

## MINUTES

### SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Meeting 10

☞ Day One ☜

Tuesday 14 December 2021 10:00am – 5:00pm

Location:	SAAL Boardroom Old Courthouse 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700
Attendees:	Sanchia Treloar Chair 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 10.14 Melissa Boxall Manager Business Services
Guests:	Item 10 Lindsay Thomas – Cultural Smoking Ceremony Item 10.9 Georgina Shirley - Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator (Sevenseas Creative P/L) Item 10.9 Andrea Broadfoot – Sevenseas Creative Pty Ltd Item 10.9 Jack Ritchie – Sevenseas Creative Pty Ltd Item 10.13 Eleanor Pratt – Executive Officer Landcare Association of South Australia
Apologies:	Ross Sawers Chair; Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair; Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member
1000	Board members were taken on a tour of the new premises by the General Manager.
1015	Aboriginal cultural smoking ritual undertaken at 6:30am was explained by local Nukunu Elder Lindsay Thomas (who conducted the ceremony), to the board and SA Arid Lands staff.
1025	Board members tour of new premises continued.
1035	10.1 Sanchia Treloar <b>appointed</b> as Chair for the meeting and the meeting was opened.
	10.3 <b>It was agreed</b> board performance review to be conducted by Scott Michael (as Sanchia was chairing the meeting). Agenda items to be reviewed: 10.14 Governance Finance Committee reports; 10.10 Business Plan and 10.19 District Planning with Landscape Groups.  Apologies from Ross Sawers, Douglas Lillecrapp and Ellen Litchfield <b>noted</b> .
1045	10.2 The agenda for the meeting was <b>accepted</b> .
	10.4 <b>Conflict of Interest</b>  Sanchia Treloar declared a potential conflict of interest as a land owner and participant of the Significant Environmental Benefits offset policy under the Native Vegetation Act 1991.  <b>Declaration of Interest</b>  Kurt Tschirner declared that wife, Andrea Tschirner is one of the representatives of the Quorn Community Landcare Group who is receiving the Landscape SA Excellence Award.  <b>Action:</b> Sanchia to provide amendment for conflict of interest register entry.

10.5	<p>Minutes and In camera minutes for SAAL Landscape Board meeting of 27/28 October 2021 <b>accepted</b>.</p> <p>Out of session approval sought via email on 25 November 2021 to endorse 2020/21 financial statements and accompanying management representation letter, and approval for Presiding Member to sign 2020/21 Annual Report documentation <b>endorsed</b>.</p>
10.6	<p><b>Board Action List</b></p> <p>Action 8/7 Board performance review - The board was advised the Minister receives a six monthly report on board performance from all landscape boards.</p> <p>Board action list <b>accepted</b>.</p>
10.7	<p><b>General Manager Update</b></p> <p>The board was provided further information on the following topics as part of the discussion of the General Manager update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding applications;</li> <li>- Potential pig culling project;</li> <li>- Potential Lake Eyre Basin project;</li> <li>- Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator and company 'Sevensseas Creative';</li> <li>- PIRSA CEO resignation;</li> <li>- Landscape Chairs forum;</li> <li>- COVID in Aboriginal lands;</li> </ul> <p>General Manager report and verbal update <b>noted</b>.</p>
1130	<p>10.8 The board was shown three videos relating to project work of the board undertaken in the region 1) SAAL 2021 Pastoral Field Day; 2) Translocation of the purple spotted gudgeon; and 3) Regenerative grazing at Buckleboo (Building Pastoral Sustainability program).</p> <p>A high level overview distributed to the board for the 2021 SAAL Pastoral Field Days, highlighting the distance travelled by attendees and the district they had travelled from; the expectation of participants from the field days; ideas for the region under the theme of the field days being innovation, diversification and adaptation; topics for future field days and the popularity of topics at the 2021 event. The board was advised it is conservatively estimated that staff contributed a minimum of 1,254 hours towards the planning and execution of the 2021 SAAL pastoral field days.</p>
1155	<p><i>Short break</i></p>
1210	<p>The General Manager led the discussion on the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot (C+B Pilot) designed and delivered in partnership with the Australian National University and Natural Resource Management organisations by the Australian Government that will test the concept of buying and selling biodiversity services from farmers who can diversify their income by completing a C+B project – this is a trial project presently but may be something more broadly available in the future.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> <u>Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot - DAWE</u> link to be distributed to the board.</p>
1245	<p><b>Transformation of Old Court House</b></p> <p>The board was shown photographs of the transformation of the old court house to the current office space which highlighted the extensive work undertaken while maintaining the heritage status of the building. This led to discussion of the SAAL staff team effort moving to the new premises; the requirements for mounting external signage on the</p>

