## Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

#### **2024** board meeting minutes

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#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 1-24		
22 February	22 February 2024	
Start Times:	Start Times: 9.30am	
Location:	Karoonda Institute Supper Room	
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Greg Cock, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes, Jason Size. Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Item 17: Marcela Rosero (Senior Project Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation)	
Apologies	Caroline Phillips, Brian Lund, Andrew Biele	

Item	Item Title
	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.
	The board congratulated Renata Rix on her appointment as Manager, Sustainable Landscapes, and she gave members an insight into her career to date.
	Conflict of Interest
2.	Jason Size included his new role as General Manager of Century Orchards, along with the removal of his involvement with Growsmart Training.
2	Board Calendar
The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.	The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
4	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (11-23) held 14 December 2023.
4.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 10-23 held 14 December 2023
5.	Strategic Discussion – what does the board wish to achieve in 2024?
5.	A discussion was held on aspirations and priorities for the coming year.



Item	Item Title	
	Chairs Report	
	The Chair presented a written report to the board.	
6.	The MDBA related visit to the Barmah Millewa Forest region was very interesting and useful to gain a full understanding of the area around the choke, and the conflicts and challenges associated with that.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.	
	Board Members' reports	
	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.	
7.	Jason reported that the Almond Industry is looking at 'whole of orchard recycling' in recent times as almond orchards reach the end of their life. Instead of burning them, the trees are chipped and put back into the soil to break down.	
	The Coorong Council's Community Sustainability Program led by Tammy O'Malley has been shortlisted as a finalist for the Leadership Excellence Awards with the Local Government Professionals South Australia.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members Reports.	
	General Manager's Report	
	The General Manager presented his February report, highlighting the following:	
	Putting in place resources to take on WHS policy and systems work	
	<ul><li>Staffing changes</li><li>External funding and LPF success</li></ul>	
8.	<ul> <li>Follow-up meeting with Nick McBride regarding WAP's and other matters.</li> <li>State Landscape Strategy – a briefing will be prepared for the Minister to review the strategy.</li> </ul>	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General	
	Manager's Report, the General Managers Mid-Year Performance Review report, Referrals report and the Communications report.	
ITEMS	FOR DECISION	
	Second Quarter, Quarterly Performance Report	
9.	The second quarter quarterly performance report was presented to the board, along with the progress report and the program risks and challenges.	
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Quarterly Performance Report for the second quarter of 2023/2024.	
	24/25 Levy setting and Five Year Financial Plan	
10.	The board were presented with the 2024/25 levy setting proposal and were provided information on how different options would look for the upcoming five years. Concern was raised about the economic impact raising the levy might have.	



Item	Item Title
	<b>ACTION</b> : staff to draft a help guide to answer questions re levy and increase – for water licensing staff and council reception staff.
	Changes for the 2024-25 Grassroots Grants include targeted information for different sectors, with the grants being open of 6 weeks. Media release will be issued on 26 <sup>th</sup> February.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. Approved the increase to the Landscape and Water Levies by the CPI of 5.9%; and
	b. Approved the continuation of the \$200 minimum fee for the Water Levy; and
	c. Approved \$493,351 be made available for the Murraylands and Riverland Grassroots Grants Program.
	Fraud and Corruption Procedure
11.	The board have established a procedure to accompany the SA Public Sector Fraud and Corruption Control Policy, it was presented for approval by the board.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the GOV-09 Fraud and Corruption Procedure.
	Biodiversity Act consultation
12.	The General Manager provided the collective response from Landscape boards to the proposed New Biodiversity Act.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the collective response to the initial consultation on South Australia's New Biodiversity Act.
	Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee for Zircon Mine nomination
13.	The General Manager presented a paper which requested representation from the board on the Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee for the Murray Zircon mine near Mindarie. After discussion the board suggested Andrew Biele, who will be approached by the General Manager.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. determined to make a nomination to the Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee;  b. Deferred the nomination of the representative until the General Manager
	has spoken to the nominated board member.
СОМІ	MITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
	Water Advisory Committee
14.	The Water Advisory Committee have met twice, once with the board at their December meeting, and on the 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024. Minutes have been received



Item	Item Title	
	from both meetings. Frances Simes (chair of the WAC) reported that flood recovery and levee maintenance were major discussion points.	
	The committee brought the following to the board's attention:	
	<ul> <li>In regards to the Article from Helen Dalton in regards to converting the lower lakes to salt water, questioned if strategic approach should be taken</li> <li>The committee would like DEW to start sharing their future plans</li> <li>A reminder for submissions to the Restoring our Rivers draft framework to recover 450GL target close on 4th March</li> <li>Flood Inquiry outcomes and learnings report has been pushed out to May 2024</li> </ul>	
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Water Advisory Committee.	
	Finance, Risk and Audit Committee	
	Detailed financial reports were presented to board members along with the Risk Register, with the inclusion of the risk associated with unapproved carryovers, discussed at the Finance, Risk and Audit committee meeting.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers and the Risk Register.	
15.	<u>Draft proposed reports</u>	
13.	The board appreciated the snapshot page, however the colour in the centre debtor snapshot is hard to read. Further detailed reports will be developed.	
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. Noted the Proposed dashboard report for future Finance reporting to FRAC and the Board  b. Provided feedback to the Manager, Business Services on improvements or changes to be made.	
	Engagement Strategy Working Group	
	The notes of the Engagement Strategy Working Group were provided to the board and the Working Group chair offered additional insight into the meetings discussion.	
16.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the notes of the Engagement Strategy Working Group.	
	Box Flat Wild Dog Control Committee	
	The Box Flat committee meeting met on Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February, and was attended by Board rep, Tammy O'Malley. She indicated that the committee is likely to write to the boards regarding the likeliness of the Victorian Order in Council not being renewed, and its effect on wild dogs in SA.	
ITEMS	FOR NOTING	



Item	Item Title
	Baseline Evaluation Reports
	The Baseline Evaluation report and its summary, provide a reference point to compare the progress of the implementation of the 2021-2026 Regional Landscape Plan and improve future delivery of the plan. A presentation was given to the board to assist with understanding the report.
	Discussion:
17.	<ul> <li>Learnings have been made by participation in the evaluation sessions, and improvements already made</li> <li>Expectation that board members are involved in the next evaluations</li> <li>External partners having input, who and how</li> <li>Suggest a report (somewhere between the report and the summary) of recommendations and key points, be developed from the improvement pathways for each focus area, and can help pinpoint what the board would like to achieve in 2024-25.</li> </ul>
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:
	a. Noted the progress and findings reported in the 2021/22 Baseline
	Evaluation Report(s) and; b. Endorsed the 2021/22 Baseline Evaluation Report(s) as the comparative
	reference for future evaluation of the implementation of the 2021-2026 Regional Landscape Plan.
	Karoonda Farm Fair
	The Team leader Communications and Engagement provided the board with a report indicating the changes proposed to the MRLB display at the upcoming Karoonda Farm Fair, after feedback received by staff from the Riverland Field Days.
18.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted:  a. the trial of a change to the format of the landscape board display at the 2024 Karoonda Farm Fair; and
	b. that partnering organisations are advised that they will no longer be able to purchase space within the landscape board marquee due to the reduction in our display footprint.
	Correspondence
19.	The Correspondence list for December was presented to the board.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.
	Action List
	The Action list was reviewed by the board.
	<b>ACTION</b> : Include advance notice of board meeting in board e news and socials – include links to board agenda and minutes.
20.	Discussion on if a meeting summary/communique following a meeting could be circulated.
	<b>ACTION:</b> The General Manager to look at if the summary that goes to LG following a meeting could be made more widely available.



Item	Item Title
	<b>ACTION:</b> Ascertain Adrian Pederick's availability for the March board meeting.
	Next meeting details – 27 March 2024 at Murray Bridge
	Water Advisory Committee - 11 April at Murray Bridge
	Finance, Risk and Audit Committee – 17 April
	Close of Public Meeting at 1.41pm

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Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 27 March 2024



#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 2-24	
27 March 2	2024
Start Time:	9.30am
Location:	Murray Bridge Landscape Office
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Caroline Phillips (on MS Teams, left at 11.30am), Tammy O'Malley, Jason Size, Frances Simes (on MS Teams, left at 12.30pm) Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Items 12-15: Adrian Pederick, MP, Timothy Vale (DEW Program Leader, Flows for the Future), Lauren Nicholson (HFLB Water Resources officer), Tom Mowbray (Water Resources Manager)
Apologies:	Nil

Item	Item Title	
1.	Welcome, Apologies and agenda check.  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.	Conflict of Interest There were no new disclosures.	
3.	Board Calendar  The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.	
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (1-24) held 22 February 2024  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 1-24 held 22 February 2024.	
5.	Strategic Discussion: In what areas of our business do board members need more support?  The General Manager has provided an aide memoir for little corellas and sought feedback on what other areas of the board's business should be addressed.	



Item	Item Title
	<ul> <li>Corellas - A discussion ensued on the Corella problem across the region, the difficulties that have been encountered by councils and the board and that the information provided will be useful in messaging for our community.</li> <li>Wild Dogs – the Victorian Order of Council for control of dingoes has been rescinded for North West Victoria. Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee held a special meeting recommending that the LB's advocate to SA and Victorian Ministers and Catchment Management Authorities, the Cross Border Commissioners office, as well as the Victorian Government, the impact of their decision to SA producers and seek a review of the decision or compensation measures. The Museums Victoria declared that Dingoes (Canis lupis Dingo) are no longer a threatened species, after they reclassified them as domestic dogs, undermining protections.</li> <li>The wild dog plan for Ngarkat has been endorsed now.</li> </ul>
	Other suggestions for information sheets were:
	<ul> <li>African lovegrass</li> <li>Feral pig project</li> <li>Deer control</li> <li>Murray Cray release</li> <li>Projects for commonwealth funding</li> </ul>
	<b>ACTION</b> : Provide news items of interest from the News daily to board members.
	<b>ACTION</b> : On future pest plant signage, there needs to be a scale/comparison for easy recognition of the size of the plant.
	Chairs Report
6.	The Chair presented a written report to the board, and elaborated that the chairs forum field trip held at Mt Gambier was very interesting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.
	Board Members' reports
	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.
7.	<u>Brian Lund</u> just returned from Cambodia where he was part of a team assigned to review an ACIAR Research project that focused on the introduction of forage grasses in the lower Mekong of Cambodia and Laos PDR. Brian references several parallels with our region particularly soil nutrient management.
:	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members Reports.
	General Manager's Report
0	The General Manager presented his report for March.
8.	Also attached to the report was the presentation the General Manager made to the Legislative council Select Committee on the River Murray Floods, an update provided to partners, the media release provided by the Victorian government on

9.

10.

11.

12.



#### Item Item Title

changes to treatment of dingoes in North Western Victoria, along with the Communications report and the Referrals report.

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

#### ITEMS FOR DECISION

#### Business Plan parameters - presentation and handout

The Manager, Business Services and the Manager Strategy and Engagement provided a presentation on the 2024-25 business plan process, and provided a handout to remind board members of previous years prioritisation and committed multiyear projects.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a. Noted the Business Plan briefing
- b. Approved the flexible timeframes for finalisation of the business plan.

#### **Draft Proposed Finance Reports**

The Manager, Business Services provided the draft project report, to complement the new dashboard, income statement and statement of financial position, which is the proposed financial reporting to the Finance Risk and Audit committee and the Board in future.

Both Risks and Potential risks should be included, including pragmatic risks (eg effect on staff)

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a. Noted the proposed format of the new Project Report; and
- b. Provided feedback on the proposed report ready for reporting in April.

#### **Legislative Compliance Review**

The Legislative Compliance Register was presented to the board after the recent review, noting that it is a living document and may be updated at any time, in line with legislation changes. Due to a lack of feedback received from the Finance Risk and Audit Committee (FRAC), it will be taken to April FRAC meeting to look at and be endorsed and then returned for approval in April.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- a. Noted the progress of the Legislative Compliance Register for the Board; and
- b. Requested it be presented to FRAC at their April meeting.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### Flows for the Future update - Timothy Vale

Tim provided a presentation on the Flows for the future project, its history and what low flow bypasses are, along with status at February 2024, and the strategic priorities for this year.



