Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

2021 board meeting minutes

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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.

Date: 25 Febru	ary 2021		
Start Times:	2.00pm Public meeting		
Location:	Murray Bridge	Room:	Council Chambers
Attendees	Rowntree (9.30am to 2.00 Andrew Meddle (Genera Engagement), Michelle (Manager, Sustainable Lar Tim Collins (Director Land Items 4-8 – Michael Cutt	pm) Jason Size, I Manager), Amy Finch (Business ndscapes), Helane scape SA Regiona ting (Team Leade	Cock, Barb Cowey, Jim Godden, Lisa y Goodman (Manager, Strategy and Services Manager), Denise Fowles e Norman (Executive Officer) al Support) er, Sustainable Water use), Lyz Risby relissa White (PO, Water allocation
Apologies	Lisa Rowntree		

Item	Item Title
	Prior to the Public Meeting a joint meeting was held with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board at 9.30am and also an <i>in camera</i> session with the General Manager. MRL Board member Lisa Rowntree did attend the joint meeting, but as noted above was an apology for the meetings which followed.
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
1.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.
	Declaration of Interest
2.	Jim Godden updated his involvement with several local organisations.
	No further disclosures to report.
	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (9-20) held 10 December 2020
3.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 9-20 held 10 December 2020.



Item Item Title Items for Decision

4

5.

Sustainable Water Use Program

Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Sustainable Water Use) gave a presentation to the Board on previous programs and the current Water Efficiency Program and issues encountered. In line with the focus of the Landscape Board, and broadening out the scope of the program, a possible strategic direction for the future of the Sustainable Water Use Program was outlined. The team was encouraged to also consider alternative funding avenues.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the current status of the sustainable water use program and the proposed future strategic direction of the program.

River Murray WAP

River Murray WAP consultation

A written update was provided to the Board on submissions received, during the public consultation, on the proposed changes to the River Murray WAP.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- Noted submissions received during statutory consultation on the draft Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (the draft Plan); and
- Noted the draft Consultation and Alterations Report (with alterations yet to be completed).

River Murray WAP - Other amendments

An update on the changes suggested from feedback received regarding well drilling along the River Murray was provided to the Board. A late paper was provided on the draft WAP plan on the day of the meeting which outlined DEW's proposed edits to be consistent with the Long Term Environmental Water Plan and Environmental Water Requirements.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed amendments to the draft Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (the draft Plan) in relation to:

- Provisions for water affecting activities (WAA) related to drilling wells along the length of the River Murray to minimise impacts associated with connected water resources with a minor amendment (see Attachment 1).
- Ensuring consistency with the recently revised River Murray Long Term Environmental Watering Plan, specifically, revised environmental watering requirement tables with minor amendments as recommended by DEW; and
- Update references to the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Landscape Act) which has replaced the Natural Resources Management Act 2004.

ACTION: Chair to discuss with Amy Goodman the proper functioning of the Water Planning Steering Committee which is a subcommittee of the Board. It is not acceptable for papers to be delivered on the meeting day.

6. The Board moved In-Camera to discuss Item 6



Item **Item Title** Peake Roby Sherlock 10 year WAP review The Water Allocation Planning (WAP) team reported that a review has been undertaken of the Peake Roby Sherlock WAP and have made 7 recommendations for the Board to consider. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: Noted the 10-year review of the Water Allocation Plan for the Peake, Roby and Sherlock Prescribed Wells Area. 7. Endorsed recommendations (1 – 7) of the review as outlined in Table 1. Noted that the amendment of the plan will not commence until the 10-year review of the water allocation plan for Mallee prescribed wells area is completed by May 2022. This will enable community consultation and amendments to be undertaken collectively with Mallee and, Peake, Roby Sherlock at the same time; this will be administratively cost-effective and aligns with the timing of other water planning priorities such as the implementation of ELMA. Mallee Prescribed Wells Area Water Cost Sharing Arrangements The Manager, Strategy and Engagement briefly outlined the history of the Cost Sharing Arrangement for Mallee stock and domestic water users affected by drawdown. The board paper outlined two options for the future of this arrangement, and the reasoning behind them, for consideration by the Board. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: 8. Approved the re-establishment of the Cost Sharing Arrangement for Stock and Domestic bores affected by irrigation drawdown in the Mallee prescribed wells area Endorsed that the Board assess cost sharing applications and contribute funding in accordance with the guideline as they arise Noted that minor corrections need to be made to the Fifth Edition, April 2009 Cost Sharing Arrangements guideline. Monthly performance report The General Manager presented a draft report identifying progress against the Board's 2020-21 Transitional Business Plan, providing a succinct snapshot of activities against the regional priorities and focus areas. It needs to be noted that some of the areas are not closely aligned with any of the regional priorities. The following feedback was provided: Still need some work around the matrix and ratings Aspiration to have some measurables for the 21/22 year. 9. clear and concise tabulated format WEP is coloured green, but we know there are problems. This indicates the board has done what it can do, but it does not highlight that there are back end problems with the program. Basic structure of V1 is good but there are things that we can work on.

• The performance report is a good example of possible collaboration between boards in

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the January 2021 Monthly

the future, i.e. not all boards developing their own individual report template.

Performance Report.



Item **Item Title** Landscape Plan Update - Phase 1 consultation feedback The Consultation Report - draft priorities and Focus Areas for Regional Landscape Plan 2021 was presented to the Board, along with the suggested amendments as a result of the feedback, by the Manager, Strategy and Engagement. Feedback received: Excellent work to get it down to 16 pages. The board were in agreeance to the first, second and fourth gueries Third query: requires more discussion Change order of pages with page 6 being at the start and info about the region and future influences be at the end Must be themed and must be simple. Map of Murraylands and Riverland with national parks to also include RAMSAR sites. The Region page refers to the Murray mouth in the south, instead it should say to the Lower Lakes. Include a 2 page summary that can be handed out to our stakeholders 10. The plan will be updated with suggestions, then circulated to G Cock, J Godden and D Davidson. Those members to meet with Chair and GM Monday March 1, prior to circulating to Board for endorsement out of session. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: Noted the feedback of the phase 1 consultation for developing the landscape plan; will provide further feedback agreed to provide the Minister for Environment and Water a copy of the draft Regional Landscape Plan, when endorsed, for his information in advance of the public consultation commencing. Landscape Plan - Phase 2 consultation engagement plan The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented the engagement plan for the public consultation on the draft plan. The postcards developed for the board members to use, will be also be provided to councils and used at the Karoonda Farm Fair. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the engagement plan for the public consultation on the draft landscape plan. **January Financial report** The Finance Committee provided financial reports for November, December and January for noting by the Board. 11. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers as recommended by the Finance Committee. **ACTION:** Manager Business Services to organise a face to face meeting for the Finance committee. Risk Framework The General Manager, presented a Risk Framework for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, including the Risk management Policy, Plan, Appetite Statement and 12. Assessment. Risks that are considered strategic in nature and affect all the board are considered high level risks. To be revisited bi-monthly.



13.

Questioned if sexual assault is a risk for the board and is there a policy for handling sexual assault. Board members were reminded that all staff have been trained in appropriate protocols surrounding misconduct.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Framework attached to this report including:

- The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Management Policy (included as Appendix 1 to the Framework);
- The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Management Plan (included as Appendix 4 to the Framework);
- The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Appetite Statement (included as Appendix 5 to the Framework); and
- The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Strategic Risk Assessment (included as Appendix 7 to the Framework)

2021-2022 Grassroots Grants Program

The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided a paper on the Grassroots Grants program for the 2021-22 year. Feedback was received from round one and changes to the program for this year have been suggested and included in the suggested process.

The initial Grassroots Grants were oversubscribed by a significant amount. Public perception is that the amount that is provided is not enough, because they don't see all that is happening within our region.

Three tiers of grants have been included this time, for ease of assessment.

The Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel will meet and collaboratively assess the successful grants and make a recommendation to the Board. Grant information will be made available to all board members. Jason Size, Greg Cock and Barb Cowie volunteered to join the Panel.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- Noted the feedback provided from round one and the changes put forward as a result;
- Approved commencing the call for 2021-22 Grassroots Grants program on 15th March 2021;
- Noted the process outlined for implementing the 2021-22 Grassroots Grants program; and
- Nominated Barb Cowey, Greg Cock and Jason Size to the Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel.

MRLB Citizen Science Strategy

The General Manager gave an overview of the Citizen Science strategy, and even though it is has just one staff member, it has many volunteers and involves many programs.

Suggest include relationship to the regions Landscape Plan.

- 14. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:
 - 1. Review and endorse the draft citizen science strategy, with the inclusion of a reference of the landscape plan
 - 2. Endorse the release of a public version.
- 15. Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee



Item	Item Title	
	The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes provided a written report on meetings of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee and provided the Board with their work plan for this year.	
	While the Board endorse the work plan in principal, further discussion between the Committee with the Board Chair and General Manager will occur.	
	Any printed material needs to be approved by the Board and General Manager and include a written statement indicating it was endorsed by the Board.	
	The Committee is critical to the Board to listen to the community and bring that information to the notice of the Board.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCC) and endorse their 2020-21 Work plan in principal.	
	ACTION: A time for a meeting of the Committee with the Board to be organised.	
	The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.	

	The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.
ltem	s for Noting
16.	The meeting was reconvened via email on Friday 26 th February 2021.
	Chair's Report
	The Chair provided a written report on her activities since the December Board meeting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report
	General Manager's Report
17.	The General Manager provided a report on the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report
18.	Monthly update on Referral requests activity
10.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the referral update.
	Landscape Priorities Fund Update
10	The General Manager provided a written update on the Landscape Priorities Fund.
19.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) noted the submissions made
	for funding via the Landscape Priorities Fund.
	19-20 Annual Achievements Report
20.	The Manager Strategy and Engagement has provided a paper and draft 2019-20 Achievement report for consideration by the Board.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the 2019-20 Achievements
	Report.
21.	Correspondence
21.	The Board noted the correspondence.
22.	Action List
22.	All actions have been completed.
23.	Member's Contributions
25.	Consideration will be given for an opportunity to meet the Board staff in the Riverland.
24.	Any Other Business
- 7.	KESAB breakfast on the 7 th April in Berri



Item	Item Title	
	Next meeting details	
	March 25 – Loxton Research Centre	
	Meeting closed	

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 25 March 2021



MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LANDSCAPE BOARD Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

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Meeting Title	: Murraylands and	Riverland Lands	cape Board Meeting 2-21
Date: 25 Marc	th 2021		
Start Time:	9.00am		
Location:	Loxton	Room:	Loxton Research Centre Conference Room
Present	Andrew Meddle Engagement), No (Manager, Sustantiem 5: Rachel Cowater and Environment) Item 5 and 6: Waltem 7 & 8: Cindle Item 7: Chris Kool Giles (Communitation 7, 8 & 9: Waltem 7, 8 & 9: Walte	e (General Mana Michelle Finch inable Landscape onnell (First Assistant onment) Adam Si ayne Meyer (Cha y Kakoschke (Edi olmatrie (Project ty member) endy Stubbs (Tea	Officer), Sheryl Giles (RMMAC Director), Shaymia am Leader, Landscape Resilience)
Apologies	Barb Cowey, Lisa	Rowntree, Andr	rew Biele

Item	Item Title
1.	Prior to the Public Meeting an in camera session was held with the General Manager.
PUBL	IC MEETING
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
2.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 10am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet. Although there were three apologies from Board members, there was a quorum enabling the meeting to proceed.
3.	Declaration of Interest No further disclosures to report.
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (1-21) held 25 February 2021 The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 1-21 held 25 February 2021.

Presentations



Item **Item Title** Water Efficiency Program Update - Rachel Connell (First Assistant Secretary, Water Division, Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment) Apologised for the delays in approvals and the way the program has been rolled out. Discussion on the best way forward with the projects still awaiting approval. The Board's contract with DAWE is closed to new applications, but the contract is still in place to follow through with the old projects and applications. Ms Connell suggested that perhaps the best way to proceed is to retain the overarching 5 method in place at present; she advised that there is no impediment to the processing of applications received up until March 3. Ms Connell to confirm this in writing by Friday March 26th. Discussion on arrangements for the new program - \$60m that was announced on the 3rd March. By mid April, the best ways to deal with both the old and new programs will be confirmed. This is necessary to give some clarity to the program and staff. Presentation - Adj. Professor Wayne Meyer (Chair, Foundation for Rabbit-Free Australia Inc) Rabbit Free Australia Wayne outlined the impact rabbits have on primary production and the environment. Rabbit-Free Australia is committed to rebuilding productive Australian landscapes that support abundant native wildlife and its mission is to eradicate rabbits in Australia through research, awareness and on-ground works. Numbers have decreased since the 10 billion height in the 1950's, now estimated to be less than 1 billion. Rabbit Free Australia is now a registered environmental charity and is offering limited 6. funding for relevant projects. Calls for proposals are out now. The Board could consider partnering in some way. Mr Meyer described early genetic research into rabbit breeding, noting that it is directed exclusively at the Australian Wild rabbit. Mallee Carbon and Water @ Calperum Station Wayne is also involved with the 'Carbon and water exchange of SA Mallee through fire and drought' program at Calperumstation, which is the only site in SA. The current extended drying (since 2015) means that there is no groundwater recharge and potential change in Mallee vegetation. The Board was supportive of providing a letter of support for the Terrestrial Ecosystems Research Network (TERN) if requested. River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation Sheryl Giles, Shaymia Giles and Chris Koolmatrie attended the meeting to speak with the Board. Since the native title consent determination in 2011 the River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation administer the land on behalf of the River Murray and Mallee peoples. 7. The corporation has developed several plans and spent a lot of time undertaking Aboriginal water assessments. These involve going out on country, and comparing it to what it used to be like, and if anything is of concern, notifying department staff. Also discussions have been had on first people Rangers, training through Growsmart, and funding applications have been submitted for the continuation of working on Country.



Item	Item Title
	RMMAC appreciated General Manager interest and attendance at a recent meeting.
	Important to continue conversation, and the invitation has been extended for board members to go out on Country with first peoples, and also be invited to upcoming Tour.
	River Murray Youth Council (RMYC) – Cindy Kakoschke
8.	Cindy Kakoschke works with around 12 students on the RMYC, many of them have been on the council for their secondary school years. They have recently worked with board staff to read and review the draft Landscape Plan. Council members were keen to provide feedback to the Board on their thoughts and they have done so by making a video as students could not attend meeting today.
	ACTION: Link for video to be provided to board members to listen to again.
	Terrestrial Ecology presentation – Wendy Stubbs
	The Team of 5 ecologists working on projects funded by RLP and some levy funds.
9.	 Irongrass Native Grassland Project (INTG), collaborative project with landowners and aboriginal communities (Ngadjuri and Ngarrindjeri), surveying current communities, pest control, seed production areas, Major componet is 15 trials, with field days. Improving habitat for Threatened Mallee birds - for 7 mallee birds, involves restoration and revegetation, grazing pressure control, Citizen science and volunteers Living Landscapes project bid for funding (Landscape Priorities Fund) to manage 850,000 ha above Berri under conservation Threatened flora and bidoversity hotspots Biodiversity Awareness on Fungi, Youtube videos, booklet, fungi walks Other work includes Landscape Assessment Framework, Referrals, and other technical advice and Landholder and site visits.
	The team are encouraged to look at opportunities to look at day tours that might create interest in these projects, especially as people are looking to travel and learn locally.
	New Priorities have been focused on by the minister, but the ecology team is really stretched to undertake much more. Is this an opportunity for future RLP projects, dependent on what focus areas the federal government is focusing on. Partnering with an interest from a botany side.
ltem	s for decision
	Approval of Regional Landscape Plan
10.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board has approved out of session the adoption of the Draft Regional Landscape Plan, which has gone out to public consultation on March 15 th .
	A 2-pager is also being developed for the plan for use in communicating to others. Final

SA Climate Change Strategy

11.

The General Manager gave an overview of the Climate Change Action Plan 2021 – 2025 for South Australia and highlighted that there are areas that the landscape boards will be lead

approve the Draft Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Plan for consultation.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board ratified the out-of-session decision to

plan will be presented at the May meeting.



Item Item Title agencies or key partners in, but with no additional funding. Landscape Boards will be the lead agency for 'Landscape planning will consider climate change mitigation and adaptation for natural resources and landscapes." The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the South Australian Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025 and, in particular, the actions for Landscape Boards to lead on or to participate in. Monthly Performance Report The General Manager provided the February 2021 Monthly Performance Report which provides a succinct snapshop of activities against the the regional priorities and focus areas 12. of the 20-21 Transitional Business Plan. It indicated that all work is on track. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the February 2021 Monthly Performance Report. **Draft Annual Business Plan** The draft business plan, along with the detail underpinning the implementation program was presented to the Board by the Manager, Strategy and Engagement. A decrease when RLP funding ceases in 2023 is of concern. Concern was also expressed about how the Business and Regional Plans fit together and how to indicate quantifiable metrics. Programs deliver across multiple focus areas, which makes it difficult to quantify at a program level. Operational Plans are developed after the business plan has been adopted, which will indicate how each program connects to the Landscape Plan focus areas, and that will be measurable. The Strategic workshop in April will make this clearer. 2021-22 business and operational budget The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided the Draft MRLB Annual Business Plan. Due 13. to an error, correction to the foundational programs table on bottom of page 73 where figures for communications and council collection are transposed, will be made. Customer and business services is an incorrect title. Changes to the document will be brought to the May meeting following refinement. Members are still struggling with the connection of expenditure to focus areas, but a sentence to link the two might suffice. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: Noted the detail provided in this paper that underpins the implementation program presented in the 2021-22 Business Plan. Endorsed the draft 2021-22 Annual Business Plan with the changes noted on Pg 73 Foundation programs table. Endorsed targeted discussions with key stakeholders to finalise the Plan Noted the final 2021-22 Annual Business Plan will be tabled with the Board for

A short lunch break was taken.

approval in May.



Item	Item Title
	Interim SLA between MRLB and DEW
	The Business Manager provided the Interim Service level agreement btween the MRLB and the DEW for the current financial year to April 12 2021, and the background behind the agreement and what is likely to occur in the future.
14.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:
	 Noted the interim Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Board and the Department for Environment & Water (DEW); and Authorised the Chair to sign and seal the Interim Service Level Agreement for 2020-21 on behalf of the Board.
	Legislative compliance Review
15.	A draft legislative compliance Register was provided to the Board by the Buisness Manager. There have been a lot of changes required to this document predominantly due to the new Landscape South Australia Act 2019 legislation.
13.	A review will occur annually, beginning in February so completed by the end June.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the progress of the establishment of a Legislative Compliance Register for the Board; and will provide feedback for the continual development of this living document.
	Board Performance Report
	The Board has received notification regarding the requirement for an evaluation of the Board's performance. The General Manager outlined his intentions and the timeline to comply with this request.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:
16.	 a) noted the correspondence from Minister Speirs relating to the evaluation of Board Performance; b) agreed to workshop the Board's performance at the Board meeting on 27 May 2021 or alternate session; and c) will consider a draft report at the Board meeting on 24 June 2021. ACTION: Plan for a board performance workshop in Mid May.
	Landscape Board General Manager Performance Agreement 2020/21
17.	The General Manager outlined the mid cycle review of the performance agreement, and circulated to Board members the outcomes of the mid-cycle review.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Performance Agreement and actions required to ensure statutory compliance.
18.	The board moved in-Camera to discuss Item 18.
	Board and Committee Remuneration Policy
19.	The General Manager presented a draft Board and Committee Remuneration and reimbursement policy which clearly outlines the Board and Committee members level of remuneration and what can be included in this.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Remuneration and Reimbursements for Board and Committees Policy and Procedure.



Item	ACTION: Ensure that the single claim form is available on Teams for all members.
Com	mittees and Sub-Committees
	February Financial minutes
	Finance Committee papers along with the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 16 March were provided to the Board.
20.	Information received on the budget breakdown has been very helpful. The future of the Water Efficiency Program is significant to the Boards current financial position, and will be clarified in coming days.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and minutes of the Finance committee held 16 March 2021.
	Water Advisory Committee minutes – February and March
	The February and March minutes of the Water Advisory committee (WAC) meetings were provided to the Board for information.
21.	The WAC will be requested to furnish a workplan, indicating things that should be investigated/looked into over the coming year. The Board would like the committee to raise any issues they have and discuss at their meetings, and the minutes should reflect the consensus of the meeting. Individuals/the committee are not required to provide separate reports. Items from the committee's meetings that need to be included as a separate item at the Board meeting, will be put on the agenda by the ELT members.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Water Advisory Committee meetings held in February and March 2021.
	Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee minutes from meeting 22/02/21
22.	The meeting papers for the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee along with minutes from their meeting on the 22 nd February were provided to the board. The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes asked the board to note that the Tatiara District Council has not provided a representative to be on the committee, and that the committee will not be requesting funding support from the funding partners for the 2021-22 year, as they feel the have sufficient funds.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the papers and minutes of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating committee held 22 February 2021.
	Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee
	The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes provided a board paper on recent meetings and events held by the committee, the landholder brochure, and also requested approval on several upcoming events.
23.	Board members were impressed with the Landholder Responsibilities fact sheet and approved the brochure with minor changes to the Landscape Board Committees paragraph
	<u>Local Government meeting:</u> The Board have been urged to build relationships with all councils, and considered this to be what they, as a Board, need to do. This will be discussed further before a decision is made.
	Volunteer Celebration: The board discussed the Mallee and Coorong Volunteer celebration

the fact that it would be held for only part of the region. There was some discussion as to whether it might be beneficial to have a whole of region Volunteer Celebration. This would



be instead of more than one event being held in the region, or only having part of the region invited to a Lower Murray event and nothing in the Riverland. No decision was reached.

That the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- Noted the outcomes of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCC) meeting held via MS Teams on 22 February 2021;
- Approved the Landholder Responsibilities factsheet developed by the committee with minor changes to the paragraph on the last page(Attachment 1);
- Noted the outcomes of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCC)
 community forum held at Parilla on 2 March 2021, run in partnership with Mallee
 Sustainable Farming (MSF).

ACTION: Organise a meeting with GM, Board Chair, and two advisory committee chairs to discuss expectations of the advisory committees.

ACTION: GM and Chair to meet with Andrew Biele.

ACTION: Region-wide volunteer event to be investigated.

Items for Noting

24.

Chair's Report

The Chair provided a verbal report on her activities since the February Board meeting.

Discussions with General Manager occur two to three times per week, usually in person.

- Meeting with the minister on draft RM WAP
- Unable to attend Chairs forum on 17 March. David Greenough is the new Chair of the Chairs forum, with changes to the forum including only meeting 3 times per year and a decision to be made on purpose of meetings.
- Attended Water Planning and Steering Committee meetings
- Greg Cock attended the State Landscape Strategy workshop in Adelaide on 16 March on behalf of the Chair as she was unable to attend.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.

General Manager's Report

The General Manager provided a report on the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report.

25. Suggest that staff members names are included against the items in the report.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the February General Manager's Report.

ACTION: Presentation with org charts to be put onto teams.

26. Monthly update on Referral requests activity

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the referral update.

Grassroots Grants update

An written update was provided by the Manager Strategy and Engagement on the 2020/21 grassroots grants.



Item	Item Title
	This would be useful information to provide on the website on completion of projects. Further media will be organised after April reporting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the update on the 2020/21 grassroots grants.
	Landscape Priorities Fund Update
28.	The General Manager provided a verbal update on the second stage bids for the Landscape Priorities Fund.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) noted the update on the Landscape Priorities Fund.
29.	Correspondence
29.	The Board noted the correspondence.
	Action List
30.	Mallee and Coorong Advisory committee to be invited to meet with the Board in April.
	All other actions have been completed.
	Member's contributions / Any Other Business
31.	 Federal Government, has provided funding to PIRSA and the General Manager is engaging with RDA and LGA to look at possible project funding within our region. Lack of presence north of the River by the Board, this area must not be overlooked. Irongrass Natural Temperate Grassland project works within that area, Rangelands Alliance, and new Landscape Priorities Fund bid are all working in that space. Tony Randall drafted a drought policy on the dryland farming sector, Greg Cock also worked to include more issues that are affected in drought. Questioned if the Board should consider a broader drought policy.
	ACTION: General Manager to look into the drought policy.
	Next meeting details – April 22 – Lameroo Council chambers
	Strategic Workshop – April 14 at Karoonda Institute Supper Room at 1pm
	Meeting closed at 3.10pm and Board members attended the Berri office to meet Riverland staff.

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Date: 22 April 2021



MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LANDSCAPE BOARD Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

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Date: 22 April	2021		
Start Time:	9.30am		
Location:	Cambrai	Room:	Mid Murray Council Chambers, Cambrai
Present	Size, Andrew Meddle Denise Fowles Strategy and En Item 4: Chris Tug Item 5: Kylie M District Manage	(General Ma (Manager, Sugagement), H gwell (Chair Moritz (Murrayl	Biele, Greg Cock, Barb Cowey, Jim Godden, Jason nager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), astainable Landscapes), Amy Goodman (Manager, elane Norman (Executive Officer) Aid Murray Landcare Inc) lands District Manager), Hannah Spronk (Riverland
	Item 6: Cindy Kakoschke and Chirstina Liapis (Education Officers) Lisa Rowntree		

Item	Item Title			
Prior	to the Public Meeting an in camera session was held with the General Manager.			
PUB	LIC MEETING – 10.30am			
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check			
1.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 10.30am and welcomed all present,			
1.	acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and			
	water on which we meet.			
2.	Declaration of Interest			
۷.	No further disclosures to report.			
	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (2-21) held 25 March 2021			
3.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 2-			
٥.	21 held 25 March 2021.			



Item	Item Title	
4.	Mid Murray Landcare_— Chair, Chris Tugwell Chris Tugwell provided a written overview of the work undertaken by the Mid Murray Landcare in any one month and enlightened the members on the Dark Sky Reserve. Dark Sky Reserve is about 3500 square km in the Mid Murray Council area and came about to seek alternative funding sources for the Mid Murray Landcare, and to educate people on the beauty of the sky and light pollution.	
	Wishlist: Reduce feral cats in the region with the use of the Felixer	
5.	District officers on the Ground – Kylie Moritz and Hannah Spronk The District Managers from the Riverlands and Murraylands jointly provided a presentation on the work of the District Officers across the region. A wide variety of tasks are undertaken by the District Officers, but key to all of them is building relationships with landowners. Major special projects currently being undertaken: River Corridor first line of defence – only one in SA African lovegrass trials and training Eastern Hills corridor – woody weed control - 26 landholders along a creekline in eastern hills Loxton Rabbits Program Riverland Biocontrol – cochineal control of 3 types of opuntia - with PIRSA, schools Built up areas pest plant and animal control – support for those who cannot use traditional control types, working with council on this Invasion pathways – dealing with alert weeds that are not rampant within our region, working with councils and DIT regarding control on best control methods, Cost Recovery – right control work happening at the right time, includes bait sales Discussion: Collaboration with councils is great – look for further collaboration opportunities Need more promotion of the Loxton rabbit control Queried the level of understating that landholders have on their responsibilities. Compliance – boards appetitie on how much compliance is a good amount Staff and their work and the outcomes are all part of the project, not just disposable income. Look at ways to connect with new landowners, or where land use changes, where landholders don't know how or don't have the capapcity to manage. Different ways to promote the work done.	
6.	Education Program update – Cindy Kakoschke and Christina Liapis The Education officers for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board presented an overview of what is included in their program. The program provides opportunities for students to get outdoors, working with other programs to provide learning experiences for teachers and students on the environment a land management. Includes Young Environmental Leaders, River Murray Youth Council, Professional Development sessions for teachers, work experience and school holiday sessions as well as working with classes in schools. Some sessions have also been done with other clubs and CWA groups. Discussion: • Good to promote grassroots grants with young people too. • Ability to spin off of other programs	



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Items for decision

Recommendations from Committees to the Board

The General Manager presented a paper to the Board outlining the approach for dealing with recommendations and information flow from various committees to the Board. The Board has established two advisory committees to advise the Board, and the Board need to allow them to carry out their planned work (once the workplan has been approved), and have some means of communicating recommendations outcome and feedback to the committee. However they are advisory committees and all recommendations must be passed through the General Manager to the Board.

The Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee are planning a Local Government forum in July, which is to include council operational staff.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted and endorsed the proposed approach for dealing with matters from various Board Committees.

MRLB Instrument of Authorisation - Authority to affix Board Common Seal

The Manager, Business Services explained that as a result of recent Machinery of Government changes, for some staff whose position numbers have changed, the Instrument of Authorisation – Authority to affix Common Seal is required to be updated and re-signed.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a. Noted the change to position numbers for the Manager, Sustainable Landscapes and Manager, Business Services as a result of the Machinery of Government transfer to the Board on April 12, 2021;
- Approved the Chair of the Board to sign the Instrument of Authorisation Authority to affix Common Seal.

Risk Register

The General Manager provided the Risk Register for consideration by the Board. The Finance Committee has suggested changes in regards to the risk in times of drought and other disasters, which has been added into Item 3. No further changes were necessary.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the updated Strategic Risk Register.

Committees & Sub-Committees

March Financial minutes

Finance Committee papers along with the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 15 April 2021 were provided to the Board. Settlement of the NRM account into the MRLB account has occurred and the projected year end position is \$7.2m cash. Pleasing to note that 6 more approvals have been received for WEP projects.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the March Finance Papers and minutes of the meeting held 15 April 2021.

Zoe Starkey, Joe Keynes and Chris Tugwell joined the Board for **lunch**, and members had the opportunity to visit the Cambrai Landscape Office.

Joe Keynes (PPSA and Livestock SA Chair) addressed the Board, indicating that he was pleased with the direction of Landscape SA and the more balanced approach to conservation and productivity.



Item	Item Title		
	Zoe Starkey (Regional Landcare Facilitator) also addressed the board, indicating that outside of work she is heavily involved with the Murray Plains Farmers Group, and farms 6000ac in the area.		
Items	for Noting		
11.	Monthly Performance Report The General Manager provided the March 2021 Monthly Performance Report which provides a succinct snapshot of activities against the the regional priorities and focus areas of the 20-21 Transitional Business Plan. It indicated that all work is on track, with a note of caution on the Water Efficiency Program.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the March 2021 Monthly Performance Report.		
12.	Chair's Report The Chair provided a verbal report on her activities since the March Board meeting. The State Landscape Strategy Day and the next Chairs forum will be in the first week of May.		
13.	General Manager's Report The General Manager provided a report on the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report. A meeting with the CE of DEW to discuss an ongoing relationship has occurred. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the February General		
	Manager's Report.		
14.	WHS Report The General Manager has provided to the Board, a Work Health Safety report received by the Executive Leadership Team monthly, that outlines incidents reported, and inspections/training undertaken which help to prevent incidents occurring. All incidents are reported through the MySafety incident reporting system. Propose to provide this report quarterly to the Board. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the March WHS report.		
15.	Monthly update on Referral requests activity The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the referral update.		
16.	Control Track A paper was presented to the Board on the use (previously through DEW) of 'Control Track which is a web based tool to identify risk to financial management and reduce those risks an acceptable level. Staff will look at the merits to own its own licence and widen the scop of control included to other areas of the business to ensure compliance (as compared to working under the DEW licence). The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board a. Noted the use of Control Track by the Board through DEW to measure a effectiveness of internal controls; b. Noted the issues identified through the latest Control Track Testing, and a subsequent action plans put in place; c. Noted the plan to continue using Control Track as the system to monitor interaction post April 12, 2021.		
17.	Grassroots Grants & Landscape Priority Fund update		



Item	Item Title
	The General Manager gave an overview of Grassroots Grants applications received, which are now being assessed by the Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel. The Board is awaiting Ministerial decision on the success of the two Stage 2 bids submitted for the Landscape Priority Fund.
10	Correspondence
18.	The Board noted the correspondence.
	Action List
19.	Meetings with Andrew Biele and committee chairs – in hand Drought Policy – ongoing Volunteer Event – Jason Size and Jim Godden will be attending Riverland event, and D Davidson and Roger Wickes will be attending the Murraylands event All other actions have been completed. ACTION: H Norman to check that Mid Murray Landcare volunteers and Murray Plains Farmers Groups are included on the invitation list to volunteer event.
20.	 Member's Contributions Jim Godden: Thank you to the team members for the presentations that were given today, excellent to hear about the work that is being undertaken. Andrew Biele: Rumour has it that rabbits are going to be abundant. Concern that ARTC are not willing to allow control work on their rail line without ARTC personnel present, making work logistically difficult. Diminishing funding for rail line control work is similar to where funing decreased dramatically for Crown Land pest control many years go. Di Davidson: Wild Dogs should not be excluded as a feral pest on any presentation/media Future Board meetings Dangalli Dam Removal May – possible WAC members, Lameroo staff, Media and Comms, Potential financial partners, Box Flat Wild Dog coordinating committee.
21.	Any Other Business
	Nil
Prese	ntation / Discussion - 2pm
	Director Development and Environmental Services (Mid Murray Council) - Jake McVicar Mid Murray Council has recently endorsed its new strategic plan and one of the key stakeholders that Council peeds to strengthen its relationship is the Landscape Board.

Mid Murray Council has recently endorsed its new strategic plan and one of the key stakeholders that Council needs to strengthen its relationship is the Landscape Board. Four largest issues:

22. <u>Riverbank Slumping</u> – problem in southern areas, a scenic route closed for nearly 10 years due to this. Shackownerss not able to use public reserve. Has been downgraded from a state issue to a local issue for just 3 councils.

<u>Water and Water Security</u> – Mannum Waters has created a financial burden to cover evaporation from the Marina, cost to council \$1.1m to purchase permanent water to resolve. Council are keen to hear any strategies to manage this, asthey are currently competing



against ratepayers by purchasing water on the temporary market. Tied in with this is not being able to use re-use water from Effluent ponds

<u>Soil drift in the agricultural area</u> – Currently grading sand drift from roads annually but council looking at getting involved at ways to prevent the problem before it becomes an issue and creates expense for the council.

<u>Corellas</u> – Mid Murray council spend \$15,000 a year on control, which is really just relocating the problem. Corellas are another item that needs a collaborative approach with Councils, DEW and Landscape SA and for someone to own/manage the problem.

Discussion occurred on:

- Damage caused to roadsides, off road areas and crown and private land by illegal 4WD and motor bike riding.
- SA Water Effluent Ponds on floodplain
- Feral Cats

These issues require collaboration with multiple organisations for effective solutions.

An invitation was extended to Jake McVicar to attend the Mallee and Coorong Local Government meeting in July.

Next meeting details

Next meeting: May 27th at 10am, at Southern Mallee Council Chambers, Lameroo Board Performance Workshop: May 20th 2021 8.30am – 12.30pm at Berri MRLB offices Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel: May 25th at Berri MRLB offices

The meeting closed at 3pm

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ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 27 May 2021



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	l Riverland La	ndscape Board Meeting 4-21		
Date: 27 May 2	2021				
Start Times:	11.00am	11.00am			
Location:	Lameroo	Room:	Southern Mallee Council Chambers, Lameroo		
Present	Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Barb Cowey, Jim Godden (from 12.30pm), Jason Size,				
	Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), Denise Fowles (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Goodman (Manager, Strategy and Engagement) until end Item 8, Helane Norman (Executive Officer)				
	Item 4: Sandy Gunter (Team Leader Communications and Engagement), Jayne Miller (Media and communications)				
	Item 5: Renee Clark (Team Leader Administration), Simon Lease (Senior Management Accountant)				
	Item 6: Jason Taylor (CEO, Southern Mallee District Council), Jeff Nickolls (Mayor (Southern Mallee District Council)				
	Public: Gordon Hancock				
Apologies	Lisa Rowntree				

Item	Item Title
Prior	to the Public Meeting an in camera session was held with the General Manager.
PUB	LIC MEETING – 11.00am
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
1.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 10.30am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.
2.	Declaration of Interest Further disclosures – Jim Godden is now the Treasurer of the Moorook Field and Game Inc.
3.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (3-21) held 22 April 2021 The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 3-21 held 22 April 2021.



Presentations

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6.

Media and Communications Team - Sandy Gunter (Team Leader, Communications and Engagement)

4. The Communications and Engagement Team Leader presented an overview of the communications team giving the board insight into the capacity and capability of members of the team, and the challenges faced by communicating in multiple ways and platforms.

Business Services team – Renee Clark (Administration Team Leader) and Simon Lease (Senior Managment Accountant)

The Administration Team Leader and Senior Management Accountant summarised the work that is undertaken by the business services team, noting the decrease of 3.4 FTE staff since the transition to the Landscape Board. Financial management including meeting legislative requirements, and customer service along with management of HR, assets, accommodation, records, and board, committee and general Manager support are all carried out by the team.

The coming year will see the finalisation of the separation from DEW, new facilities for both main board offices, investigating improvements to customer service through advancements in technology, and development of staff to be able to undertake different roles.

Southern Mallee District Council – Jason Taylor (CEO) and Jeff Nickolls (Mayor)

The Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC) gave a presentation to the board on the Southern Mallee region, its uniqueness and the Council's strategies and priorities.

- Centred on agriculture and richest SEIFA score in MRLGA
- Protection of environment and landscapes linked to the richness of the community and importance of the region
- Ag town of the year Pinnaroo
- Work to minimise the impacts of climate change
- Adopted new strategic plan

Draft stage of developing action plan outlining 7 key themes for council, with 4 being relevant to the Landscape Board:

- 1. Climate smart business and agricultural practices
 - 2. Climate smart landscapes and habitats
 - 3. Climate smart resilient communities range of documents and communicated with staff and elected members, and also community, partnering other councils. Frost is very high impact also for the region
 - 4. Council leading by example

Council and Board collaboration:

- Pest and Weed Grant funding received by SMDC and Karoonda Council and contracting services of landscape Board staff to manage field operations. Potential to collaborate more on projects like this?
- Local Landscape Staff presence and office supported by council
 – Board are looking
 at options for rationalising property and keen to get local District officer employed
- Better communications about how the NRM levy collection translates to work/projects in Southern Mallee. Council have flyer that goes out with rates, potential to include Landscape info in rates notice as well.



Item Title Synergy between Council's vision /strategic plan and the Regional Landscape plan. Peak Roby Sherlock and Mallee Water Allocation plans – preparation for WAP review occurring, with SMDC involvement with the WAP process Regular connection between staff and between the board and council is vital Other discussion: Climate Change – Council priority which is great to see, PIRSA now have a climate change team which may be able to assist, SM region is fruit fly gate keeper so important for the region. Good to see opportunities and not just problems. Education team could also come out to schools in area Highlight the joint work currently being done. Murray Mallee Bushfire Management Committee – looking for senior staff to support the work undertaken with a pathway to the Minister

Lunch

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8.

Jaco Pauer (Parilla Premium Potatoes), Daridyn Hayward (Mallee & Coorong Advisory Committee), Jason Taylor and Jeff Nickolls (SMDC) Russell Norman and Geoff Redden (District Officers, Murraylands) and Gordon Hancock (landowner) joined the board for lunch.

Items for decision

1.15pm Regional Landscape Plan

The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided the Regional Landscape Plan for adoption by the board, along with the consultation report, as deliberated on at last week's workshop. A letter to the Minister seeking endorsement of the plan was provided for endorsement.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board adopted the final version of the regional landscape plan and supporting consultation report and approved the letter to the Minister seeking endorsement of the regional landscape plan.

The Board then considered the options for launching the Landscape Plan

That the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board support option C for the official regional launch of the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Plan.

The Chair thanked all staff and board members for the effort and input into the development of the Murraylands and Riverland Regional Landscape Plan.

ACTION: Chair to sign letter and plan package to be forwarded to Minister.

2021-22 Business Plan

The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented the 2021-2022 business plan for approval by the board, which has been finalised after the consultaion period ended early this month, and the approved plan will be provided to the Minister.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the feedback received on the draft 2021-22 Business Plan and

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the 2021-22 Business Plan as presented in Attachment 2.



Item Title Item Protection for vegetation of value in the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board The Manager Sustainable Landscapes presented a paper outlining the options available to the board and landholders for ongoing protection of vegetation who have Monarto plantings. Concern raised, considering investment made in the 70's to establish the plantings that the woodland plantings will be fragmented if not managed correctly. The board suggested that management of the woodlands should fall with DEW under current legislation, and would like to see the community consulted (include all landholders, even if not living in area) 9. Monarto Zoo and the Murray Bridge Council to gain their feelings on the importance of the woodlands in the area. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the opportunity recent decisions have now presented in our region; b. Noted that the recent decisions made by the Department may result in disquiet by landholders and conservationists, particularly woodland bird enthusiasts and; c. Advised staff to explore this issue further including the consideration of a public meeting. Response to PIRSA's review of feral goat policy The Manager Sustainable Landscapes provided information on the current PIRSA feral goat policy, and indicated that a letter had been received from PIRSA seeking the Board's position on the Feral Goat Policy, prior to a potential upcoming review. The presented paper provided PIRSA's 5 preferred options for managing goats across the landscape. Goats are a good source of revenue for landholders in the region, so disappointing to just cull them. The board would like a nuanced presentation from PIRSA including the economic impact of goats within our region, and programs that have been run successfully in other regions. Input to be sources from staff and the Mallee and Cooorong Advisory Committee. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: 10. a. Noted the region's position on feral goat management to date; b. Approved participation in a potential Feral Goat Policy review; c. Noted PIRSA's offer to present to the board on this topic and take PIRSA up on this offer for a presentation, nuanced to reflect this region. d. Endorsed seeking input from MRLB staff and the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee as part of the response e. Noted the activities the Board currently undertakes in relation to feral goat management. **ACTION:** Place goats on agenda for Mallee and Coorong Advisory committee **ACTION:** Request nuanced presentation from PIRSA **Committees & Sub-Committees** Finance Committee - 20 May 2021 The minutes from the Finance committee meeting held 20 May 2021 were provided to the

board, and the chair of the Finance committee provided an overview of the board's

11.

finances.



Item	Item Title
	A draft Service Level Agreement with DEW for services has been for the period 12 April 2021 – June 30 2022, but there are numerous amendments being requested.
	Information provided on funding being received and being distributed was well received.
	Additional funding received include the Landscape Priorities Fund project (Returning Functionality to South Olary Plains) and Water Infrastructure Operations funding.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board accepts the minutes from the finance committee.
	ACTION: Check the date of appointment of the independent Finance committee member.
	Gordon Hancock left the meeting.
	Water Advisory Committee – 30 April 2021
	Minutes of the Water Advisory meeting held 30 April 2021 were provided to the board.
	The Water Advisory Committee report to the Board. The Committee will be reviewed and an independent chair could be considered. Plan to increase the size of the committee from the lower region.
12.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Committee's discussion about water literacy, and accepted the minutes from the Water Advisory Committee.
	ACTION: Contact Tracey Strugnell re membership on the WAC.
	ACTION: Board Chair and GM to review the WAC TOR and consider the appointment of an independent chair.
	ACTION: To provide feedback on the Water Literacy proposals following the WAC and Water Planning Steering Committee input
	Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee – 19 April 2021
13.	Minutes of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee meeting held 19 April were provided to the board. The Manager Sustainable Landscapes highlighted correspondence received by the committee regarding damage occurring to road reserves as a result of motorbike riding, which is one of the items that the committee are looking to have on the agenda of the LG meeting in July.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board accepted the minutes from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee and noted the Committee's concerns about motorbike damage on road reserves.
	ACTION: Board to respond to the committee, who can respond to the landowner who raised the issue of motorbikes.
	Signicant or sensitive committee items
14.	Roadside vegetation and management has been an issue with every council, and will be a focus for the General Manager and will drive the LG forum in July.
Othe	r items
	Chair's Report
15.	The Chair provided a verbal report on her activities since the March Board meeting.

Attended State Landscape Strategy Day on 6 May in Adelaide - Department will turn

information into a strategy and an action plan.



Item	Item Title
	 Attended <u>Landscape Board Chairs forum</u> on 7 May in Adelaide
	 Speaker - PIRSA CE Michelle Edge on relationship between Landscape Boards and PIRSA
	 Aboriginal engagement – suggest aboriginal or first nations terminology Board elections – will be one prior to November 2022, separate to council elections but around the same time.
	 Attended <u>Water Planning Steering committee</u> meeting on 11 May. Attended <u>Water Advisory committee</u> meeting on 30 April. Attended Board performance review workshop 20 May.
	Other items New \$60m WEP program will be managed by the state. Pressure needs to be maintained to
	keep the both the first and the new WEP's moving. Attended MDBA tour looking at water deliverability and water shortages around the south western NSW and north eastern Victoria. Noted new large investment in Almonds in NSW. Board member raised that the sentiment appears to be that the benefits from the WEP's are funding new plantations,
	General Manager's Report The General Manager provided a report on his undertakings along with the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report, and includes the Board referrals report for April.
	The General Manager has been the board's representative on the Murray Mallee Bushfire Management Committee meetings with Manager Sustainable Landscapes as Proxy. The committee are looking at more input from us, with resilience a high priority for Local Government.
16.	 Karoonda farm fair, room for improvement in regard to width of marquee and ability of engagement. Report under the five priorities, could board consider proportionally dividing the levy funds into the five priorities
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the April General Manager's Report.
	ACTION: The Board to review the grassroots grants criteria (discuss divide between RLP priorities) well before the 2022 call.
	Monthly Performance Report
17.	The General Manager provided the April 2021 Monthly Performance Report which provides a succinct snapshot of activities against the the regional priorities and focus areas of the 20-21 Transitional Business Plan.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the April 2021 Monthly Performance Report.
	Grants - Natural Resource Management (NRM) Drought Resilience Program
18.	A successful grant was received by the Sustainable Farming program from the Future Drought Fund: Natural Resoure Management (NRM) Drought Resilience Grants Program which was titled 'Regenerative opportunities for increasing resilience in low rainfall farming systems'.
	The board congratulate the staff on their success and note that the Future drought fund (FDF) is large, and it would be useful to get an overview of projects under the FDF, link all projects creating a holistic FDF snapshot to look at obvious gaps and opportunities in the future.



Item	Item Title		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the successful grant application to the Future Drought Fund: Natural Resource Management (NRM) Drought Resilience Program - Grants		
	Potential Partnerships		
19.	 Board members are asked to look for opportunities: as we go about our lives can be either time, talent or money, with Philanthropic or private foundations, or businesses looking to give back to their community, that might have funds for a specific program with mutual benefit. for stewarding funds for groups and volunteer organisations or putting companies/parties in touch with groups who have projects instead of getting the money ourselves. ACTION: Board members and GM to work on partnerships. 		
	Correspondence		
20.	The correspondence was presented to the Board.		
	The Board noted the correspondence.		
21.	Action List All actions have been completed ACTION: Drought Policy - Incorporate things going on with other parties in the drought policy space, into our policy.		
22.	 Member's Contributions The Board noted a cautionary concern regarding its support for 'regenerative farming' and how that could be perceived by many farmers as being exclusive of other farming systems which also have laudable attributes. Riverland Volunteer event held Sunday 23 May was attended by about 70 people thanks to the Board members that attended. Native plants as gifts will be replicated at the Murraylands volunteer celebration. 		
	In Camera Meeting The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved 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 the General Manager, ELT members and Executive Officer, in order to consider, in confidence, two matters on the grounds of		
23.	 Section 7(3) (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead); Section 7(3) (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which— (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest; 		
	of the Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020.		
	Next meeting details – June 24 th 2021 at Tailem Bend Council Chambers		



Item	Item Title	
	A visit to the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Lameroo offices followed the In-	
	Camera meeting.	
	Meeting closed at 4pm.	

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 24 June 2021



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.

Date: 24 June	2021			
Start Times: 9.30am				
Location:	Tailem Bend	Room:	Coorong District Council Chambers	
	Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Barb Cowey (until end Item 12), Jim Godden, Lisa Rowntree, Jason Size			
	Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), Denise Fowles (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Goodman (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer)			
Present	Staff: Wendy Stubbs (Team Leader, Landscape Resilience), Darren Williss (Team Leader, Floodplains and Wetlands) (Items 1-6)			
	Guests: Giverney Rogers (Biosecurity Policy Officer, PIRSA) (Item 4)			
	Sam Blight (Coorong LAP member) Brian Lund (Coorong LAP member), Bridget Mather (Coorong Council CEO) (Item 13) Paul Simmons (Mayor, Coorong Council) (Items 13-17)			
Apologies				

tem PUBI	Item Title IC MEETING – 9.30am
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
1,	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.
2.	Declaration of Interest Further declarations:
	Greg Cock – no longer working with DEW funded project 'Flows for the future' Jim Godden, involved with Moorook Field and Game who applied for a grassroots grant, so will remove himself from the discussion conversation on the agenda.
3.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (4-21) held 27 May 2021 It was noted that Mallee Minders, based at Monarto Zoo are regularly planting in the
-	Monarto area, which complement the plantings outlined in the Vegetation Management issue discussed in Item 9 last meeting.



The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 4-21 held 27 May 2021.

Presentations

PIRSA – Feral Goat Policy (Giverny Rodgers)

Review of the Feral Goat policy) has occurred several times over recent years, the most recent being to include Landscape terminology and names and is with the Minister to approve now.

Current legislation and policy is not reducing goat numbers, and along with a number of changes that have occurred, another review is being considered.

The strong market for goat meat creates a disincentive for some land managers to desire a high level of control.

Giverny presented options (which have not been able to gain unanimous support previously) if a review is supported:

Option 1: Allow captured goats to be held for 3 months – currently 6 weeks, making allowable what is probably already happening.

Option 2: Not relevant to our area

Option 3: Managing impacts of goats together with sheep or cattle – sheep and cattle stocking rates may need to be lower to allow for additional goats

4. Options 4: Allow goats as livestock in pastoral areas – this is to manage total grazing pressure through livestock systems and require fencing, tagging

Option 5: Compliance with existing policy requirements – highlighted that current policy is not enforced and the aim is to increase compliance with existing requirements

Option 6: Something else that would reduce the impact of goats Discussion:

- Policy should outline the LSA Act protocols simply
- Important to work with and learn from interstate counterparts
- Consulting with farmers is really important to find what would work with farmers, what is achieavable by farmers
- Look at economic value for the goats,
- Issue is goats are living in national parks and they can only be mustered or controlled when they come out of the parks.
- Improving vector to market is the single best thing policy wise.
- Concern if allowed to be treated as livestock.
- River corridor where there is always water needs to be treated differently, to the biosphere where the water/dams have been removed.

South Olary Plains Landscape Priority Fund project - Wendy Stubbs

The team leader, landscape resilience provided an overview of the successful \$700,000 Landscape Priority Fund project

This land (850,000ha north of Berri) is owned and managed for conservation by a number of parties:

- BirdLife Australia
- Australian Landscape Trust
- NPWS SA

5.

- NSW NPWS
- Federation University
- Australian Wildlife conservancy



These parties along with Zoos SA, First Nations, Local community members and Trees for Life, ran a Conservation Action Planning process to manage the land for conservation outcomes.

Six themes to be covered under the grant will be:

- Address total grazing pressure remove standing water, rewatering the landscape and Aboriginal heritage
- Increasing restoration capacity- seed collection, upgrading seed production area, restoration trials for low cost and best outcome.
- Identify appropriate fire regimes surveys to understand better and work on fire management timing and position of prescribed burns.
- Advance indigenous engagement reconnect first nations with landscape where this
 has been lost and facilitate workshop to find out what the priority actions would be
 and assist in delivering the actions
- Enhance threatened Mallee Bird conservation
- Investigate reintroduction of species that are no longer there.

Engagement will include pastoralists in the region.

Water Infrastructure Operations Funding for Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement – Darren Willis

The Team Leader, Wetlands and Floodplains provided an update on the work of the wetlands team and outlined the Wetlands program funding base. Included in the \$2.272m received is a recently negotiated amount from DEW through a Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement. This is for a range of services, technical expertise and monitoring provided by the board to enable DEW to effectively operate the water infrastructure along the SA River Murray and provide direction in wetlands management. The board has not previously been financially compensated for this work.

In camera session with the General Manager

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved 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 the General Manager, in order to consider, in confidence, matters on the grounds of Section 7(3) (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead); of the Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020.

Items for decision

recommendations.

6.

Grassroots Grants final funding allocations

Jim Godden reported potential conflict of interest with Moorook Field and Game and grassroots grants.

Board members were presented with the recommended allocations of funding to applicants of Grassroots Grants in our region, provided by the Grassroots Grants Panel.

Discussion occurred around the decision not to fund one grant, with regards to possible reputational risk regarding funding of capital equipment that could later be used for personal gain. Support was received from all board members on the panel's



Item	Item Title
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the final allocations of funding to applicants under the 2021-22 Grassroots Grants Program, as proposed in Attachment 1.
	Board performance report
0	The General Manager provided a draft evaluation of Board performance following discussions at a workshop on 20 May.
8.	The Board finalised the draft response on the evaluation of Board Performance, endorsed it and instructed the General Manager to provide it to Minister Speirs by 30 June 2021.
	Water Literacy
	The Manager Strategy and Engagement provided the Board with options for the Boards Water Literacy Program after a Board workshop on 14 April and discussion with the Water Advisory Committee late in April. Discussion:
9.	 Pg 29 continued activity by the Education team; information about the Murray Darling Agreement and the Murray Darling Basin Plan needs to be included. Desire to include 'facilitate others telling the water story', would require additional resources, but some facilitation would be included as resources allow. Water Literacy will be included on the Water Advisory committee workplan and considered several times throughout the coming year.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the recommended option (option 1) for its water literacy program.
10.	South Australian Government Climate Change Action Plan 2021 -2025 – Board commitments in the draft implementation schedule. The Board has received correspondence from the Department of Environment Chief Executive seeking endorsement on board's commitments in the Implementation Schedule of the recently developed SA Government Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the implementation schedule developed to accompany the South Australian Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025.
	Policies and Procedures for approval
	The General Manager introduced the following policies to the board that had been approved by the General Managers recently.
11.	 MR FIN-02 KMP Related Parties Policy and Procedure MR FIN-03 Asset Management Policy MR GOV-07 Freedom of Information Policy MR WHS-01 Work Health and Safety Policy for Board and Committee Members MR WHS-01 Work Health and Safety Procedure for Board and Committee Members
	The Chair reminded board members to ensure they comply with the WHS policy and procedure for Board and committee members.



