

# Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Minutes

Meeting Title:	Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Meeting 11		
Date:	Wednesday 26 May 2021		
Start Time:	9:00 am	Finish Time:	12:55 pm
Location:	35 Dauncey St Kingscote	Room:	Boardroom
Attendees:	Board Members:  A Heinrich (Chair), G Crowley, P Davis, M Pengilly, P Rismiller, J Stanton, R Willson  Staff: W Durack (General Manager), S Gullickson (Executive Assistant)  Guest: L Dohle (Senior Soil Consultant, PIRSA); M Jones (Chief Officer, CFS), B Loughlin (Director, Preparedness Operations, CFS)		
Apologies:	M Greig (Manager, National Parks and Wildlife Kangaroo Island)		

Item			
1.	Preliminary matters		
1.1	Welcome, Apologies, Acceptance of Agenda		
	The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:		
	<ul> <li>Approves the agenda requesting the following additional items be discussed and all items on the consent schedule.</li> </ul>		
	a. Board member vacancy		
	b. Planting day – 9 June		
	Items approved by the Consent Schedule:		
	2.2 Grassroots Grants 2021-22		
	5.1 Consultation: Listing under EPBC Act		
	5.2 Financial Management Compliance Program		
	5.3 Key Management Personnel Declarations		
	5.4 Chair's report		
	5.5 General Manager Report		
	5.6 Out of session decisions		
	5.7 Correspondence for information		
1.2	Conflict of Interest Disclosures That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:		
	<ul> <li>Notes Michael Pengilly declared a perceived interest in Item 4.4–Sponsorship request.</li> </ul>		
1.3.1	Minutes from previous meeting		
	Decision 11/1.3.1  Moved: M Pengilly Seconded: P Davis		
	That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:		



- i. Accepts the minutes of the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board meeting held on 24 March 2021 as read subject to the following amendments in bold italics:
  - a. Correction of the spelling of Peter Davis name from Davies to Davis

### **CARRIED**

### 1.3.2 Minutes from special meeting

### **Decision 11/1.3.2**

Moved: M Pengilly Seconded: P Rismiller

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Accepts the minutes of the special Kangaroo Island Landscape Board meeting held on 28 April 2021 as read.

### **CARRIED**

# 1.4 **Business Arising**

### Decision 11/1.4

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. **NOTES** the status of actions relating to matters arising from previous meetings of the Board.

**CARRIED** by resolution

# 2 In Camera

### 2.1 **Decision 11/2.1.1**

Moved: J Stanton Seconded: R Willson

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board approves under the provisions of Section 23 (5) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, an order be made that the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting with the exception of M Agnew and R Mussared in order to consider, in confidence, a matter on the grounds of Section 7(3) (h) legal advice of the *Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020*.

### **CARRIED**

### **Decision 11/2.1.2**

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Approves deferral of its decision to write to the Minister to take Ministerial action in relation to a water resources compliance matter and compliance issues relating to dams on a Kangaroo Island property.

**NOT CARIED** by resolution

### **Decision 11/2.1.3**

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Notes the successful applications to be funded through the 2021 Kangaroo Island Grassroots Grant.

**CARRIED** by resolution

# **Decision 11/2.1.4**

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Approves the decision only of the matter under in camera discussion be released to public access and



ii. Approves all other documentation relating to the matter under discussion be kept confidential, until a review of in-camera matters is conducted by the Chair at the end of the financial year and approval by the Board releases the documentation.

**CARRIED** by resolution

# 3 Strategic matters and Items for Decision

# 3.1 Landscape Plan

The Board commented on the Consultation Report as an excellent comprehensive record of the consultation process and requested the removal of names before the final report is released to the public.

### Decision 11/3.1

Moved: M Pengilly Seconded: G Crowley

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Endorses the *Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan 2021-26*, and associated *Consultation Report 2021 for the Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan 2021-2026*, for approval by the Minister.