#### Item Item Title

Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges (EMLR) WAP update - Lauren Nicholson

Lauren provided a presentation on the EMLR WAP review process, its key findings from the evaluation process through engagement and Science, along with the following amendments which will be considered:

- 13.
- New baseline climate periods to underpin plans
- Revised environmental objectives
- Delivery of environmental flows
- First Nations water values
- Non-licensed water use (stock and domestic, forestry)
- Adaptive management strategies

#### **ITEMS FOR DECISION (CONT)**

#### Marne Saunders - Science requirements for WAP review

The Water Resources Manager provided the board with a paper which outlined the background and work that has been completed on approaches to managing the water resource in the Marne Saunders in preparation for a WAP review.

Inclusion of monitoring riparian vegetation was discussed and some could be considered.

- 14.
- The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:
  - a. Noted that costings for the proposed scientific investigations to support the review of the Marne Saunders Water Allocation Plan (WAP) are within preliminary estimates provided for the 2024-25 budget;
  - b. Approved the proposed approaches, timing and costings for the scientific review components of the Marne Saunders WAP review as set out below; and
  - c. Resolved to undertake a comprehensive review of the Marne Saunders WAP.

#### **PRESENTATION**

#### Adrian Pederick, MP

Mr Pederick attended the board meeting and raised the following:

- Water management is a huge issue both with river and groundwater
- Flood caused many issues, cooperation between people and the government got things done in real time which was pleasing. Disappointing that the funding only became available 12 months later. Real time management in the future will need to be looked at.

15.

- Corella management major issue and getting worse, and sees a cull as the only solution.
- New Zealand fur seals caused a lot of damage over time.
- Mallee and Peake Roby Sherlock WAP reviews
- Native vegetation roadside issues with lack of road width or height clearance issues need discussion.



Item	Item Title				
	<ul> <li>Landscape Board need to ensure that the projects carried out are made known to the community.</li> </ul>				
	The Chair thanked Mr Pederick, Tim Vale and Lauren Nicholson for their attendance and presentations.				
	The guests joined the board for lunch.				

#### **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

#### Finance, Risk and Audit Committee

Summary financial reports

Summary financial Reports were presented to the board for the month ending 29 February 2024.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the attached Statement of Income & Expenditure and Statement of Financial Position as at 29 February 2024.

#### 16. FRAC Terms of Reference

The Finance Risk and Audit Committee Terms of Reference were reviewed by the Business Services Manager, with changes proposed to membership of the committee to enable an independent member to chair the committee.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the updated Finance, Risk and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

Note - Jim Godden has been appointed as chair of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee.

#### **Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee**

The board received the minutes of the Box Flat Wild Dog coordinating committee meeting held 19 February 2024.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee held on the 19 February 2024.

#### **Community Engagement Working Group**

Notes of the Community Engagement Working Group meeting held 18 March were provided to the board. Currently looking at how we engage with all the sectors and Greg has drafted a more straightforward one page document for a stakeholder as an analysis on how to engage with a specific sector.

Consider developing TOR for a working group between staff and board members, in future.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Community Engagement Working Group held on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

#### ITEMS FOR NOTING

18.



Item	Item Title				
	Baseline Evaluation Report				
	An updated baseline evaluation report was presented to the board, from suggestions made at the last board meeting.				
19.	<b>ACTION:</b> Wording in 4.2 on page 10 was queried – change compliance to read rules and guidelines				
, ,	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the changes in the 2021/22 Summary Baseline Evaluation Report(s).				
	Correspondence				
	The Correspondence list for March was presented to the board.				
20.	Board members have also been invited to the Farm Fair, Di, Andrew, Tammy, Greg and Brian are keen to attend for one day.				
	Andrew Biele has made contact with Wendy Campana from Mindarie Mine, as the board's rep on the Murray Mallee Community Consultation Committee.				
The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the corresponde					
	Action List				
21.	The Action list was reviewed by the board.				
	Next meeting details – 24 April 2024 - Banrock Station starting at 9am				
7.1	Committee meetings:				
	Community Engagement working Group – 8 April				
ici.	Water Advisory Committee – 11 April 2024 Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 17 April 2024				
	Close of Public Meeting at 1.30pm				
	Property Visit				
	The board then visited the property of Geoff Simons on Belvedere road near				
	Mannum at 2.00pm where they heard about the impact of the floods, pre, during and after, noting that recovery is taking a long time.				

ENDORSED A La Ca

Dianne Davidson AM

**Presiding Member** 

**Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board** 

Date: 24 April 2024



#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 3-24					
24 April 2024					
Start Time:	<b>e:</b> 9.00am				
Location:	Banrock Station Wine and Wetland Centre				
Present	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Caroline Phillips, Tammy O'Malley, Jason Size, Frances Simes Andrew Meddle (General Manager) on MS Teams for items 1-8, Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Alyson Modlinski (Acting Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Item 21: Tim Whetstone MP Members of the public: 1				
Apologies	Nil				

Item	Item Title			
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.00am 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  New Disclosures reported:  Tammy O'Malley: employment with Karoonda East Murray District Council  Jason Size: employment with PIRSA as Senior Community Engagement Officer			
3.	Board Calendar  The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.			
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (2-24) held 27 March 2024  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 2-24 held 27 March 2024.  The Corella topic was raised at a recent MRLGA meeting. The General Manager has spoken with DEW concerning Corellas and Wild Dogs and in the process of organising a meeting with the Minister, CE of DEW, Coorong and Rural City of Murray Bridge Councils and MRLB.			



ltem	Item Title					
	Strategic Discussion: Review of the Landscape Act					
5.	<ul> <li>The General Manager introduced the Independent Review of the Landscape Act, highlighting several recommendations of particular interest to this board and outlining the decision making process and implementation going forward.</li> <li>Discussion and Comments:         <ul> <li>MOU with PIRSA is in process, awaiting signing by DEW (recommendation 59)</li> <li>Agree that the Water management needs more transparency.</li> <li>Expanding involvement with First Nations – clarification on what it entails</li> <li>Have Green Adelaide similar to other landscape boards – questioned the reasoning.</li> <li>A decision regarding the Board member election process is urgent ie discontinuation of Act requirement for elections.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
	Chairs Report					
6.	The Chair presented a written report to the board.					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.					
	Board Members' reports					
	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.					
7.	Brian Lund attended Better Fertilizer Decisions, has potential to be expanded with the support of landscape boards as an awareness raising program. Farm Forestry field day highlighted the benefits and barriers in local timber production including improved market coordination by way of a register.					
	Andrew Biele reported that MSF have received substantial funding for weed management including gazanias.					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members Reports.					
	General Manager's Report					
	The General Manager's report for April was presented to the board.					
8.	<ul> <li>Highlights:         <ul> <li>Attended Basin Leaders' Summit in Sydney with 120 representatives from various organisations across the Murray Darling Basin, with the intent to build relationships enabling more open discussions and trust in future challenging decisions.</li> <li>Need to reinvigorate the Tri-State Murray NRM Regional alliance.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
	Discussion:  WHS incidents – Investigations occur and are monitored by the General Manager.  MDBA – GM holds regular discussions with MDBA in Murray Bridge; members are interested in roles within the MDBA in Murray Bridge.					



# ACTION: Andrew Meddle to write a summary of the current MDBA basin programmes. Andrew Biele registered his concern that large amounts of land are being earmarked/ surveyed for sandmining with little information on what the rehabilitation and regeneration of this land post mining will involve. Also noted the concern over threatened Mallee bird habitat that is being lost. Need to be proactive with community awareness about Fire Ants (what they look like, bites etc) – touching the MDB (northern NSW) and likely to flow down to SA. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.

#### **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

#### **Business Planning – Project Concept Summary**

The Manager Business Services provided an updated list of project concepts and which projects are planned to continue, changed scope, not funded or complete. The current unknowns and risks were highlighted:

- Operating expenses where there is not enough clarity have been removed.
- Shortfalls are being experienced in the 3–5-year time frame other boards are the same.
- Helpful if the penalties for the overuse of water would come to the landscape board.
- Clarity from DAFF on priorities they would like included in Project 20 has not been given to the board. Brian would like to know what is included when priorities are known possibility of inclusion of a fertilizer awareness raising program.
- Role of the board in the project planning: Previously a workshop was undertaken in Berri when the board were asked what their priorities and focus was looking forward to 2024, prior to the team leaders devising its current list of projects. Further input will be sought during the process of planning the next 5 year landscape plan.

**ACTION:** close the loop on reassuring the board how the projects link to the initial prioritisation done by the board.

Consider a strategic wish list that can be implemented in future plans

**ACTION:** correction made to Project 45 re sensing equipment installation at 10m height (not 9m)

**ACTION:** Renata and Michelle to provide an update on what the budget line of pest plant and animal contracted work includes.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the update provided on the development of the 24/25 Business Plan and Operational Plan.



ltem	Item Title			
10.	Policy Procedure Register Review The Manager Business Services provided an update on the Policies and Procedures register and status of their review. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the progress of policy and procedure development.			
11.	Legislative Compliance Register The Manager Business Services provided the Legislative Compliance Register to the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. Changes included (all) Treasurers Instructions have been added to other state legislation, and clarity around wording for confidential information being dealt with at meetings. The board is happy with the progress made.			
	<ul> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</li> <li>Noted the progress of the Legislative Compliance Register for the Board; and</li> <li>Provided feedback for the continual development of this living document.</li> </ul>			

#### **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

#### **Finance, Risk and Audit Committee** Minutes (including a summary of other business) and the detailed management accounts were presented to the board, along with the Risk Register from the Finance, Risk and Audit committee meeting held on April 17. 12. Upcoming changes will be implemented by Shared Services SA for interest charged on all invoices not paid within 15 days of being received by SSSA. The Finance Risk and Audit Committee (FRAC) recommends the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (the Board) note the Finance Papers. **Water Advisory Committee** Minutes of the Water Advisory Committee held on 11th April 2024 were presented to the board, along with the reviewed work plan for the committee. Sheryl Giles has resigned from the WAC, and the chair is seeking another First Nations representative. The board were asked to note: To keep a high-level overview on the survey for water recovery from 13. Irrigators. That the Board write to the Chair of the select committee on flood recovery (Nicola Centofanti MLC) and request a record of progress.

Note that control of Noogoora Burr is a major issue on the flood plains Recommend that the General Manager speak to Kimberly Williamson about the need of the flow report to include at the top of the report, under the flow increase/decrease chart, a bar graph to indicate individual pool levels

from the border to the mouth.



Item	Item Title				
	<ul> <li>Request that the General Manager discuss with Water licensing director Kerrie Burmeister a communication package on mywater as soon as possible as this is a critical time for water licence holders to balance their water accounts and invite her to present at the next WAC Meeting.</li> <li>The committee have also provided comment on the future national water agreement.</li> </ul>				
14.	Community Engagement Working Group  Notes from the Community Engagement working group were shared with the board.  Meetings held are now of 2 hours duration, and having been considering specific stakeholders, but progress is slow. Members availability was discussed and consideration will be given to meeting at a different time of day.  ACTION: Andrew and Amy to look at options for more suitable time for the CE Working group meetings.				
15.	Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee (BFWDCC)  An out of session meeting for the BFWDCC was held on 26 March, and the draft minutes were presented to the board.				

#### **ITEMS FOR NOTING**

#### Karoonda Farm Fair report

Board members were presented with a report on the recent Karoonda Farm Fair, and provided the following feedback on the changes made to this event:

- Greg Cock found the two sites to be advantageous and less cluttered.
- Conversations that were had were good and valued.

16.

- More manageable for staff
- Need our own display and use that to draw people in, utilise space outside the tent which is more easily seen by people walking past.
- Similar format is proposed for the Riverland field days.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the trial of a change to the format of the landscape board display at the 2024 Karoonda Farm Fair.

#### **Volunteer Celebrations update**

The Acting Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided an overview of the volunteer recognition events being organised in May (Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at Renmark and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May at Paiwalla) to coincide with National Volunteer Week. Board members invited to attend the events, Andrew Biele will attend Renmark event.

17.

