A resilient and productive landscape that sustains a thriving community, environment and economy

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we are meeting upon here today. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to Country. We also pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal peoples visiting / attending from other areas of South Australia

Meeting Title: Board Meeting		**NY Landscape Board Meeting #22**	
Date: 14 December 2022			
Start Time:	2.07pm	**Finish Time:**	5.20pm
Location:	Clare	**Room:**	Board Room
Attendees:	Caroline Schaefer (Presiding Member), Geoffrey White, Sam Germein, Phil Heaslip, Sarah Barrett, Peter Angus and Maree Wauchope (attended by Microsoft Teams) - Community Board Members		
Staff:	Tony Fox (General Manager), R Howard (Manager Business Services), C Martin (Business and Finance Services Coordinator), H Ling (Team Leader Communications and Engagement), P O'Leary (A/Regional Operations and Compliance Manager), L Duncan (Project Coordinator), R McDowell (Executive Assistant) and Chris Madigan (Team Leader, Mid North)		
Visitors / Guests:	Alisha Green, Manager, Strategic Policy and Government Relations and Cameron May, Policy Officer – Department of Energy and Mines Tim Liebelt, PIRSA Biosecurity – Weed Control Coordinator Giverney Rodgers, PIRSA – Principal Biosecurity Officer		
Apologies:	Nil		

Item	**Meeting Standing Items**
1	**Welcome, apologies and agenda check**
1.1	**Conflict of Interest Disclosures** Nil
1.2	**Minutes from the previous meeting** The minutes from meeting No 21 held on 16 November 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. S Barrett / P Angus **CARRIED**

1.3	**Action List** Reviewed and updated It was raised that interim members for the WAPAG may need to be selected as C Schaefer and S Barrett will be stepping down from their current roles on the groups. The Regions new landscape officer Iona Skyring joined the meeting briefly to meet the Board.
2. Deputations and Presentations	
2.1	**Department of Energy and Mining – Alisha Green** A presentation on the proposed development of a Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act which is now open for consultation. • Consultation closes on 10 February 2023 and comments are welcome https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/hre-act • It is anticipated the Bill will be introduced to Parliament by mid-2023 and feedback is sought. **Note** - The discussion paper will be sent to the Board and submission for comment is encouraged.
2.2	**Priority Pasture Weeds – Tim Liebelt, Giverney Rodgers and Chris Madigan** PIRSA have secured federal project funding of $800,000, state funding of $300,000 and a further amount of $500,000 is proposed from landscape boards for a cropping and pasture weeds project. A discussion followed: • Working with NY landscape staff, landholders and farmer groups • Six landscape board regions to be contacted seeking their support • Funding will be sought from other stakeholders • Consultation period to identify weed and grass priorities • Broad parameters for the project was raised • It was suggested there is a lack of detail in the project scope and queried if a list of focus weeds and grasses were initially identified. It was further suggested this is a good opportunity for PIRSA and landscape boards to work together. The Board needs to decide if they would like to financially contribute to the weeds prioritised for the project. ***Tim Liebelt, Giverney Rodgers and Chris Madigan left the meeting*** **Action** A meeting is to be coordinated with PIRSA and senior landscape staff to draft a proposed plan and budget specifying the weeds that would be targeted for the priority pasture weeds project.

