Northern and Yorke Landscape Board

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

Meeting Title: Board Meeting		NY Landscape Board Meeting # 25	
Date: Wednesday, 21 June 2023			
Start Time:	11.03am	**Finish Time:**	3.45pm
Location:	35 Frances Terrace Kadina	**Room:**	Board room
Attendees:	Geoffrey White (Chair), Peter Angus, Jenny Loftes, Bruce Michael, Erika Lawley, Sue Scarman, Adrian Shackley, Sam Germein and Russell Johnstone		
Staff:	Tony Fox (General Manager), Rebecca Howard (Manager Business Services), Paul O'Leary (Regional Operations and Compliance Manager), Libby Duncan (Landscape Projects Coordinator), Dave Hughes (A/Team Leader, Yorke Peninsula), Janet Moore (Djulda-wawa Badja Project Manager) and Rosemary McDowell (Executive Assistant)		
Visitors / Guests:	Eleanor Pratt, Landcare Association of South Australia (LASA)		
Apologies:	Nil		

Item	Meeting Standing Items
1.1	**Welcome, apologies and agenda check** The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement to Country, meeting on Narungga lands.
1.2	**Additional agenda items** ***(J Loftes joined the meeting)*** • Northern Adelaide Prescribed Wells Area – 2023-2024 Levy • Correspondence – Minister Close response to Light Regional Council • Carbon offsets • Spray drift issues
1.3	**Conflict of interest disclosures** Nil
1.4	**Minutes from the previous meeting** The minutes from meeting No 24 held on 17 May 2023, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. R Johnstone / E Lawley **CARRIED**

1.5	**Action List** Reviewed and updated
2. Deputations and Presentations	
2.1	**Djulda-wawa Badja Project – J Moore** An overview of this project was provided by the Project Manager. The project is funded through the Landscape Priorities Fund and involves working on 700 kilometres of Yorke Peninsula coastline with local councils and Legatus. Key components of the project include: • 119ha of revegetation at seven locations, protective fencing, weed control and interpretive signage; • Council partnerships to identify camping sites, address unmanaged ones and seek possible solutions.
2.2	**Landcare Association of South Australia (LASA) – E Pratt** LASA is a not for profit organisation and '*feeds up*' to the National Landcare Association. A discussion on the overlap of the work of LASA and that of the landscape boards.
2.3	**District Report – Team Leader, Yorke Peninsula, D Hughes** A presentation of the Board's five priorities and the work and projects undertaken by the Yorke Peninsula district team in each of them. • Actively involved with community groups; • The coastal gardens workshops proved to be a great success and it is proposed it may continue through podcasts; • A PhD student has completed a study on soil acidity affecting the Marna Banggara fence, predicting corrosion rates.
2.4	**Board Projects – T Fox** A PowerPoint quarterly report presented by the General Manager illustrating the status of the various projects funded by both the Federal and State Governments and the landscape levy. The *Regenerating Catchments in the Mid North Farmscape* project was discussed and a query raised whether the health of the Broughton River and others could be captured. It was stated that survey work was previously completed under the NRM Board "four catchments project" and the Board may be informed of those details If required. The current project has been reduced in scope to fit funding partner's requirements. Further opportunities to expand the project are constantly being assessed.
2.5	**Financial Analysis YTD 2022-2023 – R Howard** • Final invoices to the Federal Government can only be raised at the end of the financial year when work has been completed. This will increase the total income • A carry over of funds is proposed for the end of the financial year once significant invoicing has been completed.

	That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board • ***receive and note the May 2023 YTD financial analysis.*** S Scarman / R Johnstone **CARRIED**
3. Items for Decision	
3.1	**2023 – 2024 Budget** • Carry over of funds from prior financial years and not this current year; • Interest revenue is predicted following some years of zero interest from Treasury; • A $100,000 project budget for the General Manager has been included in the 2023 - 2024 financial year to support grant or partnership opportunities; • Each Landscape Officer will be allocated funding for identified priority projects in collaboration with community groups. **Note** – The Healthy Country Planning for the Ngadjuri is currently underway with a budget allocated accordingly. **Motion:** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve the 2023-2024 Budget as outlined in this paper*** E Lawley / P Angus **CARRIED**
3.2	**Aboriginal Engagement Committee (AEC) Structure Review** The AEC is currently operated as a formal committee of the Board with Legatus, RDAYMN and RDA BGLAP funding partners. There have been some deficiencies identified in this model and so an alternative, less formal, advisory committee model was presented for discussion. • The pros and cons of a board committee verses an advisory stand-alone group were discussed • A revised budget for the meetings for the next financial year. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***consider the proposed structure review of the Aboriginal Engagement Committee (AEC) and provide in principle support for discussions be held with the AEC and Regional Alliance at their next meetings.*** S Scarman / E Lawley **CARRIED** **Action** A briefing to be updated and presented at the Regional Alliance meeting 22 June 2023 for the partners of the AEC to discuss and be informed of the proposal for the structure review.