	Item Title
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorse the following policies and procedures: 1. MR FIN-02 KMP Related Parties Policy and Procedure 2. MR FIN-03 Asset Management Policy 3. MR GOV-07 Freedom of Information Policy 4. MR WHS-01 Work Health and Safety Policy for Board and Committee Members 5. MR WHS-01 Work Health and Safety Procedure for Board and Committee Members
	Service Level Agreement with DEW 2021/22
	The Business Services Manager presented the Service Level Agreement between DEW and the Board for the period April 2021 to June 2022. This supersedes the previous agreement and the following detail was highlighted:
12.	 DEW information technology services and infrastructure will be used with a fixed cosper FTE employee and then additional licensing fees as required Other mandated costs include accounts receivable services, Department of Treasurand Finance services, Water Planning and Management costs, and administration fee for the Landscape Services branch of DEW;
	 Limited additional services may be purchased from DEW on a fee-for-service basis; Reduction in the total expense of the SLA and increase in the Water Managemen charges (increase of 2.5% instead of 2%) will have a \$24,000 CR impact on the amount
	payable. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Service Level Agreemen with the Department for Environment & Water (DEW); and
	payable. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Service Level Agreemen with the Department for Environment & Water (DEW); and The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Presiding Member to execute the final agreement for the period April 2021 – June 2022. Lunch
	payable. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Service Level Agreemen with the Department for Environment & Water (DEW); and The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Presiding Member to execute the final agreement for the period April 2021 – June 2022.



• Council currently doing a weed management plan – partnering opportunity

Committees & Sub-Committees

Finance Committee - verbal

The Finance committee met on 22nd June, and due to late meeting minutes will be presented at the next meeting.

14. The Chair reported that these is a significant amount of funding coming in, which will lead to a significant net cash position at end of year.

The General Manager and Chair acknowledged the work done by the Manager Business Services and the Finance Team on the SLA.

Water Advisory Committee - verbal

Committee meeting papers were circulated to the board. The Manager Strategy and Engagement provided a verbal overview of the meeting held on 17th June. Topics on the agenda were environmental watering plan, Delivery capacity and Water Security. Ideas raised at the committee will form part of a workplan which will be presented to the

next meeting.

A response to the water Security statement has been drafted and will be circulated to be

A response to the water Security statement has been drafted and will be circulated to board members.

Signicant or sensitive committee items

- DEW Service Level Agreement was the significant piece of work that came through Finance.
- Discussions have occurred with the chairs of the WAC and MCAC, with TOR to be reviewed in conjunction wit the chairs.
- Clarified the approach with the WAC and the MCAC, and the TOR will be reviewed in the coming months in conjunction with the chairs. Workplans to be developed for each committee, with both committees needing more members.

Other items

17.

18.

15.

16.

Chair's report

Attended WAC meeting (17.6.21), Finance committee meeting (22.6.21), a 2 hour measuring success workshop (22.6.21) and the Murraylands Volunteer event in Murray Bridge (20.6.21) – was an excellent day attended by over 60 people with about half attending the Paiwalla Wetlands tour after the lunch and presentations.

Landscape chairs are awaiting the state landscape strategy, finalised an MOU between PIRSA and Boards, which will come to this board separately.

The Board acknowledge Roger Wicke's efforts and other involved staff in organising the Volunteer celebration at Murray Bridge

General Manager's Report

The General Manager provided a report on his undertakings along with the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report, and includes the Board referrals report for May along with the Strategic Risk Register.

- Met with Monique White (MDBA) who will supply the board with a monthly update on MDBA activities.
- Briefed the MRLGA CEO's meeting on 21.6.21

Minutes of the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board meeting 5-21 held 24 June 2021



tem	Item Title		
	 Connector Environmental Impact study, unlikely to stop the connector, but have responded to the study, and will monitor the progress. Strategic Risk Register is updated every 2nd Month. 		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the May General Manager's Report.		
19.	Monthly Performance Report The General Manager provided the May 2021 Monthly Performance Report which provides a succinct snapshot of activities against the the existing regional priorities and focus areas of the 20-21 Transitional Business Plan. Quarterly reporting will continue into the future, next report in October, for the first quarter of the 21/22 year.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the May 2021 Monthly Performance Report.		
20.	Correspondence The correspondence was presented to the Board. The Board noted the correspondence.		
21.	Action List The Action list was reviewed.		
22.	Member's Contributions Inclusion with council rates notices: The Southern Mallee Council made an offer to include information on the levy with council rates notices – queried if it is possible to do this across the region, possibly include a % breakdown of how much is spent on what. Thank you: Di Davidson on behalf of the board would sincerely like to thank Barbara Cowe and Lisa Rowntree for their work and time on the board, which comes to an end at the end of this month, thereby establishing a pattern of succession for the board.		
23.	In Camera Items if required Not required		
24.	Next meeting details – July 22 – Renmark Council Chambers.		
	Closed at 2.46pm		

ENDORSED	
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Name Aan	Con 1

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

ate: 22 /07/



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 6-21			
Date: 22 July 2	2021		
Start Times: 9.30am			
Location:	MS Teams	Room:	
Present	Andrew Meddl Denise Fowles	e (General Mar (Manager, Sus	Biele, Greg Cock, Jim Godden, Jason Size nager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), tainable Landscapes), Amy Goodman (Manager, elane Norman (Executive Officer)
Apologies	Nil		

ltem	Item Title
PUBL	C MEETING – 9.30am
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
1.	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.
2	Declaration of Interest
2.	No further declarations
	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (5-21) held 24 June 2021
3.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 5-
	21 held 24 June 2021.
Prese	ntations
4.	Investment and Information Program – postponed until face to face meeting.
IN CA	MERA MEETING
	The board moved In Camera to discuss several items at 9.50am
	The public meeting recommenced at 10.50am
PUBL	IC MEETING
5	Renmark Paringa Council – Mayor Neil Martinson and CEO Tony Siviour – postponed due t

5.

virtual meeting.



Item **Item Title** 6. Presentations from lunch guests – postponed due to virtual meeting Items for decision Feral Goat Policy - draft response to PIRSA review The Manager sustainable Landscapes provided a draft response to PIRSA's correspondence regarding reviewing the feral goat policy review. The response has been drafted after a presentation by PIRSA at the June board meeting, input from staff and input from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory committee. Discussion: Queried the benefits of keeping captured goats for additional 6 weeks. Landscape board are responsible for compliance to policy, would we have resources to undertake compliance The Board manage feral goats and organise culls, but do not manage farmed goats. Suggest it be prudent if landscape boards and the pastoral board meet with PIRSA to 7. discuss this in the one space. The General Manager to amend the letter to include this and be more assertive regarding the review. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the input from staff and Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee on feral goat policy review; b. Considered the draft response to PIRSA's correspondence in line with the five c. Endorsed the amended draft response to PIRSA's correspondence with additions as discussed. **ACTION:** GM to amend letter as discussed 2021-22 Instruments of Authorisations and Delegations New Treasurers Instructions (TI18) came into effect on 1 July 2021, and ensures the Chief Executive (General Manager for Landscape Boards) has a robust and transparent procurement authority framework for the board, it is internally reviewed annually, with systems and procedures in place to maximize compliance with all Procurement, Sourcing and Contract Policies. This is working under the DEW framework. The Manager Business Services outlined the Instruments of Authorisations required to meet these obligations, which authorise board members and staff to undertake procurement activities, enter into contracts and grant agreements, make payments and disbursements, 8. write off debt and undertake activities under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Act) on behalf of the Board. Two new instruments include a bad debts policy that allows for write off of under \$5 debts, and asset disposal provides for the General Manager to approve disposal of assets. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Approved the Presiding Member of the Board, sign the Instruments of Authorisation on behalf of the Board, to be executed under Common Seal; b. Approved the delegation of powers as per the Instruments of Authorisation and the delegation of those powers to the offices listed in the attached schedules, including



Item **Item Title** contract execution - purchase cards; procurement - contract pre-approval, procurement, payment and disbursements; and debt write off; c. Approved the General Manager to sub-delegate powers of authorisation to staff employed by the Board; d. Noted the Department for Environment & Water (DEW) has developed an internal procurement framework in accordance with the requirements of Treasurer's Instruction 18 - Procurement (TI18) and the Board will use the procurement framework of DEW and will fully comply with the requirements of the framework; e. Noted the DEW Procurement Framework will be in operation from 1 July 2021. **Endorsement of Policies and Procedures** The General Manager provided the board with three recently reviewed policies that were adopted by the board 12 months ago, with minor amendments for their approval. The three policies are: • MR GOV-01 Common seal policy • MR GOV-02 In-Camera meetings MR GOV-03 Out of Session Decisions Policy 9. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the following policies and procedures: a. **MRGOV-01 Common Seal Policy** MRGOV-02 In Camera meetings Policy b. MRGOV-03 Out of Session Decisions Policy C. ACTION: EO to ensure that in-camera documents are marked confidential **Committees & Sub-Committees Finance Committee** Minutes from the previous two finance meetings were provided, along with an overview of the current financial position of the Board. June meeting minutes July meeting minutes The Chair of the finance Committee highlighted from the Income and Expenditure report, 10. that at June 30 there is a significant surplus of around \$9.5m (first draft) due to funds being received for 2021/22 projects. Thank you to Manager Business Services and Senior Management Accountant and their team for managing all documentation and finance committee over the last 12 months. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board accepted the Finance Committee minutes. **Water Advisory Committee Minutes June meeting** The board were presented with the minutes of the June Water Advisory meeting. 11. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board accepted the Water Advisory Committee minutes. Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee 12. The Manager Sustainable Landscapes provided a report and minutes on the 30 June meeting, and a verbal update on the 19 July Local Government forum, highlighting:



Item **Item Title** The barriers to roadside management include limitations of legislation, limited capacity to enforce the law, and determining property ownership Mid Murray council have agreed to work on a proposal with the committee to go to the board and MRLGA Discussion: This is an issue across the state with all rural councils. Queried if it was worth the board supporting this with a letter to our Minister to effect legislative change, and to John Schutz, which might effect action through a different channel. Support an education and facilitation program, Support somewhere within our region that people can ride trail bikes without damage to native vegetation Need protection for the areas that are at risk especially on roadsides. Await proposal from committee and know that collaboration and more work required. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the report and minutes of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCAC) meeting held on 30 June 2021. b. Noted an issue previously raised with the Board, namely the issue of motorbikes on roadsides, will be the focus of the Local Government forum being held on 19 July 2021 in Karoonda. Invited speakers include SAPOL, DEW Native Veg Unit Manager, DIT and CFS. c. Noted the confusion surrounding native vegetation management by the farming community. d. Noted that members' terms are currently due to expire in September. **Committees TOR and Membership** The Chair and General Manager have reviewed the Terms of Reference and membership of the following four committees of the board. Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee TOR will also need to be approved by the Limestone Coast Landscape Board Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee Membership and Chair of the committee along with the future of the committee was discussed, other members are being sought by the committee. Water Advisory committee Don Plowman has agreed to chair the Water Advisory Committee for 2 years, and Sam Blight is to be added as an additional member 13. Water Planning Steering Committee. All meetings of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee, the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee and the Water Advisory Committee are open to the public, with agendas and minutes to appear on the website. That the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a) Endorse the terms of reference, Chairs and membership of the: i. Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee (attachments 1 and 2); ii. Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (attachments 3 and 4); iii. Water Advisory Committee (Attachments 5 and 6);



Item	Item Title			
	 b) Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Water Planning Steering Committee; c) Request that the next meeting of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee consider a report on the performance of the Committee and whether it needs to continue in its current form, continue in an amended form or be discontinued; d) Approve that the Board Chair, with the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Committee, be given delegated approval to appoint additional members to a committee, consistent with its Terms of Reference, with a period consistent with that of other members of the same committee and, in any case, not exceeding two years. 			
	ACTION: Ensure that agendas and minutes of committees listed appear on the website			
Other	items			
14.	Chair's report - verbal The chair reported that • the next Chairs forum is in September • meetings with various staff members have occurred.			
	General Manager's Report			
	Incorporating the Monthly update on Referral requests activity and WHS report			
	Discussion:			
15.	 Difficulty foreseen for public meetings due to COVID restrictions for the Marne Saunders WAP review. Board's commitment to ALOC – an element is continuing. In addition we have recently submitted a funding application for Riverland Rangers ALOC program WHS Report: Board members will be notified of any strategic issues and major operational incidents will be included within the weekly email to board members. 			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the General Manager's Report.			
	General Managers Performance Review			
16.	The General Manager provided the board with a copy of the end of cycle review of the General Manager Performance agreement, which will be shared with all staff following the board meeting.			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's			
	Performance Agreement.			
	Correspondence			
17.	The correspondence list for July was presented to the Board.			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.			
18.	Action List			
	The board noted actions on the action list.			
	Member's Contributions:			
19.	Greg Cock: Now comfortable with the direction of measuring success that the board is taking and happy that monitoring will achieve the required result.			