3. Strategic Items	
3.1	**Application of CPI to 2023-2024 Land and Water Levy** A detailed paper was presented including tables depicting levy amounts for all councils in the Region for median capital value and the proposed amounts utilising the full 8.4% CPI increase. A discussion ensued: • Capital value is only used on the council contribution and not the levy. The levy is fixed and can only change by the CPI • Some employment positions are funded under federal programs and may need to be paid utilising levy funds if further funding is not approved • There is no other mechanism to increase the income of the Board • More investment in the Environment is proposed • The increase would only be small amounts due to the levy equalization in the majority of the Regions council districts • Communication to councillors with the reasoning behind the full increase was recommended. Previous meetings were held with all Chief Executives and Mayors of the 15 councils • In previous years, CPI was well below the increase in operational costs. **Action** A spreadsheet is to be created depicting the increases of CPI and the increase in operational costs as a reference for the Board to assist in future motions approving CPI increases. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***approve the application of the September Quarter CPI (8.4%) to the 2023/2024 Landscape Levy; and*** • ***approve the application of the September Quarter CPI (8.4%) to the 2023/2024 Water Levies.*** M Wauchope / G White **CARRIED** ***AIF*** **A further Motion was raised:** **That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:** • ***approve the development of a working calculation methodology which incorporates multiyear assessment of costs and CPI*** G White / P Angus **CARRIED** **AIF**
	Items for Decision / Discussion
4.1	**Financial Analysis Presentation YTD** A presentation depicted the good progress on all projects against budgets and a strong balance sheet. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board*:** • ***note and receive the November 2022 YTD financial analysis*** **NOTED**

4.2	**Business Plan 2023-2024** A presentation and discussion on the draft business plan. A hard copy was tabled. • The Board is requested to review the document and submit feedback by mid-January 2023 allowing time for any significant changes to be completed • It is anticipated the Plan can be completed by the end of January 2023 • Board approval may be sought by an Out of Session paper.
4.3	**Deer Control** It is estimated there are 40,000 deer in South Australia and 5,000 in the Northern and Yorke Region. A presentation from Myles Tarran of PIRSA at the 17 August 2022 meeting of the Board suggested the eradication of deer is possible, however, financial contribution from the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board was required: • Thermal technology is the most effective way • The Board staff would engage with landholders and coordinate the control (approximate 1.5 FTE) • Suggested approximately a $40,000 financial contribution from the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board • The budget may be presented to the Board at a future meeting. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note the proposed feral deer control program planned to begin in January 2023*** **NOTED**
4.4	**The use of firearms to manage feral animals for Marna Banggara** The Board was requested to only endorse the proposal to explore the mechanics on the use of firearms for cat control for the Marna Banggara project. Policies would be submitted to the Board before a final endorsement is pursued. Note - A risk register Identifying the risks involved to be included in the proposal to the Board. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***endorse the proposal for NYLB staff to develop the required documentation to facilitate the purchase and use of firearms on specific pest animal control programs.*** P Heaslip / G White **CARRIED** **S Barrett dissent**

4.5	**Committee Recommendations – Aboriginal Engagement Committee (AEC)** Co-chairing the meetings of the AEC was raised by the First Nations members of the Committee for future discussion. Note – the summarised table of entitlements for the AEC to be sent to board members for their information. ***Motion:*** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note and approve the recommendations of the Aboriginal Engagement Committee meetings held on 24 November 2022*** P Heaslip /M Wauchope **CARRIED**
4.6	**Board Calendar** **NOTED**
5 - Items for Noting. The Board to note information papers in this section are to be carried as one motion only	
5.1	**NYLB Services Guide** This document has been shared with other landscape regions to introduce to their councils. **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • ***note the new Services Guide that has been developed to enhance service delivery*** **NOTED**
5.2	**Board Christmas and New Year Closure** **Motion** ***That the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:*** • **note that that the board offices will closed from 3pm Friday 23 December 2022, and will re-open at 9am on Tuesday 3 January 2023** **NOTED**
6 – Standing Items for noting (to be discussed only if required)	
6.1	**Presiding Member report** A verbal report from the Presiding Member for her final meeting.
6.2	**Board Member reports** – Peter Angus
6.3	**Communication and Engagement Report**

6.4	**Correspondence** A letter from Hon Geoff Brock MP was tabled for noting. A letter from the Auditor General's Office stating there were no audit findings in the Region's recent audit. The relevant staff received a thank you for their work for this outstanding outcome.
6.5	**RLT report**
6.6	**Board forward planner** **Items 5.1 to 6.6 NOTED**
7 - 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; G White / P Heaslip **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 Germein / P Angus **CARRIED**
8 - Meeting Closure	
8.1	Invitations for next meeting
8.2	**Next meeting details** – 15 February 2023 in Clare
8.3	Meeting closed 5.24pm

Signed

Geoff White
Presiding Member