

MINUTES

SA ARID LANDS LANDSCAPE BOARD MEETING 11

☞ Day One ☞

Wednesday 23 February 2022 10:00am – 4:30pm

Location:	SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700
Attendees:	Ross Sawers Chair Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair via MS Teams Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member Kurt Tschirner Board Member Scott Michael Board Member arrived 10:20am Tim Flowers Board Member Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager (GM) Anne Dickin Executive Officer
SAAL Staff:	Item 11.7 Cherie Gerlach; Andrea Tschirner; Matthew Westover Item 11.9; 11.11 Melanie Boxall Item 11.10-16 Cherie Gerlach Items 11.11; 11.19-21 Greg Patrick
Apologies:	Sanchia Treloar Board Member
1000 11	Pre meeting discussion with the board and General Manager took place.
1100 11.1	Chair opened the meeting with the apologies from Sanchia Treloar and the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan noted .
11.2	Agenda for the meeting was accepted .
11.3	It was agreed for the board performance review to be conducted by Tim Flowers with a focus on agenda items Aboriginal engagement workshop; Flood recovery response; Kangaroo Partnership Project; and Feral Deer.
11.4	Declarations of interests Ellen Litchfield declared her position on an advisory group that met for the first time on 22 February 2022, for the CSIRO-led Drought Resilience Mission (with the goal to reduce the impacts of drought in Australia by 30% by 2030).
11.5	Minutes for SAAL Landscape Board meeting of 14 and 15 December 2022 accepted . Out of session approval sought 20 December 2021 via email to apply common seal to Deed Poll of Accession to SA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub Collaboration Agreement endorsed .
11.6	Board Action List Board action list accepted .
1113	<i>At this time Cherie Gerlach, Andrea Tschirner and Matthew Westover joined the meeting.</i>
1115 11.7	SAAL Pastoral Field Day evaluation report and presentation The board was presented with an evaluation report for the 2021 SAAL Pastoral Field Days that included a short video of the event.

Discussion was held on the aspirations of the board for future field days that included:

- Collaborate with other agencies e.g. SA Drought Hub.
- Provide fresh, new content.
- Consider engaging an external field day professional.
- Not feasible to hold an annual event however consider three yearly timeframe.
- Evaluation results of 2021 field days to be utilised for Landscape Group events.
- Feedback obtained to be used to determine future projects.
- Field day favourably showcased the Building Pastoral Sustainability project.

1149

At this time Cherie Gerlach, Andrea Tschirner and Matthew Westover left the meeting.

1150 11.8

In Camera Water Advisory Committee Overview

Water Accounting Advisory Group

Discussion was held on the progress of the Water Accounting Advisory Group and the work performed to support an expression of interest call to landholders to trial different water accounting methods.

Water Advisory Committee report **noted**.

1210

At this time a short break was taken then Melanie Boxall joined the meeting.

1219 11.9

Governance and Finance Committee

a) Financial Overview

The Manager Business Services spoke to the financial reports and advised that to better reflect the costs of the new office a separate budget line is being established ready for the April 2022 board meeting.

Financial overview and associated reports **accepted**.

b) Work Health and Safety Report

It was noted that the annual training week in February was cancelled due to the implications and restrictions of COVID.

Work Health and Safety Report **noted**.

c) Preliminary budget 2022/23

Projected available funds for 2022/23 and the expenditure priorities for 2022/23 **confirmed and noted**.

d) GFC recommendations to board

It was agreed to:

Note Minutes of Governance & Finance Committee meeting of 9 February 2022;

Endorse two additions to the organisational risk category of the Risk Register and Risk Guideline Escalation Process;

Adopt Outside Employment policy and Employment Screening policy for board use;

Note Contract and grants executed; Related party transactions report; and Sponsorship report.

1245

At this time Mel Boxall left the meeting and Cherie Gerlach joined the meeting

11.10

Landscape Groups District Planning

Team Leader Communications & Community Engagement spoke to the landscape groups' action plans that will be presented to the board by the chairs of the groups at the April 2022 board meeting.

