leader, Manager, Regulator and Advisor.

The Board's role as a Manager was agreed upon, stating: 'The Board takes action to protect and manage the coast.'

The Advisor's Role was agreed upon, stating: 'The Board provides evidence-based advice and information to guide decision-making.'

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the progress on the CPB policy review and strategic priorities*

***Approve** the Vision Statements and the Roles.*

3.3 Coast Protection (Significant Works) Amendment Bill 2024

The Bill is still before Parliament for debate.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the progress on the Amendment Bill.*

3.4 Board Delegations

Board Delegations were signed most recently in 2021. Board members were invited to review details of current delegations and provide feedback to Coast Unit. Revised delegations will be tabled as a paper at Meeting 515 for approval.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the types of Board delegations*

***Note** the current delegations and the timeframe for reviewing Board delegations and support services provided by the Department.*

***Approve** inclusion of an agenda item at 9 May 2025 meeting to discuss any required updates to the delegations and support services.*

4. Engagement and Communications

4.1 Presentation – Beach Operations Team

Dylan Stone provided an update on the management of sand along metropolitan beaches. The strategic objective of maintaining 80 cubic meters of sand per linear meter above 1m AHD of shoreline remains a priority to enhance coastal resilience against storm events. Sand management efforts continue to be guided by over 50 years of shoreline data and the Living Beaches Strategy (2005), ensuring an evidence-based approach. A localized "cell" approach has been adopted to optimize adaptation strategies. This presentation precedes the scheduled field tour on 16 May, where the board members will observe these management strategies in practice.

The Board resolved to:

Note the presentation from the beach operation team.

4.2 Relationships Radar

The Board resolved to:

Consider merge agenda item relationship radar with the emerging issues (item 3.1) for future meetings.

4.3 Correspondence and Media Reports

4.3.1 Correspondence

The Board discussed various items of correspondence.

The Board resolved to:

Note the correspondence report.

4.3.2 Traditional and social media

The Board resolved to:

Note the media summary provided.

5. Operations

5.1 Manager's Report

Mr Osborn reported on the work of the unit in supporting the Board and flagged the ongoing challenges of staffing shortages and changes within the Coast Unit.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Manager's Report.

5.2 Coastal Operations Report

The Board resolved to:

Note the Coastal Operations Report.

5.3 Planning and Development Report

5.3.1 Report on DA responses

5.3.2 Significant Development Proposals

One refusal had been issued for period since last meeting on the basis of sea level rise policy.

The Kangaroo Island cliffs proposal was discussed, which had undergone a change in ownership. The board expressed concerns about how the new ownership might impact the project's compliance with existing coastal protection provisions. Additionally, a proposal to relocate approved accommodation units to a new area was mentioned, and further assessment was pending.

The Northern Water Project at Cape Hardy was briefly discussed.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Development Applications Activity Report

Note the Significant Development Proposals.

6. Budget and Finance

6.1 Finance Report

The Board was informed about the potential underspend for current financial period. The estimated underspend to the end of financial year in the range of \$140,000 – \$160,000.

Three proposals to utilise the underspend were tabled:

1. Climate Ready Coast Program: Continue supporting Climate Ready Coasts Program through the provision of \$80,000 for the Coastal Adaptation Assurance Function in the first year, and up to \$60,000 per year for three years thereafter.
2. Kangaroo Island Blue Carbon Project: \$5,000 was requested to support data analysis from recent surveys, with an additional \$20,000 to fund blue carbon core analysis to better understand the environmental role of salt marshes in coastal protection. Bronwyn Gillanders abstained from voting and discussion due to the potential Conflict of Interest.
3. Hydrodynamic Modelling for Port Adelaide: \$23,000 was requested to further develop the current model to take into account ground-truthed coastal barriers that have been identified, and to re-run the model for accuracy. This model informs CHAPs and other significant matters.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Finance Report.

Approved the funding for the three proposals

6.2 2025-26 Grant Guidelines, Application Forms, Assessment Criteria and Approvals Processes

The Board aims to open grant applications earlier in the financial year to facilitate council planning. It was proposed that applications open on 2 June and close on 1 August. The Board would proceed under the assumption that funding levels will be similar to the previous year, despite potential changes in state government budget appropriations.

Some changes were made to the application forms to clarify in-kind funding contributions, including whether councils are contributing cash or only in-kind support. The Board clarified the eligibility criteria to state that the Board cannot support works on private property. A fourth criterion for assessment is proposed: Value for money, which will consider the cost-effectiveness of projects by dividing program dollars by the benefit score.

The Board seeks to increase participation by reaching out directly to councils that have not previously applied. There was a proposal for a letter from the presiding member to all councils encouraging applications and promoting community group involvement.

The adoption of SmartyGrants to manage the grants process will reduce a heavy hard copy, aiming for improved efficiency.

Bronwyn Gillanders left at 12:15 PM.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the guidelines, application forms, and approval processes for the:

- i) 2025-26 Coast Protection Grant Program;
- ii) 2025-26 Community Participation Grant Program.

Note the assessment criteria for the:

- i) 2025-26 Coast Protection Grant Program;
- ii) 2025-26 Community Participation Grant Program.

7. Any Other Business

8. Topics for Minister for Climate, Environment & Water

9. Statement of Key Outcomes

10. Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, 9 May

Meeting closed at 12:20pm.



Presiding Member of the Coast Protection Board

Date: