



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Region 6 Ordinary Meeting

Date: 30 January 2015

Location: Tailem Bend Council Complex

Address:

MINUTES

1. Meeting Opened at 9:30am.
2. B. England sought clarification as to the starting time of meetings.

Moved that the meetings be advertised for 9:30am beginning at 10:00am

B. England/I. Mann.

CARRIED.

3. Chairman Cr. F. Tuckwell OAM welcomed those in attendance for the first MDA R6 meeting for 2015 and asked Mayor (Coorong Council) Neville Jaensch to officially welcome those in attendance to the council region for our first meeting in 2015.

Mayor in welcome the group pointed out that the MDA and Coorong Council were allies kindred spirits in their concern for the Murray Darling Basin especially the lower reaches downstream of Lock 1 especially The Coorong, Lakes Albert, Alexandrina and the Barrages.

4. **PRESENT:** -

Chairman: Cr. Frank Tuckwell OAM	Alexandrina Council
Secretary: Mr. Peter R. Smith OAM	Private Member
Mayor Neville Jaensch	Coorong Council
Mr. Keith Scobie	Private Member
Ms. Su Bond	Meningie
Mr. Keith Loeser	Private Member
Cr. Donna Middleton	Coorong Council
Cr. Sharon Bland	Deputy Mayor Coorong Council
Mr. Bob England	Private Member
Mr. Ian Mann OAM	Private Member
Cr. Vern Lang	Coorong Council
Mr. Bill Bagley	Private Member
Cr. Peter Wright	Coorong Council
Mr. Terry Franklin	Murray Watch
Hon Tony Pasin MP	Federal Member
Mr. Nathan Robinson	Tony Pasin Staff.

Chairman spoke to B. England (Upon his arrival) seeking a commitment to continue as the Chairman of Lower Murray Working Group which was forth coming. Asking the secretary and himself to continuing liaising.

5. **APOLOGIES:** -

Bill & Jill Paterson

Hon Adrian Pederick MP

6. Cr. SB – raised the matter of New Zealand Fur Seals in The Coorong, Lake Albert, Lake Alexandrina and for tourists. Secretary to contact National to find out what has transpired since the National Conference when motion,

“That the Murray Darling Association write to the Murray Darling Basin Authority requesting that urgent action be taken to develop a strategy to effectively manage and mitigate the impact of the predicted Fur Seal population increase in Lake Alexandrina, Lake Albert and The Coorong which is predicted to end professional fishing in those areas within five (5) years.”

The Secretary also to contact Garry Hera Singh for information and also it has been reported that the seals are among the swimmers in Lake Albert and sunning themselves on the Lake Shore.

7. Minutes of last meeting 22nd August 2014: -

K. Loeser/I. Mann

CARRIED.

6.1 Business arising for the minutes: - Nil as that meeting was convened to finalise motions for MDA National Conference/Annual General Meeting.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** - In

- Mid Murray Council – Seeking Region 6’s input into idea of additional Lock in the proximity of Teal Flat.
- Secretary had been interviewed by Murray Valley Standard re the subject raised at MMC Meeting
- November 2014.
- I.M. pointed out that the idea had been raised when the Locks were first planned (26 in all) and that the
- Secretary’s interview was not entirely MDA R6 policy!

I.M./P.W.

9. That MDA R6 did not support the construction of another lock in the lower River Murray (Lock 1 to The Barrages).

CARRIED – UNANIMOUSLY

10:05am Hon Tony Pasin and staff member arrived – P. Smith apologised for incorrect time notification.

- CORRESPONDENCE:** - Cont.

- Information received informing MDA R6 private members do not have a vote at National Conferences/AGM
- I.M. pointed out that when he attended the previous National Conference he was only permitted to vote if in receipt of a delegates vote. Secretary P. Smith has sought independent legal advice and will present as soon as possible.
- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association – Seeking regular reports re our Association and inviting
- MDA R6 delegates to attend future meetings – Next Meeting Friday 6th March 2014 at Tailm Bend.
- I.M. pointed out that he believed the Chairman should attend and the Chairman and Secretary put the report together. The Chairman pointed out that as he has an extremely sick family member and his work load high he would be unable to attend and suggested that the secretary represent the association and any other member was welcome to accompany the

secretary. P. Smith and K. Loeser to attend next meeting, P.S. to seek information. Some delegates from Coorong Council will be representing their council.