**ACTION:** Further discussion needs to be had with Paiwalla re organising, insurance, running of the day, and the risks.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the volunteer celebration events would include canoe/kayaking tours and land based bird watching with an environmental recovery focus on the Murray River at Paiwalla Wetlands (near Mypolonga) and Paringa (near Renmark). Board



ltem	Item Title				
	members raised safety and OHSW concerns and requested further clarity around the risks involved.				
18.	Grassroots grants update The Acting Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided a summary of the applications received for the Grassroots Grants for the 2024-25 year. The following conflicts of interest were noted: Greg Cock – Paiwalla,				
	Jason Size and Andrew Biele – Riverland Landcare Brian Lund – CT LAP Tammy O'Malley – Coorong Council				
	A pleasing number and variety of applications have been received, and the targeted and clearer communication to various groups was successful.  Some of the assessors would like to be able to see all the grant applications to compare the ones they are assessing against the other applications received.  Remuneration for the time spent will be taken on notice.				
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the summary of applications received under the 2024-25 Grassroots Grants program				
	Correspondence				
19.	The Correspondence list for April was presented to the board.				
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.				
20.	Action List				
A. e. rein E	The Action list was reviewed by the board.				
GUES					
	Member for Chaffey, Tim Whetstone, joined the meeting and was welcomed by the Chair.				
	Chaffey is a large diverse electorate, and attention is given to what is managed by the landscape board, making it more relevant as time goes by, but changing governments gives uncertainty.  Issues raised by Mr Whetstone included:				
	The river- its environment and the economy, political agenda – buybacks of wine grapes				
21.	<ul> <li>Pitting environment against irrigation/tourism</li> <li>Overabundant native species are receiving destruction permits but feral introduced species are an issue - weeds, wild dogs, cats,</li> <li>Land management issues on abandoned properties</li> <li>Using underutilised and unmanaged Crown land for education, awareness, and trial (carbon) or commercial opportunity</li> <li>He is witnessing models at the moment on new industry (carbon).</li> <li>Programs in Schools/Education – he was unaware of the board's education</li> </ul>				
	program.				



ltem	Item Title				
	He suggested that schools could be given a space that they could plant, look after, maintain and monitor on a regular basis. There are some good examples around. Landscape Education program is well established in the primary/lower secondary age, the board is now looking at ways to add to its the higher education program.  • Would like to see more on the learnings from the flood.  Tim Whetstone joined the board for lunch.				
	Next meeting details – 23 May 2024 - venue and WHS training TBC Community Engagement working Group –13 May Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee special meeting - 30 April The meeting closed at 1pm.				
	Wetlands presentation and Walk Wetlands Project Officer, Annie Kriesl gave the board a presentation about the Banrock Wetlands, and previous joint work undertaken there, highlighting the financial contribution made by Banrock with environmental and ecology staff and works. Board members then enjoyed a dry wetland walk. The day concluded at 3pm.				

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Dianne Davidson AM

**Presiding Member** 

**Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board** 

Date: 23 May 2024



#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 4-24					
23 May 202	23 May 2024				
Start Time:	9.30am				
Location:	Murray Bridge Landscape Offices, Unit 5-6, Level 1 Sturt Centre, 2 Sturt Reserve Road, Murray Bridge.				
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes (via Teams 9.30 – 10.30am), Jason Size (on Teams from 11.30am – 12,30pm) Andrew Meddle ((General Manager) on MS Teams from 9.30 – 1030am), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Alyson Modlinski (Acting Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Item 16: Gina Newton and Matthew White (DCCEEW), Alyson Modlinski (Team Leader, Investment and Information on Teams), Sylvia Clarke (SPO, Citizen Science), Tom Mowbray (Manager, Water Resources)				
Apologies	nil				

Item	Item Title
	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.
	Caroline Phillips has been granted leave from the board, and it was mutually agreed that Caroline will reengage with the board in September 2024.
2	Conflict of Interest
2.	No new Disclosures
2	Board Calendar
3.	The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
	Adoption of <b>Minutes from the previous meeting (3-24)</b> held 24 April 2024
4.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 3-24 held 24 April 2024.
5.	Chairs Report
	The Chair presented a written report to the board.



Item	Item Title
	<ul> <li>First Nations Statement of Commitment, was adopted with minor changes</li> <li>Meeting with Scott Ashby and Kate Bartlett from the MDBA, and they shared they're keen to re-engage with the board</li> </ul>
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.
	Board Members' reports
	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.
6.	<ul> <li>Andrew Biele</li> <li>Was privileged to be involved with the grassroots grants process. Some signage will be supplied to some successful applicants to recognise the board's contribution</li> <li>Will attend the Mindarie Mine's Murray Mallee Community Consultation Committee on Wednesday 29th May.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Attended the Volunteers day on Sunday19th May at Canoe the Riverland, attended by around 30 people, really good day.</li> <li>Tammy O'Malley</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Organised a volunteer event with the Coorong Council, and invited Sylvia Clarke to present to the event, which was greatly appreciated.</li> <li>Will be attending the volunteer event at Paiwalla on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May.</li> </ul>
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members Reports.
	General Manager's Report
	The General Manager's report for April was presented to the board.
7.	<ul> <li>Highlights:</li> <li>General Managers and Chairs Forum, attended by the Deputy Premier, Minister Scriven, and PPSA</li> <li>\$400,000 funding to board for the board's work in the Sustaining Riverland</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Environments Program.</li> <li>Three Citizen Science projects were successful in receiving funding from DEW following the election commitment regarding increased funding to Citizen Science.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The MR Plan has now been signed off by Murray Watt, Federal Minister for Agriculture with some finding likely to flow, expected between \$70,000 and \$300,000 for the region but project priorities for this have not been set.</li> <li>Letter received from the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating committee re their concerns about possible happenings around Ngarkat in light of the Victorian Order of Council changes. An ecologist has been invited to the Box Flat meetings.</li> </ul>
	<b>ACTION:</b> Andrew to reply to the Box Flat letter following discussion at today's meeting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.



Item	Item Title
8.	Strategic Discussion:  Board membership and the role was discussed at length by board members and staff.
	<b>ACTION:</b> ELT will present some background on Regional Landscape planning at the June meeting to assist new board members.

#### **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

#### **Quarterly report – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

The Manager Strategy and Engagement, presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter quarterly report for the 2023-24 year.

Noted a number of positive engagement with the farming community events, but need a bit of a back story on these to help understand their value and put them in context, why they are important.

The information in the quarterly report which goes to councils, key stakeholders, and is on the website, is used to populate other reports, and then used for the annual evaluation summary.

9.

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Quarterly Performance Report for the third quarter of 2023/2024.

**ACTION:** Provide a hard copy of the quarterly report to councils for their reception area, and other public areas in local towns, e.g. libraries

**ACTION:** Amy to investigate providing councils with info for them to circulate/disseminate in the local communities, along with a local single board contact.

#### 2024-25 Draft Business Plan for consultation and information exchange

The Manager Strategy and Engagement presented the draft 2024-25 Business Plan to the board, along with the information exchange, which provides additional context.

The 5 year budget is being developed working around carryovers that were not approved, and will be taken to Finance, Risk and Audit Committee in June. Consultation with stakeholders will now occur. If face to face conversations with stakeholders are requested, board members are willing to go with staff. Look at possibility of adding links in the ABP to associated projects.

10.

**ACTION:** Tighten up processes re the use of the board chair's signature.

**ACTION:** Consider adding a disclaimer in future years that the annual Business plan is produced to meet the Treasury requirements

Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the draft 2024-25 Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Business Plan for consultation with targeted stakeholders and noted the information exchange paper.



Item	Item Title		
11.	2024-25 Grassroots Grants (Round 5) Program  The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided the assessments of the Grassroots Grants applications that have been undertaken by staff and board members in recent weeks.  A total of 70 applications were received to a total value of \$1,221,538.64 (excluding GST) with \$713,155.00 for 45 projects being funded, which included additional support of some project funds (mostly from salary savings) to cover other worthy applications.  Advertising for the GRG program was well done this year.  ACTION: Include the following feedback in the debrief of the GRG process this year: Suggestion that we included 1 or 2 new board members each year, along		
	with one who has been involved previously and need to be clear on the lead staff member for the process as email communications was confusing at times.  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved recommended allocations of funding to applicants under the 2024-25 Grassroots Grants Program as specified in Attachment 1.		
СОМ	OMMITTEES		
12.	Finance, Risk and Audit Report The Manager, Business Services presented the Financial report for this month, which included the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 April 2024.  Department of Treasury and Finance have approved carryovers for interest and some underspent amounts from this year, but not carryovers from 22-23 year into 25/26.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the attached Statement of Income & Expenditure and Statement of Financial Position as at 30 April 2024		
13.	Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee  The General Manager provided a letter from the Chair of the Box Flat wild Dog Coordinating Committee, along with the minutes of the short meeting held on 30 April.  Discussion:  In the letter a workshop is suggested, and whilst reasonable, and could be delivered, it was questioned how much more the board should support as baiting is extensive, with only 1 instance of damage reported, possibly by wild dogs.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. noted the recommendations made by the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee;		



Item	Item Title	
	b. Supported delivery of the Landholder Communication Strategy by Landscape staff as a pro-active approach and that any other proposed activities are only pursued within existing resource capacity and commensurate with the clear evidence of contemporary impacts of wild dogs in the landscape.	
ITEMS	ITEMS FOR NOTING	

#### Correspondence

14. The Correspondence list for April was presented to the board.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.

Action List

The Action list was reviewed by the board.

LUNCH

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

15.

Murray River – Darling to Sea Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) Matthew White and Gina Newton (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water) provided a presentation explaining the reason for the Departments 2024 assessment to list the River Murray-Darling to Sea Ecological community as threatened under the EPBC Act. The objective is to protect and restore biodiversity & ecological function.

- In 2013 the TEC was listed as critically endangered for only several months
  before the election was called and it was disallowed by the new
  government (due to concern through irrigation sector, and the MDB plan
  was best placed to deal with concerns and therefore the listing was not
  needed),
- In 2023, it was renominated and was approved for assessment and changes include First Nations acknowledgement, contemporary stakeholder engagement and inclusion of groundwater. The TEC covers the broader system with 3 RAMSAR sites within the selected area, and updating the science, looking at longer term trends. The listing would be complimentary to the Basin plan but focus on ecological biodiversity and would not affect water allocation or influence water access.
- A 6 week public consultation will occur in coming months with the aim to provide a position to the Minister in September.

What actions might need referral?

- New changed or intensified activities
- Major development proposals
- Exclusions there are clauses around 'Continuing Use' and 'Prior Agreement' and these will not require approval.

Matthew and Gina will be coming to SA later in June, which will provide an opportunity to meet with the landscape board, who may be able to assist with data

16.



Item	Item Title
	and expertise, First Nations and other stakeholder engagement, and management and recovery actions.  The Chair thanked the presenters for their time.
	The Meeting closed at 2.40pm
	Next board meeting details – 27 June at Berri Water Advisory Committee – 19 June 2024 at Berri Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 19 June 2024 Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee – 5 June 2024 Mindarie Mine MMCCC – 29 May 2024

**ENDORSED** 

Dianne Davidson

Dianne Davidson (Jul 7, 2024 19:44 GMT+9.5)

Dianne Davidson AM

Presiding Member Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 27 June 2024



#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 5-24			
27 June 202	27 June 2024		
Start Time:	9.00am		
Location:	Murray Bridge Landscape Offices, Unit 5-6, Level 1 Sturt Centre, 2 Sturt Reserve Road, Murray Bridge.		
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes (Teams), Amy Lee (Acting General Manager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Jem Tesoriero (Acting Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Tamika Parker (Acting Executive Officer) Dara Frankel (Teams)(Principal Regional Advisor – PIRSA),		
Apologies	Jason Size, Andrew Meddle (General Manager)		

