LANDSCAPE SOUTH AUSTRALIA NORTHERN AND YORKE

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
Board Minutes #40

Date:	22 May 2025	🗣 **Verbal Report** 🗐 **Paper** ☒ **Nil Report**	
Start Time:	12:30pm	**Finish Time:**	4:12pm
Location:	Watervale	**Room:**	'The Vale' 7420 Horrocks Hwy Watervale
Present			
Board members:	Geoff White (*Chair*), Peter Angus, Erika Lawley, Sue Scarman, Holly Cowan, Leo Redden and Nicki Robins		
Staff:	Tony Fox *(General Manager*), Rebecca Howard (*Business and Planning Manager*), Paul O'Leary (*Landscape Operations & Compliance Manager*), Chris Martin (*Business & Finance Services Coordinator*), Danielle Bone, (*Business & Finance Services Coordinator*), Nick Modra (*Landscape Officer*) and Paige Boylan (*Executive Assistant/Officer; Minute recorder*)		
Guest Speaker	Angela Ruddenklau (*PIRSA)* and Mary Morris, (*Hansborough & Districts residents' group*) Late addition: Teams: Jodie Gregg-Smith (*General Manager, Arid Lands*) and Cassia Paragnani (*SA Kangaroo partnership Coordinator*)		
Public Gallery	3		
Apologies:	Nil		
Note:	Board members met with Landscape officers J Pook and P Wilkinson for a site visit on the Riesling Trail in Leasingham. After a light lunch at 'The Vale' in Watervale, In Camera item 6.1 was discussed at 12:05pm, followed by the board meeting at 12:30pm		

1 Meeting Standing Items	
1.1	**Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and apologies** The Chair declared the meeting open at 12:30pm and welcomed all present with an acknowledgement to Country. P Angus commenced a discussion regarding personalised Acknowledgement of Country. The Chair suggested the Acknowledgement of Country be rotated with members using their own style.
1.2	**Additional agenda items** Two additional agenda items; refer to 7.1 and 7.2
1.3	**Conflict of interest disclosures** G White noted a potential conflict of interest regarding a topic for discussion (item 7.3) and will withdraw from the meeting if necessary.
1.4	**Minutes from the previous meeting** The minutes from the board meeting number 39 held on 20 March 2025, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting G White / S Scarman ***CARRIED***
1.5	**Action List** Reviewed and updated by the board
2 Deputations and Presentations	
2.1	**Hansborough & Districts residents' group** Mary Morris presented a comprehensive presentation in relation to the Twin Creek Wind farm and seeking partners to speak up for biodiversity protection.
2.2	**PIRSA update – A Ruddenklau** The Government have allocated $73 million toward drought support packages, which will provide funding opportunities and initiatives. A Ruddenklau shared information on some of the packages available to primary producers and regional businesses. The packages are not all provided by Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA)

	• Bundaleer reservoir water for stock: supporting primary producers to access and cart water for livestock • Connecting Communities Events: $5000 for eligible organisations for gatherings, bringing people together to strengthen communities • SA donated Fodder Transport: run out of funds with the Minister adding more money. Farmers can register with a charity program (there are five of them) • Rabbit control: working with the Landscape board to provide funding. • Country students: Funding set aside to help rural kids participate in camps and excursions • Drought Mental Health Support Program: Delivered by SA Health to focus on supporting individuals, community-based activities and increasing awareness. • Kangaroo management program $900,000: PIRSA with Landscape Boards and Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is supporting the management of kangaroos in drought-impacted regions • PIRSA have joined with Regional Alliance partners (Regional Development Australia (RDA), Northen and Yorke Local Government Association (NYLGA) and Northern and Yorke Landscape board (NYLB)) to undertake a number of the projects detailed in the drought resilience plan. • Harmful Algal Bloom; nothing available to remove the bloom; will disperse naturally
2.3	**Pygmy Blue Tongue (PBT) project update** N Modra provided an overview of the project including • Research has generated a database containing PBT records • Funding has gone into training detector dogs to monitor existing PBT populations • Landholders have received funding for grazing management infrastructure • 2000 Lamandra seedlings being planted and maintained • One of Four Grazing workshops have been conducted
2.4	**Kangaroo Partnership** J Gregg-Smith and C Paragnani delivered information on their achievements regarding the project shared by all Landscape boards and partnering with other organisations • On ground trials and research • Public awareness • Increasing kangaroo value • Established 'Roo Roundup' • Engaging with remote communities • Aboriginal engagement network The Public Gallery attendees left for the remainder of the meeting
3 Items for Decision	
3.1	**Financial Analysis YTD April 2025 –** Business and Finance Services Coordinator Projected final quarter 2025 revenue and expenses are expected to result in a net cost of service for the year aligned to the mid year budget review. The boards' cash position remains in a strong position with no risks foreseen. All activity groups are showing good progress against year to date financial targets. **Recommendation** ***The Northern & Yorke Board:*** • ***receive and endorse the YTD April 2025 Financial Analysis*** P Angus / E Lawley ***CARRIED*** ***AIF***
3.2	**Draft Annual Business Plan** R Howard presented the first draft of the Annual Business Plan. The Plan will be displayed in the same format as the 2024/2025 Plan.

