



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Region 6 Ordinary Meeting

Date: Thursday 15th October 2015

Location: Coorong District Council
'Council Chambers' Meeting Room

Address: 95-101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend SA 5260

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present:

Barry Featherston (Chair)	Alexandrina Council
Julie Barry (Secretary)	Coorong District Council
Danae Cates (Minutes)	Alexandrina Council
Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council
Lesley Fischer	Meningie Narrung Lakes Irrigators Association
Dianne Henshall	Meningie Narrung Lakes Irrigators Association
Peter Smith	Murray Watch
Bill Bagley	Private Member
Keith Loeser	Private Member

1.2 Apologies:

Robert Sexton, Bill Paterson, Yvonne Smith, Keith Scobie, Terry Franklin, Bob England, Cr Peter Wright, Cr Bob Simcock

1.3 In Attendance:

Peter Smytherman	Clayton Bay Community Association
Simon Grenfell	Alexandrina Council
Sharon Bland	Coorong District Council
Vincent Cammell	Coorong District Council
Neville Jaensch	Coorong District Council

2. WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Coorong District Council

2.2 Conflict of Interest

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of R6 Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 7th August 2015

***Moved Keith Loeser, Seconded Bill Bagley
CARRIED***

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Facebook site for Region 6

- MDA have their own site; information relating to Region 6 is lacking on the MDA site.
- R6 site can be used to publish media releases, opportunity for MDA R6 to better connect with wider community
- Coorong District Council can assist in the initial set up, however the site needs to be driven and updated by MDA R6 and will require 1-2 people fully committed to keeping site updated, interest to community, comments need to be clear if opinion of R6 or opinion of member.

RESOLUTION:

That a Facebook page for MDA Region 6 be created with assistance from Coorong District Council and that Secretary Julie Barrie with input from Barry Featherston (Chair) update and manage the site.

***Moved Sharon Bland, Seconded Peter Smith
CARRIED***

4.2 NZ Fur Seals

Discussion held regarding need to for MDA Region 6 to send a letter seeking support for the removal of seals from Coorong.

RESOLUTION:

1. That a letter seeking support for the removal of seals from the Coorong be sent to the senior body of MDA, political MPs, Senator Anne Ruston, Environmental Minister, Chair for Murray Darling Basin Authority, Senator Barnaby Joyce and have MDA lobby State and Federal government.
2. That a presentation regarding this issue be included on the Agenda for the next National MDA Conference to be held in Dubbo.

***Moved Peter Smith, Seconded Bill Bagley
CARRIED***

ACTION: Chair and Secretary to prepare letter and inform MDA of request to include presentation regarding the Seals at the next MDA Conference.

4.3 National Conference update

Chair Barry Featherston provided an update on the National Conference.

***Moved Keith Loeser, Seconded Lesley Fischer
CARRIED***

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Chairman's Report

Barry provided a verbal report.

RESOLUTION:

That the MDA Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes, once ratified, be made available to membership.

***Moved Peter Smith, Seconded Keith Loeser
CARRIED***

RESOLUTION:

That Region 6 send a letter to MDA thanking them for convening the AGM and Conference and ask them to ensure voting issues are resolved and made clear to all, prior to the next AGM.

***Moved Lesley Fischer, Seconded Peter Smith
CARRIED***

ACTION: Secretary to send letter to MDA

5.2 Basin Plan

Discussion held regarding various submissions that have been submitted regarding the Basin Plan.
No formal resolution/motion made.

5.3 Senate Select Committee

- Meeting in Goolwa on Tuesday 8 December 2015 (venue to be confirmed)
- Bill Bagley advised that it is important that they visit the Barrages, Lake Alexandrina and Coorong.
- Opportunity to do a fly over if they are limited with time. Preferred method is driving, including driving across barrages.

ACTION: Lesley Fischer to provide suggested Itinerary to Chair Barry Featherston

5.4 Alexandrina Council Executive Officer proposal

1. MDA Region 6 write to constituent Councils asking them to contribute a combined total of \$20,000 to enable the engagement of a part-time (1 day per week) MDA Region 6 Executive Officer for an initial 12-month period with the Executive Officer to be hosted by Alexandrina Council (either as an employee or via engagement of an independent contractor).
2. MDA Region 6 recommend that constituent Councils make the following funding contributions to enable engagement of an Executive Officer as per recommendation 1:
 - Alexandrina Council - \$5000
 - Coorong District Council - \$5000
 - Rural City of Murray Bridge - \$5000
 - Southern Mallee District Council - \$2500
 - Tatiara District Council - \$2500
3. Should the constituent Council's agree to fund engagement of a MDA Region 6 Executive Officer, MDA Region 6 authorises Alexandrina Council to commence the necessary recruitment/procurement process.
4. Should a MDA Region 6 Executive Officer be engaged, that at the conclusion of the initial 12-month period, MDA Region 6 review the effectiveness of the position with a view to making a further recommendation as to ongoing funding by constituent Councils.
5. Should the constituent Council's not agree to fund engagement of a MDA Region 6 Executive Officer, that MDA Region 6 recommend to Coorong District Council that it provide ongoing in-kind administrative support to Cr Julie Barrie in her role as MDA Region 6 Secretary, abrogating the need for Alexandrina Council to provide such support.

Moved Keith Loeser, Seconded Lesley Fischer
CARRIED Unanimously

5.5 IWC Scholarships – Water Leadership Program & Master of Integrated Water Management *For information only*

5.6 Members Business

Peter Smith

- Items sent to National CEO – no response received; no acknowledgement. Chair Barry Featherston to follow up.
- Seal Cull

Sharon Bland left meeting.

Vern Leng

- Agenda format for meetings to be compiled by Secretary with items from members and including an action list for follow up items. Ideally would like to see a written chair persons report. Barry will consider doing report in dot point format in future.
- Questions with or without notice to be added on the agenda

ACTION: Secretary to send an email to all members seeking input on agenda, members to provide relevant papers and any background information one week prior to meeting.

Membership List

- Current list is not up to date and members missing out on notification.
- Create a database – membership type, correct contact information, membership cards,
ACTION: Vern Leng to send details to Barry to raise with MDA.

Waterways Expo Clayton Bay 31st October 2015 from 10am til 3.30pm

- Being held at Clayton Bay Community Hall
- Opportunity to promote MDA R6
- Barry will be attending

Chair of Clayton Bay Nursery and Environmental Group, Mr Peter Smytherman presented to group regarding the upcoming event at Clayton Bay.

Vern Leng moved that Region 6 have a display at the Waterways Exhibition at Clayton Bay.

ACTION: Chair Barry Featherston to contact Emma Bradbury seeking to use the MDA flag, Vern Leng to print out membership forms.

Keith Loeser

Advertising meetings in community news to promote Region 6.

ACTION: Keith to send information to Secretary Julie Barrie

5.7 Major Issues to be considered

Looking to hold a meeting to discuss what is felt to be major issues for Region 6. Requesting each member list 3 top issues, Alexandrina Council Environmental Strategy Officer Shen to facilitate the session. Session to be held after Senate Enquiry visit.

ACTION: Barry will follow up with email to members.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. NEXT MEETING

R6 Ordinary Meeting to be held on Wednesday 16th December 2015

Michael Scott will be an apology at the next meeting. Alexandrina Council to allocate another proxy; for Michael Scott, now that Barry Featherston has been appointed as Chair.

8. CLOSE

12:46pm

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Coorong District Council for their support in
Hosting this meeting of Region 6*

Murray Darling Association
Region 6

ACTION LIST

Meeting Date	Responsible Officer	Action Details	Progress Update	Completion Date
15 Oct 2015	Chair & Secretary	Item 4.2 NZ Fur Seals Chair and Secretary to prepare letter seeking support for removal of seals from the Coorong and request MDA include a presentation regarding this matter on the next National MDA Conference to be held in Dubbo		
15 Oct 2015	Secretary	Item 5.1 Letter to be sent to MDA thanking them for convening the AGM and Conference and request that they ensure voting issues are resolved and made clear to all, prior to the next AGM.		
15 Oct 2015	Lesley Fischer	Item 5.3 Senate Select Committee visit to Goolwa and surrounds. Suggested itinerary to be provided to Chair Barry Featherston		
15 Oct 2015	Secretary	Item 5.6 Members Business (Vern Leng) Format of Agendas – Secretary to send an email to all members seeking agenda items for upcoming meetings. To be done one week prior to the meeting date.		
15 Oct 2015	Vern Leng	Item 5.6 Members Business (Vern Leng) Update Membership List – Vern to send relevant information to Chair to allow Chair to raise this issue with the MDA.		
15 Oct 2015	Chair & Vern Leng	Item 5.6 Members Business – Waterways Expo Clayton Bay – Chair to contact Emma Bradbury seeking use of MDA Flag. Vern Leng to print and supply membership forms.		
15 Oct 2015	Chair	Item 5.7 Major Issues for Consideration – Chair to send email to members seeking list of top 3 major issues for R6 to allow discussion on major issues at a future upcoming meeting.		