### **CARRIED**

# 3.2 Landscape Board 21-22 Budget

### Decision 11/3.2

Moved: P Davis Seconded: P Rismiller

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Endorses the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board budget for 2021-22

# **CARRIED**

# 3.3 **Service Level Agreement**

The Board noted that management is in ongoing negotiation with the Department of Environment and Water regarding the Service Level Agreement (SLA) but at this point in time a decision has been made to not pursue substantial changes.

### Decision 11/3.3

Moved: P Davis Seconded: J Stanton That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Endorses the Service Level Agreement for delivery of Corporate Services for April 2021 to June 2022 and the attached schedules, subject to minor amendments.

# **CARRIED**

# 4. Items for Discussion

# 4.1 Finance Report – April 2021

### Decision 11/4.1

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Endorses the April 2021 revenue and expenditure finance reports and balance sheet.

# **CARRIED** by resolution

# 4.2 Whole of Island Feral Cat Eradication – messaging and fundraising

James Smith, Project Lead, Feral Cats, provided the Board with an update on the Feral Cat Eradication Program. Additional funding has been received and the team now comprises six staff.



Cats have been eradicated from 52 square km of the Dudley Peninusla and the team is continuing to monitor using camera trapping. Eradication is progressing west of Antechamber Bay with baiting using Curiosity baits proposed for the southern woodlands.

The Board noted the first kilometre of the southern end of the barrier fence has been completed and cameras installed to monitor wildlife movement.

One of the essential aspects of eradication is to ensure there is no re-incursion of cats back into areas already trapped. The project team are trialling new technology to reduce the number of hours required to monitor behind the line, including working with Nature Foundation and providing opportunity for members of the public to sponsor or buy a camera trap.

The Board noted the longer term plan for the project, including the lack of ongoing funding, and the opportunity to promote the program now. There is incredible momentum post-fire to control pest species across the island.

The Board noted the importance of the correct media and consistent, prominent messaging. The project team has proposed a separate Facebook page on feral cats which will provide a dedicated focus on the benefits of eradicating feral cats without losing connection to the Landscape Board.

### Decision 11/4.2

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. **NOTES** the current messaging and strategy used to secure ongoing funding for feral cat eradication both on the Dudley and across the whole island.

### **CARRIED** by resolution

# 4.3 Tasmanian Blue Gums – management of seedlings after bushfires

The Board noted that there has been a delay with Council following up on the conditions applied to approved development applications for plantation forestry.

The Board noted that there is little benefit to declaring blue gums under the Landscape SA Act as declaration could significantly impact those landholders neighbouring forestry properties and place responsibility on Landscape Boards to manage wildlings seedlings on roadsides..

The Board supported an application for funding through Landcare to conduct blue gum seedling removal across the landscape, including but not limited to, priority areas of native vegetation within KI Plantation Timber's properties. This project proposal is being developed in partnership with the KI Conservation Landholders Association. The Board requested that a cash contribution from KI Plantation Timbers towards this project be pursued and stated that the application would be looked on more favourably by the KILB, the KI community and the funding body if this was achieved.

### Decision 11/4.3

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. **NOTES** the issues associated with Tasmanian Blue Gum (TBG) seedlings post fire and the management options available.

# **CARRIED** by resolution

# 4.4 Sponsorship Request

The Board did not support the sponsorship for the printing of a post-fire book as they felt this could be done in a way where costs could be recovered by the authors. The Board discussed the limited budget available at this time and did not wish to commit any funds until they had the opportunity to examine other sponsorship requests.



### Decision 11/4.4

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. **CONSIDERS** sponsorship of a post-fire book celebrating the recovery of gardens to the value of \$4,750