building and the opportunity to build on Aboriginal partnerships in the Port Augusta and Quorn region.

The board was informed that the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement of Commitment' was signed at the recent Landscape Chairs Forum by all Presiding Members and would be displayed in the office.

1310

*Lunch with Jack, Andrea and Georgie of Sevensseas Creative who joined the meeting*

1345 10.9

**Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator & Sevensseas Creative**

Andrea Broadfoot and Jack Ritchie of Sevensseas Creative Pty Ltd provided an overview of their multi-disciplinary consultancy in stakeholder relations, strategy and solution finding based in the Eyre Peninsula, servicing the upper Spencer Gulf and mid north regions, and discussed the projects they have supported.

This was followed by discussion on the work to be performed by Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator Georgina Shirley (who commenced on 15 November 2021) that included setting the foundation to enable the preparation of a stakeholder action plan and a communications and engagement strategy; holding collaboration workshops with the Kangaroo Partnership steering committee (being John Read, Graeme Finlayson, Wendy Stubbs, Rob Brandle, Tony Freshwater and Taryn Ackland); leverage funding and determine how to best use current funding.

Another aim of the role was to work with the media to advance the goals of the kangaroo partnership project, with the board being asked to assist in compiling key messages.

Discussion was held on connecting with pastoralists via timely forums as a platform for discussion of the kangaroo management issue; with landscape groups and the board providing recommendations of likely participants.

It was noted that landscape group member Richard Williams is to be interviewed by ABC TV Landline and it would be beneficial to have other landholders speak of the impact of kangaroos on their land to raise awareness of the issue.

Other considerations discussed included social and cultural licence through engagement with all members of the community and stakeholders.

**Action:** 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.

1428 10.10

**Levy Proposal for 2022/23 Annual Business Plan**

2.5% (September quarter CPI) increase from 2021/22 levies for 2022/23 endorsed.

10.11

**2022/23 Business Plan Project Proposals**

The General Manager spoke in detail to the paper prepared for the proposals for the 2022/23 business plan.

Further discussion was held on gaining the support of the board to tell the story identified by the landscape groups action plans for promotional and educational purposes.

Allocation of funding of \$134,241 for a Water Project Officer; \$20,000 for Goat Project (drawn from 2021/22 FY savings); \$20,000 for Aboriginal Partnerships endorsed;

All other inclusions in the work/business plan in line with five year strategic plan noted.

1516 10.12

**Water Advisory Committee Overview**

The board was advised that the Water Advisory Committee had endorsed the recommendation for the allocation of funding for the appointment of a Water Project Officer.

Discussion was held on the meetings and progress of the Water Accounting Advisory Group with it being noted that concern had been expressed that the timeframe for the Accounting for Groundwater Take project was too long.

Matters outlined in the Water Advisory Committee Overview report and attachments discussed and **noted**; and the letter to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport in relation to the management and maintenance of roads in the outback **endorsed**.

1528

*Melanie Boxall joined the meeting.*

1530 10.14

#### **Governance and Finance Committee**

##### **a) Financial Overview**

Governance and Finance Committee (GFC) Chair advised his attendance at the Auditor-General's chair briefing on Friday 26 November 2021 that provided an overview of what agencies needed to be aware of.

The Manager Business Services spoke to the financial reports.

