

MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LANDSCAPE BOARD

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board acknowledges the First Peoples of the lands and waters we live and work upon. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual and cultural connection to Country.

Meeting Title: Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board Meeting 5-25	
26 June 2026	
Start Time:	9.30am
Location:	Berri Office, 28 Vaughan Terrace, Berri SA 5343.
Present:	<p><u>Board:</u> Frances Simes (Chair), Andrew Biele, Samantha Blight, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Jason Size(Teams)</p> <p><u>Staff:</u> Amy Lee (Acting General Manager), Jem Tesoriero (Acting, Manager Strategy and Engagement), Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services), Tamika Parker (Executive Officer)</p> <p>Item 6: Dara Frankel (PIRSA)</p> <p>Item 5: Renee Clark (Team Leader, Business and Governance) Simon Lease (Team Leader, Finance and Investment) Katrina Bell (People and Culture Coordinator) Candice Love (Team Leader, Partnerships and Engagement) Chris Koolmatrie (Senior Project Officer) Cindy Kakoschke (Senior, Education Officer) Alice Woodward (Project Officer)</p>
Apologies	Renata Rix

Item	Item Title
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.</p> <p>Frances Simes, Chair, declared the meeting open at 9.30am and welcomed all present, acknowledging the Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and water on which we meet.</p>
2.	<p>Conflict of Interest – No new disclosures</p>
3.	<p>Board Calendar</p> <p>The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.</p>
4.	<p>Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting (4-25) held 29 May 2025</p> <p>Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 4-25 held 29 May 2025.</p>
5.	<p>Team Presentation</p> <p>Corporate Services – Renee Clark, Simon Lease and Katrina Bell.</p>

Item	Item Title
	<p>The Corporate Services Team presented a summary of the Corporate Services staff, their projects and works currently being undertaken.</p> <p>Partnerships and Engagement – Candice Love, Cindy Kakoschke, Chris Koolmatrie and Alice Woodward.</p> <p>The Partnerships and Engagement Team presented a summary of the Partnerships and Engagement staff, their projects and works currently being undertaken.</p>
6.	<p>PIRSA Update:</p> <p>Dara provided further information that has happened since her report was submitted to the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Drought Commissioner Alex Zimmermann now has an email address and phone number that is publicly available - alex.zimmermann@sa.gov.au 0473 216 732. More information is available on the website: https://pir.sa.gov.au/emergencies_and_recovery/drought • A new drought newsletter will be sent out monthly • Provided a talking point document for intergovernmental key messaging around drought. Government departments included in this are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department for Education ○ Department for Environment and Water ○ Department for Health and Wellbeing ○ Department for Infrastructure and Transport ○ Department for State Development ○ Department of Treasury and Finance/Revenue SA ○ Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing ○ Preventive Health SA ○ SA Tourism Commission ○ SA Water • Barb Cowie is returning to her position. This will be Dara's last meeting as she is moving into the Water Transition space. The Board thanked Dara for her valuable input at the Board Meetings she has attended.
7.	<p>Drought Support Verbal Update</p> <p>Hannah Spronk spoke on the PIRSA assistance that has been offered for farmers around rabbit control.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently working back and forward with PIRSA to work out the finer details. • Letters have been sent to landholders who have already done baiting for the last season offering the drought support package. • Few responses have been received to date. • Another round of correspondence is being sent to encourage up take. • The district teams will speak to Landholders to coordinate the roadside ripping of warrens. Limestone Coast Landscape Board have only just started their program with Murraylands and Riverland and Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Boards to commence in near future.

Item	Item Title
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new version of the Calicivirusis happening in the background. <p>Michael Cutting spoke on the funding that is currently available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.6 million available for 25-26, 8 boards have \$200k to support landscape resilience. Drought hubs have put up an additional \$400k to be split amongst the 8 boards, this has an additional +\$50k available for the MRLB On 30 May a workshop around the MR plan was held. This was attended by the MR RDA, MR LGA and MRLB. There is \$140k to amend the current plan. And additional \$300k for delivery on the plan. Climate Smart Ag Grants are now open to support the regions land managers. This closes on 11 July 2025.
8.	Regional Planning Process <p>Jem provide an update on the Regional Planning Process. This presentation is attached.</p>
9.	Chairs Report <p>The Chair provided a written report.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.</i></p>
10.	Board Member's Report <p>A record of activities undertaken by individual board members was presented to the board. In addition to the written report the following has occurred:</p> <p>Jason Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised a meeting with the Executive Director of Biosecurity and several key stakeholders. Brenton Fenwick presented on behalf of the Landscape Board. <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.</i></p>
11.	General Manager's Report <p>The General Manager provided their report, outlining the activities undertaken by the General Manager over the last month, along with the following attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Report MR Plan Project Mapping Summary Referrals Report <p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renata Rix has been deployed to Canada to fight the fires until the beginning of August 2025.