# **NOT CARRIED** by resolution

M Pengilly abstained due to a conflict of interest

# 4.5 **Board member reports**

- 4.5.1 The Board noted P Davis' report on the Bushfire Management Committee meeting held 7 May 2021 and his concerns that the DEW Burning on private land program may not cover all priority areas. Mr Davis will be an apology for the July meeting.
- 4.5.2 M Pengilly advised the Board that SA Water will be presenting to Council on the pipeline on 8 June and that he will be an apology for the July meeting.
- 4.5.3 R Wilson participated as a panel member of the Grassroots Grants Program assessment panel.
- 4.5.4 J Stanton asked the Board to consider future projects that protect our soils through the use of containment areas. The Landscape Board has a role to ensure a whole of landscape approach to preserving the health of our soils. This is building on the workshop held by Daryl Gordon as part of the Resilient Ag project.
- 4.5.5 P Rismiller was a panel member for the assessment of Grassroots Grant applications. The Board supported P Rismiller announcing herself as a board member and an environmental technologist in a promotional video being developed to support the Feral Cat Eradication Program.
- 4.5.6 L Dohle reported that 429 feral pigs have been culled; Cape Tulip Blitz to be held on the island; AgKI is seeking legal advice on roadside vegetation clearance; AGKI conference to be held 20 August; Agriculture trials booklet underway.

The Board noted that the Chair met with the Minister on Friday 21 May and they visited the nursery among other activities.

The Board noted the South Australian Government has approved \$1.8M funding for Landcare fencing and that this can be retrospective subject to statutory declarations stating that no alternative funding was received from any other source.

# Decision 11/4.5

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board notes the reports

**CARRIED** via resolution

### 4.6 Other business

- 4.6.1 Board vacancy: The Board noted that J Stanton is leaving the board, and members considered potential members including any potential indigenous representation. Members were asked to provide the Chair with names of possible nominees.
- 4.6.2 Planting Day, 9 June 2021: All members are invited and advised to meet staff at 35 Dauncey Street if they wish to car pool.



5	Standing Items or Items for Noting				
5.1	Consultation on two new species to be listed under the EPBC Act				
	Decision 11/5.1				
	That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board adopts the following policies and procedures:  i. Notes that two species of spider endemic to Kangaroo Island have been proposed for listing under the EPBC Act, and that a consultation process is currently underway.  CARRIED by resolution				
5.2	Financial Management Compliance Program – Focus of Works				
	Decision 11/5.2				
	That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:  i. Notes the Financial Management Compliance Program (FMCP) Focus of Work for 2020-21.  CARRIED via the consent schedule				
5.3	Key Management Personnel Declarations				
	Decision 11/5.3				
	That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:  i. Notes the requirements for members to complete end of financial year key management personnel (KMP) declarations.				
	CARRIED by resolution				
5.4	Chair's Report				
	Decision 11/5.4  That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board  i. Notes the activities of the Chair of the Board since the last meeting  ii. Considers nominations to fill a vacancy on the Board.  CARRIED via consent schedule				
5.5	General Manager's Report				
	Decision 11/5.5  That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:  i. Notes the activities of the A/General Manager since the last Board meeting  ii. Notes the outcomes of the Board Workshop held 28 April 2021  iii. Notes the Work Health and Safety activity report for April 2021  iv. Notes the report on legislative delegations  CARRIED by consent schedule				
F.C.	·				
5.6	Out of session decision				
	<ul> <li>Decision 11/5.6</li> <li>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board ratifies the decisions of the out-of-session papers: <ol> <li>i. Distributed on 24 March 2021 seeking endorsement for the amended Kangaroo Island Grassroots Grants 2021-22 Guidelines for applicants.</li> <li>ii. Distributed on 30/4/2021 seeking endorsement of amended Financial Authorisations</li> <li>iii. Distributed on 12/5/2021 seeking nominations for the Kangaroo Island Bushfire Management Committee</li> </ol> </li> <li>CARRIED by consent schedule</li> </ul>				



# 5.7 Correspondence for noting

### Decision 11/5.7

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board notes the correspondence received since the last meeting:

- a) Nomination of Members and Deputy Members KI Bushfire Management Committee (refer item 5.6 of this agenda)
- b) Consultation on conservation and listing advices for seven taxa (refer to item 5.1 of this agenda)
- c) Welcome to Kangaroo Island Brand and Business Alliance (Refer to item 1.4 of this agenda)
- d) DPC Advisory Aboriginal representation and engagement

**CARRIED** by resolution

# 6 Presentations

# 6.1 **DEW Koala Management Program**

The Board noted a presentation by Dan Rogers, Lisien Loan and Karl Hillyard from the Department of Environment and Water (DEW) regarding the initial findings of a Koala Survey population.

