

MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LANDSCAPE BOARD

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water we live and work upon, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and respect the deep spiritual connection and relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country.

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 8-21			
Date: 23 September 2021			
Start Times:	9.30am		
Location:	Murray Bridge	Room:	Rural City of Murray Bridge Council offices, Mobilong Suite.
Present	<p>Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Jim Godden, Sandy Iosefellis, Caroline Phillips, Jason Size</p> <p>Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), Denise Fowles for items 1-4 (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Helene Norman (Executive Officer)</p> <p>Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee members: Roger Wickes (Chair), Andrew Hansen, Caroline Shaw, Lucy Kluge,</p> <p>Items 1-8: Don Plowman (Chair Water Advisory Committee)</p> <p>Items 5-8: Lyz Risby (Water Resources Manager, Brenton James (Water resources assessment officer),</p> <p>Item 7: Brenton Lewis (Mayor, Rural City of Murray Bridge), Michael Sedgman (CEO, Rural City of Murray Bridge)</p> <p>Item 9: Russell Norman (Senior District Officer) and Kylie Moritz (District Manager, Murraylands)</p>		
Apologies	Nil		

Item	Item Title
PUBLIC MEETING – 9.30am	
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and agenda check</p> <p>Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.30am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.</p> <p>Di introduced Don Plowman, Chair of the Water Advisory Committee and Roger Wickes, Chair of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee.</p>
2.	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>No further declarations</p>
3.	<p>Adoption of <u>Minutes from the previous meeting (7-21)</u> held 26 August 2021</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 7-21 held 26 August 2021.</i></p>

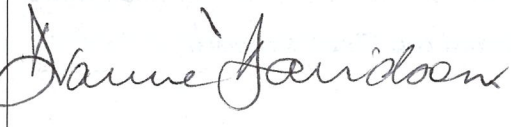
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4.	<p>Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCAC) – Roger Wickes</p> <p>Roger introduced members of the committee and their links to the communities in which they live, and provided a presentation detailing what the committee have been doing and would like to do, and the benefits of the committee.</p> <p>The Committees new Workplan will include LG forums, sustainable Ag Forum, Mallee WAP participation, Volunteer celebration, along with bringing new and emerging issues to the board.</p> <p>Current items of interest are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4WD and trail bikes damage on roadsides covered at recent LG forum– also an issue across the state, • Carbon Farming – looking at what this means for farmers • Regenerative farming (or Sustainable Agriculture) <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the inception of the landscape board, the committee is strictly an Advisory Committee, with the new focus of the committee to get important information to and from the landowners. • Leverage what the committee is learning • Important for the Landscape board to continue to repair the relationship with Local Government, and the LG forums need to have input/guidance from the GM • Expectations between the board and the committee, is it a doing group, or can you provide the board with good advice without doing things? When doing the 'doing', you are mixing with the community and getting the message out there. • Committee would like more feedback and clarity from the board, after providing the board with a report and recommendations. • Crucial for Denise Fowles and exec support to assist and provide the link to staff. • The partnership between the board and committee needs to have a coordinated approach. • Questioned where the LAP's fit in with the advisory committee? To date MCAC have been liaising with the Coorong LAP, and previously the Murray Mallee LAP. • Membership – looking at increasing membership • Questioned the possibility of bringing the committees, LAP,'s Landcare Groups together and have a facilitated discussion – share what they all do, and look at how they can all work in a coordinated manner. <p>ACTION: Andrew will follow up on the landholder brochure on website</p> <p>ACTION: Denise to follow up on Trail bike paper – to councils, back to attendees at the meeting, and to the MRLGA</p> <p>ACTION: Helane to ensure that the monthly GM report be provided to committees</p>
5.	<p>Mallee and Peake Roby Sherlock WAP amendments project plan</p> <p>The Water Resources Manager has prepared a project plan outlining the objectives, engagement approach and governance arrangements during the concurrent review of the Peake Roby Sherlock and Mallee Water Allocation plans. Emphasis will be given on engaging</p>

