



Murray Darling Association Inc.

admin@mda.asn.au
www.mda.asn.au
T (03) 5480 3805
ABN: 64 636 490 493

463 High Street
P.O. Box 1268
Echuca, Vic 3564

Region 1 Ordinary Meeting

Date: Friday 27th May 2016,

10am for 10:30 am start

a light morning tea will be served

Location: Holbrook Library, Community Technology Centre Meeting Rooms

Library Lane off Bowler Street

Holbrook

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE:

1.1 Present:

Cr David Thurley	AburyCity Council – Chairman Region 1
Cr Tony Quinn	Greater Hume Shire Council
Cr Stuart Heriot	Greater Hume Shire Council
Cr David Wortman	Towong Shire
Cr Emmerick Teissl	Indigo Shire
Mr Mark Verbaken Manager Environment	Wodonga City Council
Mr Brad Ferris, Director Engineering	AlburyCity Council
Mr Darryl Jacob	
Guest:	
Heather Wilton (Welcome)	Greater Hume Shire Council Mayor

1.2 Apologies:

Adrian Wells	
Fiona Schirmer	
Pat Bourke	
Jenny O'Connor	Indigo Shire
Cr Annie Speedie	Wodonga City Council

Chair indicated that it will be necessary to write to Snowy Valleys Council and Federation Council (NSW new local government entities created by recent amalgamation) to seek clarification regarding representation on Murray Darling Basin Inc. going forward.

1.3 Declarations of Interests

There was no Declarations of Interest received by the Chairperson.

2. WELCOME

2.1 Cr Heather Wilton – Mayor, Greater Hume Shire

Mayor of Greater Hume Shire Council, Councillor Heather Wilton, welcomed all to the meeting and provide a brief précis of events and projects being undertaken in Greater Hume Shire Council.

2.2 Cr David Thurley - Chair Region 1

Cr Thurley welcomed members and guests to the meeting and declared the meeting opened and noted the apologies received.

Moved: Cr Quinn **Seconded:** Cr Heriot

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the previous meeting on 26th Feb 2016

Moved: Cr Emmerick Teissl **Seconded:** Mr Brad Ferris

MOTION: That the minutes of the Murray Darling Association Region 1 meeting held on Friday, 26 February 2016 at Beechworth be accepted.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Motion from Indigo Shire, Cr Emmerick Teissl to be considered as a motion from Region 1 for the annual conference.

MOTION: **That the extraction of ground water for export use not be supported by the Murray Darling Association.**

Cr Teissel spoke to the motion now before the meeting. He is concerned that there is little community benefit with the extraction of water for bottled water, but recognizes that the activity cannot be banned.

Discussion ensued.

Following, Cr Teissl agreed to withdraw the motion.

Moved: Cr Quinn **Seconded:** Cr Wortman

MOTION: **MDA Region 1 requests that the Victorian Government bring the Water Act into line with the corresponding NSW act in respect of the harvesting of water that falls on the property and that this motion be put to the annual conference to be held later in the year.**

CARRIED

5. REPORTS

5.1 Board matters

Draft Constitution review – presentation of draft document for comment

Chair, Cr David Thurley, referred to the draft constitution presented for consideration.

Mr Mark Verbaken sought clarification regarding :

- Section 6 Part 4
- Delegation and Representative - Preliminary Definitions Part 1
- Section 14 Part 4
- Section 17 Part 3 'retention of contractors' suggests that the CEO cannot appoint contractors.
- Section 18 Financial - will contribute an annual fee. How is that fee determined.
- Section 36 minor amendment to Part 2
- Section 36 part 3

Chair asked members of Region 1 to review the draft constitution and provide feedback regarding the draft constitution and to provide suggestions or queries to the CEO and himself. The Chair asked that any feedback be provided to him by no later than Friday, 10 June 2016.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Region 1 issues map – Basin related issues that define and impact Region 1 - ref pp 41-15 of the Strategic Plan 2016-19.

The Chair referred to Section 3.6 Regional Issues of the draft Strategic Plan 2016/2019, which is reproduced below:

Regional Issues – Region 1

- **Balance between the use of water for power generation and the operation of Snowy Hydro and water for irrigation and the environment**
- **Groundwater mining**
- **Potential impacts of the constraints management strategy**

Cr Darryl Jacob asked that the additional Region1 issue be included:

Coal seam gas mining

Chair asked members of Region 1 to review the draft Strategic Plan 2016/2019 document and provide feedback regarding the document, with any comments, suggestions or queries to be forwarded to himself and the CEO. The Chair asked that any feedback be provided to him by no later than Friday, 10 June 2016.

7. STAKEHOLDERS PRESENTATION

At this point of the meeting, Cr Thurley advised that Sussan Ley had declined the invitation to provide a stakeholder presentation due to the federal election recently being called, and that the government is in care taker mode.

8. NEXT MEETING

Chair advised that the next meeting be scheduled for August, however, due to local government elections in NSW (September) and Victoria (October), it is proposed that the Annual General Meeting be held in November 2016.

Moved: Cr Emmerick Teissl

Seconded: Cr Tony Quinn

MOTION

That:

1. the next meeting of the Murray Darling Association Inc. Region 1 be held on Friday, 26 August 2016 (and to be hosted by AlburyCity Council).
2. the Annual General Meeting of Murray Darling Association Region 1 be held on Friday, 18 November 2016.

CARRIED

Mr Darryl Jacob suggested that the Victorian North East Catchment Management Authority be invited to provide an address to the next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

9. CLOSE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.30am.

The Murray Darling Association acknowledged and thanked Greater Hume Shire Council for their support in hosting the meeting.