

MINUTES

SA ARID LANDS LANDSCAPE BOARD MEETING 13

☞ Day One ☞

Wednesday 22 June 2022 10:00am – 3:10pm

Location:	SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700
Attendees:	Ross Sawers Chair Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member Kurt Tschirner Board Member Scott Michael Board member Tim Flowers Board Member Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager (GM) Anne Dickin Executive Officer
Guests:	Native Vegetation Council members John Neal Local - Government Association nominee Kylie Weymouth - Minister's Planning, Development or Mining nominee Professor Robert - Hill Minister's nominee Sarah Reachill - Senior Policy Officer Assessments, Heritage and Native Vegetation Adam Schutz - Coordinator Assessment & Stakeholder Liaison, Heritage & Native Vegetation Merridie Martin - Director, EHS - Heritage and Native Vegetation Fiona Galbraith - Coordinator Governance and Policy, EHS Heritage & Native Vegetation
Apologies:	Sanchia Treloar Board Member
1135	13.1 Chair opened the meeting with the apology from Sanchia Treloar noted.
	13.2 Agenda for the meeting was accepted.
	13.3 It was agreed the board meeting performance appraisal would be conducted by Scott Michael for agenda items Levy Equalisation, Native Vegetation Council session and the Water Licensing presentation.
	13.4 Declarations of interests Nil.
	13.5 Minutes for SAAL Landscape Board meeting of 27 April 2022 accepted subject to the removal of personal personnel details in HR section of item 12.7 General Manager update. In camera minutes for SAAL Landscape Board meeting held 27 April 2022 accepted.
	13.6 Board action list Board action list accepted.
	13.7 General Manager update <i>Boundary for SA Arid Lands region</i> The board was provided with details of levy payments being paid to the incorrect landscape board by out of council pastoral properties adjoining the North East Pastoral district and the administrative process being undertaken to officially include them in the SA Arid Lands region. General Manager report noted.

13.8 **Kangaroo partnership project**

Discussion on the Kangaroo Partnership Project included the following:

- Kurt Tschirner to continue on the DEW Kangaroo Reference Group as agreed to by the Landscape Board Chairs and accepted by Kurt;
- \$90,000 available for grants;
- Transition of Emily Gregg (no relative to General Manager) behind Georgina Shirley;
- Will consult with other landscape boards for opportunities of further funding to continue the project then bring back to the board for discussion.

Kangaroo Partnership Project report **noted**.

13.9 **Board performance – internal reviews**

Discussion was held on the current process being followed for internally reviewing board performance.

It was agreed to conduct a follow up 360 Leadership Circle performance evaluation of the board with Kerrie Ashcroft, asking the same questions to compare with the original survey results.

It was agreed to conduct a board performance evaluation survey with selected stakeholders and partners of SA Arid Lands. The board will be asked for their endorsement of the targeted survey participants via email.

Action: Organise 360 Leadership Circle board member performance evaluation with Kerrie Ashcroft Consulting, ask the same questions to compare with original results.

Action: Prepare survey for key stakeholders, Landscape Groups and partners to evaluate board performance, seeking the board's endorsement of the key people to undertake the survey via email.

13.11 **Grassroots grants program 2022/23**

Kurt Tschirner provided an overview of the assessment process for the grant applications and the Smarty Grants platform that he participated in on behalf of the board.

A total of 36 applications were received with 30 projects totalling \$187,000 recommended to the board with \$94,446 going directly to projects relating to the impacts of heavy rain.

It was noted Community Landscape Officers will work with Landscape Groups to be aware of and follow the progress of the Grassroots Grant projects in their district.

Grassroots grants programs 2022/23 paper **noted** and recommended grant recipients for 2022/23 Grassroots Grants Round 3 **approved**.

1233

The board was provided an overview of and the possible opportunities to collaborate with the Native Vegetation Council, and to facilitate on ground work now the board is a third party provider for the Council.

1255

Break for lunch

1325

13.12 **Joint session with Native Vegetation Council**

Conflicts of interest were declared by Ross Sawers, as a member of the Native Vegetation Council and Jodie Gregg-Smith as a deputy board member for the Pastoral Board.

The board and council members introduced themselves then a presentation from the SA Arid Lands General Manager on behalf of the board was given and one by the Senior Policy Officer on behalf of the Native Vegetation Council.