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	<p>with the local communities during the process, and there will be statutory consultation occurring by DEW when a draft has been completed. The proposed change to the project plan is to create a WAC subgroup to work with on the two WAPs.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the key features of the Mallee and Peake Roby Sherlock Water Allocation Plan Amendment Project Plan; and endorsed the Project Plan, noting the inclusion of an elevated risk profile as a result of efficiencies made with respect to reduce administrative support for the project team.</i></p>
12.	<p>Water Advisory Committee (WAC) - Don Plowman</p> <p>The WAC replaced a very large River Murray Advisory Committee as requested in the letter of commission to the Board. It is important for direction to be given, and committee to work through the board.</p> <p>Don reported on the following issues to be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aither report – need to define the parameters around carryover • Require some explicit advice around the WAPs (MS, Mallee, PRS), work with General Manager re what advice is being sought from the committee • Comment on the South Australian Water Security Statement, looking at it broadly and for the next 10 years, and what it is used for. • Consultation on Landscape Strategy – committee happy to provide advice on the rewritten strategy from a water point of view • Look at long term status of environmental assets, and how that informs water policy. • Water Literacy is also on the work program.
PUBLIC MEETING 11am	
Presentations	
6.	<p>Water Allocation Planning – Lyz Risby</p> <p>The Water Resources Manager provided a presentation giving an overview of the monetary benefits of irrigated water to the region, the prescribed water resources in the region, the Water allocation Plans and Water Affecting Activities Control Policies.</p>
7.	<p>Rural City of Murray Bridge</p> <p>Mayor Brenton Lewis welcomed the board to Rural City of Murray Bridge offices and stated that they enjoyed a fertile working relationship with the board staff.</p> <p>Michael Sedgman provided a presentation to the board on the Council's priorities and the work that was being done with regards to managing the natural landscapes around Murray Bridge, Sustainable Water use and issues around Healthy Rivers, Lakes and Wetlands.</p> <p>The Council and Board are important strategic partners, with the strategic plans between the two bodies aligning easily.</p> <p>Of major concern for the Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverbank Slumping and the need for a coordinated government approach to management and assessment of this matter • Roadside vegetation clearance issues • Little Corellas management problems <p>The Council would like to work in partnership with the board on the above topics in particular, and would welcome participation in other projects as they arise. The board is</p>

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	considered a key agency with regard to its interaction with Department of Environment and Water and the Minister.
	Lunch Rick Hartman, Michael Sedgman, Brenton Lewis and the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee joined the Board for lunch.
In Camera Meeting	
	The board moved In Camera to discuss several items.
Public Meeting	
9.	<p>Southern Mallee Pest and Weed Project – Senior District Officer Russell Norman</p> <p>The Southern Mallee Pest and Weed Project is a joint project between the Karoonda East Murray District Council and the Southern Mallee District Council. It was jointly applied for after the Federal Government Drought Assistance program was offered to councils in drought declared areas and the councils were successful in getting the \$985,000 grant. It is an 18 month project with councils being responsible for delivery and acquittal of the program. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board was engaged to manage the on-ground operations.</p> <p>Work was undertaken across the region based on information received from landowners and local knowledge by landscape officers. Rabbits and Fox baits were subsidised, rabbit warrens ripped or fumigated and weed control was undertaken on many roads, and some on property, across the region.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there an opportunity to replicate this partnership with other commercial organisations? Need to be able to identify any opportunities. • Learnings from the on-ground works as well as the process of the grant/partnership are important. • Discussions have occurred with councils since the board has met with CEOs and Mayors across the region. • The board members appreciated the excellent presentation and good partnership story <p>ACTION: GM and Caroline Phillips to discuss how this program can be showcased with MRLGA</p>
Items for decision	
10.	<p>Policy Review: Parental Leave Funding Policy</p> <p>The Parental Leave Funding Policy is presented to the board for endorsement following its initial review. This Policy is still to be reviewed by the SA Policy working group and endorsed by General Managers, and any changes will need to be endorsed by boards in the future.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed MR FIN-04 Parental Leave Funding Policy and Procedure.</i></p>
11.	<p>Statement of Commitment to First Nations</p> <p>The General Manager presented a Statement of Commitment to the board for endorsement,</p>