	Staff are seeking feedback from board members. The investment priority outlines the investments under each of the five priorities. Discussions ensued on managing the budget and the board involvement. NYLB are provided reports at each meeting and mid-year and third Quarter budget reviews to assist in managing the budget throughout the year. **Action:** • Board members to receive an electronic copy of the Draft plan and provide feedback by 6 June 2025
3.3	**Committee Recommendations** Governance and Finance Committee meeting **Motion** ***The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note and approve the recommendations of the Governance and Finance Committee meetings held on 7 May 2025, namely, that the Board:*** - ***receive and endorse the YTD March 2025 financial submission*** - ***approve suggested changes to Policies: Community Grants, Complaints Handling, Gifts and Benefits and Volunteer*** - ***endorse the amendments to the Board Business Continuity Plan and Business Continuity Plan Guide*** - ***approve the revised Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Strategic Risk Register*** - ***note the completion of the 2024-2025 Northern and Yorke Financial Management Compliance Plan*** - ***note summary details of all committed contracts and grants*** S Scarman / P Angus ***CARRIED*** ***AIF***
3.4	**International rangelands congress** With the Northern and Yorke Landscape board sponsorship of the event, there is a ticket available for members of the board to attend the event during 2-6 June. Members are to review the workshops of interest and send an expression of interest to P Boylan. **Action:** • follow-up ticket for G White • forward expression of interest for ticket
3.5	**Water Levy Administration Changes** The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board note administrative changes to water levy collection that have occurred in 2024/25 and will continue into the future. This has resulted in a reduction in Water Levy to be collected by the NYLB. **Motion** ***The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note administrative changes to water levy collection that have occurred in 2024/25 and will continue in 2025/26; and*** • ***note the proposed changes to the Water Levy Scheme, which allocates water levy income to landscape boards based on the percentage of water users in each region*** S Scarman / E Lawley ***CARRIED*** ***AIF***
4 Items for Noting. The Board to note information and be carried as one motion only	
4.1	**Annual Firearms Use Report** ***The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • *note the Firearms Usage Report*

5 Standing Reports for Noting (to be discussed only if required)	
5.1	**Presiding Member report** Nil report
5.2	**Board Member reports** Tabled • Feedback from Landscape Board forum 12-24 May received from 3 members
5.3	**Communications and Engagement report** • Reviewed and noted
5.4	**Correspondence** • Reviewed and noted
5.7	**Board Forward Planner** • Reviewed and updated
5.8	**Board Calendar of Events** • Reviewed **Action:** • Obtain information and date for Scar tree event • Send Calendar invites to members for the Strategic Planning days on 21/7 and 15/9 • Joint meeting with Green Adelaide; August/September 2025 or March 2026. • Include Hart Field days
6 In-Camera	
6.1	At 12:05pm the meeting was moved to '*In Camera'* due to the information the disclosure (J) of which: *(i) would divulge information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, or another public authority or official* *(ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest; (Ref :Section 23 (5) LSA Act)* • *it was noted staff remained for this session* G White / P Angus ***CARRIED*** **Motion** *At 12:30pm the meeting moved out of 'In Camera' and back to the main meeting where the main board meeting commenced* G White / S Scarman ***CARRIED***
7 Other Items	
7.1	**Additional agenda items from Item 1.2**
7.2	**Request for Funding to attend Conference** Northern and Yorke Landscape board received a request to provide funding of $5000 to support the attendance of a Point Pearce community representative to attend the AIATSIS Summit in Darwin from 2-6 June 2025. **Action:** • Look at having a NYLB representative attend in 2026 • The sponsorship agreement will require a representative report back to the board and five nations landscape committee post the conference. **Motion** ***The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve the provision of $5,000 of funding to support the attendance of a Point Pearce community representative at the AIATSIS Summit 25 in Darwin.*** • ***A brief report to be provided by the representative to the board following the AIATSIS Summit*** ***CARRIED*** ***AIF***

7.3	**Native Vegetation - Twin Creek** G White noted his conflict of interest and did not contribute to this item. A discussion occurred regarding the native vegetation clearance and fragmentation for proposed Twin Creek Windfarm. NYLB submitted a response to the public consultation and now have an opportunity to attend a Native Vegetation assessment panel meeting (SCAP) to highlight concerns around impacts on pygmy blue tongue and wedge tail eagle habitat as well as iron grass woodland. T Fox contacted expert W Stubbs from River Murray lands Landscape Board to discuss the project and attendance at the panel meeting. **Decision**: • The board supported a staff representative attend the native vegetation assessment. The Board also discussed support for engaging with renewable energy developers through an industry body, where concerns regarding environmental impact can be flagged prior to developers engaging with landowners, undertaking design work and environmental impact studies. The Board is supportive of this approach. This wide ranging discussion resulted in a number of actions. **Action:** • Include in the future casting workshop. • Invite Primary Producers South Australia (PPSA) to Strategic Planning Day on 21/7/25 • Organise working group to identify where NYLB can be involved • Consultation with Ngadjuri
7 Meeting Closure	
7.1	**Invitations for next meeting** Budget papers
7.2	Next meeting 18 June 2025 in Gawler
7.3	Meeting closed: 4:12

Signed

Geoffrey White

Geoff White
Presiding Member