It was noted Landscape group members are advocates of the board and can use their district plan as a tool to engage with their communities.

1258 *At this time Cherie Gerlach left the meeting.*

1310 *Lunch*

1332 *At this time Cherie Gerlach, Greg Patrick and Mel Boxall joined the meeting.*

11.11 **General Manager Update**

As part of the discussion of the General Manager's update the board was provided further information on the following topics;

- Water Resource Officer has won a 0.6 position as the Drought Hub Node Coordinator (PIRSA/SARDI) that will be located at the Port Augusta Uni Hub site. 0.4 of the water resource role will remain with SAAL. Now reviewing all roles in the water resource team and have brought forward recruiting an additional resource.
- Potential funding via a grant from the SA Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub for a significant feral pig management program. The program proposes to trial the use of a fully equipped, fit-for-purpose infrared system for improved aerial cull efficacy; remote activated traps; humane feral pig bait 'Hoggone'; and virtual fencing technologies for sheep trials.
- 'From the Ground Up Supporting Regenerative Grazing Practices in SA Rangelands' project to build drought resilience from Future Drought funding of \$564,000 over three years.

General Manager report **noted**.

1355 11.12 **SA Arid Lands Flood Recovery Response**

Allocation of project savings to double the offering to \$200k for the 2022/23 Grassroots Grants round, in support of additional flood response activities required in SA Arid Lands region **endorsed**.

11.13 **Grassroots Grants 2022/23**

It was noted that the Landscape boards have aligned in releasing funds prior to work being complete for Grassroots Grants.

It was agreed Kurt Tschirner would represent the board on the Grassroots Grants assessment panel.

2022/23 Grassroots Grants guidelines and delivery timeline (Gantt chart) **endorsed**.

11.14 **2022/23 Annual Business plan**

It was noted that board approval of the 2022/23 Annual Business Plan will be sought at the April 2022 board meeting.

It was agreed the sentence 'Guiding principles for decision-making on Landscape Levies' is to remain in the 2022/23 Annual Business Plan.

Structure and content of draft 2022/23 Annual Business Plan **reviewed**, and feedback **provided** on changes required.

1416 11.15 **Aboriginal Engagement Workshop**

The board was advised that 14 attendees were confirmed for the Aboriginal engagement workshop following a good response from the National Parks & Wildlife Service rangers

and Landscape group members who will meet on Tuesday 1 March 2022 with the General Manager as the facilitator. Community Landscape Officers will also be in attendance.

A briefing of the meeting will be provided at the April 2022 meeting.

Aboriginal Engagement Workshop paper **noted**.

1437 *At this time Greg Patrick, Melanie Boxall left and Cherie Gerlach joined the meeting*

1445 *At this time Cherie Gerlach left the meeting and a short break was taken.*

1450 11.18 **Kangaroo Partnership Project**

Discussion on the Kangaroo Partnership Project included the following:

- Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator now only available until July 2022. Sevenses Creative will cover the position while another person is sourced.
- Dennis Mutton is now the independent chair of the PIRSA taskforce that is engaging BDO Consultancy to provide a cost benefit analysis report for the kangaroo industry. Recommendations from the report will assist to determine what to work on.
- Partners and supporters of the Kangaroo Partnerships Project to be invited to workshop facilitated by Collabforge; as agreed to by the project Steering Committee.
- Logo for Kangaroo Partnership Project has been approved by the Steering Committee.

1519 *Greg Patrick joined the meeting.*

1519 11.19 **Biteback Update**

The board was provided an update on the Biteback program and the baiting conducted by PIRSA outside the dog fence due to the damage to older parts of the fence from recent heavy rainfall and flooding; with the biggest issue being a lack of meat for the baits.

Update on the Biteback program **noted**.

Action: Review templates for wild dog control action plan and organic management plan with a view to combine the two forms into one.

1536 11.20 **Feral Goat Policy Update**

The board was updated on the feral goat policy that included advice of the meeting scheduled for early March 2022 to which the Murraylands and Riverland, Eyre Peninsula, and Northern & Yorke Landscape boards, PIRSA and Livestock SA are to attend to determine the next steps to be taken.

