

# 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 7-25 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 28 August 2025                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Start Time:</b>                                                    | 9:30am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Location:</b>                                                      | Murray Bridge Office, Level 1 Sturt Centre, 2 Sturt Reserve Road, Murray Bridge 5253                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Present:</b>                                                       | <p><u>Board:</u> Frances Simes, Andrew Biele (Acting Chair), Samantha Blight, Greg Cock, Brian Lund, Tammy O'Malley, Sam Blight.</p> <p><u>Staff:</u> Amy Lee (Acting General Manager), Jem Tesoriero (Acting, Manager Strategy and Engagement), Renata Rix (Manager, Sustainable Landscapes) Tamika Parker (Business Support Coordinator, Murraylands), Simon Lease (Team Leader, Investment and Finance, Items 9, 10, 11 and 12), Michael Cutting (Team Leader, Sustainable Land and Water Management Item 18) Denham Ewens (Sustainable Agriculture Officer Item 18) Barb Cowie (PIRSA, Item 5)</p> |
| <b>Apologies</b>                                                      | Jason Size, Michelle Finch (Manager, Business Services)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| Item | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 1.   | <p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Agenda check.</b></p> <p>Andrew Biele, Acting 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><b>Conflict of Interest</b> – No new disclosures</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3.   | <p><b>Board Calendar</b></p> <p>The Annual Calendar of board meeting items was provided to the board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acting GM Performance Report will completed out of session .</li> </ul>                                          |
| 4.   | Adoption of <b>Minutes from the previous meeting (6-25)</b> held 31 July 2025                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| Item | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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|      | <b><i>Decision: The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board approved the Minutes of Meeting 6-25 held 31 July 2025.</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 5.   | <p><b>PIRSA Update:</b></p> <p>Barb Cowey provided a verbal update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calperum Station will be hosting 15 year 9 and 10 students for a week, mostly from Metro Adelaide, focusing on the health of the river ecology, this project is co-funded with Rotary and the Board through Grassroot grants.</li> <li>• The Sustainable Communities project is on track for the second quarter of the financial year.</li> <li>• Drought:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Karen Hollamby, Manager of Drought Coordination has taken a tour of the Mallee, this part of the state is still one of the worst hit by the current drought. Key take outs of the tour were:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is extremely dry in the Northern Mallee; a report is currently being drafted.</li> <li>▪ There has been significant soil drift.</li> <li>▪ A hay run is being coordinated for Paruna on Friday 29 August 2025.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Currently there is four drought support officer positions advertised; they will be closing Sunday 31 August 2025.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Algal Bloom             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fisherman across the state have been affected by declining fish sales.</li> <li>○ Travel vouchers to visit and spend time in regions affected by the algae bloom will be released in September supported by the State Government. These will be a ballot style where people are encouraged to enter and may win the vouchers. These vouchers are along the same intent as the flood tourism vouchers.</li> <li>○ There will be an Algal Bloom forum in Meningie on 9 September 2025, this is the only one for the Murraylands and Riverland Region.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The new Small Business Commissioner, Dan van Holst Pellekaan, is hosting a workshop in Loxton on 18 September 2025 focusing on leadership and tourism for the Riverland.</li> <li>• The National Small Towns conference will be held at the Kapunda Football Club on 22 to 25 September 2025.</li> <li>• Wild Dogs:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cross Border Commissioner Kelly-Anne Saffin is happy and willing to attend meetings to discuss any issues concerning Wild Dogs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Item | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Business Week               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioner of Small Business Dan Van Holst Pelikan will be visiting Loxton for Small Business Week</li> <li>○ On Thursday 25 a networking event will be at the Precinct for Loxton Small business and interested locals - Free</li> <li>○ On Friday 26 the breakfast session will be focused on leadership with presentations from – PIRSA – (me) on the value and importance of Regional Leadership, RDA – Mandy Tennant will then deliver on the Regional Leadership Program in Riverland and Murraylands followed by Kiara Fisher as a leadership program participant and her challenges and highlights of the Bugle Hut Project - \$12 per person – I am linking mine with indigenous leadership and regions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>       |
| 6.   | <p><b>Chairs Report</b></p> <p>The Chair provided a written report.</p> <p><i><b>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Chair's Report.</b></i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 7.   | <p><b>Board Member's Report</b></p> <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>Andrew Biele:</p> <p>In addition to the report provided –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bare soil over summer is to be expected.</li> <li>• Vermin numbers still going up, and there has been a reasonable uptake on free baits and free ripping.</li> <li>• Currently spraying crops now.</li> <li>• Attendance at the Chairs forum</li> </ul> <p>Greg Cock</p> <p>In addition to his report provided-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joined the Paiwalla group for a Grassroots Grants funded chem cert course</li> </ul> <p><i><b>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the Board Members' Reports.</b></i></p> |
