



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

3rd Floor, 553 Kiewa Street
P.O. Box 359
Albury, NSW 2640

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Region 9

Leeton Shire Council Chambers, 23-25 Chelmsford Place, Leeton NSW 2705

Tuesday, 12th December 2017 at 10.50am

AGENDA

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present

Cr Paul Maytom	Mayor, Leeton Shire Council
Mrs Jackie Kruger	GM, Leeton Shire Council
Mrs Ruth McRae	Mayor, Murrumbidgee Council
Mr Graeme Haley	GM, Riverina Water
Mr Jason Ip	Manager Operations, Riverina Water
Mr Mark Gooden	Private Member
Cr Wesley Hall	Narrandera Shire Council
Cr Neville Kschenka	Mayor, Narrandera Shire Council
Mr Bede Mecham	Life Member
Cr Dino Zappacosta	Griffith City Council
Cr John Dal Broi	Mayor, Griffith City Council
Mr Joe Burns	Private Member
Ms Emma Bradbury	CEO, MDA
Mr Angus Verley	Support Officer, MDA
Mr Phil Townsend	MDBA
Mrs Liz Stott	Regional Engagement Officer, MDBA
Mrs Melissa Seymour	EA, Leeton Shire Council

1.2 Apologies

Cr Rodger Schirmer	Mayor, Lockhart Shire Council
Peter Veneris	GM, Lockhart Shire Council
Greg Verdon	RWCC
Bede Spannagle	RWCC
Cr Mick Rutledge	Hay Shire Council
Paul Furnell	Wagga Wagga Council
Russell Campbell	Carrathool Council

1.3 Conflicts of Interest

Cr Maytom called No Conflicts of interest were reported.

2. WELCOME

2.1 Chair of Region 9 - CrPaul Maytom (Mayor of Leeton Shire Council) opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked those that have taken up executive positions.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the previous meeting on 25th May 2017 were read and accepted – moved Cr John Dal Broi and second by Mr Joe Burns.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

No business arising

5. PRESENTATION

Update on the Socio – economic evaluation work being undertaken for the southern basin in the NSW presented by Mr Phil Townsend, MDBA - slides attached.

Following Mr Townsends presentation it was determined that questions from Region 9 Delegates be directed to the CEO of MDA for forwarding to Mr Townsend.

Mayor John Dal Broi and Cr Zappacosta (Griffith City Council) left the meeting – 11.25am

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Update on the REO program and MDBA key dates

Liz Stott updated all delegates on the MDBA REO program and its extension to March 2018 and provided an overview of MDBA key dates.

Meeting broke at 12.45pm for lunch and Jackie Kruger, GM Leeton Shire Council left the meeting.

Meeting re-convened at 1.00pm

Presentation from Emma Bradbury, CEO MDA

Key points discussed by Emma were MDA direction going forward, the operation model of how the MDA do what they do and what the Region 9 sphere of influence is as community leaders and representatives through Council and local government and water agencies. Emma spoke of MDA achievements to date and what the MDA is doing for Region 9. Emma also outlined the projects ahead in the Region and the role of the MDA to ensure that Region 9 feedback, influence, information and knowledge that informs the MDA participation in region 9 is taken on board.

Constitution and Strategic Plan of MDA was also discussed. Purpose of MDA is to ensure that local government is effectively represented at the State and Federal level in the management of our basin resources. This is achieved by ensuring the MDA facilitate an informed, accurate and lively debate and MDA act as a two way conjute of information between Government agencies and stakeholders and local communities and MDA share timely and relevant information in order to make better informed decisions.

Emma spoke about the members of the MDA Board (comprise of the Chairman of each Region) who meet on a monthly basis to discuss issues across the whole basin. Over the past two years the board of the MDA have come together to do a planning workshop (next workshop is in Albury in January 2018). It was suggested that Regions need to consider key points to take forward to the January workshop. An example mentioned by Emma was the need for all Regions (over the year ahead) to consider the critical issues or risks to the ongoing implementation of the basin plan, eg the water resource plans. Councils and community will need to be right across what that process is

and what the failure to achieve it is going to mean to all of us as a basin community. The important elements are for our communities to understand what the water resource plans mean and what influences we may have in the development of them if any. Structurally Regions need to be thinking hard about relationship management and the importance in focusing at State level.

Enclosed November and December CEO Reports.

6.2 MDB Compliance Review – Final Report
Not discussed

6.3 2018 Annual Conference

Emma congratulated Region 9 on being selected to host the 2018 MDA Annual Conference and AGM. Noted that the 2017 conference was incredibly well received.

The 2018 conference will be an opportunity for Region 9 to showcase the efficiencies of the region when it comes to water particularly to cotton and rice. Although the 2018 conference is in Leeton the MDA offered for all councils to offer input on anything they would like to see showcased at the conference. Region 9 Councils invited to provide video presentations to showcase what is in our region for the February meeting. Date confirmed for the conference is 29th – 31st August 2018. Possible theme Unity, Community and Irrigation, MDA welcomed and open to Region 9 suggestions.

MDA conference timetable attached.

8. NEXT MEETING

Next Region 9 meeting will be Thursday, 15 February 2017, Leeton Shire Council Chambers
23-25 Chelmsford Place Leeton NSW 2705

9. CLOSE

Chair, Cr Paul Maytom closed meeting and acknowledged Mr Graeme Haley and his involvement over the last 44.5 years in Local Government and on behalf of all delegates wished Graeme all the best in his retirement.

Meeting closed at 1.20pm

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Leeton Shire Council for their support in
hosting this meeting of Region 9*