3.3	**Request for financial contribution to support PHD study** A population of Stringybark trees in the Clare Valley is under threat of dieback and the Board is requested to financially assist a PhD student investigating the reasons for this occurring. The Board has previously provided a small amount of financial support in this area and the previous information received was important and useful in guiding management. **Note** – a presentation to the Board on the study of the dieback at a future meeting. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve the request for a financial contribution of $2,000 towards the further investigation of causes of dieback of the red Stringybark population in the Clare Valley*** R Johnstone / E Lawley **CARRIED** **All in favour**
3.4	**Grassroots Grants** 36 applications were received for the 2022 – 2023 funding round**.** • A selection panel consisting of two board members and the Regions Team Leaders recommended 24 successful applications and three First Nations applications; • Other grant funding was recommended utilising the First Nations grant money pool which included First Nations business's and others seeking to engage First Nations suppliers to deliver their project; • One application was discussed and a suggestion that it be a potential risk. **Action** • Further information on the application received for the purchase of equipment and the risks involved to community members is required. To be discussed at the August meeting of the Board; • A suggestion that a cap should be put on applications for next year's round for catering per head and accommodation costs; • B Michael and J Loftes to complete a member report on the panel selection process; • The number of times a project can be funded for an ongoing issue was raised for addition to the criteria. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve the recommended successful Grassroots Grants applications and note the unsuccessful Grassroots Grants applications,*** B Michael / J Loftes **CARRIED**

3.5	**Weed Control Project - Board Priority Project Funding** The project funding was suggested it be a pilot program and a discussion followed: • The proposed contractor is experienced and has an extremely high success rate; • A targeted program is envisioned; • Informing the community and landholder education would be required; • 50 kilometre radius for the project; • Concern was raised on the number of staff and board members involved to consult for this project. **Action** J Loftes, A Shackley, R Johnston, G White and B Michael offered to be included in the Board priority funding project to engage a weed control operator in the management of olives and woody weeds. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve $10,000 funding from the Boards Priority Project funding to engage a weed control operator to manage an olive and woody weed management project*** • ***note the potential for involvement of a board member to assist in identifying sites*** R Johnstone / J Loftes **CARRIED** **Action** A template with guidelines to access each proposed board project applications to utilise the Boards Priorities budget allocation to be created to assist in detailing the projects, which are to be identified at a community level.
3.6	**Strategic Plan for SA Feral Deer Eradication** The Board staff is actively policing the deer tagging and fencing in the Region and action orders have been recently been raised with a landholder. In December 2022, the Board noted the proposal of $50,000 cash contribution and including one full time equivalent staff member (FTE). The Board was requested to now approve the allocation for a two year duration. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***endorse the Strategic Plan for the SA feral deer eradication program 2023-2033.*** • ***approve allocation of $50,000 cash contribution and 1 FTE ($130,000) for 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 financial years*** S Scarman / J Loftes **CARRIED** ***(2.19pm J Moore left the meeting)***

3.7	**Renewal of permit to keep goats in the Flinders Ranges development plan area** The Board can endorse permits for landholders for the keeping of goats. A previous permit was granted in the Rangelands District and following positive inspection reports, the Board is requested to endorse the renewal of the permit for a three year period. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***endorse the renewal of Jamie McTaggart's permit to operate a depot to hold feral goats on his property at Gay Hall, Carling Road Quorn, for a three-year term*** A Shackley / P Angus **CARRIED**
3.8	**Out of session – Deputy Chair** Following a ballot, Peter Angus has been elected as the Deputy Chair and has accepted the position. A thank you to all nominees. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***ratify their out of session ballot to endorse a member of the Board to the new position of Deputy Chair.*** • ***endorse the appointment of Peter Angus to the position of Deputy Chair to act as the proxy to the Presiding Member*** S Scarman / E Lawley **CARRIED**
3.9	**Out of session - Old Anlaby Road** A discussion followed on the allocation of board funding for an erosion issue within the Light Regional Council district. **Note –** board funding for the damaged catchment is to be allocated from the Boards Priority funding for 2022-2023. The funds are to assist in revegetation. The Boards' staff will be working on this project as part of the *Regenerating Catchments in the Mid North Farmscape project* and the funds would not be allocated directly to the Light Regional Council. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***ratify their decision to approve the allocation of $20,000 to undertake revegetation activities with the aim of reducing erosion issues within the catchment in the vicinity of Old Anlaby Road, Allendale North.*** J Loftes / E Lawley **CARRIED** **B Michael abstained from the vote**.

