Coast Protection Board

Minutes of Meeting 524

Date: 17 September 2026
Time: 15:00-17:00
Location: Aquarium Meeting Room, DEW Kangaroo Island Regional Office

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 14:27 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
Hon Paul Caica, Presiding Member
Professor Beverley Clarke
Mr James Buder
Ms Kathryn Galpin
Mr Leith Blacker

Department for Environment and Water Staff
Dr Matt Ward, A/Executive Director, Biodiversity and Nature Economy
Dr Nicole Pelton, Manager Coasts
Mr Glenn Searle, Team Leader Coastal Planning
Ms Courtney Schupp, Team Leader Coastal Science and Monitoring
Ms Alison Turner, Coastal Data Coordinator
Ms Tanya Rosewarne, Coast & Marine Officer
Ms Zeljka Danilovic, Senior Policy Officer (online)
Mr Rizwan Mahmood, Senior Policy Officer (online)
Ms Apple Sun, Project Officer Board Secretariat & Grants (online)
Mr Kym Gerner, Senior Coast and River Planner (online - Item 4.3)

Apologies
Professor Bronwyn Gillanders, Board Member

Guests
Mr Will Durack, General Manager, Kangaroo Island Landscape Board (Item 3.3)

2.2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.3 Confirmation of Meeting 523 Minutes and Actions

2.3.1 Minutes from Meeting 523

The draft minutes of Meeting 523 held on held on 26 June 2026 were received by the Board.

The Board resolved to:

Approve *the minutes of Meeting 523 held on 26 June 2026.*

2.3.2 Key Outcomes Statement

The Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 523 held on 26 June 2026 was tabled.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 523 held on 26 June 2026.*

2.3.3 Action Items Register

Board Members reviewed the Action Items Register and noted that some action items are on hold awaiting appointment of Team Leader, Coastal Policy and Governance.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Action Items Register.*

3. Engagement and Communications

3.1 Emerging Issues and Relationships

3.1.1 DEW Executive Updates

Dr Matthew Ward, A/Executive Director, Biodiversity and Nature Economy, provided an update on DEW's preparedness activities for bird flu and the progress of the metropolitan Adelaide sand replenishment program. He also advised that discussions at the national level were continuing regarding responses to harmful algal blooms and environmental law reform, and that DEW was finalising reports on the marine impacts of the algal bloom event for Government consideration.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the update provided by the A/Executive Director, Biodiversity and Nature Economy.*

3.1.2 Board Member Updates

The Presiding Member proposed that the Board take a coordinated role in discussions with relevant stakeholders regarding the Barker Inlet Tidal Gates. The Board discussed opportunities to seek external funding through future Commonwealth grant funding programs, and noted the potential benefits of a coordinated, intergovernmental approach to support planning and implementation.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Presiding Member's briefing on Barker Inlet Tidal Gates.*

Action: *Coasts Unit to work with the Stormwater Management Authority to develop a proposal to fund replacement of the Barker Inlet Tidal Gates.*

3.2 Correspondence, Newsletters and Media

The Board resolved to:

Note *correspondence, newsletters and media for the period 18 June-3 September 2026.*

3.3 Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Presentation

Will Durack, General Manager of the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board, presented on key Landscape Board conservation programs such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo Recovery Program, oyster reef restoration projects, Little Penguin conservation initiatives, and coast and marine monitoring programs.

The Board discussed opportunities to strengthen collaboration and information sharing between Board and Unit staff to support more integrated and aligned activities.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the presentation by the General Manager Kangaroo Island Landscape Board.*

4. Governance, Policy and Planning

4.1 Draft 2025-26 Annual Report

The Board reviewed the draft Annual Report and noted some errors requiring amendment.

The Board resolved to:

Request *minor amendments to the Annual Report and re-circulation for approval.*

Action *DEW to amend the 2025-26 Draft Annual Report to incorporate Board feedback, including corrections to agency information, performance measures and governance content.*

4.2 Coast Protection Board Instruments of Delegation and Authorisation

The Board reviewed the Instruments of Delegation and Authorisation updated to reflect organisational structure and personnel changes. The Board sought clarification on the appointment of the Secretary provided under the *Coast Protection Act 1972*, and the relationship to the Manager Coasts role.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Ministerial appointment of the Manager Coasts position to the statutory role of the Secretary.*
Approve *revised instruments of delegation and authorisation, including financial authorisations.*

Action *DEW to seek Minister approval for updated instrument of delegation and authorisation.*

4.3 Planning & Development

Mr Glenn Searle, Team Leader Coastal Planning, provided an overview of development activity and significant proposals during the reporting period.
Mr Kym Gerner, Senior Coast and River Planner, updated members about the proposed motor sport facility at Tumby Bay and associated environmental management, compliance, and coastal planning considerations.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Development Activity & Significant Proposals Update for 1 June - 31 July 2026.*

5. Coast Unit Business & Operations

5.1 Manager's Report

Dr Nicole Pelton provided an update on Coast Unit business and operations. The Board welcomed Mr Glenn Searle to his first meeting as Team Leader Coastal Planning, and was pleased Ms Zeljka Danilovic is returning to the Coasts Unit acting in the role of Senior Policy Officer from 21 September 2026.

Dr Pelton provided an update on progress in a priority reform area regarding improvement of coastal data acquisition, quality control, management and accessibility for hazard risk assessment and evidence-based decision making. The program involves collaboration across the Biodiveristy Science, Coasts and Information Branch. The initiative includes the recruitment of two coastal data analyst positions into the Climate Science Team to develop local coastal hazard risk information, and the secondment of experienced Coast and Marine Officer, Ms Alison Turner, to the role of Coastal Data Coordinator in the Geospatial and Environmental Data Unit to undertake a coastal data audit and develop a comprehensive coastal data governance and management framework.

Dr Pelton also noted that initial scoping work was underway with respect to the Government's election commitment to review coast protection frameworks.

The Board resolved to:

Note *the Manager's Report.*

Action *DEW to provide Board members with an updated organisational chart.*

6. CPB Finance

6.1 Proposed Coast Protection Grant Program 2026-27

Dr Nicole Pelton presented the proposed Coast Protection Grant Program 2026-27. The Board discussed opportunities to strengthen alignment between their long-standing annual grant program and support for coastal councils undertaking Coastal Hazard Adaptation Planning (CHAP), including the value in streamlining the assessment process and advancing proposals that implement actions arising from an approved CHAP.

The Board resolved to:

Approve *allocation of $1 million of budget to the 2026-27 Coast Protection Grant Program.*
Approve *the simplified application and assessment process and proposed timeframes for the 2026-27 Coast Protection Grant Program, including the updated Grant Guidelines and new Expression of Interest form.*

Action *DEW to progress release of the 2026-27 Coast Protection Grant Program, including Ministerial briefing and opportunity to announce grant opening.*

7. Any Other Business

Mr James Buder advised that the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) is undertaking work that seeks to amend the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure (General) Regulations 2017* to exempt government-run maintenance dredging from requiring a Development Application.

8. Summary of Meeting 524

8.1 Communique for Minister for Climate, Environment & Water

- CPB Kangaroo Island field visit
- Approval of revised Coast Protection Board Instruments of Delegation and Authorisation
- 2026-27 Coast Protection Grant Program

9. Next Meeting

Meeting 525 - Friday 23 October 2026.

Meeting closed at 17:00.

Presiding Member of the Coast Protection Board

Date: 23.10.26