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	<p>which was endorsed by the Landscape Board Chairs early in September.</p> <p>Discussions are underway to work through what the Landscape Boards obligations are relating to a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and what approach Landscape SA should have in the development of a RAP.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the final version of the Statement of Commitment and that this be shared with staff, our First Nations partners and placed on the Board website.</i></p>
Committees & Sub-Committees	
11.	<p>Finance Committee</p> <p>September <u>minutes from the finance committee</u> were provided to the board, with the chair providing an overview of the sound financial position of the board.</p> <p>The option of an additional board member on the finance committee was discussed. Members to contact the Presiding Member if interested in joining the committee.</p> <p>ACTION: Enhance the Finance material that goes into the board papers to reflect more of the discussion at the Finance meeting and look at a dashboard to present the finance report in a more visual way.</p> <p>ACTION: Board members to contact the Presiding Member if interested in joining the committee</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and minutes of the September meeting.</i></p>
13.	<p>Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with the LG important. • Important for the committee to raise any new issues with the board, as well as for board to indicate issues which they would like the committee to advise upon. <p>ACTION: Draft a template for a board report from both advisory committees.</p>
14.	<p>Sensitive and Significant Issues</p> <p>Nil</p>
Items for Noting	
15.	<p>Chair's report</p> <p>The Chair provided a written report outlining the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Landscape Board Chairs Forum on September 8, 2021, which was attended by Minister Speirs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion on a Reconciliation Action Plan ○ Virtual Presentation from NRM Regions Australia • Met with Federal Member for Barker, Tony Pasin on September 16 • DEW Strategic Water Issues Project – Currently the Board Chair chairs this committee. <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.</i></p>

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16.	<p>General Manager's Report</p> <p>The General Manager provided the board with an overview of his activities and the highlights and achievements of staff for the last month. The report included the referral report for August.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Referrals report).</i></p>
17.	<p>General Manager's Performance Agreement</p> <p>The General Manager presented the signed General Manager's performance agreement for noting.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the final version of the General Manager's Performance Agreement.</i></p>
18.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The correspondence list for September was presented to the board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.</i></p>
19.	<p>Action List</p> <p>The board noted actions on the action list.</p>
20.	<p>Member's Contributions/Other Business</p> <p><u>Weather Station issues:</u> Any weather station problems can be reported to Jeremy Nelson.</p> <p><u>Presentation to Board</u> requested by Greg Burns (metered water Compliance Inspector) on illegal extraction of water.</p> <p><u>Bookmark Creek:</u> DEW is working on Bookmark Creek, as part of the \$37m federal funded project. DEW also met with Jim Godden.</p> <p><u>MRLB event QR code evaluation form:</u> A Board member recently had an irksome experience providing feedback to an event with this process, as the questions were not relating to the event. He questioned whether the questions were bespoke or generic? The event holder needs to be able to learn from the information that is being captured.</p> <p>Queried the current status of the <u>Biosecurity Act review</u>, General Managers have met with PIRSA recently and nothing was mentioned. Acting GM and board member attended a meeting last year, but have heard nothing since.</p> <p><u>Ngarrindjeri training session</u> held on Sept 22nd – Greg Cock and Di Davidson attended and provided feedback to the GM, requesting that he investigate further with board staff.</p>
21.	<p><i>Michelle Finch and Helene Norman left the meeting.</i></p> <p>An <i>In camera</i> session with the General Manager and the board was held.</p>
22.	<p>Next meeting details – 27 and 28 October at Murray Bridge. Details to be confirmed.</p> <p>Financial training will be included in the afternoon of the 28th October.</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 4.30pm.</p>

<p>ENDORSED</p> 	<p>Dianne Davidson AM Presiding Member Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Date:</p>
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