Financial overview and associated reports **accepted**.

##### **b) Work Health and Safety Report**

Work Health and Safety Report **noted**.

##### **c) Shared Services - Service Level Agreement 2021/22 Pricing Structure**

The board was provided with details of the significant rise to the Shared Services SA service level agreement for 2021/22 which was in part based on the volume of payroll transactions and behind the scenes operations being processed for the board and the instance of multiple identification numbers held by board members and the upkeep of identification numbers of landscape group members no longer active.

The board was advised that the landscape business managers as a collective, continue to liaise with Shared Services SA and are working to reduce the cost where practicable.

The board was advised that going forward the cost increase will be factored into the budget.

**It was noted** that the service level agreement with Shared Services SA was a cost of doing business.

Contents of Service Level Agreement with Shared Services SA report and service delivery pricing structure for 2021/22 financial year **noted**.

##### **d) GFC Recommendations to Board**

**It was agreed to:**

**Note** Minutes of Governance & Finance Committee meeting of 29 November 2021;

**Adopt** Asset Management policy for board use;

**Adopt** Freedom of Information policy for board use;

**Adopt** Key Management Personnel Related Parties policy for board use;

**Note** Contract/grants executed report; Related party transactions report; Sponsorship report and accommodation verbal update.


1608

#### **Official Opening of Office**

The board was advised that Minister Speirs was scheduled to conduct an official opening of the new SAAL Landscape Board premises on 3 February 2022 to which they were invited to participate.

1612

*Melanie Boxall left the meeting*

1613	10.13	<p><b>LANDSCAPE SA EXCELLENCE AWARD</b></p> <p>THE BOARD WAS ADVISED OF THE CONTEXT OF THE LANDSCAPE SA EXCELLENCE AWARD IN PREPARATION FOR PRESENTING THE AWARD TO THE QUORN COMMUNITY LANDCARE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES TIM CONNELL AND ANDREA TSCHIRNER.</p>
1630		<p><b>Landscape SA Excellence Award Presentation</b></p> <p>The Chair and General Manager presented the Landscape SA Excellence Award to the Quorn Community Landcare Group in the presence of Eleanor Pratt – Executive Officer Landcare Association of South Australia and SAAL staff.</p>
1700		<p><b>Day close</b></p>
<p>☞ Day Two ☜ </p> <p><b>Wednesday 15 October 2021 8:45am – 12:30pm</b></p>		
Location:		SAAL Boardroom Old Courthouse 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700
Attendees:		<p>Sanchia Treloar Chair</p> <p>Kurt Tschirner Board Member</p> <p>Scott Michael Board Member</p> <p>Tim Flowers Board Member</p> <p>Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager (GM)</p> <p>Anne Dickin Executive Officer</p>
SAAL Staff:		<p>Items 10.15 &amp; 10.16 Greg Patrick – Team Leader Landscape Operations and Projects</p> <p>Item 10.19 Cherie Gerlach - Team Leader Communications and Community Engagement</p>
Apologies:		Ross Sawers Chair; Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair; Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member
0845		Meeting reconvened and the business of day one reviewed which included discussion on the Water Accounting Advisory Group.
0910		<i>Greg Patrick joined the meeting</i>
10.15		<p><b>Biteback Update</b></p> <p>The board was provided an update on the Biteback program that included progress of the submission for funding from the Landscape Priorities Fund to facilitate a bait manufacture hub and a compliance role for wild dog eradication; the aerial baiting conducted in October 2021; and the trapping workshops planned for 2022.</p> <p><b>It was noted</b> that the Feral Scan app offers users the option to record and submit that no dogs had been sighted on their property or surrounding area.</p> <p><b>It was agreed</b> to consider the potential to coordinate within the Port Augusta-Quorn region groups similar to how the Biteback groups are run to provide a more central body to work with for programs to run in the future.</p> <p><b>It was agreed</b> that facilitating a fox and dog workshop for the Port Augusta-Quorn region be considered.</p> <p>The board was provided with an update on the action initiated by the Presiding Member in relation to Wild Dog Bounty. No response received to date from the Minister and advice from PIRSA officers was that nothing was likely to change. Local member had been briefed and also engaged with Minister for PIRSA, no known outcome.</p> <p>Update on the Biteback program <b>noted</b>.</p>
0930	10.16	<b>Goat Policy Update - Domestic Goat Requirements</b>

### **Conflict of Interest**

Scott Michael restated a potential conflict of interest (previously declared) as a land holder who harvests feral goats.