| 8.   | <p><b>General Manager's Report</b></p> <p>The General Manager provided their report, outlining the activities undertaken by the General Manager over the last month.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| Item | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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|      | <p>Highlights of this report are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The attached 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Performance Reports has more errors in the document and will be recirculated once they have been adjusted</li> <li>• Oracle Program Integration:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Expression of Interest for the Technical Lead position has opened and Closed</li> <li>○ The Landscape Boards along with GISA and EPA will be contributing to 0.5fte within DEW.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• State Landscape Strategy:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not progressing fast</li> <li>○ DEW has recontracted UPRS for the refinement and engagement of the Landscape Strategy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• MR Plan             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ASO7 Classification for 8 to 9 months at a 0.8 to 0.9FTE.</li> <li>○ Role has been classified</li> <li>○ Working budget has been set at around \$30k to \$40k</li> <li>○ MRLB will be the host of the role.</li> <li>○ The MOU and TOR will be completed before the position is filled.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One Basin CRC             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The CEO has reached out to MRLB to start conversations around the Loxton Hub, and the future progress of the program.</li> <li>○ Jason Size will take on this conversation on behalf of the Board.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Independent Review of the Act             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Deputy Premier has approved the draft high-level government response to the Independent Review of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, with 3 recommendations where the position has been amended and 5 recommendations where additional comments have been provided. Currently, the recommendations regarding the State Landscape Strategy review and redraft, increasing Green Adelaide's contribution to the Landscape Priorities Fund and the Landscape board, PIRSA and DEW Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement, are actively being worked on. The Deputy Premier amended the response positions on recommendations 29, 41 and 49, and provided additional comments on 24, 29, 47, 49 and 52. There was also support for further consideration and investigation, by landscape boards, on recommendations 17, 29, 31, 32, 38 and 40.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Item                      | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|                           | <i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the General Manager's Report and attachments.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>ITEMS FOR DECISION</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9.                        | <b>Draft Financial Statements</b><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the Financial Statements of the year ending 30 June 2025.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 10.                       | <b>Strategic Risk Register</b><br><b>Action:</b> Set deadline for items on the Strategic Risk Register to ensure they are reviewed in a timely manner.<br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the Financial Statements of the year ending 30 June 2025.</i>                                                                                      |
| 11.                       | <b>Board Financial Delegations</b><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approves the signing of the instrument of Authorisation - Contract Execution (attachment 1); and</li> <li>2. Approved the signing of the Instrument of Authorisation – Payments and Disbursements (attachment 2).</li> </ol> |
| 12.                       | <b>Finance Risk and Audit</b><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note the minute of meeting 52-25 and;</li> <li>2. Note the statement of Comprehensive Income as at 30 June 2025</li> </ol>                                                                                                        |
| 13.                       | <b>Water Advisory Committee</b><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the minute of meeting No. 29.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>ITEMS FOR NOTING</b>   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 14.                       | <b>Kangaroo Partnership Project</b><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board note the project report.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Item | Item Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 15.  | <b>Correspondence</b><br>The Correspondence list for August was presented to the Board.<br><br><i>The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board noted the correspondence.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 16.  | <b>Action List</b><br>The Action list was reviewed by the board.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 17.  | <b>Other Business</b><br><br>The Acting General Manager updated the Board members on the status of the potential new Board Members.<br><br>An update on the engagement strategy was given to the Board Members.<br><br>Samantha Blight expressed concern around the subdivision of larger rural lots of around 300 to 400ha down to 30ha lifestyle blocks, these are still zoned Primary Production, the main concern is that these new landholders potentially don't understand their responsibilities under the Landscape SA Act 2019. A discussion was had around how the board gets the right information to the landholders. |
| 18.  | <b>Climate Smart Agriculture and Climate Resilient Landscapes</b><br>Michael Cutting and Denham Ewens gave a presentation to the board. This presentation is attached.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|      | <b>Next meeting details – 25 September 2025– Berri</b><br>Water Advisory Committee – 9 October 2025 - Berri<br>Box Flat Wild Dog Coordinating Committee – 13 October 2025 - Lamerloo<br>Finance Risk and Audit Committee – 18 November 2025 - Teams                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|      | <b>Meeting closed at 2:00pm</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| <b>ENDORSED</b><br><br><br><small>Frances Simes (Oct 14, 2025 10:49:20 GMT+10:5)</small> | Frances Simes<br><b>Presiding Member</b><br><b>Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board</b><br>Date: 25 September 2025 |
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