

MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LANDSCAPE BOARD

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

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

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 1-21			
Date: 25 February 2021			
Start Times:	2.00pm Public meeting		
Location:	Murray Bridge	Room:	Council Chambers
Attendees	Board members Di Davidson (Chair), Andrew Biele, Greg Cock, Barb Cowey, Jim Godden, Lisa Rowntree (9.30am to 2.00pm) Jason Size, Andrew Meddle (General Manager), Amy Goodman (Manager, Strategy and Engagement), Michelle Finch (Business Services Manager), Denise Fowles (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes), Helane Norman (Executive Officer) Tim Collins (Director Landscape SA Regional Support) Items 4-8 – Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Sustainable Water use), Lyz Risby, (Water Allocation Planning Manager), Melissa White (PO, Water allocation Planning)		
Apologies	Lisa Rowntree		

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

Item	Item Title
Items for Decision	
4.	<p>Sustainable Water Use Program</p> <p>Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Sustainable Water Use) gave a presentation to the Board on previous programs and the current Water Efficiency Program and issues encountered. In line with the focus of the Landscape Board, and broadening out the scope of the program, a possible strategic direction for the future of the Sustainable Water Use Program was outlined. The team was encouraged to also consider alternative funding avenues.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the current status of the sustainable water use program and the proposed future strategic direction of the program.</i></p>
5.	<p>River Murray WAP</p> <p><u>River Murray WAP consultation</u></p> <p>A written update was provided to the Board on submissions received, during the public consultation, on the proposed changes to the River Murray WAP.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Noted submissions received during statutory consultation on the draft Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (the draft Plan); and</i> <i>• Noted the draft Consultation and Alterations Report (with alterations yet to be completed).</i> <p><u>River Murray WAP – Other amendments</u></p> <p>An update on the changes suggested from feedback received regarding well drilling along the River Murray was provided to the Board. A late paper was provided on the draft WAP plan on the day of the meeting which outlined DEW's proposed edits to be consistent with the Long Term Environmental Water Plan and Environmental Water Requirements.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed amendments to the draft Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (the draft Plan) in relation to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Provisions for water affecting activities (WAA) related to drilling wells along the length of the River Murray to minimise impacts associated with connected water resources with a minor amendment (see Attachment 1).</i> <i>• Ensuring consistency with the recently revised River Murray Long Term Environmental Watering Plan, specifically, revised environmental watering requirement tables with minor amendments as recommended by DEW; and</i> <i>• Update references to the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Landscape Act) which has replaced the Natural Resources Management Act 2004.</i> <p>ACTION: Chair to discuss with Amy Goodman the proper functioning of the Water Planning Steering Committee which is a subcommittee of the Board. It is not acceptable for papers to be delivered on the meeting day.</p>
6.	<p>The Board moved In-Camera to discuss Item 6</p>


Item	Item Title
7.	<p>Peake Roby Sherlock 10 year WAP review</p> <p>The Water Allocation Planning (WAP) team reported that a review has been undertaken of the Peake Roby Sherlock WAP and have made 7 recommendations for the Board to consider.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Noted the 10-year review of the Water Allocation Plan for the Peake, Roby and Sherlock Prescribed Wells Area.</i> <i>Endorsed recommendations (1 – 7) of the review as outlined in Table 1.</i> <i>Noted that the amendment of the plan will not commence until the 10-year review of the water allocation plan for Mallee prescribed wells area is completed by May 2022. This will enable community consultation and amendments to be undertaken collectively with Mallee and, Peake, Roby Sherlock at the same time; this will be administratively cost-effective and aligns with the timing of other water planning priorities such as the implementation of ELMA.</i>
8.	<p>Mallee Prescribed Wells Area Water Cost Sharing Arrangements</p> <p>The Manager, Strategy and Engagement briefly outlined the history of the Cost Sharing Arrangement for Mallee stock and domestic water users affected by drawdown. The board paper outlined two options for the future of this arrangement, and the reasoning behind them, for consideration by the Board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Approved the re-establishment of the Cost Sharing Arrangement for Stock and Domestic bores affected by irrigation drawdown in the Mallee prescribed wells area</i> <i>Endorsed that the Board assess cost sharing applications and contribute funding in accordance with the guideline as they arise</i> <i>Noted that minor corrections need to be made to the Fifth Edition, April 2009 Cost Sharing Arrangements guideline.</i>
9.	<p>Monthly performance report</p> <p>The General Manager presented a draft report identifying progress against the Board's 2020-21 Transitional Business Plan, providing a succinct snapshot of activities against the regional priorities and focus areas. It needs to be noted that some of the areas are not closely aligned with any of the regional priorities.</p> <p>The following feedback was provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still need some work around the matrix and ratings Aspiration to have some measurables for the 21/22 year. clear and concise tabulated format WEP is coloured green, but we know there are problems. This indicates the board has done what it can do, but it does not highlight that there are back end problems with the program. Basic structure of V1 is good but there are things that we can work on. The performance report is a good example of possible collaboration between boards in the future, i.e. not all boards developing their own individual report template. <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the January 2021 Monthly Performance Report.</i></p>