The board was provided with an overview of the requirements to run domestic goats on pastoral land which included the advice that if a landholder wanted to domesticate feral goats the goats must first be transported to an alternative property from where they originated from and only once domesticated could they be returned to the original property site.

Discussion on the roles of both the pastoral board and the Landscape board in goats being permitted as a grazing species. The SAAL Landscape board can set the requirements of keeping the goats secure, noting that the fencing guidelines are not mandatory, however the board can impose conditions to a permit.

Site visits would be required by SAAL before the issuing of a permit to undertake an assessment of the suitability of where the goats are to be kept; and after a permit is issued to ensure the goats remain contained otherwise the landholder would be in breach of the Landscape SA Act.

The board has a responsibility for monitoring any degradation of the property and would reserve the right to ask the landholder to reduce the number of goats. Management plans would need to be established however this will require resources to enforce.

It was also recommended that landholders seek the advice of the Native Vegetation Council before establishing facilities to hold goats.

Discussion was held that included the following:

- Impost or percentage of each sale of feral goats to help fund a compliance officer and reduce the pressure on landscape boards.
- Livestock SA may contribute a portion of their levy.
- Where landholders are happy to remove goats however did not have the means to do so landscape boards could do it to generate an income to go to compliance and monitoring.
- If landholder did not meet the requirements of an action order the board has the power to go in to muster the goats via a contractor. The board has licence but not the resources.
- Next steps include the sourcing of funding from multiple partners to undertake the cost benefit analysis and alternative inputs/threats to harvesting goats in the rangelands. \$50k has already been offered through partnership given two separate grant applications have not been successful. Further policy shaping will occur and then consultation with stakeholders once this body of work has been undertaken.

**It was noted** that the number of non-compliant landholders in the SAAL region is low.

Requirements for landholders to run domestic goats in the SAAL region **noted**;

Reference to business plan paper relating to investment in the goat project as a result of no successful grants to date **noted**.

*Greg Patrick left the meeting*

### **Correspondence**

The board was advised of the response sent to the letter and discussion paper provided by the Deputy to the Valuer-General that outlined the process for determining annual rents for pastoral leases and that a copy of the both letters and the discussion paper was available to view by the board.

Correspondence report **noted**.