Item	Item Title
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.01am 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 new Disclosures
3.	Board Calendar The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (4-24) held 23 May 2024  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 4-24 held 23 May 2024.
5.	<ul> <li>PIRSA Murraylands and Riverland Region Update</li> <li>Dara Frankel (Principal Regional Advisor Murraylands and Riverland Region, PIRSA) presented to the board.</li> <li>Highlights:         <ul> <li>Dara is new to the role, currently backfilling for Barb Cowey. Previously she worked at the Renmark Paringa Council and before that, DEW in Berri.</li> <li>Fruit Fly</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Item	Item Title
	<ul> <li>Since 19 June 2024 there has been no new Queensland Fruit Fly outbreaks or extensions declared in the Riverland.</li> <li>Within the Riverland outbreak area, 21 sites have not recorded any detections in the last 12 weeks and some have recorded no detections for more than a year.</li> <li>The final sterile fruit fly release for the season has been completed.</li> <li>There are a number of services and avenues for assistance designed to support primary producers during the challenging market conditions impacting the South Australian wine sector. – South Australian Assistance Guide for Grape Growers – This report is a Partnership between SA Wine Industry Association, Wine Grape Council SA and PIRSA</li> <li>PIRSA's Crop and Pasture Report has been published on the PIRSA website</li> <li>Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)</li> <li>Agriculture Victoria have been responding to the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), tests have confirmed this has the presence of the H7 strain of HPAI, in poultry farms in Victoria near Meredith and Terang, 8 farms in total, and now in NSW as well. Most importantly, this is not the H5N1 type that is circulating globally.</li> <li>The Avian Influenza virus is low risk to the public as it rarely affects humans unless there is direct and close contact with sick birds.</li> <li>Eggs and chicken meat is safe to be consumed if they are handled and cooked according to food handling practices.</li> <li>There is a restriction and conditions on the movement of live poultry and fertile eggs into South Australia from Victoria, however, there is currently no poultry movement restrictions inside South Australia.</li> <li>Agriculture Victoria's website is the reference site for up to date</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>information on the situation.</li> <li>Weed Control Handbook         <ul> <li>PIRSA has released its Weed Control Handbook for declared plants in South Australia</li> </ul> </li> <li>State Budget</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Family and Business (FaB) Support Program has been provided \$4.4 million over the next four years for the FaB mentor service and Rural Financial Counselling</li> <li>\$43 million to combat Fruit Fly, \$41.5 million of that in the regions, following further outbreaks across the Riverland and the Adelaide Metropolitan area. Response activities will assist in protecting South Australia's pest free status.</li> <li>\$19.5 million over the next four years to develop on-farm solutions and support the upskilling of the agriculture sector to reduce emissions through low emission intensity farming systems, supporting the state's target of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.</li> </ul>
	<b>ACTION:</b> Share with Dara the Boards quarterly performance and General manager report



Item	Item Title
6.	Strategic Discussion - Regional Landscape Plan  Eilidh Wilson (Senior Project Officer, Policy and Planning) and Marcela Rosero (Senior Project Officer, MERI) gave a presentation on the Implementation Evaluation and Regional Landscape Planning. Highlights:  • The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Plan sits within the State-wide planning framework.  • The Regional Plan draws upon three main sources:  • The Landscape South Australia Act  • State Landscape Strategy (still in development)  • Other legislation, policies and international agreements  • The Planning and Evaluating model involves:  • Every 5 Years – implementation of the Regional Landscape Plan  • Annually – Business Plan and Evaluation and Highlight Report  • Quarterly – Evaluating short-term performance with the Quarterly Performance Report  • The next stages for the new landscape plan includes:  • Stage 1: Implementation evaluation, including rubrics assessment for the focus area and measure of success of the regional landscape plan. From June 2024 – April 2025  • Stage 2: Regional planning process to revise the old plan and draft the new one for 2026-2031. From June 2025 – July 2026  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a) endorsed the approach and timeline for the Regional Landscape Plan Implementation Evaluation; and  b) Provided feedback on the current plan to inform the development of a new
7.	<ul> <li>Chairs Report</li> <li>The Chair presented a verbal report to the board.</li> <li>Attended the FRAC Meeting Wednesday 19 June in Berri</li> <li>The WAC Meeting was cancelled due to multiple apologies, next meeting will be in August 2024</li> <li>Attended meeting with Andrew and Amy, covered matters in GM's report and Finance reports.</li> <li>Spoke to a lot of people over the last month.</li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's report.</li> </ul>
8.	Board Members' reports  A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.  Andrew Biele  • Attended Landscapes Volunteer Celebration day at Paringa 19 May 2024 – Vol Day to Gluepot next year!



Item	Item Title
	<ul> <li>Attended MMCCC Meeting at Mindarie site office 29 May 2024</li> <li>Attended a BioChar presentation at the LRC 30 May 2024</li> <li>MSF Board and Strategy meeting at Ouyen 20 and 21 June 2024</li> <li>Other: <ul> <li>Most if not all farmers in the Northern Mallee have finished seeding now.</li> <li>Some have waited for the rain but don't have large areas to sow and are finished now.</li> <li>Early growers have benefited the most with the rain – average rainfall from 15mm to 35mm across the Northern Mallee areas. In crop spraying has bow started and legume rolling has also commenced in the early plantings. The season is showing early promise.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Took on trial 500HA put Biochar through seedier. Has control area</li> <li>Jason Size         <ul> <li>Increased reports of Grey headed flying foxes' sightings in the Riverland – Heads up with concerned growers.</li> <li>Pushing enquiries to Landscape and Promoting where I can in council presentations.</li> <li>Extremely busy in managing the current fruit fly response program.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Tammy O'Malley         <ul> <li>Attended Landscape Volunteer Celebration Day at Paiwalla Wetlands Sunday 26 May 2024.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Brian Lund         <ul> <li>Concerns around the withdrawal of funding for the Southern Lagoon</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board         <ul> <li>Noted the Board Members Reports, and</li> <li>Wish to thank the staff who organized the Volunteer celebration days,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	this was well received and thoroughly enjoyed.  General Manager's Report
9.	The General Manager's report for April was presented to the board.  Highlights:  • Dates for the National Science Showcases, where Citizen Science present awards for the year, dates include:  • Sunday 11 August 2024 10am to 1pm in Murray Bridge – Dirt Fest  • Sunday 18 August 2024 10am to 1pm in Willabalangaloo – Dirt Fest  • Sunday 25 August 2024 10am to 4pm in Murray Bridge – Turtle Fest  • Andrew Meddle and Jem Tesoriero met with Chair of NAC (Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation), all issues have been sorted.  • Tuesday 18 June 2024 held all staff day, this is a social/work event for all staff to attend, and this year staff were recognised for years of service of 5 years or more.  • Update for item 9.6 – Healthy Coorong Healthy Basin, there has been an offer received for Sustainable Agriculture of \$2.2 Million over 4 Years.  Michael Cutting is currently working on what the team will be undertaking with the funding.



Item	Item Title
	<ul> <li>Dog and Cat Management Act is currently being reviewed with amendments being drafted, main ones to note are around the clauses around un-identification. There will be an 8 week consultation process in July 2024</li> </ul>
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.
ITEM	S FOR DECISION
10.	2024-25 Annual Business Plan for approval The Manager Strategy and Engagement, presented the 2024-25 Annual Business plan.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: a. Noted the feedback received on the draft 2024-25 Business Plan; and b. Approved the 2024-25 Business Plan as presented in Attachment 2.
11.	Terms of Reference The Acting General Manager presented the Terms of Reference for the Mallee Region Water Reference Group and the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee.
	<b>ACTION:</b> The Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee Terms of Reference still need to be reviewed further.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Terms of Reference for the Mallee Region Water Reference Group.
	Financial Delegations Approvals  The Manager, Business Services presented on the Financial Delegations
12.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the:  a. Presiding Member of the Board, sign the Instruments of Authorisation on behalf of the Board, to be executed under Common Seal;  b. delegation of powers as per the Instruments of Authorisation and the delegation of those powers to the offices listed in the attached schedules, including:  • procurement – contract pre-approval, procurement, payment and • disbursements; • contract execution; • contract execution – purchase cards; and
	<ul> <li>disposal of assets; and</li> <li>General Manager to sub-delegate powers of authorisation to staff employed</li> <li>by the Board.</li> </ul>



Item	Item Title
	LUNCH
сом	MITTEES
13.	Finance, Risk and Audit Committee  The Manager, Business Services presented the Financial report for this month, which included the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 May 2024, the Risk Register and 5 year budget  Highlights:  Currently closely monitoring potential underspends for the year.  As it stands now there is a prediction of around \$200,000 underspend.  Current cash in Bank is \$11.4 million, with forecasting predicting around \$10.4 million by the end of the next financial year.  The updated dashboard shows the outstanding debtor graph which is currently sitting at \$158k.  New 15 day payment period for all invoices.  ACTION: Develop a diagram of how the finance processes works regarding Carryover, Budget adjusting impacts and Retained Earnings.  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (the board):  a. Noted the Finance Papers.  b. Endorsed the 2023-24 Budget Adjustments.  c. Noted the updated 5 Year Plan, updated from the 2024/25 Business Plan.  d. Compliment the staff on this ongoing difficult watchful brief.
	Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee  Amy Lee (Acting General Manager) provided the minutes of the special meeting held on 5 June 2024.
14.	<b>Action:</b> Invite Paul Gillen (National Parks and Wildlife Service) to the next Board meeting to discuss Wild Dog activity in Ngarkat.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee meeting minutes
	Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee  Andrew Biele provided the board with the minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2024.
15.	<ul> <li>Highlights:</li> <li>The committee has released public request for people to sit on the committee</li> </ul>
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee meeting minutes



ltem	Item Title			
ITEMS FOR NOTING				
	FMCP progress check-in			
16.	The Manager, Business Services presented on the FMCP progress check in.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the progress of the  2022-23 Financial Management Compliance Program Action Plan over the  last twelve months			
	Correspondence			
17.	The Correspondence list for May was presented to the board.			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.			
18.	Action List			
	The Action list was reviewed by the board.			
	The Meeting closed at 1:26pm			
	Next board meeting details – 25 July at Murray Bridge Water Advisory Committee – 8 August 2024 at Berri Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 6 August 2024 (TBC) Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee – 14 October 2024 Mindarie Mine MMCCC – August 2024 (TBC)			

ENDORSED	Dianne Davidson AM
Dianne Davidson Dianne Davidson (Jul 29, 2024 10:00 GMT+9.5)	Presiding Member Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
	Date: Jul 29, 2024

#### Minutes MRLB meeting 5-24 held 27 June 2024

Final Audit Report 2024-07-29

Created: 2024-07-26

By: LSA - Murraylands and Riverland - Helane Norman (Helane.Norman@sa.gov.au)

Status: Signed

Transaction ID: CBJCHBCAABAAaFMQLZiXBRrgt3n0SDZrLT31R5DP9-I2

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#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 6-24				
25 July 2024				
Start Time:	9.10am			
Location:	Murray Bridge Landscape Office Conference Room			
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes (Teams), Jason Size,  Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Helane Norman (Executive Officer)  Guests: Dara Frankel (Principal Regional Advisor, Murraylands and Riverland, PIRSA)  Item 5: Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Land and Water Management), Jeremy Nelson (Sustainable Agriculture Officer)  Item 11: Paul Gillen (District Ranger, Murraylands, NPWS)  Item 10-12: Bridget Mather (CEO Coorong Council)			
Apologies	Nil			

Item	Item Title
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.10am 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 Omitted conflicts: Jason Size is employed by PIRSA, Tammy O'Malley doing some work for Karoonda East Murray.
3.	Board Calendar  The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.  A letter of comfort for surety of internal controls has been received from both SSSA and DEW.
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (5-24) held 27 June 2024  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 5-24 held 27 June 2024.



ltem	Item Title	
	The meeting adjourned at 9.16am	
5.	The board undertook WHS and Due Diligence Training.  The meeting reconvened after the WHS and Due Diligence training at 10.55am.	
	Strategic Discussion: The Team Leader, Land and Water management, indicated that funding had been confirmed for the Climate Smart Ag Program in late June for our region. Further background information was provided on the proposed Carbon Farming Outreach Program (CFOP) and a discussion ensured on matching implementation ability with expectations from the funding source.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) noted the complexities of implementing the Carbon Farming Outreach Program in the region.	
6.	Chairs Report The Chair provided a verbal report, after a busy month busy with landscape board work and Vine Health responsibilities. An invitation has been received to attend a 'Meet and Greet' event for the CLLMM research Centre at Meningie on the 31st July, which will be forwarded to Brian Lund.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chairs Report.	
	<b>Board Member's reports</b> A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.	
7.	Frances Simes reported that she attended the 'Restoring Out Rivers: Implementing the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in full' Webinar on July 17 <sup>th</sup> .  The webinar was a high-level overview covering framework to deliver 450GL and guiding principles, voluntary water purchase of 70GL (IIO's are not part of this voluntary water purchase), consider socio-economic impacts, sustainable community program, resilient rivers program & a Q&A session. Continual referral to look on the website for fact sheets was encouraged throughout the webinar, which will be available to view on the Australian Govt. Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water in the near future.  Concern that bridal creeper is prolific at the moment.  Berri Barmera Landcare Group is restructured and growing with much worthwhile work happening.  Brian Lund participated in the program team's discussion on the development of the project design of the second phase of the RDP Sus Ag investment. Discussions also extended to articulation of the program logic that underpins this work.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.	