Ideas and issues were workshopped with the view to forming a partnering relationship between the board and the Native Vegetation Council.

1405	<i>Merridie Martin and Fiona Galbraith left the meeting</i>
	It was agreed a discussion paper is to be prepared for future opportunities for partnership between the Native Vegetation Council and the board.
	Action: Prepare discussion paper for future collaboration with Native Vegetation Council.
1510	At the conclusion of the session the board and members of the Native Vegetation Council left the meeting to take a tour of the Sundrop Farms facility.
1700	Day end

☞ Day Two ☞
Thursday 23 June 2022 9:00am – 1:50pm

Location:	SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois St Port Augusta SA 5700
Attendees:	Ross Sawers Chair Ellen Litchfield Deputy Chair Douglas Lillecrapp Board Member Kurt Tschirner Board Member Scott Michael Board member Tim Flowers Board Member <i>Left the meeting at 12:54pm</i> Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager (GM) Anne Dickin Executive Officer
SAAL Staff:	Item 13.14 Melanie Boxall
Apologies:	Sanchia Treloar Board Member
0922	<i>Melanie Boxall joined the meeting</i>
0925 13.14	Governance and Finance Committee
	a) Financial overview
	The Manager Business Services spoke to the financial reports and provided an update on the internal audit process.
	Discussion was held on the consequences and steps taken due to not receiving the funding from the state government expected prior to the state election.
	Financial overview and associated reports accepted .
	b) Work Health and Safety report
	The board was updated on the costly but worthwhile Remote First Aid training recently undertaken by SAAL staff.
	Work Health and Safety Report noted .
	c) GFC Terms of Reference and membership
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised terms of reference for the Governance and Finance Committee endorsed. • Existing membership of Governance and Finance Committee of Kurt Tschirner as Chair; Sanchia Treloar and Ellen Litchfield to 30 January 2023 endorsed. • Attendance at GFC meetings by the Presiding Member Ross Sawers noted.
	d) GFC recommendations to board
	It was agreed to:
	Note minutes of Governance and Finance Committee meeting of 10 June 2022;

Approve Instruments of Authorisation for Procurement – Contract, Pre-Approval - Payment and Disbursement, Contract Execution, Contract Execution – Purchase Cards and Debt Write-Off executed under common seal by the Presiding Member;

Approve Freedom of Information Statement to be published on board website;

Endorse board’s Legislative Compliance Register;

Note progress of Service Level Agreement with DEW and potential risk if not received by 30 June 2022 which will leave the board non-compliant by audit standards;

Adopt SA Public Sector Fraud and Corruption Control Policy, Public Interest Disclosure Policy, Complaints Handling Policy, Gifts and Benefits Policy for board use; and **note** the requirement for board members to declare any gifts received to the Manager Business Services via email.

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

Approve authorisation of General Manager to dispose of office partitions replaced when the board relocated to new premises.

0952

Melanie Boxall left the meeting and a short break was taken

1230

Break for lunch

1254

Tim Flowers left the meeting

1255 13.17

Annual regional meeting

The board hosts an annual regional board meeting and community event to provide levy payers the opportunity to meet directly with the board and for the board to look at projects it has funded and meet with partners in the region.

Hawker was the chosen location last year and this year Marree is the proposed site for the August 2022 meeting.

The board was asked to consider:

- attending the Marree School for a tour and inspection of the wicking beds for growing vegetables in harsh climates supported by the Marree-Innaminka District Group;
- visiting Mundowdna Station to sight the Dog Fence rebuild,
- visit Ecosystem Management Understanding site;
- hear from Adam and Kate Litchfield about their experience with the Property Management Planning through BPS and how they have applied it to their business on Mt Lyndhurst.
- A trip to Witchelina Station and the Nature Foundation Reserve; learn about the success of the Kids on Country program, acknowledging the current and future potential for partnership with the program to support the board’s Aboriginal Partnerships in SAAL and hear about the outcomes from board-funded Grassroots Grants activities on the property and discuss potential partnership opportunities for dealing with land management issues with NFSA contract services.

Hosting the August 2022 board meeting in Marree and the proposed schedule of activities for this event **endorsed**.

1259 13.18

Biteback program update

Update on Biteback program **noted**.