1025

10.17

10.18	<b>Project Status Report</b>	Project Status report <b>noted</b> .
1033		<i>Cherie Gerlach joined the meeting</i>
1034	10.19	<p><b>District Planning with Landscape Groups</b></p> <p>Discussion was held on the facilitated process undertaken with the Landscape Groups to develop action plans that will guide the groups for the 2022 calendar year.</p> <p><b>It was noted</b> that following attendance at the SAAL Pastoral Field Days some groups had resolved to include soil health as a priority on the action plan.</p> <p>The Chair advised the board that compared to the previous process these planning sessions were a very worthwhile exercise.</p> <p>The board was advised that the next step was to instil a discipline to keep the action plans active with a review to be conducted once a year to ensure the top priorities of the plan are still current.</p> <p>The involvement of the Port Augusta-Quorn Community Landscape Officer with the Port Augusta Coastcare group was explained with the board noting that it was a facilitating role only to assist in establishing the group and providing non-monetary support.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that the action plan of the landscape group accompany the board communique when the emails are sent by the Community Landscape Officers.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> CLOs to include Landscape Group action plan with the board communique emails.</p> <p><b>It was noted</b> that membership of the North East Pastoral Landscape Group was heavily weighted towards the Yunta area. It was suggested that with the attendance and success of the 2021 SAAL Pastoral Field Days more people may be interested in joining landscape groups.</p> <p>The Chair noted an error in the attachment to the district planning report where a High priority for the North East Pastoral Landscape Group should appear as red not yellow for weed control.</p> <p>District priorities identified at the Landscape Groups' planning sessions <b>noted</b>.</p>
1050		<i>Cherie Gerlach left the meeting</i>
1052	10.20	<p><b>Presiding Member Report</b></p> <p>The General Manager spoke to the Presiding Member report in the absence of Ross Sawers.</p> <p>Presiding Members Report <b>noted</b>.</p>
1054	10.21	<p><b>Board Member Updates</b></p> <p>Board members provided verbal updates for the Landscape Groups that they were the board representative for.</p>
	10.22	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p><b>It was noted</b> that on social media there had been positive feedback that the SAAL Landscape Board have moved into the old Courthouse.</p>
1115	10.23	<p><b>Forward Agenda Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business plan and final budget February 2022 (whole of board agenda item)</li> <li>• SAAL Pastoral Field Day evaluation report and presentation by staff February 2022</li> <li>• Risk register review thru the Governance and Finance Committee February 2022</li> <li>• Aboriginal engagement and participation strategy February 2022</li> </ul>

- Final business plan signoff April 2022
- Levy equalisation and Water levy review April 2022
- Kangaroo Project each meeting (attachment to General Manager Update)
- Feral Goats ongoing item each meeting

The board was asked to advise the General Manager if there was any items they wished to be added to the agenda.

1125 10.24

**Any Other Business**

- Crime Stoppers SA are focusing on the selling or trading of aquatic weeds.
- Port Augusta now fruit fly free.
- Landscape Groups not aware of weather stations.
- Beach Energy \$230m commitment to significant Moomba carbon capture and storage project.

**Action:** Share reference to Crime Stoppers SA tackling the illegal trade of aquatic weeds, water hyacinth and Salvinia species with staff and on social media.

**Action:** Communicate more broadly the installation of weather stations. Update map to show where they are situated.

**Action:** Tim to explore possibility of a future presentation for the board on Beach Energy's carbon capture and storage project.

1140 10.25

**Meeting Appraisal**

From the findings and board discussion of the meeting performance completed by Scott Michael the agenda items reviewed successfully met all of the necessary requirements.

It was confirmed that the delivery of Governance and Finance Committee business met the needs of the board who were happy with the level of information being provided and satisfied that due diligence is being done.

The Chair of the Governance and Finance Committee advised that he was sitting with the Manager Business Services one on one prior to a meeting which was resulting in open two way communication.

10.26

**Board Communiqué**

**It was agreed** to include the following items in the board communiqué:

- New building and smoking ceremony
- Meeting Sevenses Creative owners and Kangaroo Partnership Coordinator
- 2021 SAAL Pastoral Field day to include You Tube links for Field Day and BPS Buckleboo story
- Landscape SA Excellence Award presentation to Quorn Community Landcare Group
- Season's greetings to the SAAL community

10.27

**Board Member Travel Arrangements** - Usual arrangements were confirmed.

1200

**Meeting End**

Approved



Date 23 / 02 / 2022

Ross Sawers Chair

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

**PRIORITY FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS**

<b>Identified</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>RO</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
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 (attached to GM report)	GM	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Presentation on Moomba carbon capture & storage project in N-E SA	TF	TBC
Dec 2021	Official invite only opening of old Courthouse premises by Minister Speirs	GM	3 Feb 2022
Aug 2021	SAAL staff member presentation at each board meeting	GM	Feb 2022
Dec 2021	Report on potential deer operation in the Gawler Ranges	GM GP	Feb 2022
Dec 2021	Consider potential to coordinate groups within PA-Q region (similar to Biteback groups) to provide a body to work with for future programs	GM GP	Feb 2022
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	Levy equalisation and water levy review	GM MB	Apr 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	2022/23