It was noted that a briefing of the stakeholder feral goat management meeting will be provided at the April 2022 board meeting.

Discussion was held on enforcing compliance for feral goats; the use of helicopters for goat mustering; setting up a Memorandum of Understanding between Landscape boards and stakeholders; and Nick van den Berg - a Coorong farmer who understands the behaviour of goats and the goat industry, is an advocate for sustainable management and sits on the goat committee of Livestock SA.

Update on the feral goat policy **noted**.

1602 11.21 **Potential Deer Operation in the Gawler Ranges**

The board was advised that a small population of red deer has been captured on film in the Gawler Ranges. The Limestone Coast Landscape Board has received funding for eradicating deer which provides the opportunity to also target this herd of deer.

It was agreed that prompt action to eradicate deer in the Gawler Ranges was needed to contain the issue.

Use of up to \$40,000 from project savings of the Bounceback & Beyond program towards the partnership approach to eradicate feral deer in the Gawler Ranges **approved**.

Feral Pigs

Discussion on the issue of feral pigs included the following points:

- Policy paper to be developed and presented to the board later this year.
- Significant populations of feral pigs coming from Queensland are extending further south. Investigating east and west of Lake Eyre to quickly eradicate if not already well established.
- Potential shoot in June 2022 in areas not previously accessed.
- Touching base with landholders in the North East Pastoral region for the requirement to prepare property plans and eradicate pigs.
- 855 feral pigs were culled in December 2021.
- Containment of feral pigs required to stop the spread into other systems.
- Sodium nitrate bait trials are taking place.

Cane Toad

The board was advised that cane toads had been sighted at Stonehenge which is not far from the Coongie Wetlands.

Action: Follow up progress of cane toads in South Australia.

1618 *At this time Greg Patrick left the meeting.*

1619 11.17 **Board Performance Review for Minister**
Action: Request formal permission to apply Chairs signature to 2021/22 Board Performance Review for Minister then send to the Ministers office with a covering email.

1624 11.22 **Correspondence**
 Correspondence report **noted**.

11.23 **Project Status Report**
 Project Status report **noted**.

1628 **Board Member Update**
 Douglas Lillecrapp and Ellen provided an update on the latest Landscape Group meeting.

1633 **Day close**

Day Two

Thursday 24 February 2022 8:45am – 1:00pm

Location: SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700

Attendees: Ross Sawers Chair
 Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair via MS Teams
 Kurt Tschirner Board Member
 Scott Michael Board Member
 Tim Flowers Board Member
 Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager (GM)
 Anne Dickin Executive Officer