Item	Item Title
	Jason Size: Keen to see further engagement and interaction with First Nations in the
	Riverland, in programs and with staff.
20	Any Other Business
20.	Nil
	Next meeting details – 26 August 2021 at Renmark Paringa Council offices. Re-invite guests and presenters that were invited for this meeting.
21.	Mid-August; Workshop on Communications and Engagement, and Change – to discuss the look and feel of the board by June 2023.
	ACTION: Helane to canvas availability for a workshop in Mid-August
	Close 12.40pm

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 26 August 2021



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.

Date: 26 Augu	st 2021		
Start Times:	9.30am		
Location:	Renmark Room: Renmark Paringa Council Chambers		
Present	Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Jim Godden, Sandy Iosefellis, Caroline Phillips, Jason Size Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager) Denise Fowles (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Goodman (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Alyson Modlinski (Team Leader, Investment and Information), Amy Lee (Team Leader, Planning and MERI), Sylvia Clarke (Citizen Science Project Officer), Eilidh Wilson (Senior Project Officer Planning and Policy). Item 6: Tony Siviour (CEO, Renmark Paringa District Council), Henry Du Reiu (Deputy Mayor Renmark Paringa District Council) Lunch Guests: Brett Kennedy, Kym Manning, Humphrey Howie, Graham Frahn (Citizen Science Award recipient)		
Apologies	Nil		

	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check	
1.	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.	
	A special welcome to newly appointed board members Caroline Phillips and Sandy Iosefellis.	
2.	Declaration of Interest	
	No further declarations	
	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (6-21) held 22 July 2021	
3.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 6- 21 held 22 July 2021.	
Pres	entations entati	
4.	Investment and Information Team Presentation (Alyson Modlinski)	
	The Team Leader, Investment and Information gave a presentation what the Investment and Information team do and who they are. Major achievements have been all arrangements for	



Grassroots Grants, especially broadening the recipient base (as compared to who used to receive them) and finalising the 2021/22 Business plan.

Discussion:

Native animals can be captured, but to date it has just been pest plant and animals, working with wetlands team now on capturing other creatures.

Collecting digital data - this is where efficiencies will occur.

Limited efficiencies have been realised collaborating across regions as there are many differences between regions.

Planning and MERI Team presentation (Amy Lee)

The Team Leader, Planning and MERI introduced members of the team, and as board members would have a good insight into the planning aspect of the team, explained that the presentation would only cover Referrals, Climate Change and Citizen Science.

<u>Referrals:</u> Eilidh Wilson elaborated on the importance of referrals, the types of referrals that are referred to the board, and prioritising the comments made by triaging due to resource constraints.

Questioned if the triaging of referrals be included on the risk register?

5. <u>Climate Change:</u> The IPCC have recently released the sixth assessment report indicating that change is happening faster than predicted, questioning how active the board should be in this space. Further discussion on Climate Change needs to be required in the future.

<u>Citizen Science:</u> Sylvia Clarke explained what projects the citizen science program are currently involved in, in conjunction with other MRLB teams. A Citizen Science Project Officer position has been advertised.

ACTION: Include Triaging of referrals on the risk register

ACTION: Include Climate Change discussion in a future agenda

Alison Modlinski left the meeting.

IN CAMERA MEETING

The meeting moved in Camera to discuss several items from 10.30am until 12 noon.

PUBLIC MEETING reconvened at 12pm

Renmark Paringa Council – Deputy Mayor Henry Du Reiu and CEO Tony Siviour

Renmark Paringa Council has an environmental officer fully funded by Council (Myles Fauser).

The environmental officer is partnering with the Berri Barmera District Council on a Lake Bonney Caring for Country project, with the balance of time being spent on the Australian water stewardship program.

Other items of interest:

6.

- Educational work with students.
- Assisting with PFA fruit fly key messaging
- McCormack centre being leased to PIRSA, McCormack centre is looking for a long term tenant after PIRSA have finished,
- Bookmark Creek project,



Environmental watering

Concerns:

- illegal mooring of houseboats (probably not grey water compliant) on main river or Ral Ral Creek, for long periods of time, degraded river banks, water quality, and exploring possibility of development to extend off river marina/inland housing project. Also lobbying for tidying up of houseboats
- support environmental watering, but causing problems with riverbank slumping
- Salt is a problem with trees dying, questioned if anything be done with environmental watering to fix this.
- Corellas would be the biggest issue for overabundant native species.
- Kangaroos are an issue at Chowilla and Calperum and also Katarapko. (DEW issue)
- Pigs, goats are also occurring at various locations in the Riverland.

Lunch: The Board was joined by Graham Frahn, Kym Manning, Humphrey Howie and Brett Kennedy for lunch.

Di Davidson presented a citizen Science award to Graham Frahn for his extensive contribution to Citizen Science and monitoring on his property at Taylorville, and in the Riverland.

Presentations from lunch guests

<u>Kym Manning</u> (SA Carp Frenzy): biggest carp fishing competition in Australia, with \$70,000 raised for community projects.

Built fish hotels with now around 100 in Lake Bonney, biggest manmade structure to put into Lake Bonney, and also added dead river red gums for additional habitat.

<u>Humphrey Howie</u> (Chair of Renmark Irrigation Trust RIT)): provided the board with an insight into the RIT, and the alliance for water stewardship certification.

- Commended the Board for getting the Water Advisory Committee and the Water Management Steering committee going,
- Keen to have consensus of the carryover policy in place.
- Concern of build-up of litter in the box flats, which could be dangerous in the event of a fire.

Brett Kennedy (SA Fruit Fly Program)

Brett provided a presentation on the Fruit Fly outbreak, what it looks like now, and what will be occurring up to the end of the year for the 5 concurrent outbreaks in Riverland, as well as in Adelaide.

Amy Lee, Eilidh Wilson and Sylvia Clarke left the meeting.

Items for decision

7.

PIRSA Wild Dog program report and request for financial contribution

 PIRSA's Wild Dog Coordinator, Heather Miller provided a written report on the Wild Dog Trapper program and requested board funding support for the program for the 2021-22 year.



The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a. Noted the financial request made by PIRSA;
- Approved provision of the requested \$18,750 to the Wild Dog Trapper Program for 2021/22, as the final year of the original program; and
- c. Resolved to forensically consider costs and benefits of any further requests.

State Landscape Strategy

The General Manager presented an update on status of the State Landscape Strategy being steered by Landscape Services as per Part 3, Section 44 (1) of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019. Feedback has been requested from key stakeholders before public consultation begins.

Further comments to be received from members this week and added to Greg's comments.

It is an overarching high level document, and generally the board agree with the content.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board authorises staff to respond to this consultation to support the Board's views and to include Board Members submissions.

Committees & Sub-Committees

9.

11.

Finance Committee

August minutes from the Finance Committee meeting were provided to the board.

Statement of financial position - total assets of \$14.18m, liabilities of \$4.168m, leaving retained earnings (net assets) @ 30 June 2021 of \$10.012m, which will be accounted for by future liabilities.

The <u>Financial Statements</u> for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board for the year ended 30 June 2021 have been forwarded to the Auditor Generals Department. Thank you to Michelle and the team for pulling this together in a tight time frame.

10. Working Capital Requirements

The Business Services Manager presented a paper outlining the necessity to retain working capital to cover costs in the first 3 months of each financial year, prior to receiving levies from councils and licence holders.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

- a. Accepted the Finance Committee minutes.
- b. Noted the requirement to retain \$2.7m as Working Capital.
- c. Noted that ELT approved the holding of \$2.7m as a cash reserve to be utilised as Working Capital on August 9, 2021.

Water Advisory Committee Minutes August meeting

The Water Advisory Committee met on August 12th and provided meeting minutes to the board. This was the first meeting chaired by new Chair, Don Plowman.

Concern that the committee was writing a letter without board's knowledge or approval.

ACTION: Request change in minutes of the August WAC (The ACTION about Don writing a letter to DEW, needs to be changed to Don requests the board to approach DEW...)

ACTION: Ensure committee meeting minutes are provided to all committee members after the meeting and prior to them coming to the Board.



Matters of significance need to be identified and noted in the minutes.

ACTION: That 'Delivery Shortfall' be on the September Board agenda.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board accepted the Water Advisory Committee minutes, with the requested changes.

Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee

The Manager Sustainable Landscapes presented monthly reports and the minutes from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee's two recent meetings, along with their planned Workplan for the 2021-22 year.

Along with meetings, the committee are planning to hold a volunteer celebration, a sustainable agriculture forum, participation in Karoonda Farm Fair and another Local Government forum. The issues and tactics need to be that of the community, and clarification of the role of the committee is required. The Workplan will be considered at the next board meeting when the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee attend.

As a result of the Local Government forum held in July the committee, along with representatives from the Mid Murray Council, have developed a discussion paper on Roadside impacts of Trail bikes and 4 wheel drivers in the Mallee, which they would like the Board to approve for circulation to Councils.

Stephanie Evans has resigned from the MCAC, but will still provide updates to the committee on the Mantung Maggea Land Management Group

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

- Noted the report from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee.
- Noted the resignation of Stephanie Evans from MCAC
- Noted MCAC's appreciation for the support from Tony Randall over many years.
- Endorsed Lucy Kluge as a new member of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee.
- Approved circulation of the paper developed after the Local government forum in July, to discuss motorbikes on roadsides to Councils in the Murraylands and Riverland.

ACTION: Chair to write a letter of acknowledgement to the committee.

ACTION: Provide TOR's and Acronyms to new members.

ACTION: The Southern Mallee Pest Weed Project be presented to the board.

Sensitive and Significant Issues

Financial Management compliance program

The General Manager provided an overview of what is required under Treasurers Instruction 28 (TI 28) where it is mandated that the Chief Executive must develop, implement, document and maintain a robust and transparent Financial Management Compliance Program each financial year. This was completed by ELT on the 21 July 2021, noted by the finance committee and been presented to the board for approval.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Financial Management Compliance Program (FMCP) for the year ending 30 June 2021.

Other items

13.



	Chair's report – verbal		
14.	The Chair reported that:		
	Chair's forum will be held on September 8		
	Attended RDA meeting on August 12 in Berri Attended Water Advisory Committee meeting on August 13 in Berri		
	 Attended Water Advisory Committee meeting on August 12 in Berri Unavailable for MRLGA meeting on August 13. 		
	General Manager's Report		
15.	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 and the strategic risk register for August.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Referrals report and the Risk Register).		
	Correspondence		
16.	The correspondence list for August was presented to the board.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.		
17.	Action List		
17.	The board noted actions on the action list.		
	Member's Contributions		
	<u>First Nations engagement</u> - Jem and Chris are working on a date that will suit RMMAC and the Board.		
18.	Amy Goodman has resigned as Manager Strategy and Engagement after a long involvement		
	with this organisation. The Chair presented Amy with flowers and thanked her for her		
	services to the Landscape Board and preceding boards over the last 21 years.		
19.	Other In Camera Items if required		
	Nil		
20.	Next meeting details – 23 September at Murray Bridge		
	Close at 3.04pm		

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Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 23/9/2021



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.

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

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



Item Title Item Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCAC) - Roger Wickes 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. 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. Current items of interest are: 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) Discussion: 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 4. 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. **ACTION:** Andrew will follow up on the landholder brochure on website **ACTION:** Denise to follow up on Trail bike paper – to councils, back to attendees at the meeting, and to the MRLGA **ACTION:** Helane to ensure that the monthly GM report be provided to committees Mallee and Peake Roby Sherlock WAP amendments project plan The Water Resources Manager has prepared a project plan outlining the objectives, 5. 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



Item	Item Title
	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.
	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.
	Water Advisory Committee (WAC) - Don Plowman
	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.
	Don reported on the following issues to be covered:
	Aither report – need to define the parameters around carryover
12.	 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.
PUBL	IC MEETING 11am
Prese	ntations
	Water Allocation Planning – Lyz Risby
6.	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.
	Rural City of Murray Bridge
	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.
7.	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.
	The Council and Board are important strategic partners, with the strategic plans between the two bodies aligning easily.
	Of major concern for the Council are:
	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
	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



Item	Item Title		
	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

Southern Mallee Pest and Weed Project - Senior District Officer Russell Norman

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 onground operations.

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.

9. Discussion:

- 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

ACTION: GM and Caroline Phillips to discuss how this program can be showcased with MRLGA

Items for decision

Policy Review: Parental Leave Funding Policy

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.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed MR FIN-04 Parental Leave Funding Policy and Procedure.

Statement of Commitment to First Nations

The General Manager presented a Statement of Commitment to the board for endorsement,



Item Item Title

which was endorsed by the Landscape Board Chairs early in September.

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.

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.

Committees & Sub-Committees

Finance Committee

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.

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.

11. **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.

ACTION: Board members to contact the Presiding Member if interested in joining the committee

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and minutes of the September meeting.

Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee

Discussion:

13.

- 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.

ACTION: Draft a template for a board report from both advisory committees.

Sensitive and Significant Issues

4. Nil

15.