Item	Item Title
	General Manager's Report  The General Manager's report for July was presented to the board, along with the Quarterly WHS report, Communications report for May and June, and the Referrals report for July.  • MR Plan – A monitoring, evaluation and learning component will need to be
8.	developed. \$140,000 available for implementation in each region, but not available until the component is developed. Uncertain what obligations will be connected to this funding. Further clarity required.  Questions if further involvement matches the board's priorities and focus areas. Progress report and further consideration will be given to this plan at
	<ul> <li>future meetings.</li> <li>Close look at the WHS report and recent incidents. Looking to gain clarity around the board being a PCBU. Confident that good WHS process are in place, after improvement in the last 6 months, but also looking closely at the People Matters Employee Survey results for possible gaps.</li> </ul>
	<b>ACTION:</b> the General Manager to provide an update on the MR Plan at the next meeting.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.
ITEMA	S FOR DECISION

### **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

# **Board Positions Recruitment Communications Strategy**

The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented the board with the proposed strategy, to supplement the state communications in promoting upcoming board vacancies to maximise reach into the community.

## Discussion:

- Personal touch works best, communications necessary to reach community not within board and staff circle of movement. Flyer that current board members can hand out would be useful.
- Need to communicate why be a board member
- Utilise 'Flow' (interactive website)
- Testimonials Andrew, Frances, Tammy and Jason

A discussion around raising the board members individual and collective profiles was had. The board member profiles can be used to complement any local issues in media releases with member approval.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the approach and tactics outlined in the Recruiting Board Members Communications Strategy.

The meeting broke for lunch at 1pm.

# **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

The meeting reconvened at 1.40pm 10.

**Community Engagement Working Group** 

9



Item	Item Title	
	The Chair of the Community Engagement Working Group presented the framework to the board along with an example stakeholder analysis, and the notes of their last meeting.  Discussion:  Action Plan to be developed.  Encourage to focus in the short term on our regional community.  Marketing the board to the community is a starting point, then engagement.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the update from the Engagement working group.	
ITEM	S FOR NOTING	
	Wild Dog update	

The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes, provided a detailed background paper on the wild dog/dingo situation in our region and relevant science, policy and management of the species.

#### Discussion:

11.

12.

- Monitoring for Wild dog activity occurs in Ngarkat by NPWS.
- Issue of if it is Wild dogs or Dingoes in Ngarkat. Classification of these will be reviewed next year in SA.
- SA currently has a regulatory framework that implies that Wild Dogs need to be controlled for agricultural purposes.
- Aerial baiting has not occurred around Ngarkat, it is thought that regular ground baiting is fit for purpose.
- Need to ascertain how more dingoes in the environment would impact on smaller feral animals
- Current research is being undertaken by <u>Rachel T Mason</u> looking at dingo management in the Mallee region of SA and Vic
- TV presentation recently on ABC <u>Are Dingoes precious native wildlife or a pest?</u>

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the current conversation regarding science, policy, management and impact of dingoes/wild dogs as relevant to our region.

# PIRSA update

Dara Frankel provided the board with a PIRSA update on what is happening within the Murraylands and Riverland region.

Additional to her written report:

- Minister Scriven had announced funding for wine industry, \$260,000 to CCW for diversification
- Riverland Wine have appointed an Implementation officer, Casey Davy.
- Second Round of 'Enabling infrastructure grants' has been announced.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report from PIRSA.



Item	Item Title	
13.	Roadside pest control position  The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes, provided information on recent developments regarding road reserve management within our region, and provided the OPS-02 MR Landscape Board Draft Road Reserve Pest Plant and Animal Control policy for endorsement.  The Board acknowledged that the precis tabled at the meeting provided an excellent summary of a complex scenario.  Several scenarios were discussed in regard to management of road reserves and rail corridors.  Changes as a result of the landscape Act review may impact this policy. Concern about the additional impost on district officer time and budget were raised. It was noted that the Act does not stipulate the type of weed controls to be applied by the Board. With this in mind, it was suggested that we investigate the use of roadside revegetation to buffer the colonisation and migration of invasive weed species. African Love Grass discussed as example. It was suggested that the Board commission a discussion paper looking at the potential of roadside revegetation as a medium to longer term strategy for weed management versus the ongoing tactic of annual herbicide application. The secondary advantages, disadvantages and practicalities would also be taken into account.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the MR Landscape	
	Road Reserve Pest Plant and Animal Control policy.	
	Correspondence	
14.	The Correspondence list for July was presented to the board.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.	
15.	Action List The Action list was reviewed by the board.	
	The meeting closed at 2.50pm	
	Next meeting details – 22 August 2024 at Berri Water Advisory Committee – 8 August 2024 at MB Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 6 August 2024 on Teams	

ENDORSED	Dianne Davidson AM
	Presiding Member
	_Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
Dianne Davidson (Aug 26, 2024 19:43 GMT+9.5)	Date: Aug 26, 2024

# 6-24 MRLB meeting minutes 25 July 2024

Final Audit Report 2024-08-26

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By: LSA - Murraylands and Riverland - Helane Norman (Helane.Norman@sa.gov.au)

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# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 7-24			
22 August	22 August 2024		
Start Time:	9.00am.		
Location: Berri Landscape Board conference Room			
Berri Landscape Board conference Room  Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes (Teams), Jason Size, Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainab Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement on Teams), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services on Teams), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Item 13: Simon Lease (Team Leader, Finance on Teams) Guests: Dara Frankel (Principal Regional Advisor, Murraylands and Riverland, PIRSA) Lunch guests: Brenton Barker (RMMAC), Tim Pfeiffer (CEO, Berri Barmera Council), Jim Godden (Chair of FRAC),			
Apologies	Nil		

Item	Item Title
	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.
1.	Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.00am 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.
	Board Calendar
3.	The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (6-24) held 25 July 2024
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 6-24 held 25 July 2024.
	Strategic Discussion – Future Directions of the Board
5.	The Board discussed at length the future in regard to the changing of board members and chair, the changing workforce, and the changing landscape.  Separate notes will be provided.



ltem	Item Title	
6.	Chairs Report The chair provided a report of her undertakings for the last month. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chairs Report.	
7.	<ul> <li>Board Member's reports A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board. Highlights: <ul> <li>The Agriculture Open day that Brian attended at Meningie Area School had a great cross section of community present in an 'easy setting', Opportunities there for Communications and/or Education team.</li> <li>Murray Bridge Dirt Fest attended by about 40, had awesome content, although there was confusion with venue, and although the content of one speakers was interesting, the talk lacked energy.</li> <li>Tammy has assisted in having the landscape board attend a careers expo at Lameroo.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.</li> </ul>	
8.	<ul> <li>General Manager's Report The General Manager's report for August was presented to the board, along with the Communications report for July, and the Referrals report for August. </li> <li>Discussion: <ul> <li>MR Plan - Unease about the MR Plan, how and what groups come up with community resilience projects and what they may look like, possibly seed funding.</li> <li>Steering committee will be reconvened to further the Plan.</li> <li>Meetings with MDBA foster the relationship and assist the board to keep in touch with what is happening.</li> <li>Andrew Meddle left the room while the General Manager contract conditions were discussed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: <ul> <li>a) noted the General Manager's Report and attachments;</li> <li>b) endorsed that the General Manager re-engages with the MR Plan process to seek outcomes consistent with the Regional Landscape Plan;</li> <li>c) endorsed that the GM is able to access two additional weeks of leave for the remainder of his contract.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
ITEMS FOR DECISION		
9.	<ul> <li>Quarter 4 quarterly performance report</li> <li>The General Manager presented the Fourth quarter performance report for 2023-24.</li> <li>The table of risks and challenges indicates that these have been considered.</li> <li>Good consistent easily read report. Well done</li> </ul>	



Item	Item Title	
	<ul> <li>Murray Cray reintroduction story, picked up well by ABC, but not as much interest by other media, tourism contacts may have opportunities into channel 9 &amp; 7.</li> </ul>	
	<b>ACTION:</b> Circulate quarterly report to other landscape boards for info.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Quarterly Performance Report for the fourth quarter of 2023/2024.	
сомі	MITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS	
10.	<ul> <li>Water Advisory Committee</li> <li>The chair of the Water Advisory Committee provided a summary of the discussion at the meeting held 8 August 2024.</li> <li>Community frustration re lack of repairs and management of the Lower Murray levee banks</li> <li>Water licensing and the new system that is being developed. Andrew to speak with Water licensing.</li> <li>WAC TOR accepted; Changes suggested to Marne Saunders community reference group TOR.</li> </ul>	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes from the Water Advisor meeting and the verbal update.	
11.	<ul> <li>Community Engagement Working Group</li> <li>The working Group met on 12 August 2024.</li> <li>Undertaking stakeholder analysis and recognising gaps. Presentation next month on the Engagement strategy.</li> <li>The way communications are communicated, training, tools, and tricks etc will be in the action plan.</li> </ul>	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the update from the Engagement working group.	
12.	<ul> <li>Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee</li> <li>Andrew Biele attended the meeting held at the Mindarie mine on 7<sup>th</sup> August.</li> <li>Discussed operational issues regarding vehicles etc</li> <li>Currently looking at what the role of the statutory committee is.</li> </ul>	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the verbal report from the Murray Mallee Community Consultative Committee.	
	Finance Risk and Audit Committee Report and Draft Financial Statement for 2023-24.  The minutes from the Finance Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 8 August were presented to the board, this meeting was held to read thoroughly the financials for the last financial year. The Financial report has been signed by the chair and submitted to the auditors; Further correspondence is only expected from the Auditor Generals Department in October / November.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Financial statement	
	for 2023-24, and the minutes of the meeting.	



Item	Item Title	
ITEM	ITEMS FOR NOTING	
	PIRSA update  Dara Frankel provided the board with an update on what is happening in PIRSA within the Murraylands and Riverland region.	
14.	<ul> <li>Acknowledges that the board is a genuine friendly board, and great opportunity for her to attend.</li> <li>Fruit Fly detections have been in the red areas, there has been no detections in some areas for more than 12 months.</li> <li>Wine Industry, funding received to engage an implementation officer, and then to look at market demand for alternative crops where there is a lack of confidence to look at these undertakings individually.</li> <li>Vine health concerns ensure that equipment being moved is washed and disinfected, and roots are also removed when a vine is removed.</li> <li>New exotic tomato virus - Tomato brown rugose fruit virus - is being responding to nationally.</li> <li>'Enabling infrastructure programs for communities' grants were difficult for smaller clubs to come up with the co-contribution money upfront, feedback will be provided on this for future programs.</li> <li>questioned how much impact the closure of 3G is having on agriculture community closure –weather monitoring.</li> <li>Feedback provided on how bad the dry conditions are across the region.</li> </ul>	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report from PIRSA.	
15.	GM Performance report  The end of year review of the General Manager's performance was presented to the board in line with the existing performance agreement. The General Manager stressed that his achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and professionalism of the staff and board members.  Draft KPI's for the upcoming year were also provided to the board.  ACTION: Add at the end of item 8 in the KPI's ' consistent with the engagement strategy'.	
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. Noted the end of year review of the General Manager's Performance Agreement (Attachment 1); and  b. Endorsed the draft KPIs for 2024/25 (Attachment 2) with a minor amendment so that they may be passed to the DEW CE for approval.	
	Correspondence	
16.	The Correspondence list for August was presented to the board.	
_	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.	
17.	Action List	
	The Action list was reviewed by the board.	