The survey was conducted in response to post-fire anecdotal reports of koalas at high densities adjacent to fire ground, causing concern among community that the native vegetation would not cope with this level of browsing.

DEW has conducted a number of surveys on koalas across KI and was committed to conducting another survey to assess impact of fire on population.

With support from community, landholders, universities and rangers 120 sites were surveyed with 35 of the surveyed sites in blue gum forests. (Compared to 17 sites in 2015/16).

Based on the initial analysis of the data, very few to no koalas were detected within the region impacted by the 2019/20 bushfires (the fire scar), with the majority of koalas detected in the unburnt remnants and at reasonably high densities.

For hardwood plantations the impact of Koalas is not on the health of the trees but on harvesting and once the tress are harvested the increasing pressure on surrounding native vegetation.

### **Ouestions:**

Were drone surveys conducted?

R: In late 2020, 20 sites were surveyed using drones. On-ground surveys were rerun to enable comparison. *Where there any similarities?* As not run at the same time, difficult to compare.

Do you have any recommendations for areas with high densities of koalas? DEW will look at sterilisations and to collar/protect trees, but there has been no advancement in techniques to reduce koala densities.

Members of the Board commented on the lack of perceived success of the previous sterilisation program to control koala population densities and were not reassured that DEW would be able to adequately address overbrowsing in areas of native vegetation with high densities.

### Decision 11/6.1

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

i. Note the summary of the main findings from the 2021 Kangaroo Island Koala Survey. **CARRIED** by resolution



# 6.2 SA CFS - Fire Management on Kangaroo Island (10:05 am)

M Jones and B Loughlin address the Board on fire planning in South Australia and the various enquiries and reports following the 2019/20 bushfires.

Kangaroo Island is one of 55 CFS groups in of South Australia – the CFS operation on Kangaroo Island is very different to the other 54 groups.

Whose responsible for bushfire risk? – Local Government and private landholders have significant responsibility to defend their own properties, regardless of tenure,. However, local government in general is not well funded, and not provided with the financial support to deliver its responsibilities. This is a significant gap.

The SA Government has, however, invested in DEW to deliver bushfire treatment on public lands.

The State bushfire management plan was drafted in 2010, and remained in draft. This should be approved by Parliament this month. The Plan will establish a works plan to guide the next 4 years of business.

One of the key findings from the various enquiries is that people did not feel empowered to conduct works on their property. SA has progressive rules, but very few landholders understand or do the mitigation work they should do. The State Bushfire Coordination Committee can and will develop a binding code of practice for private property preparation works, so landholders are clear on what they must do to protect their homes from future bushfires.

CFS will support Bushfire Management Committees to deliver their responsibilities and ensure plans are realistic. One of the key actions missing is in monitoring the successful implementation of Bushfire Area Management Plans.

The Board was informed that legislation cannot be change without unified lobbying – so issues raised by members such as burning as an act of clearance and boundary fence management will require a strong collective, coordinated and multilateral approach.

For the CFS, by legislation and their hierarchy, the primary aim of any plan or action is protection of life, then property, then the environment.

M Jones commented positively on the Board Landscape Plan as it links finance to action, that is it identifies what can be done within the available resources.

M Jones warned that we need to be preparing for the events that we will have, not the ones we just had. Plans need to model what will happen so we can proactively prepare. The Board thanked M Jones and B Loughlin for addressing the Board.

# 7.1 Invitations for next meeting Nil 7.2 Next meeting As per the approved meeting schedule, the Board confirmed that meeting 12 of the Board will be held on Wednesday 28 July 2021 at 9:00 am, noting that P Davis and M Pengilly will be apologies. 7.3 Board Member Feedback Nil



7.4	Board Claims and Administration Items	
	Members were asked to complete the claim form enclosed in the agenda pack.	
6.5	Meeting closed at 12:55 pm	

Signature: M. )

Date: 27 July 2021

Andrew Heinrich

Presiding Member, Kangaroo Island Landscape Board