Items for Noting

Chair's report

The Chair provided a written report outlining the following:

- Attended the Landscape Board Chairs Forum on September 8, 2021, which was attended by Minister Speirs
 - o Discussion on a Reconciliation Action Plan
 - o 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.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.



ltem	Item Title
	General Manager's Report
16.	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.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Referrals report).
	General Manager's Performance Agreement
17.	The General Manager presented the signed General Manager's performance agreement for noting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the final version of the General Manager's Performance Agreement.
	Correspondence
18.	The correspondence list for September was presented to the board.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.
10	Action List
19.	The board noted actions on the action list.
	Member's Contributions/Other Business
	Weather Station issues: Any weather station problems can be reported to Jeremy Nelson.
20.	<u>Presentation to Board</u> requested by Greg Burns (metered water Compliance Inspector) on illegal extraction of water.
	Bookmark Creek: DEW is working on Bookmark Creek, as part of the \$37m federal funded project. DEW also met with Jim Godden.
	MRLB event QR code evaluation form: 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.
	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.
	<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.
21.	Michelle Finch and Helane Norman left the meeting.
	An In camera session with the General Manager and the board was held.
22.	Next meeting details – 27 and 28 October at Murray Bridge. Details to be confirmed. Financial training will be included in the afternoon of the 28th October.
	The meeting closed at 4.30pm.

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Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 28 October 2021



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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	l Landscape B	oard Meeting 9-21 - Public
Date: 28 Octob	per 2021		
Start Times:	8.30am		
Location:	2 Sturt Reserve Road, Murray Bridge	Room:	Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting Room
Present	Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Sandy Iosefellis, Jason Size Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Denise Fowles (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Amy Lee (Team Leader, Planning and MERI)		
Apologies	Jim Godden (on telephone for Finance report only), Caroline Phillips		

Item	Item Title		
PUBL	PUBLIC MEETING – 9.30am		
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check		
1.	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.		
	Declaration of Interest		
	Additional possible conflicts declared:		
2.	 Greg Cock is now contracted by Livestock SA to deliver a Future Drought fund project Jason Size works with Growsmart program. 		
	ACTION: Conflict of Interest form to members that have updated their declaration.		
	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting 8-21 held 23 September 2021		
3.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 8-21 held 23 September 2021.		
4.	General Manager's Report 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 risk register, quarterly WHS report and the September referral report.		
	Discussion on First Nations engagement and incorporating this into a visit to Calperum next year. Jem Tesoriero be invited to attend.		
	Animal and Plant control is occurring to keep pests to a manageable level, eradication is not likely to occur for many species.		



Item Item Title

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Risk Register, Quarterly WHS report and Referrals report).

Items for decision

Grassroots Grants Round 2 Review

The General Manager presented a paper, provided by the Team Leader Partnerships and Engagement and the Team leader Information and Investment, on the review of the Grassroots Grants program for 2021-22, especially the application process for, and strategic and technical evaluation and assessment of, this funding.

Board members who were members of the 20/21 GG panel provided feedback on the process, indicating that they felt they did not know the whole picture, and would prefer to be engaged in the discussion, but not be looked to any final decision.

Recommendations for improving these processes have been made to the board, who were in favour of implementing the following:

- Direction from the Board as to the guidelines provided to the potential applicants, that they should provide specific guidance reflecting any specific priority of the Board;
- Work with the Sustainable Agriculture team to review whether or not to align timing of Grassroots Grants and Ag Knowledge Grants;
- Work with Communications team to investigate new options for promoting the program's launch;
- Continue to use the SmartyGrants online grants program;
- Increase the level of detail in the application questions relating to on-ground works to ensure that the proposed methods, materials etc are better understood by assessors;
- Number of minor text improvements within guidelines, forms and communications;
- Improve presentation / format of project summaries for the assessment panel to make key information easier to locate prior to and during the workshop;
- Develop **terms of reference** for the assessment panel to clarify roles, establish a chair, and identify processes to resolve disagreement, etc.;
- Board to consider increasing the level of grant funding during the Business Plan budget review process; and
- Seek advice from DEW legal regarding the potential for applicants to sell equipment / materials purchased with grant funding.

Discussion:

- Communications to community needs to focus on the other work that is undertaken by the board, not just Grassroots grants. Communication needs to be relative to the amount of money.
- Pleasing that we could fund nearly every applicant.
- A larger number of smaller grants is good, for better coverage
- Andrew Biele is available to be on the Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel if needed.

ACTION: Follow the above recommendations when organising next year's grants program **ACTION:** Amy/Jem to organise a Teams Discussion between Greg Cock and Jason Size and the Investment and Information Team and NRM Communities team.



Item	Item Title				
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the recommendations from the review of the 2021-22 Grassroots Grants Program and instructs staff to implement these as part of preparations for the 2022-23 Grassroots Grants Program.				
6.	Annual evaluation of the 2020-21 business plan The Team Leader, Planning and MERI, provided an extensive evaluation report and a two-page annual highlights report to board members. The board provided the following feedback: There is no need to share the whole evaluation report to the public, but rather a few case studies highlighted in depth A large print of the infographic should be placed in reception areas of offices A lot of detail is lost when converting to 2 page highlights – need to be 4 pages Interactive online format is preferred for most information Agree to an Annual Highlights Report – 4 pages - for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board being produced in October of each year followed by project story maps that provide a richer more interactive experience, being published by December Discussion Climate Change and what the board should do in this space, including having evidence of what currently occurs Percentages of community connections made puts the total number of connections into perspective. The evaluation report undersells all the work the staff do in partnership with others, and needs to give itself more credit for what staff do/instigate ACTION: Amy to organise the 4 page annual highlights report and send to board for comments out of session. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the findings of the 2020-21 annual evaluation report; b. Advised that several case studies in depth from the annual evaluation report can be shared externally with our partners and community; c. Agreed that the format used to deliver the information to our partners and community will be primarily digital; and d. Agreed that a four page Annual Highlights Report for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board is produced annually in October followed by project story maps that provide a richer more interactive experience, being published by December.				
7.	Draft 2020-21 Annual Report The Manager Business Services provided to the board a draft MRLB Annual Report for 2020-21, which needs to be presented to the Minister on November 30, 2021. It was noted that two contracts over \$10,000 for Mid Murray Landcare and Enturo have been listed twice, which need to be deleted. Financial statements will only be added when received, and the board were happy to approve with the discussed changes. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Annual Report 2020-21; and				



ltem	Item Title
	b. Sought that officers check the contract list within the Annual Report to ensure there was no duplication and that the total was correct.
8.	2022 Board meeting dates The General Manager presented a meeting paper to the Board with proposed Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board meeting dates for the 2022 year, along with Finance Committee meeting dates for the 2022 year. Agree to have one meeting at Loxton Waikerie Council with the remaining meeting venues being flexible, but mainly in the Berri and Murray Bridge offices. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the proposed Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board meeting dates and Finance committee meeting dates for 2022.
Comn	nittees & Sub-Committees
9.	Finance Committee Minutes from the finance committee held on 19 October 2021, along with papers on the financial position of the board, were provided to the board. The Finance Committee Chair joined us via phone and provided a summary of the financial position. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and
	minutes of the October meeting. Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee – 23 September The Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee provided a report from their September meeting highlighting:
10.	 The MCAC appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Board on 23 September and the Board's endorsement for their workplan Lucy Kluge has now joined the MCAC as a member after Board approval in August. MCAC is continuing to look for additional members in accord with the Terms of Reference. The rainfall across the region has been inconsistent and despite good rains in some areas, there are a number of Mallee farmers in drought Planning is underway for the Sustainable Agriculture forum to be hosted by MCAC – 17
	February 2022 has been set for an afternoon forum at Bowhill. • Local Government forum is planned in March. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report and minutes form the MCAC.
11.	Sensitive and Significant Issues Nil
Items	for Noting
12.	Chair's report



Item	Item Title			
	The Chair provided a verbal report outlining the following:			
	 Attended the Ngarrindjeri Water Training on 22 September Attended the Water Advisory Committee meeting on 14 October Attended the Murraylands and Riverland LGA meeting on the 22 October Attended the opening of the Berri MRLB office on 25 October. Delighted with both new offices, access to good services and wellbeing of staff is very important. Chairs forum meeting in December Reconciliation plan is underway 			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.			
13.	The Manager Sustainable Landscapes provided an indication of the Funding sources and projects where applications have been submitted across the region. Opportunities include from: • the Future Drought Fund: Drought resilience Innovation Grants, • the Landscape Priorities Fund • Healthy Rivers Program • Smart Farms Small Grants: Soil Extension Activities • Australian Research Council Carbon farming proposal was not pursued due to no staff capacity. Proposals are all prepared by current staff, but specialist assistance may be looked at in the future. The staff were requested to attempt to quantify the success rate the board has with submitted grant and funding bids. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted funding bids that have been			
	submitted during September / October 2021. Correspondence			
14.	The correspondence list for October was presented to the board.			
14.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.			
	Action List			
15.	The board noted actions on the action list. Interest was received from Sandy Iosefellis to be on the Water Planning Steering Committee, and from Caroline Phillips to be on the Finance committee.			
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the appointment of Caroline Phillips to the Finance Committee, and Sandy Iosefellis to the Water Planning Steering Committee.			
	Member's Contributions/Other Business			
16.	Andrew Biele: Board visit to Calperum would be a good time to engage with Riverland First Nations and their work.			
10.	Promote opening of the Berri office and move to new premises.			
	Kangaroo permits renewals have not been received by permit holders, which may have explained the low uptake of renewals - make DEW aware of this.			



Item	Item Title		
	Greg Cock: Concern that key staff have left the organisation, leaving some staff stretched and stressed. Backfilling and filling has commenced and confident that as we head into 2022 we are well positioned with staff.		
	Sandy Iosefellis: Interested in joining staff for a day to learn about the business. Andrew to reshare the staff experiences menu with board members and invite them to attend.		
	MRLGA has been successful with their Water Position project, a letter of support was provided by the board for this project.		
17.	Next meeting details – 25 November 2021 at Berri office, Vaughan Tce. An end of year afternoon tea get together with staff will occur after the meeting.		
	The meeting closed at 11.45am		

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 25-11-21



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.

Date: 25 Nove	mber 2021		
Start Times:	11.30am		
Location:	Berri	Room:	Vaughan Terrace Conference Room
Present	Caroline Phillip Andrew Medd Denise Fowles Officer), Jem T Koolmatrie (SF Communication CEWO – Michel RMMAC – Fio	os, Jason Size le (General Mar (Manager, Sus esoriero (Team PO, Aboriginal F ons), Jayne Mille elle Campbell a na Giles	Biele, Greg Cock, Jim Godden, Sandy Iosefellis, nager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services) tainable Landscapes), Helane Norman (Executive Leader, Partnerships and Engagement), Chris Partnerships), Bec Stevens (PO, Media and er (SPO, Media and Communications) and Richard Mintern
Apologies	Nil		

Item	Item Title
	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check
1.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 11.30am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.
2.	Conflict of Interest Jason Size has updated his disclosures relevant to Loxton District Landcare and Growsmart training. Jim Godden has updated his disclosure to reflect his change in employment and director duties.
3.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (9-21) held 28 October 2021 Clarification of dot point 9 in Item 6: The intent of the comment is that it undersells the work that the community and volunteers do, delivering the work instigated by board staff.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 9-21 held 28 October 2021.



Presentations:

4.

5.

Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO) Update

Michelle Campbell (Engagement and Partnerships) and Richard Mintern (Local Engagement Officer, Southern Basin) provided a general update of environmental watering carried out by CEWO. The system has entered into a wet phase with Lake Victoria full and Menindie Lakes charged, and supporting Murray cod and golden perch in the Darling system.

There are elevated flows down the Lower Darling (currently 2300ML/day), and considering a pulse flow up to maximum of 14,000ML a day down the Lower Darling

Darling water due to hit Murray River in 1 week. Wetted system at the start of summer, and La Niña declaration gives confidence of healthy flows throughout summer.

Healthy flows also coming down the Murray River. Barmah choke is increasingly restricted. Blackwater issues unlikely to be seen this year, but will depend on timing of flows and amount of hot weather.

Commonwealth Environmental water goes through Tauwitchere barrages, flows down the Coorong, and then out the Mouth with wind cycles. Good inflows from SE Drains into Southern lagoon of the Coorong.

CEWO is responsible for a very large water asset, but don't manage the floodplains, so careful planning has to occur to work out where the water is to go. Liaising with floodplain managers (state agencies) where there is a site specific benefit in the early planning stage would be beneficial.

Unregulated water used in sites (Chowilla, Pike, Katarapko) minimised use of CEW. Massive Floodplain systems being delivered in Victoria, might cause timing and volume issues in managing SA sites as well.

First Nations partnerships and projects

The Team Leader, Partnerships and Engagement, along with Chris Koolmatrie, and Fiona Giles (River and Murray Mallee Aboriginal Corporation (RMMAC)) provided a presentation of the partnerships and projects with first nation's people, being undertaken by, or with funding assistance from, the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board.

Many good partnerships have been developed and early input into projects has enabled better understanding between first nations and the board.

RMMAC are currently developing Cultural Awareness Training, which will be available to board members and staff.

Lunch

Water Advisory Committee members Greg McCarron and Rosalie Auricht joined the board for lunch.

General Business:

General Manager's Report

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 October referral report.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Referrals report).

Items for Decision



Policies and Procedures

The Manager, Business Services presented a paper to the board with 8 new policies and/or procedures that have been approved by the General Managers, for approval.

The Volunteer Management Framework mentioned in the Employment Screening Policy is being reviewed.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the following policies and procedures:

7.

- 1. MR ADM-01 Uniform Policy
- 2. MR GOV-08 Establish Landscape Board Committees and Bodies Procedure
- 3. MR HRM-02 Employment Screening Policy
- 4. MR HRM-03 Outside Employment Policy
- 5. MR HRM-05 Flexible Working Arrangements Procedure
- 6. MR HRM-06 Working from Home Procedure
- 7. MR HRM-07 Flexi-time and Approved Days Off Scheme Procedure
- 8. MR HRM-08 Overtime and TOIL Procedure.