Item	Item Title		
18.	Other Business		
	<ol> <li>Andrew Biele suggested an opportunity be provided to the Landscape Interns for them to report to the board on their experience and learnings.</li> </ol>		
	<b>ACTION:</b> GM to investigate provide a learnings presentation from Interns at a future board meeting.		
	<ol> <li>Urban Greening Enquiry – the board has offered to be part of a regional response in the space, following an enquiry received by a board member. Benefit likely to be in Murray Bridge but may be useful for smaller communities to learn good species to promote for planting, and would be good engagement with LG.</li> </ol>		
	Next meeting details – 26 September 2024 at Lameroo - teams for Frances Water Advisory Committee – 3 October 2024 at Berri Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 14 October 2024 Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee – 14 October 2024		
10	Future dates to remember:		
19.	17 February 2025 Board Member Induction (Adelaide Pavilion, Veale Park) Landscape Board Conference – all Board Members and ELT (Adelaide Oval)		
	The meeting closed at 12.30pm.		
	Brenton Barker (RMMAC), Tim Pfeiffer (CEO, Berri Barmera Council) and Jim Godden (Chair FRAC) joined the board for lunch.		
	Field Visit – Hughes Street Depot, and District equipment  The board visited the Landscape Board's Hughes Street Depot, to view some operational equipment that is used by the District staff in the Riverland and hear about how it is being used.  The day finished at 3pm.		

ENDORSED	Dianne Davidson AM
Dianne Davidson	Presiding Member
Dianne Davidson (Oct 7, 2024 20:42 GMT+10.5)	Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
Brainie Baviason (Oct 1, 2021 20.12 On 1 120.5)	Date: Oct 7, 2024

# 7-24 MRLB Minutes 22 August 2024

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# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title	: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 8-24					
26 Septem	26 September 2024					
Start Time:	9.30am					
Location:	Southern Mallee District Council Chambers, Lameroo					
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Jason Size, Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Items 1 to: Casey Henderson (Murraylands District Manager), Sylvia Clarke (Team Leader, Planning and MERI), Jem Teseriero (Team Leader, Partnerships and Engagement) Guests: Dara Frankel (Principal Regional Advisor, Murraylands and Riverland, PIRSA), Cr Trevor Pocock (landowner and Southern Mallee DC), Lunch guests: Southern Mallee District Council CEO Lachlan Miller, and Mayor Ron Valentine, Greg Cox (Lameroo Regional Community School Principal), Mallee Peake Roby Sherlock Water working Group members, David and Leonie Kielow, Jaco Pauer					
Apologies	Frances Simes					

Item	Item Title
	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.
	The Chair provided guest Trevor Pocock an opportunity to speak to the board on his concerns. These included Roadside weeds, the African Lovegrass project, levy, and advertising of board meetings.
2.	Conflict of Interest No further conflicts, however, Andrew Biele indicated he is no longer on the GRDC RCSN group.
3.	Board Calendar  The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.



ltem	Item Title
	Adoption of <b>Minutes from the previous meeting (7-24)</b> held 22 August 2024
4.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 7-24 held 22 August 2024.
5.	<ul> <li>Landscape Priority Fund Projects</li> <li>Two Landscape Priority Fund projects have been submitted by the Murraylands and Riverland landscape board and are awaiting notification if they have been successful.         <ul> <li>The Turtle Project (Together Understanding and Recovering Turtles in our Landscapes and Ecosystems)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Team Leader, Planning and MERI, Sylvia Clarke, provided detail around the Turtle Project, which draws together landscape boards, First Nations, Universities, Environmental NGO's and Councils and will deliver Turtle Management Strategy and include updating data, and on ground action, monitoring costs and workshops.</li> <li>Discrete Description the flavor forcet flavor fl</li></ul>
	• River to Recovery: Stopping the flow of post flood pests.  The Murraylands District Manager explained the proposed project which is designed to address our regional priority weeds and find ways to support community and industry with pest challenges worsened by the River Murray flood. It will include initial surveys and community surveillance of pest incursions and on ground pest animal and plant control at priority areas and will be over and above the work normally carried out by Districts.
	Chairs Report
6.	<ul> <li>The chair provided a brief report and added the following:</li> <li>The National Science Week event, the Turtle Fest, attended in late August was a standout engagement day, with good involvement from schools.</li> <li>Recently travelled the region to look at the devastating effect of frost and lack of rain on broadacre and vineyard enterprises.</li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.</li> </ul>
	Board Member's reports
7.	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.  Native Vegetation Council – three members attended a networking dinner on 24 September.  Regarding native vegetation on roadsides, Trevor Pocock is keen to see a clean-up of roadsides to assist in fire prevention, difficulty as there is shared responsibility between a number of departments for this area.  Roadside weeds - Gazanias was raised as an ongoing issue, along with African Lovegrass.  Regional Issues:  • Frost has hit hard in the low-lying areas across the region in recent weeks, and the frost window still continues.  • Crops affected due to the dry season are too low to put sheep in, as likely to cause erosion later in the season.  • Horticulture and agriculture are both struggling at the moment.



ltem	Item Title
	<ul> <li>Suggested possible workshops to keep cover on paddocks, which is occurring in Limestone coast area. Sustainable Ag team are aware of what is occurring, with vermin issues likely to arise.</li> <li>Community groups are using their own initiative to organise get togethers within the Coorong Council, good opportunity for relevant staff to participate and provide support.</li> <li>RDA and other groups can assist.</li> <li>Vineyard removal – the whole vine (roots and all) must be removed to stop phylloxera and to eliminate the necessity to pay the levy per ha. Interstate vine removalists are also a risk for biosecurity.</li> <li>Multi-faceted approach to the current situations is required.</li> </ul>
	ACTION: Emergency preparedness federal funding - speaker for October board meeting.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.
8.	General Manager's Report The General Manager's report for August was presented to the board, along with the Communications report for August, and the Referrals report for September. Discussion:  • Andrew highlighted under 10.5 the difficulties with Water Licencing being unable to issue an invoice under the My Water system for zero entitlement water licences, and as this would impact the board's budget, the board request the General Manager to undertake further discussions with Water licencing to resolve and correct the current situation.  • Some illegal dam issues will be tackled with money set aside from the LPF on a statewide basis over the next 2 years.  • NRM Regions Australia CEO Forum  • Natural Capital Accounting is an area South Australia and particularly the Landscape Boards needs to work through in the near future.  • Challenges with Energy transition also an ongoing issue – profitable for landholders with infrastructure on their properties, with less importance on the land and managing it properly.  • National soil management project – landscape boards and CSIRO multi-year project  • New project with Bureau of Meteorology – 'Resilient Farming: Navigating Weather Challenges for Agricultural Success', 1 staff member for each board to liaise with BOM and landholders.  • Carp management – unresolved  • Weather Station network – upgraded from 3G but needs further tweaks.



# **Item Title** Item The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: Noted the General Manager's Report and attachments; and Agreed to continue discussions with DEW Water Licencing to ensure that b. the Board is not disadvantaged from any activity or inactivity relating to zero entitlement water licences. **ITEMS FOR DECISION** Draft Annual Evaluation Summary and 23/24 Highlights summary The General Manager presented the Draft Annual Evaluation Summary to the board for approval, as the review document to monitor progress in implementing the 5year Landscape plan and Annual Business Plan. The 23/24 Highlights summary was also presented to the board and will be the publicly available document describing what the board has done for stakeholders 9 and the community. Discussion: • Summaries drafted from the quarterly reports. External evaluation will occur in the coming years. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the 2023-2024 Annual Highlights Report for publication and noted the findings of the 2023-2024 Annual Evaluation Summary. **Engagement Strategy** The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented the Engagement strategy which is the culmination of work undertaken by staff, the board and CE working group. The Regional Community Stakeholder analysis assists board members and staff to engage meaningfully and effectively with partners and the community, and identified gaps and opportunities, which will help form the action plan. Discussion: Further groups or divisions of stakeholders were suggested and are people that the board want to partner with or work with to deliver services. This strategy should drive what impacts people day to day. 10. Noted that some gaps have been filled by what is already being done. There are resource limitations. • Side benefit has been the good ideas on what can help staff and make a shift in the organisation. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: noted the update from the Engagement working group. endorsed the Regional Community Stakeholder Analysis; and b. supports and encourages the ongoing work of the engagement strategy C. process, including organisational cultural change to support implementation.



Item	Item Title
	Draft Marne Saunders report
	The Water Resources Manager provided an update on the first Marne Saunders Report card, which is part of the 'Holistic Water Engagement and Reporting for the Marne Saunders Catchment' project.
11.	<ul> <li>A mock-up of the report card was provided to the board for comment.</li> <li>Suggest that the pages are dated, and that the date on the front of the report card is not 2023.</li> <li>Acknowledgment of those that have adopted low flow bypasses.</li> <li>relevant information will be included in future report cards.</li> <li>The report card will be launched after the board meeting in November at Cambrai.</li> </ul> The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the update, and
	endorsed the proposed arrangements for the report card launch.
12.	<ul> <li>Southern Mallee Council</li> <li>Mayor Ron Valentine joined the meeting with the CEO Lachlan Miller and welcomed the board to the southern Mallee council area.</li> <li>The following was highlighted: <ul> <li>Council's main priority is on local issues that impact their constituents daily.</li> <li>one pest that is causing the most issues in the area for council is pigeons, making Pinnaroo rainwater undrinkable. No answers forthcoming from anyone.</li> <li>Landscape office in Lameroo – would like to see better signage and what Landscape manages.</li> <li>Council is not in a good financial position.</li> <li>Asked the board to consider what it can do to make farmers more sustainable and profitable.</li> <li>Council has a huge social media presence and is happy to promote landscape activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Chair thanked the representatives from the Southern Mallee Council for attending.</li> </ul>
	Lunch
	Communications strategy – Board member profiles
13.	<ul> <li>The Manager Strategy and Engagement provided a draft strategy to increase community awareness of the landscape board members, in response to discussions at previous board meetings.</li> <li>Discussion: <ul> <li>Utilise news opportunities in members local community to promote board members.</li> <li>Give new board members the opportunity to see the region and introduce themselves to other board members.</li> <li>The board is accountable for the work of the staff. Staff should talk to the community about board members, maybe notify members if working in board members area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



# Item Item Title

• Suggest QR codes for board members as an alternative to business cards.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the implementation of the tactics outlined in the communications strategy for lifting the landscape board's profile.

Sylvia Clarke, Casey Henderson and Jem Tesoriero left the meeting.

# **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

# **Finance Risk and Audit - Summary financial reports**

The Business Manager provided insight into the current financial position of the board.

The Committee has asked ELT to consider risk and impact of loss or reduction of income.

14. A decrease in the net position is due to delay in Water levy invoices being issued which has resulted in expenditure being higher than revenue received. An analysis is being undertaken to ascertain how long this situation will continue and implement a process to alleviate any issues arising from this.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the attached Statement of Income & Expenditure and Statement of Financial Position as of 31 August 2024.

# **Community Engagement Working Group**

The working Group met on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**ACTION:** Staff to put forward a brief framework for the action plan and get feedback from the working group prior to progressing.

15.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the update from the Engagement working group.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board resolved that Brian Lund join the Community Engagement Working Group, in Caroline's absence.

# **ITEMS FOR NOTING**

# **PIRSA** update

Dara Frankel provided the board with an update on what is happening in PIRSA within the Murraylands and Riverland region, also noting the following:

• Changes in frost impact since the report was written, important for board to be kept in the loop, and offer to work in partnership with PIRSA.

 PIRSA have applied for a new bait for controlling problem birds using AI, with the project being led by Annette Scanlon.

- PIRSA's thriving communities Program grants are now open.
- Questioned if the Avian flu will impact on the declining population of Black Swans?

16.



Item	Item Title
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report from PIRSA.
17.	People Matters Employee Survey  The People Matters Survey was conducted in February and March this year across the SA public sector. The General Manager provided the report and insight into how the board compares to other boards and the public sector.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report relating to the results of the People Matter Employee Survey.
	Correspondence
18.	The Correspondence list for September was presented to the board.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.
	Action List
19.	The Action list was reviewed by the board. <b>ACTION</b> : current action has been misunderstood. A printed copy of each quarterly report to be provided to each council.
	Next meeting details – 24 October 2024 at Murray Bridge Water Advisory Committee – 3 October 2024 Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 14 October 2024 Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee – 14 October 2024
20.	Trevor Pocock, Helane Norman, Michelle Finch, Renata Rix and Amy Lee left the meeting.  In Camera Item – Future Organisation  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) of the Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020.  The Board received a presentation from the General Manager outlining the Future Organisation structure. Discussion followed with general support for the approach taken.
	The meeting closed at 3.55pm.