Item	Item Title
10.	<p>Landscape Plan Update - Phase 1 consultation feedback</p> <p>The Consultation Report - draft priorities and Focus Areas for Regional Landscape Plan 2021 was presented to the Board, along with the suggested amendments as a result of the feedback, by the Manager, Strategy and Engagement.</p> <p>Feedback received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent work to get it down to 16 pages. • The board were in agreeance to the first, second and fourth queries • Third query: requires more discussion • Change order of pages with page 6 being at the start and info about the region and future influences be at the end • Must be themed and must be simple. • Map of Murraylands and Riverland with national parks to also include RAMSAR sites. • The Region page refers to the Murray mouth in the south, instead it should say to the Lower Lakes. • Include a 2 page summary that can be handed out to our stakeholders <p>The plan will be updated with suggestions, then circulated to G Cock, J Godden and D Davidson. Those members to meet with Chair and GM Monday March 1, prior to circulating to Board for endorsement out of session.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Noted the feedback of the phase 1 consultation for developing the landscape plan;</i> • <i>will provide further feedback</i> • <i>agreed to provide the Minister for Environment and Water a copy of the draft Regional Landscape Plan, when endorsed, for his information in advance of the public consultation commencing.</i> <p>Landscape Plan - Phase 2 consultation engagement plan</p> <p>The Manager, Strategy and Engagement presented the engagement plan for the public consultation on the draft plan. The postcards developed for the board members to use, will be also be provided to councils and used at the Karoonda Farm Fair.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the engagement plan for the public consultation on the draft landscape plan.</i></p>
11.	<p>January Financial report</p> <p>The Finance Committee provided financial reports for November, December and January for noting by the Board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Finance Papers as recommended by the Finance Committee.</i></p> <p>ACTION: Manager Business Services to organise a face to face meeting for the Finance committee.</p>
12.	<p>Risk Framework</p> <p>The General Manager, presented a Risk Framework for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, including the Risk management Policy, Plan, Appetite Statement and Assessment.</p> <p>Risks that are considered strategic in nature and affect all the board are considered high level risks. To be revisited bi-monthly.</p>

Item	Item Title
	<p>Questioned if sexual assault is a risk for the board and is there a policy for handling sexual assault. Board members were reminded that all staff have been trained in appropriate protocols surrounding misconduct.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Framework attached to this report including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Management Policy (included as Appendix 1 to the Framework);</i> <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Management Plan (included as Appendix 4 to the Framework);</i> <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Risk Appetite Statement (included as Appendix 5 to the Framework); and</i> <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Strategic Risk Assessment (included as Appendix 7 to the Framework)</i>
13.	<p>2021-2022 Grassroots Grants Program</p> <p>The Manager, Strategy and Engagement provided a paper on the Grassroots Grants program for the 2021-22 year. Feedback was received from round one and changes to the program for this year have been suggested and included in the suggested process.</p> <p>The initial Grassroots Grants were oversubscribed by a significant amount. Public perception is that the amount that is provided is not enough, because they don't see all that is happening within our region.</p> <p>Three tiers of grants have been included this time, for ease of assessment.</p> <p>The Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel will meet and collaboratively assess the successful grants and make a recommendation to the Board. Grant information will be made available to all board members. Jason Size, Greg Cock and Barb Cowie volunteered to join the Panel.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Noted the feedback provided from round one and the changes put forward as a result;</i> <i>Approved commencing the call for 2021-22 Grassroots Grants program on 15th March 2021;</i> <i>Noted the process outlined for implementing the 2021-22 Grassroots Grants program; and</i> <i>Nominated Barb Cowey, Greg Cock and Jason Size to the Grassroots Grants Assessment Panel.</i>
14.	<p>MRLB Citizen Science Strategy</p> <p>The General Manager gave an overview of the Citizen Science strategy, and even though it is has just one staff member, it has many volunteers and involves many programs.</p> <p>Suggest include relationship to the regions Landscape Plan.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Review and endorse the draft citizen science strategy, with the inclusion of a reference of the landscape plan</i> <i>2. Endorse the release of a public version.</i>
15.	<p>Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee</p>

Item	Item Title
	<p>The Manager, Sustainable Landscapes provided a written report on meetings of the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee and provided the Board with their work plan for this year.</p> <p>While the Board endorse the work plan in principal, further discussion between the Committee with the Board Chair and General Manager will occur.</p> <p>Any printed material needs to be approved by the Board and General Manager and include a written statement indicating it was endorsed by the Board.</p> <p>The Committee is critical to the Board to listen to the community and bring that information to the notice of the Board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the report from the Mallee and Coorong Advisory Committee (MCC) and endorse their 2020-21 Work plan in principal.</i></p> <p>ACTION: A time for a meeting of the Committee with the Board to be organised.</p> <p><i>The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.</i></p>
Items for Noting	
16.	<p><i>The meeting was reconvened via email on Friday 26th February 2021.</i></p> <p>Chair's Report</p> <p>The Chair provided a written report on her activities since the December Board meeting.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report</i></p>
17.	<p>General Manager's Report</p> <p>The General Manager provided a report on the highlights and achievements of staff since the last report.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report</i></p>
18.	<p><u>Monthly update on Referral requests activity</u></p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the referral update.</i></p>
19.	<p>Landscape Priorities Fund Update</p> <p>The General Manager provided a written update on the Landscape Priorities Fund.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) noted the submissions made for funding via the Landscape Priorities Fund.</i></p>
20.	<p>19-20 Annual Achievements Report</p> <p>The Manager Strategy and Engagement has provided a paper and draft 2019-20 Achievement report for consideration by the Board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board endorsed the 2019-20 Achievements Report.</i></p>
21.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p><i>The Board noted the correspondence.</i></p>
22.	<p>Action List</p> <p>All actions have been completed.</p>
23.	<p>Member's Contributions</p> <p>Consideration will be given for an opportunity to meet the Board staff in the Riverland.</p>
24.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>KESAB breakfast on the 7th April in Berri</p>

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

ENDORSED 	Dianne Davidson AM Presiding Member Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Date:
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