Communications Strategy

The General Manager provided a draft communications strategy to the board, which is a high level document prepared after initial consultation with the board by the Communications and Engagement team. Its purpose is to enable regional communications standards to be set, and ensure consistent staff messaging with key stakeholders and the community.

Discussion:

- An external provider has not been used to develop this strategy
- Differences between a communications strategy, and an engagement strategy
- Who should the board communicate with? Everybody for awareness, in depth with those who want to communicate with us. Concern over wording on 5 last paragraph under stakeholders/audience. Need to be clear on what effort we put into things with limited budget and limited resources.
- Need to keep outwardly facing, be inclusive and recognise opportunities.
- This document is about setting direction for internal use only.
- Does not include talking to people, one to one.
- Table for measuring success not complete, should be in a MERI plan for communications, not yet developed. Survey has been held to get results from our region to 'temperature test' perception. Can measure against other board's achievements.
- What people are hearing: Awareness of the Landscape name change and that we are replacing NRM, but what the MRLB does and what is the difference between Landscapes SA and NRM is not as clear to everyone.
- What the Minister expects needs to be included in the Media and Communications policy statement on pg 9
- Remove introduction 'About the MRLB' and add 'For internal Use only' on front cover

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board requests further work on the draft Communications Strategy and the development of an engagement strategy.

8.



ACTION: Share results from the survey questions when they become available.

ACTION: Provide Media Policy to board members, along with other policies already approved.

ACTION: The suggested changes to be made to the Communications Strategy and be provided to board members out of session.

Levy proposal - 2022-23

The Manager, Business Services, presented a report which outlines the income proposal for the 2022/23 financial year, recommending the board approve an increase of 2.5% for the levies in line with CPI, and details how the levy increases are applied.

Linking with the total income received, a minimum of 2.9% of total levy income is required to be made available by the board for the regional Grassroots Grants program. The expenditure proposal will be developed and brought to the board in future months, in readiness to finalise the 2022/23 business plan.

9. Discussion occurred on the possibility of allocating more funds to either increase GRG or another community grants program.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a) Approved the increase to the Landscape and Water Levies by the CPI of 2.5%
- b) Approved \$341,660.86 be made available for the Murraylands and Riverland Grassroots Grants Program
- c) Requests that the General Manager investigate increasing the funds available for community grants by up to \$100,000.

Committees & Sub-Committees

Finance Committee

Minutes from the finance committee held on 15 November 2021, along with papers on the board's financial position, were provided to the board.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and minutes of the November meeting.

Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee

The Mallee and Coorong Advisory committee met on the 11th November and provided a report along with the minutes of that meeting.

The committee are seeking

11.

 support (administration and promotion) of the Sustainable Agriculture forum in February

support to progress the discussion paper on 'Roadside impacts of Trail bikes and 4
 Wheel drives' to the LGA – has been actioned

approval of Tracey Strugnell as a member of the committee

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report and minutes form the MCAC, and support the appointment of Tracey Strugnell to that committee.

Water Advisory Committee

12. The minutes of the meeting of the Water Advisory committee held on 14 October were provided to the board.

Next meeting will be held on 9 December.



	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Advisory Committee and support the appointment of Jaco Pauer to the Water Advisory Committee.
	Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee
10	Minutes of meeting held 11 October 2021 were presented to the board.
13.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee.
	Significant or sensitive committee items
	Review of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating committee - At its June meeting the review of TOR of all committees were conducted, and the board requested that a review of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee be undertaken. The committee undertook this at its October meeting and reported back to the board.
14.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a) Supported the continuation of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee; and b) Will ensure that a board member attend these meetings as the representative of the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board on the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee.
	ACTION: Greg Cock to attend the February meeting of the BFWDCC.
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ltem	Chairs report
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Item	Chairs report The Chair provided a verbal report outlining the following: • CLLMM Community Advisory Panel - currently chair is the representative, would like to share the responsibility of attending meetings with other board members
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	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.	
10	Action List	
18.	The board noted actions on the action list.	
10	Member's Contributions/Other Business	
19.	Nil	
	Next meeting details –	
20.	Board meeting: 9am Thursday 16 December at Murray Bridge	
	Financial Training : 9am Monday 29 November	
	Close: The meeting closed at 3.15pm	
	Board members joined Berri staff for afternoon tea.	

ENDORSED

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 16 December 2021



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 11-21						
Date: 16 Decei	mber 2021					
Start Times:	9.30am					
Location:	Murray Bridge	Room:	2 Sturt Reserve Road			
	Andrew Meddle Denise Fowles (M Officer)	General Ma lanager, Sus Minister Dav	Biele, Greg Cock, Caroline Phillips, Jason Size nager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), tainable Landscapes), Helane Norman (Executive rid Speirs, Minister for Environment and Water, Lucy			
Apologies	Jim Godden, Sandy Iosefellis,					

Item	Item Title				
IN CA	IN CAMERA SESSION: 9.30am				
	An in-camera session was held with the General Manager.				
PUBL	IC MEETING: 10.00am				
1.	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 10.15am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.				
2.	Conflict of Interest No further conflicts				
3.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (10-21) held 25 November 2021 Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 10-21 held 25 November 2021.				
4.	General Manager's Report The General Manager provided the board with an overview of his activities and the highlights and achievements of staff for the last month. The Quarterly performance report which tracks the progress made against each strategic priority, and summarises highlights, risks and challenges was presented for the first time and				



Item Item Title

will be put on the website. The General Manager's report also included the Strategic Risk Register, a Funding update and the November referral report.

The Staff experiences menu was circulated to board members, but if members have a spare day that they would like to go into the field with staff, members are to contact the General Manager.

Discussion:

Interaction with industry groups (MLA, Livestock SA) and Rabbit free Australia is occurring on some levels.

Quarter 1 performance report:

- to be outcome focused and wrriten in the third person with more emphasis on who we are engaging with putting community at the centre;
- Great infographic but needs more clarity, Not clear what the frequency column means;
- Need relevant clear data (eg 10,944 ha of pest control is not as clear as 5000 rabbit warrens being ripped); and
- Comparison with forecast/budget was also discussed.

The Finance committee meeting will be looking at two categories from the risk register in detail each month so as to keep risks current and relevant.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report (incorporating the Quarterly performance report, Funding update, Strategic Risk Register and Referrals report).

ACTION: Review TOR of Finance Committee to include risk management

Items for Decision

5.

6.

Board Performance Report

The General Manager provided a draft half year Board performance report completed after receiving members feedback, which will provide the Minister with required information.

No further feedback was received and this version will be submitted to the Minister in December.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board finalised the draft response on the evaluation of Board Performance, endorsed it and instructed the General Manager to provide it to Minister Speirs by 31 December 2021.

Grassroots Grants - Round 3

Following a review of the 2021-22 Grassroots grants program, the Team Leader, Partnerships and Engagement provided recommendations to the October board meeting, which were approved. The paper presented to the board progresses some of these recommendations and requests input from the board on the following:

- Identify specific priorities for the 2022-23 funding round
- Prospect of future funding



Item Title Item Discussion on Specific Priorities included: Focus on groups that have not received money prior/not normally be involved in environmental projects, Encourage collaboration between groups for joint larger proposals, not for commercial purposes, • Funds should be for Project work but can have a component for Admin/project manager Ag knowledge and Grassroots grants – everyone around the table needs knowledge exactly of what funds are available. Politically the Ag Knowledge grants (limit \$3000) have to be separate from the Grassroots Grants, but people can apply for both. The processes will be run at separate times this year. Process was managed well last year. Suggest promotion through Education and Citizen Science channels Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Advised on any specific priorities for the 2022-23 Grassroots Grants Program; and b. Appointed Greg Cock and Jason Size to work with the administration's Grassroots Grants Coordinating Group to deliver criteria and funding for successful implementation of Grassroots Grants in 2022. **ACTION:** Any further suggestions for inclusion in the guiding principles can be given to Greg or Jason prior to the working groups first meeting. Regional Communications Strategy The General Manager presented the revised Regional Communications Strategy. Further feedback requested out of session has been provided to the board and discussed at the meeting. The following changes were agreed upon: · The three dot points will be massaged into the communications strategy including a reference to the Engagement strategy. 7. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the draft Communications Strategy subject to the following changes: Tag line to be changed to 'Your investment in our region's landscape'. Last paragraph under Stakeholders and Audience to include But will focus on those who want to connect · Recognise the relationship of this strategy to an engagement strategy under 'Purpose'

Committees & Sub-Committees



Item	Item Title
	Finance Committee The Manager Business Services provided an overview of the year to date financial reports of the board, following their meeting on Tuesday 14 December.
8.	Current balance is \$14.9m, with an expected EOY balance of \$8m.
	MRLB invoices paid within thirty days are 98% - significantly higher than in recent years. Prompt payment to local businesses to keep the money in the region. Good idea for media release.
9.	Water Advisory Committee The draft Minutes of the meeting held 9 December 2021 were tabled, noting that these had not been approved by the Chair given the meeting took place on the day before the agenda was distributed.
	More work to be done on the 'future drought fund' paper and the 'Basin in a Nutshell' and put them into a format to come to the board for approval.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the draft minutes of the Water Advisory Committee.
10.	 Significant or sensitive committee items from the Water Advisory Committee The General Manager provided a summarised report on two issues from discussions held at the Water Advisory Committee meeting: Concern was raised that the weekly flows report, whilst providing significant information and signposts for those who have a good understanding, does not provide a simple version or explanatory notes to assist those with less understanding and may hinder those people from understanding impacts of the information reported and making good decisions based on this information. RM WAP Private Carryover requirements have been discussed at various levels with investigations being carried out and engagement occurring after a request had been made to the Minister and DEW to review these requirements. This would need to be financially
	supported by DEW. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the request from the Water Advisory Committee to: Raise water literacy concerns relating to Attachment 1 with DEW, particularly with regards to the weekly Flows Report; and That the Chair make formal contact with the Minister seeking to commence a further review of the River Murray Water Allocation Plan, with regards to private carry over.
Items	s for Noting
11.	Chairs report The Chair provided a verbal report outlining the following:
702	Attended the Aboriginal Learning on Country graduation of 3 students on Wednesday 8

December 2021 at Monarto



Item	Item Title			
	 Attended strategic water meeting in Renmark on Teams, chaired by Jason Size in the Chair's absence – noted absence of wine industry representatives. Attended office opening in Murray Bridge on 2 December Attended chairs forum on December 1st in Adelaide Attended finance meeting on 14th December on Teams Attended WAC meeting on 9th December on Teams Attended CLLMM CAP meeting on 11th – will organise to write a combined report with Limestone Coast and Hills and Fleurieu LB's. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.			
	Statewide Communications Plan			
12.	The General Manager provided an overview of the Statewide communications plan which has been instigated by the landscape board General Managers with the intent being to 'build a coherent and relevant statewide narrative for SA landscape boards, and communicate the collective positive impact that landscape boards and our partners are having in South Australia'. The plan was developed by a coordinator who worked with the planning and engagement network and General Managers, with the final plan being endorsed by the General Managers and Chairs in recent weeks.			
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the endorsement of the Statewide Communications Plan by the Chairs Forum.			
13.	Conflict of Interest and Lobbyist Policy and Procedure have been reviewed with no changes. Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted that the Conflict of Interest and Lobbyist Policy and Procedure has been reviewed with no consequential changes.			
	Correspondence The correspondence list for December was presented to the board.			
14.	Correspondence has now been sent to Rod Baker and Sharon Schrapel.			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.			
15.	Action List The board noted actions on the action list.			
16.	Member's Contributions/Other Business Nil			
Guest	is and the second secon			
17.	Minister Speirs (Minister for Environment and Water) Minister Speirs and Lucy Huxter (ministerial advisor) attended the meeting and apologised for not being available to attend a meeting before now but has been in regular contact with the Chair.			



Item **Item Title** Minister Speirs Landscape reform is a very personal reform for the Minister, The Landscape reform has gone well, very happy with the way it has evolved, and the good will it has brought with the community, with many less complaints being received. Good connections with Local Government is important. Landscape Priorities Fund has supported major projects in the regions, sharing Adelaide levy with the regions. • Minister's Vision for the board is more of the same, building partnerships, and initiating valuable projects across the region. • Continue to be proactive, and be at arm's length from government – more disconnected from the department than we were, but services are less expensive going through the department and for accountability and transparency. Appreciative of Chair's leadership and the commitment of members and staff **Board Members** Member changes occurred after the first year, now a very united team, with good mix of expertise in the membership. Although there is not an indigenous person on the board, we have good links to the Ngarrindjeri and the RMMAC. Jason queried how the Grassroots Grants can be increased – A minimum percentage of levy collection has been legislated, but boards can increase this if budget allows, better to be oversubscribed than not enough interest. Moving to new Berri and Murray Bridge offices has been well received and cost effective Working on genuine partnerships and looking for opportunities with Environmental organisations like Landcare Calibre of the brand is in staff willingness to work and staff's reputation is exceptional. South Olary Plains project going well, currently working with interstate partners. Have several LPF funding bids in for pest weed and animal projects. Water Advisory Committee going well, smaller manageable group. The Chair thanked the Minister for attending the meeting. Next meeting details -Board meeting: Thursday 24 February at Berri (TBC) Workshop: RDA Murraylands Riverland Resilience Plan: 27 January 2022 @ 9.30am at 18. Karoonda Institute Supper Room The meeting closed at 12.35pm Minister Speirs and Lucy Huxter joined the board and staff for lunch.

ENDORSED	
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Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 24 February 2022