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Dianne Davidson AM

**Presiding Member** 

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 24/10/24



# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 9-24						
24 October	24 October 2024					
Start Time:	<b>Fime:</b> 9.00am					
Location:	Murray Bridge Landscape Office					
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes  Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Items 1-5: Maisie Byrne and Amy Rice (Citizen Science Interns), Alice Woodward (Acting Senior Project Officer, Citizen Science)  Item 5: Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Land and Water management), Wendy Stubbs (Team leader, Landscape Ecology), Kate Mason (Principal Project Officer, Environmental Water)  Guests:  Items 1-13: Dara Frankel (Principal Regional Advisor, Murraylands and Riverland, PIRSA),  Item 14: Jim Godden (Chair FRAC),					
Apologies:	Jason Size					

ltem	Item Title
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.00am 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 new Disclosures
3.	Board Calendar The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
4.	Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (8-24) held 26 September 2024  Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the  Minutes of Meeting 8-24 held 26 September 2024.



# Item Title

# **Presentations**

### Citizen Science Interns

Maisie Byrne and Amy Rice received the opportunity to undertake an internship with the board in Citizen Science, and presented a summary of their time with the board. Alice Woodward supervised the interns during their time with the board.

# **Emergency Preparedness funding**

The Manager, Strategy and Engagement, introduced the project, which was made possible with funding received from the Federal Government to prepare for emergencies in three assets – agricultural, ecological and wetlands.

Michael Cutting provided an overview of what was considered when putting together the Emergency Preparedness Response Plan for Agriculture, and focused on 'sustaining the soil asset in a changing climate'.

Wendy Stubbs and the ecology team looked at threats from natural disasters, more specifically bushfires which are likely to be more frequent and severe:

- To better prepare ourselves for response during the bushfire which involved updating the fire vulnerable habitat layer
- Looking at an individual species level
- Positioning Landscape boards across the state to better understand their roles during and after bushfires.

Kate Mason presented on developing the Wetland Drought Preparedness Plan which took into account learnings from the millennium drought and recent flooding events and seek to achieve the following:

- Avoid critical losses of native biota, especially long-lived vegetation and local populations.
- Maintain refugia, especially for obligate aquatic threatened species.
- Avoid catastrophic events, particularly salinisation and acidification.
- Avoid irreversible harm to wetland soil structure and habitat quality.

### Discussion:

5.

- Workshop planned with previous wetland participants plus a workshop with wetland managers from other boards etc to get one view
- Greg Cock PPSA has been engaged by PIRSA and SAFECOM with funding from the federal government to look at how landholders deal with multiple and compounding emergency events.
- Ensure that emergency responses are included in program plans
- Weeds and vermin could have been included into the agricultural plan. Grain breeding programs also play a part in managing drought
- Where could the plans be put/stored to share the information in them?
- Ascertain what other boards have done under the agriculture banner with this funding, working together if appropriate.

**ACTION:** Emergency Preparedness Reports to be shared with board members.

The chair thanked the presenters.



ltem	Item Title					
6.	<ul> <li>PIRSA update</li> <li>Dara Frankel provided the board with an update on what is happening in PIRSA within the Murraylands and Riverland region, also noting the following: <ul> <li>Livestock SA are providing 'Beyond the farm gate' funding of \$300 for small group barbecues.</li> <li>Attended the Murray Mallee Regional Plan workshop in Berri</li> <li>Met with Kelly-Anne Saffin, South Australian Cross Border Commissioner</li> <li>Riverland wine has had staffing changes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Large amount of small sales of vineyards occurring.</li> <li>Andrew Biele attended the Community breakfast put on by Rural Business support (in response to multiple frost events and dry conditions) in Loxton yesterday, where discussion indicated some leniency from financial sectors would be most beneficial. Some community members and groups are also having events to help each other.</li> <li>Adrian Pederick gave a speech in parliament advocating for leniency from financial institutions</li> </ul>					
	<b>ACTION:</b> Dara Frankel to ascertain if the approach to contact those affected by frost (with depleted incomes) to assist with fruit fly inspections has been considered by PIRSA.					
7.	Chairs Report  The chair provided a written report, adding that she also attended the Coorong Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Advisory Panel meeting last week.					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.					
	<b>Board Member's Report</b> A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.					
	Discussion around farming in dry times and frost damage, including capacity of farmers to bale frost damaged crops was had.					
	The MRLB Seasonal Summary, prepared by the Land and Water Management team was provided to board members earlier in the week and are seeking feedback.					
8.	<b>ACTION:</b> Board members to provide feedback to MRLB Seasonal Summary provided to board members in the 20 October weekly update.					
	Andrew Biele attended the Murray Mallee Bushfire Management committee meeting, Andrew highlighted that the roadside and some paddocks fuel load is quite high, which will be a high hazard this summer.					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.					
9.	General Manager's Report  The General Manager's report for August was presented to the board, along with the Quarterly WHS report, Communications report for September, and the Referrals report for October.					



# Item Item Title

Also included was correspondence between the General Manager and the Chief Executive of DEW regarding the issuing of Water licences.

### Discussion:

- Appears no recognition of the impact on boards of delayed issue of water levy invoices, the board has offered to help with communication to the community.
- CEWH agreement has been signed to receive 10.6GL of water for pumping into wetlands in the 24/25 year.
- Suggest compliance speaker at November meeting.
- WHS incidents remain low, Shared resource with LCLB is working well.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the General Manager's Report and attachments.

# **ITEMS FOR DECISION**

10.

11.

# **Terms of Reference reviews**

Recently reviewed Terms of Reference for four of the board's committees / working groups were provided by the General Manager for endorsement by the board.

Discussion on if the TOR fully captured the purpose of the Marne Saunders Water Reference Group, that both upper and lower regions of the Marne Saunders region are represented. Add following sentence to end of 'Purpose' paragraph: to enable two-way communication between the community and the landscape board.

No changes are required for Water Advisory Committee and Water Planning steering committee, and suggested changes for the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating committee were endorsed.

**ACTION:** Ascertain if Leon Dean can represent the upper MS area on the working group.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the terms of reference of its:

- a. Water Advisory Committee;
- b. Water Planning Steering Committee;
- c. Marne Saunders Water Reference Group, with an additional sentence; and
- d. Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee.

# **Draft Annual Report**

The Manager, Business Services presented the draft MRLB Annual Report to the board, noting that the audited financial statements will need to be added when they are received. Suggested clarity to above the table in the 'Reporting required under any other act or regulation', with the final version to be presented to the November board meeting.

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:

- Noted the draft Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Annual Report 2023-24; and
- b. Provided any suggested changes.



Item	Item Title
	Policy/Procedure Register review
12.	The Manager, Business Services provided an overview of the board's policies and procedures and explained how they are managed, whilst providing a register of current policies and procedures.
	Work is underway by the Business Managers network to collate and streamline the policies and procedures on a statewide level.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the progress of the policy and procedure development for the Board.
	Introduction of Out of Council Levy and Minimum Water CPI increase
13.	As part of business planning for the 25-26 financial year, the board has been reviewing the structure of levies available to the board, particularly the raising of levies in the out-of-council residents and increasing the \$200 minimum fee for Water Levy licence holders.
	The board felt that, at this time, given the current financial climate, and the relative low gain, no changes should be made to current position.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the information provided in the paper and agree to not further actioning the introduction of an out of council levy or a raise to the \$200 minimum fee in 25/26.
	Dara Frankel left the meeting
13.	levies in the out-of-council residents and increasing the \$200 minimum fee for Water Levy licence holders.  The board felt that, at this time, given the current financial climate, and the relative low gain, no changes should be made to current position.  The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the information provided in the paper and agree to not further actioning the introduction of an out of council levy or a raise to the \$200 minimum fee in 25/26.

# **COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

Jim Godden joined the meeting

### **Finance Risk and Audit Committee**

A FRAC meeting was held on 14 October, with minutes and the report, along with the Risk Register provided to the board. The Manager, Business Services and the Committee chair, Jim Godden, provided an overview of the meeting and the issues being dealt with. These included:

- Current favourable variance of \$480,000
- Statement of Financial Position \$8.7m in bank
- Awaiting carryover approval from treasury from external funding received in the 23/24 year.
- Jim thanked the finance team for the preparation of the reports and their work
- Delay in Water levy income due to DEW systems issues risk to be managed
- Additional work to mitigate the delay
- ELT to discuss how to embed the Risk Register into everyday processes as a living document, staff and board need to be checking controls and ascertain if the controls still control the risk adequately.

# Discussion:

Papers presented to FRAC which are for the board. The committee is to review, assess and provide their assessment to the board, but not to amend

14.



ltem	Item Title					
	the paper. If the paper is written for FRAC then the committee has the right to change it.					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers.  Jim Godden left the meeting					
15.	<ul> <li>Water Advisory Committee</li> <li>The Water Advisory Committee held a meeting on 3 October and the minutes were provided to the board. The Chair provided further insight into what was discussed at the meeting: <ul> <li>Meeting dates for 2025 were discussed at their recent meeting</li> <li>A presentation was provided on the progress being made in MyWater.</li> <li>Manager, Strategy and Engagement will meet with Christine Fiebig regarding the communications around MyWater.</li> <li>Uncle Clyde Rigney snr and Glenn Chisholm have been appointed as First Nations representatives on the WAC and attended the meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Water Advisory Committee.					
16.	<ul> <li>Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee</li> <li>Minutes of the BFWDCC meeting held 14 October were provided to the board.</li> <li>Discussion</li> <li>discussion on dog behaviour due to dry conditions,</li> <li>Emergency response if dog attacks are reported</li> <li>Victorian position, protected in north west, but unprotected in the resto f Victoria. Hard for landowners who have not been provided with non-lethal control options.</li> <li>Contention among scientists on the genetics of dogs in Ngarkat and Northwest Victoria.</li> </ul>					
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee.					

ITEMS FOR NOTING	
17.	Riverland Field Days report  The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented a report of the board's sites at the recent Riverland Field Days. A further review looking at both major field days, other options, and incorporating the new event trailer, will be brought back to the board at a future meeting.  Suggested to look at events like the Meningie Food Festival, country shows and other local events.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the attendance of the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape staff at the 2024 Riverland Field Days.
18.	Landscape Board Procurement report  Manager, Business Services provided an update on the audit report which has been received for all landscape boards, and will work with DEW to ensure that the issues raised are addressed.



Item	Item Title
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Internal Audit report on Procurement.
19.	Board budget process  The Manager, Business Services presented a process that is undertaken when making budget requests to Department Treasury and Finance (DTF), as well as the timing when requests can be made.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the process undertaken by the Finance team to manage budgets with the Department of Treasury & Finance (DTF).
	Financial Management Compliance Program Review The Manager, Business Services provided an overview of the review of the FMCP and the actions that are being implemented.
20.	a. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the 2023-24 FMCP findings; and b. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the action plan to be implemented in 2024-25 as a result of the findings.
21.	Correspondence The Correspondence list for October was presented to the board.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.
22.	Action List The Action list was reviewed by the board.
	Next meeting details – 28 November at Cambrai – 10.30am for 11am meeting, followed by launch of the Marne Saunders Report Card at 5.30pm Water Advisory Committee – 12 December Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 17 December
	Close The meeting closed at 1.30pm

ENDORSED Varmedarblach

Dianne Davidson AM

**Presiding Member** 

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Date: 28/11/24



# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 10-24		
28 November 2024		
Start Time:	2.30pm	
Location:	Cambrai Council Chambers	
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes, Jason Size  Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Renee Clark (Acting Manager, Business Services), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Item 1-5: Ian Hunter (Compliance Officer)	
Apologies	Dara Frankel (PIRSA),	

ltem	Item Title
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 2.25pm 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 new Disclosures.
3.	Board Calendar The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.
	Adoption of <b>Minutes from the previous meeting (9-24)</b> held 24 October 2024
4.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 9-24 held 24 October 2024.
5.	Presentation – MRLB Compliance Activities  The General Manager provided background on the legislation that informs compliance and how Compliance responsibilities and processes within the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board region. The Compliance Officer then provided an overview of the work he has carried out in the region.
	<ul> <li>Discussion:</li> <li>Unknown repercussion with changes to the Biosecurity Bill</li> <li>Initial approach is education not expiation</li> <li>What is classified as commercial forestry – e.g. Carbon farming?</li> </ul>



Item	Item Title
	Compliance officer has good working relationship with DEW and PIRSA
	<b>ACTION:</b> Renata/lan to delve into what constitutes farm forestry e.g. Carbon Farming plantings.
	<b>ACTION:</b> General Manager to draft a letter to the Agriculture Minister of notification on the pig issue.
6.	PIRSA update Dara Frankel provided a written report on happenings within the Murraylands and Riverland region within PIRSA. The General Manager has been liaising with Dara concerning the Avian Bird Flu, with advice and information to provide to any enquiries.
7.	Chairs Report The chair provided a written report, highlighting the Chairs Forum held on 6 November.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.
	Board Member's Report  A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board.  Highlights:  • Mesonet weather network has been threatened to be closed down by CotL
8.	<ul> <li>prior to Christmas. Minister Scriven is looking at options on how this service can be provided in the future.</li> <li>Signage has been delivered by board member, Frances Simes to several Riverland Grassroots Grants recipients, with several more to be delivered to schools and other recipients by board members.</li> </ul>
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.
	General Manager's Report The General Manager's report for November was presented to the board, along with the Communications report for October, the Referrals report for November and Correspondence from the CE of DEW regarding MyWater.
9.	<ul> <li>The Commonwealth NHT funding has progressed with the work order now signed, this being the last of the federal funding to be completed.</li> <li>Regional Summit – met on 20 November, projects discussed, concern over the detail relating to the formation of Regional Alliance</li> <li>Met with Chief Executives from the MRLGA and RDAMR to discuss the MRPlan future and regional resilience funding.</li> </ul>
in the state of th	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.
ITEM:	S FOR DECISION
	Annual Report

10. Annual Report

The final MRLB Annual Report was presented to the board for approval.