- I.M. did we receive a letter from previous chairman A. Oliver re his resignation? Secretary to follow up.

Moved a letter of thanks be sent to A.O.
Ian Mann/B. Bagley.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUSLY

8.1 **CORRESPONDENCE:** - Out

- Congratulation Email to Hon Craig Knowles – Australia Day award of an AM,
- Congratulatory Email to Hon Neil Andrew – Appointment as chair of MDBA,
- Congratulatory phone call to Kym McHugh – Australia Day award of an OAM,
- Congratulatory phone call to Gloria Jones – Henry’s posthumous award of an AM in the Australia Day
- Awards expressing his view the family must be so proud of their Father.

3

9. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** - Attached.

- Added verbally: - Alexandrina Council wish to continue to have a freshwater research station installed on Hindmarsh Island even though the motion was lost at the MDA Nation Conference/AGM and are in contact with Burke Shire re this matter.
- F.T. participated in an MDA Board Meeting via Skype though unfortunately missed the meeting at which
- Emma Bradbury’s temporary position was ratified as full time.
- The Chairman informed the meeting this was the anniversary of his 25th year as the MDA representative.
- The Chairman is opposed to the MDA dividing the Basin into 3-regions and believes that State Vice-
- Presidents should be re-introduced.

B. England/B. Bagley.

CARRIED – UNANIMOUSLY

10. The Chairman invited Hon Tony Pasin MP to address the meeting.

- The appointment of Hon Neil Andrew as the Chairman of the Murray Darling Basin Authority was a good move Neil has been my (TP’s) mentor for many years.
- Neil is fair minded and will engage in his position in the best interests of the MDB.
- Neil is held with a great deal of respect from his position of speaker in the Federal House of Representatives and will bring a balanced view of the situation within the Basin with a wealth of knowledge gleaned during the drought. His office will always be open for members of MDA.
- There is still \$25-M for water diversion available from the Federal Government being held by the SA State Government.
- Tony expressed his desire and willingness to work with our members and attend as many meetings as possible and added his office is always open to assist.

The secretary thanked Hon Tony Pasin for attending our meeting and for his commitment realising he had much to learn and desire to continue assisting though admitting there seemed to be a different view of the MDB and its water upstream of Lock 1.

K.S. pointed out many Mayors especially in N.S.W. had publically expressed that what happened to water after it had passed the boundaries of their Shires/Councils mattered not!

B.E. we have not seen to many Federal Members willing to attend our meetings thanking Tony for his comments and commitment.

11. MDA CEO's REPORT: - Nil.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS: -

12.1 MDA Chairman and CEO's visit to Meningie to meet Ministers Hunter and Brock: - We believe this did not

Occur or if it did no information available,

12.2 Combined meeting between MDA Region's 5 & 6: - **On going,**

12.3 Lower Lakes Scoping Study: - As the study has been rejected we are awaiting further information,

12.4 Our MDA R6's response to another Lock: - Already covered,

12.5 National MDA Board's agenda's and board minutes: - The members expressed their view that we should receive agendas so we can see what is being raised and minutes as soon as possible after the meetings.

12.6 Bank collapse: - This is still an issue with some wake boats loaded with as many as 10 persons and towing tubes **On going,**

12.7 Broken Hill's water problems reported on the NWS Chanel 9 news and reporting that they are blaming SA for stealing their water.

- Secretary to follow up National and find out National's policy/stance.
- The Secretary will contact Broken Hill council Mayor/CEO and as his wife are travelling to BH will make himself to speak to the council if possible.

12.8 Report in Murray Valley Standard, constraints to flow and ramifications if flow were to increase to 6 or 7 Gigalitres a day.

- Secretary sought information from the NRM and the MDB Authority and it was printed in the Murray Valley Standard item finished.

13. OTHER BUSINESS: -

13.1 K.S. appointment of MDA National Chairman, as Joan White (Qld) was the National Vice-Chair **On going,**

CLOSE

In closing the meeting at 11.50am the chairman thanked those in attendance.

Next Meeting Friday 20th March 9:30am for 10:00am at Strathalbyn.

Hon Tony Pasin MP will be an apology.

The Murray Valley Standard to take some pictures and interview MDA R6 Chairman.

1.