1300 13.19

Goat management strategy

Discussion was held on the issues involved with goat management that included:

- Negotiations underway for development of a cost benefit analysis on unmanaged rangelands goats, exploration of trade-offs between retaining goats in the landscape for commercial benefit and impacts to environment alongside other industries (natural capital gains, ecosystem services, carbon) with this work being co-funded with the board by Northern and Yorke, Eyre Peninsula, Murraylands & Riverland Landscape Boards and the Pastoral Board, all of who have now entered into a formal agreement with SAAL.
- Wider stakeholder survey will be undertaken that ground truths the actual issues and desires of all stakeholders to inform innovative ideas in goat management. Data, science and aspirations, with legislative responsibilities and market opportunities will be reviewed to inform action and future investment options for a goat policy strategy.
- On completion of this work, a well-considered strategic management plan for goats will be presented to the board for consideration.

The importance of science being behind the management of goats was **noted**.

Update on the Goat Management Strategy **noted**.

1311 13.20 **District plans for Landscape Groups**

The board was advised the Landscape Groups have workshopped their top priorities and developed a district plan which aligns with the 5 key priorities of the board and will be tabled at each group meeting.

The groups' plans are living documents and form the basis for prioritising at the local district level.

It is intended that the Landscape Groups will conduct a full review of their district plans in 2023 when key priorities will be revisited and new annual action lists determined.

District plans for Kingoonya, Gawler Ranges, Marla-Oodnadatta, Marree-Innamincka, North East Pastoral, North Flinders and Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Groups **endorsed**.

1314 13.21 **Correspondence**

Correspondence report **noted**.

1315 13.22 **Project status report**

The board was advised that six deer were recently culled in the Gawler Ranges district.

Project Status report **noted**.

1316 13.23 **Presiding Member report**

Presiding Member report **noted**.

1318 13.24 **Board member update**

Board members Douglas, Ellen, Scott and Kurt provided a verbal update on the Landscape Groups that they represent.

Action: Distribute flyer prepared for Marree-Innamincka Group to rest of the board.

It was noted attendance at the National NRM Conference in October/November 2022 at Margaret River, Western Australia will be discussed further with potential board members.

Action: Register a board member to attend the NRM Knowledge Conference in October/November 2022 at Margaret River, Western Australia.

Discussion was held on the presenters that appeared at the Buckleboo Sticky Beak Day.

1337 13.25 **Public comment**

Nil.

1337	13.26	<p>Forward agenda items</p> <p><u>October 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Santos Presentation Moomba carbon capture & storage project in N-E SA ▪ Landscape Group Chairs ▪ Risk Register ▪ PIRSA – Wild Dogs
1340	13.27	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Nil.</p>
1340	13.28	<p>Meeting appraisal</p> <p>The board internal performance review was discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that the more complex items should be tabled in the morning of the meeting.</p>
	13.29	<p>Board communiqué</p> <p>It was agreed to include the following items in the board communiqué:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with the Native Vegetation Council • Sundrop Farms • Landscape Group Working Plan • Business Plan • Commitment of regional meeting in Marree
1350		<p>Meeting end</p>

Approved



Ross Sawers Chair

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

Date 24 / 08 / 2022

PRIORITY FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS

Identified	Item	RO	Due Date
Aug 2021	SAAL staff presentation	GM	Each meeting
Oct 2021	Wild dog (Biteback)	GP	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Feral goats	GM GP	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Kangaroo partnership project	GM	Each meeting
Dec 2021	Presentation - Moomba carbon capture & storage project in N-E SA	TF	Oct 2022
Dec 2021	Host fox and dog workshop for the Port Augusta/Quorn region	GP	Jun 2022
Mar 2021	Tour of Sundrop Tomato Farm with Native Vegetation board	GM	Jun 2022
Oct 2021	Hold August board meeting off site - Marree is	GM	Aug 2022
Dec 2021	Landscape Group Chairs six-monthly meeting with the board	GM CG	Oct 2022
Feb 2021	Tri-Star Group update on Simpson and Pedirka Basin Project	GM	TBD
Jun 2021	Tour of Dog Fence	GM	Aug 2022
Jun 2022	MERI Plan for Water Allocation Plan	GM AS	Aug 2022
Jun 2022	Financial Management Compliance Program	MB	Aug 2022
Jun 2022	Risk Register	GM	Oct 2022
Jun 2022	PIRSA – Wild Dogs	GM	Oct 2022