Item	Item Title
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Annual Report 2023-24.
11.	Q1 Quarterly Report  The Quarterly Performance Report for the first quarter of 2024/2025 summarises the performance and activities for July, August and September and tracks progress against the Board's business plan. This report along with the Progress on program strategies and the risks and challenges were presented to the board for approval. A summary of the report is being written and will be provided when the next quarterly report is presented.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Quarterly Performance Report for the fourth quarter of 2024/2025.
12.	<ul> <li>Developing the 2025-26 Business Plan</li> <li>In preparation for the drafting of the Annual Business Plan, the board were asked to consider the presented proposals regarding the increase to landscape and water levies, and suggestions for the Grassroots Grants expenditure in line with the Act and directions from the Minister.</li> <li>Discussion:         <ul> <li>Enquiry re correspondence that could be provided to levy payers.</li> <li>Discussed how to show empathy to the communities undergoing hardship, including any options for levy determinations.</li> <li>Legislation provides that the levy can only be raised by CPI with Ministerial and cabinet approval. If the levy is not put up in a tough year, there is no way to make up the lost income in a good year by raising the levy more than CPI to compensate for lost revenue previously.</li> <li>Work increases for the board while hard times are being experienced by the community.</li> <li>The board is waiting for Landscape Priority Fund announcements, to ascertain what funding will be required for major projects that might not be funded through LPF.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved:         <ul> <li>The increase to the Landscape and Water Levies by the CPI of 3.2%.</li> <li>That \$505,624 be made available for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Grassroots Grant program (2025-26).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13.	Meeting dates for 2025 The General Manager provided a paper outlining the proposed meeting dates for the
	board and its committees for the upcoming calendar year. A change to board meeting dates has been proposed, with meetings to be held on the last Thursday of the month in 2025.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorse the proposed meeting dates for 2025 for the Board and its Committees.
14.	Board performance Review



ltem	Item Title
	The General Manager presented a proposal to undertake a board and committee performance assessment, by way of a questionnaire for members of both board and committees to self-assess, with responses being reported back to the board in February.
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorse the proposed approach to self-assessing board and committee performance.
сом	MITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
СОМ	Finance Risk and Audit Report  A financial report was provided to the board for the period to 31 October 2024, which included a Statement of Comprehensive Income and a Statement of Financial Position.
<b>COM</b>	Finance Risk and Audit Report  A financial report was provided to the board for the period to 31 October 2024, which included a Statement of Comprehensive Income and a Statement of Financial

# **ITEMS FOR NOTING**

2024.

# **Marne Saunders Report Card** Board Members were provided with a copy of the Marne Saunders Report Card for noting. This will be launched this evening, and will be the first of three report cards. 16. The Marne Saunders Catchment interactive page can be found here. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the first Marne Saunders Report Card. Correspondence The Correspondence list for November was presented to the board. 17. The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence. **Action List** 18. The Action list was reviewed by the board. **Other Business** Beston Global Food Company Ltd in voluntary administration, concern over the communities involved. Alumni- there was some discussion regarding possible formation of an Alumni group comprising former board members, former staff and 19 community either informal or semiformal. This thought will be further considered in the CE Action plan. Suggested for board to hear from senior staff to increase level of understanding of board members. This will occur after new board is appointed in 2025.



ltem	Item Title
	Next meeting details – 19 December 2024 at 9am at Berri, Water Advisory Committee – 12 December at Murray Bridge Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 17 December
	Close The meeting closed at 5:00pm
	Board members attended the launch of the Marne Saunders Water Report Card at Meldanda.

Dianne Davidson AM

**Presiding Member** 

**Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board** 

Date: 19-12-2024



# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 11-24		
19 December 2024		
Start Time:	9.20am	
Location:	Berri Landscape Office Conference Room	
Present:	Board: Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Tammy O'Malley, Frances Simes, Jason Size (Teams from 11am)  Staff: Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Amy Lee (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Renee Clark (Acting Manager, Business Services), Helane Norman (Executive Officer), Board Appointee: Sam Blight  Guest: Jason Higham (Manager, Conservation & Threatened Species, DEW)  Dara Frankel (PIRSA)	
Apologies	Brian Lund	

Item	Item Title	
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.  Di Davidson, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.20am 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 new Disclosures.	
3.	Board Calendar The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board. A review of the Risk Register will occur by ELT, and then come to the board through FRAC.	
	Adoption of <b>Minutes from the previous meeting (10-24)</b> held 28 November 2024	
4.	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 10-24 held 28 November 2024.	
	The Board discussed the position of WHS policies relating to working and travelling in hot weather. The General Manager advised of the Board's general policy that applies to Board Members (as well as staff) and the Fire Danger policy.	



Item	Item Title
	Presentation - Biodiversity Act
5.	Jason Higham (DEW) joined the board on Teams and provided an overview of the work that is being done on the development of the Biodiversity Act, which will open for public consultation early in 2025.
	PIRSA update
6.	<ul> <li>Dara Frankel presented a report on happenings in the Murraylands and Riverland region within PIRSA highlighting the following:         <ul> <li>Community Connect funding can include mental health first aid training.</li> <li>Drought round table in early November, thanks to those that helped to pull it together</li> <li>Drought package, DL brochure has been provided to Michael Cutting.</li> <li>Fruit fly team is open to recruiting horticulturalist/ primary producers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discussion:         <ul> <li>Concern was raised that the on-farm drought infrastructure grants of \$5000</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	is unlikely to be taken up widely as funds have to be outlaid first before being reimbursed 75%.  • Professional development workshop only in Loxton, suggested other venues could be considered.  • Mental Health First Aid suggested for board members.  ACTION: Dara to investigate if professional development workshops can be rolled out in other localities.  ACTION: Helane to look into Mental Health First Aid Course for 2025 for board members.
7.	Chairs Report  The chair provided a verbal report, indicating that after 6 years of leadership, it is time for a change and will be resigning as Chair as of 31st January to allow for succession to occur.
	Di would like to give a sincere vote of thanks to the board members along with the members of the WAC and Finance, Risk and Audit committee, and staff, and sincerely thanks them for their support and efforts and hope they will continue to work well.
	The Chairs forum has also developed from a group with a diverse range of chairs and opinions, to a more vibrant group, and will develop further with strong leadership in a new chair.
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.
	Board Member's Report
8.	A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board. Highlights:



ltem	Item Title			
	<ul> <li>Frances Simes - Pleasing media coverage of the Marne Saunders report card launch</li> <li>Andrew Biele – Gazanias are becoming an increasing problem. Mick Heyneham (Pinion Ag) and Ali Babar(Uni of Adelaide) co-working on the issue with a Loxton farmer group.         Rain during harvest has downgraded the grain.             Optical spraying is becoming more widespread.         </li> <li>Tammy O'Malley – harvest is finishing, and increased amounts of bare ground, possibly due to harvest delay and sheep having to stay on noncropped paddocks longer             Noted increase in snakes             Involvement in RDAMR Leadership Development program has led to receiving a scholarship to attend a Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative TRAIL Emerging Leaders Program in Canberra.</li> <li>Greg Cock – No longer working with PPSA.</li> </ul> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.</li>			
9.	<ul> <li>General Manager's Report         The General Manager's report for November was presented to the board, along with the Communications report for November, the Referrals report for December.     </li> <li>Money has been received to offset the delay in water licences being issued. Invoices will now be sent starting 6 January 2025.</li> <li>Landscape Services Model – progressing to enable the Landscape boards to work more autonomously.</li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.</li> </ul>			
ITEMS FOR DECISION				
10.	Grassroots Grants Round 6 – 2025-26  The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided information on the process and timeline for Round 6 of the Grassroots Grants, indicating that \$504,624 would be available to granting to community and volunteer groups and individuals.  ACTION: Increase promotion with the agricultural sector and other sectors particularly in the Mallee to increase uptake for Round 6 in that area.  ACTION: Look at multi-year funding for Round 7 and future years and explore at how this could be noted this year as being a option for future years.  Andrew, Jason and Greg prepared to continue to assess grants for Round 6. If Greg is away, and not available Sam Blight will be happy to undertake this duty.  ACTION: Include that previous recipients of Grassroots Grants are welcome to			



	SAMADOS INIORRATLANDS AND RIVE			
ltem	Item Title			
	Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the timelines and process for the Grassroots Grants Round 6 and noted that there will consideration of multi-year projects from Round 7.			
COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS				
	Finance Risk and Audit Report			
11.	The board was provided with the Finance, Risk and Audit committee meeting papers, along with the Risk Register. It was noted that the cash balance has been restored, which was caused due to the delay in issuing of Water levy invoices.			
	Also noted:			
	<ul> <li>Patiently waiting for the SLA with DEW.</li> <li>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the resignation of Rob Denton-Brown as Independent member of FRAC, and the Chair thanked him for his work with the FRAC over the last 18 months.</li> </ul>			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers.			
	Water Advisory Committee			
	The Chair of the Water Advisory Committee provided a verbal update on the meeting held 12 December.			
12.	<ul> <li>Discussed the WAC work program which will be presented to the board in 2025.</li> <li>Informative reports are provided to the meeting.</li> <li>Anne Jensen raised awareness on rising salinity, DEW are aware of it, and will be followed up.</li> <li>Darryl Quinlivan OA is the new chair of the MDBA.</li> <li>Monique White shared a slide on all that is happening around the Basin Plan review, it is difficult to follow what is open for comment and difficult for the board to keep up with commenting on them.</li> </ul>			
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the minutes of the WAC meeting held 12 December 2024.			
ITEMS FOR NOTING				
	Annual Business Plan Process			
	The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided an overview of what to expect with the process for the 2025-26 Annual Business plan development.			
13.	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:  a. Support the proposed process and timelines for the development of the			

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budget adjustment process for a small suite of projects.

2025-26 business and operational plan; and

Endorsed seeking retained earnings through the February impacting



Item	Item Title		
	Evaluation of 2024 field days		
14.	The Communications and Engagement Team prepared a paper outlining how the 2024 field days worked, and the recommendation for the two main events for 2025. Further information will be provided on how the Communications trailer will be utilised at which smaller events and by which team.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board notes the plan for Riverland Field Days and Karoonda Farm Fair 2025.		
	Correspondence		
15.	The Correspondence list for December was presented to the board.		
	The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.		
16.	Action List		
	The Action list was reviewed by the board.		
	Next meeting details – 27 February at Murray Bridge		
	Water Advisory Committee – 13 February at Berri State Landscape Induction Day – 17 February, 9am – 4.30pm Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 18 February		
	The meeting closed at 12 noon.		
	Former board members, Caroline Phillips and Sandy Iosefellis were presented with gifts as a thank you for their work with the board, and they joined the board and Berri staff for lunch.		

ENDORSED	Frances Simes
<u>Frances Simes</u>	Presiding Member
Frances Simes (Mar 4, 2025 17:07 GMT+10.5)	Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
	Date: 4-3-25