Item	Item Title
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Found minor errors in the Boards Annual Business Plan council collection fee calculations. These were not significant and have since been corrected and councils notified. <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.</i></p>
ITEMS FOR DECISION	
12.	<p>Financial Delegations</p> <p>The board were provided with a copy of the financial delegations for the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Presiding Member of the Board, Sign the Instruments of Authorisation on behalf of the Board, to be executed under Common Seal;</i> <i>Delegations of powers as per the Instruments of Authorisation and the delegation of those powers to the offices listed in the attached schedules including:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Procurement – Contract pre-approval, procurement, payment and disbursements;</i> <i>Contract Execution Delegations;</i> <i>Contract Execution Delegations – Purchase Cards;</i> <i>Disposal of assets;</i> <i>Debt write off and small debt underpayment</i> <i>General Manager to sub-delegate power of authorisation to staff employed by the Board.</i>
13.	<p>Strategic Risk Register</p> <p>The board were provided with the strategic risk register.</p> <p>Updated version, removed any edits, added: Against digital resources – developing policy on use of AI. Waiting on info from Office of the Chief Information Officer. Conversation around treatment actions under rep02 – toned language down. In treatment action. Ensuring all board members undertake Code of ethics training.</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approves the Strategic Risk Register.</i></p>
14.	<p>WHS Policy</p> <p>The board were provided with the WHS Policy – WHS001</p> <p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approves the adoption of WHS001 – Work Health and Safety Policy.</i></p>

Item	Item Title
15.	Board Membership The Board Members discussed the potential board members. The Chair & GM will prepare a briefing to the Minister in the future.
COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS	
16.	Finance Risk and Audit Committee May Report The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee met on 17 June, and provided the minutes of that meeting along with up-to-date information regarding the board's finances. <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Note the finance Papers; and</i> <i>Note the updates made to the Financial Management Compliance Framework Action Plan (attachment 1)</i>
17.	Water Advisory Committee The Water Advisory Committee met on 12 June and asked the board to consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes from the previous meeting 27 held on 10 April 2025 have been approved as circulated • Note and appreciate the presentations made. • Recommend that the workplan be extended a further 6 months to make it a 12 month workplan. • Appoint Frances Simes as the Chair of the Mallee, Peak Roby and Sherlock Community Reference Group and except the terms of reference changes to do this. • The Water Advisory Committee has provided the water team with a choice of topics for the elevator pitch for the River Reflections Conference. • To keep drought front of mind, and that they understand the position the board is in, and they want to ensure support is provided by the board to people who need it most. • If direct drought response is not possible, what are the other alternatives that can be proposed to address the challenges? <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the Water Advisory Committee minutes.</i> <i>Approve Workplan</i> <i>Approve the TOR for WAC</i> <i>Approve TOR MPRS</i>
18.	Committee's Significant /Sensitive Items WAC Membership: The Board discussed the WAC membership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officially appoint Sheryl as RMMAC Representative. • Build a succession plan into the membership • All members starting in 2020 are to be extended to 30/06/2026 • All member starting after 2020 are to be extended to 30/06/2027

Item	Item Title
	<p><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board extend the following Water Advisory Committee memberships:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Frances Simes - 30/06/2027</i> <i>2. Anne Jensen – 30/06/2026</i> <i>3. Rosalie Auricht – 30/06/2026</i> <i>4. Clem Mason – 30/06/2026</i> <i>5. Joanne Pfeiffer – 30/06/2026</i> <i>6. David Zadow – 30/06/2026</i> <i>7. Sam Blight – 30/06/2027</i> <i>8. Jaco Pauer – 30/06/2027</i> <i>9. . Amy Goodman’s appointment is to 30/6/27</i> <i>10. Penny Smith’s appointment as Chair was to 31/1/27 & is now 30/6/27 in line with WAC members.</i> <p>FRAC Membership The Board discussed the FRAC membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Lund, Jason Size will continue as FRAC members and Frances Simes will be an ex-officio .
ITEMS FOR NOTING	
19.	<p>Correspondence The Correspondence list for May was presented to the board. <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.</i></p>
20.	<p>Action List The Action list was reviewed by the board.</p>
21.	<p>Other Business, Biographies for Board members discussed. Members will review these prior to being uploaded to webpage</p> <p>Upcoming Events Executive Officer to provide board members with upcoming events for the landscape board.</p>
	<p>Next meeting details – 31 July in Tailem Bend Water Advisory Committee – 14 August Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 7 August - TBC</p>
	Meeting closed at 2:52pm

ENDORSED

 Frances Simes (Aug 14, 2025 12:38:17 GMT+9.5)

Frances Simes

Frances Simes

	<p>Presiding Member Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board</p> <p>Date: 31 July 2025</p>
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