SAAL Staff:		Item Cherie Gerlach - Team Leader Communications and Community Engagement
Apologies:		Sanchia Treloar Board Member; Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member
0900		Meeting reconvened and the business of day one reviewed. Action: Invite Nick van den Berg to the April 2022 board meeting to discuss feral goats.
0910	11.24	Presiding Member Report It was noted that the next Presiding Members meeting is being held 9 March 2022.
0912	11.25	Board Member Updates Board members provided verbal updates for the Landscape Groups they represent with the topics raised being discussed. It was agreed to include a report on feral camels on the agenda for April 2022 meeting. Action: Provide report on feral camels and other large feral herbivores at the April 2022 board meeting. Amendment to February meeting minutes It was noted that the reference to 'Beach Energy' in section 10.24 of the minutes of the December 2021 meeting should read 'Santos'. Action: Note amendment to December 2021 board meeting minutes.
	11.26	Public Comment Nil.
0944	11.27	Forward Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal Engagement Workshop update • Final business plan signoff April 2022 • Landscape Group Chairs six-monthly meeting and dinner with the board • Large Feral Herbivores • Levy equalisation • Guest speaker Nick van den Berg for Feral Goats • Sundrop tour with Native Veg in June 2022
	11.28	Any Other Business Kurt Tschirner registered an apology for the 27-28 April 2022 board meeting. Scott Michael advised he would be attending the first day of the April 2022 board meeting.
0951	11.29	Meeting Appraisal Findings and board discussion of the meeting performance completed by Tim Flowers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall a good meeting. - Board members were somewhat quiet during the flood recovery and kangaroo management reports however believe this because all were in agreement with the recommendations. - Board comfortable with the actions being undertaken for the feral deer issue in the Gawler Ranges. - Noted there were no biased discussions on the agenda topics. - Good level of information provided in the board reports and verbally.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair provided ample time for discussion while keeping the meeting within the agenda time line. - High standard of discussion was held on the agenda items for kangaroos and goats. - Landscape group district action plans are aligning with the Regional Landscape plan. - No suggestions for improving meetings is taken to be an indicator of a good meeting. - MS Teams setup worked well for this meeting keeping everyone engaged. - Continuing to have reflective meetings. - Noted improvement in board meetings over the last 12 months. Board papers are a good size with information provided at a higher level (less operational) and the attachments to reports appearing as an appendix at the back of the papers works well.
1000	11.30	<p>Board Communiqué</p> <p>It was agreed to include the following items in the board communiqué:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Board Business Plan • Feral Deer • Feral Goats • Feral Kangaroos • Grassroots Grants with reference to flood response • Landscape Group Plans
	11.31	<p>Board Member Travel Arrangements</p> <p>It was noted that Douglas Lillecrapp did not need to claim for travel costs for this meeting.</p>
1005		<p>Meeting End</p>

Approved
 Ross Sawers Chair
 SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

Date 27/04/2022

PRIORITY FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS			
Identified	Item	RO	Due Date
Aug 2021	SAAL staff member presentation at each board meeting	GM	Each meeting
Oct 2021	Wild dog update a standard item on board meeting agendas	GP	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Feral Goats ongoing item each meeting	GM GP	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Kangaroo partnership project update	GM	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Presentation on Moomba carbon capture & storage project in N-E SA	TF	TBC
Dec 2021	Landscape Group Chairs six-monthly meeting with the board	GM CG	Apr 2022
Oct 2021	Business plan for sign-off	GM MB	Apr 2022
Dec 2021	Water levy review	GM MB	2022
Dec 2021	Host fox and dog workshop for the Port Augusta/Quorn region	GP	Jun 2022
Mar 2021	Tour of Sundrop Tomato Farm	GM	Jun 2022
Feb 2021	Tri-Star Group update on Simpson and Pedirka Basin Project	GM	TBD/2022
Jun 2021	Tour of Dog Fence	GM	TBD

BOARD ACTION LIST

Ref #	Action Item	RO	Status
7/12	Conduct survey to obtain stakeholder feedback/involvement for feral goat policy.	GP	Ongoing
8/12	Design program to connect with Aboriginal Landscape Group members to establish their views for engaging with the board. Meeting scheduled for March 2022 with all Aboriginal group members and partners as a part of overall Aboriginal engagement strategy.	GM CG	Ongoing
10/9	Board to provide input for communication and engagement messages for the goals of the Kangaroo Partnership Project. Regular reports to be provided to the Board at each meeting on the progress of the KPP.	Board	Update this meeting
10/24.1	Communicate more broadly the installation of weather stations. Update map to show where they are situated.	GM	Underway
10/24.2	Explore possibility of a future presentation for the board on Santos' carbon capture and storage project.	Tim	Ongoing – propose June meeting
11/17	Request permission to apply Chairs signature to 2021/22 Board Performance Review, send to Ministers office with covering email.	EO	
11/19	Review templates for wild dog control action plan and organic management plan with a view to combine the 2 forms into one.	GP	
11/20	Invite Nick van den Berg to April 2022 board meeting for feral goat discussion. Deferred for a later meeting.	GP	
11/21	Follow up progress of cane toads in South Australia. Migration of cane toads in Qld is currently not being monitored. There are no known locations in SA. Options for management are limited.	GP	
11/25	Provide report on feral camels at April 2022 board meeting. Tabled at this meeting	GP	