3.10	**Board calendar of events** Reviewed and updated 12 July 2023, Environmental Flow - G White and R Johnstone 30 July 2023, NAIDOC – Jenny Loftes, Adrian Shackley and Russell Johnstone 22 August 2023, First Nations Environmental Flow – Geoff White and Erika Lawley
4 - Items for Noting	
4.1	**DEW Service Level Agreement (SLA**) The SLA was previously reviewed annually but has now been amended to every three years. However, financially a review on costings will remain on an annual basis. Clarity has been sought on some of the percentage increases incurred. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note the draft SLA between DEW and the NYLB*** • ***authorise the Presiding Member to execute the SLA post the finalization of negotiations and amendments currently being sought.*** R Johnstone / S Scarman **CARRIED**
4.2	**Board Financial Authorisations** Delegations have been added to the documents to reflect new staff positions. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note the recently revised financial authorisations; namely Procurement (contract pre-approval and payment disbursement), Contract Execution, Contract Execution – Purchase Cards and Debt Write-off and Small Debt Underpayment*** • ***note that delegations relating to fleet, human resources, asset disposal and powers & functions under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 are currently under review and will be provided to the Board at the August meeting***
4.3	**Marna Banggara Predator Control Funding – R Howard** An agreement has been signed commencing from 1 July 2023. Further details to be supplied at a later date.
4.4	**State Landscape Strategy** **Action** Board members are to provide feedback on the State Landscape Strategy to the Boards Executive Assistant. This information will be presented and discussed at the next Chair's Forum.

	Motion ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note items 4.2 to 4.4 inclusive*** **NOTED**
5 – Standing Reports for Noting (to be discussed only if required)	
5.1	**Presiding Member report** The report was tabled. A '*light touch review*' of the *Landscape Act SA 2019* is scheduled early in the next financial year.
5.2	**Board Member reports** received from A Shackley and R Johnstone
5.3	**Communication and Engagement Report**
5.4	**Correspondence**
5.5	**Work health and safety minutes**
5.6	**RLT report**
5.7	**Board Forward Planner** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note items 5.1 to 5.7 inclusive*** **NOTED**
6 - Board In Camera Session	
	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; Note - Tony Fox, Rebecca Howard and Rosemary McDowell remained for the In camera meeting. All other attendees departed. E Lawley / P Angus **CARRIED** **Motion:** That the meeting move out of *In Camera* and back to the main meeting where members of the public may be present. S Scarman / E Lawley **CARRIED**

7 – Other Items	
7.1	**Northern Adelaide Prescribed Wells Area – 23_23 Levy** A briefing was tabled seeking approval of the September quarter CPI increase to the 2023-2024 levy. ***(E Lawley left the meeting)*** **Motion** **That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:** • ***approve the application of the September Quarter CPI (8.4%) to the 2023/2024 levy for the Northern Adelaide Plains Prescribed Wells Area.*** S Germein / A Shackley **CARRIED** **AIF (E Lawley absent)** ***(E Lawley returned to the meeting)***
7.2	**Correspondence – Minister Close response to Light Regional Council** The correspondence was tabled.
	Carbon offsets A funded project opportunity from metropolitan councils was raised at the Legatus meeting and a discussion ensued. **Action** The Region is following up on the prospect for carbon offsets with the Light Regional Council and a report will be available to the Board. It was suggested it may be a barrier for landholders to give up land for a number of years and it may be more beneficial for the landholder to enter into their own agreement.
	Spray drift issues An example of spray drift was presented and suggested it may have been caused by the spraying of a certain chemical. PIRSA have a procedure *chemical trespass* for reporting issues of spray drift and the Board's PIRSA representative will be invited to discuss the matter at the next meeting of the Board.
8 - Meeting Closure	
8.1	**Invitations for next meeting 16 August in Jamestown** Future ideas for invitations was discussed and noted. **Action** Adrian Shackley to provide a short summary of the Boards concerns regarding Crown Land Management and the allocation of resources.

8.2	**Next meeting details** – Sir Hubert Wilkins Building, Jamestown – 16 August 2023
8.3	**Meeting closed** 3.45pm

Signed

Geoff White
Presiding Member