



Murray Darling Association Inc.

Region 5

www.mda.asn.au ABN: 64 636 490 493

Chairperson:
Peter Hunter

Hosting Council:
Renmark Paringa Council

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Minutes

Region 5 – Ordinary Meeting

Renmark Paringa Council Chambers
61 Eighteenth Street, Renmark

Meeting commenced at 10:05 am

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Cr Peter Raison | Mid Murray Council |
| • Ian Mann | Mid Murray Council |
| • Cr Andrew Kassebaum | Berri Barmera Council |
| • Cr Allan Maddocks | Renmark Paringa Council |
| • Cr Margaret Howie | Renmark Paringa Council |
| • Cr Peter Hunter | Renmark Paringa Council (Chair) |
| • Ashleigh Baker | EA – Renmark Paringa Council |
| • Michelle Campbell | Regional Engagement Officer CEWO |
| • Emma Bradbury | CEO MDA – via video link |

1.2 Apologies:

- Neil Martinson
- Loxton- Waikerie Council – as they are yet to elect representatives

1.3 Conflict of Interest Declaration – Material / Actual / Perceived **Nil**

We paused normal meeting (10:05am) to welcome Emma Bradbury, CEO MDA – via video link.

(6.0) Emma Bradbury, CEO MDA

- Emma returned from a visit to SA, very positive and productive visit. Apology she did not get to visit the Region 5 area, however, also a positive as we have a stable functioning region.
- The recent elections have resulted in the loss of long standing Region 7 leaders. Region 6 & a number of executive have not re allocated.
- Upon visit, caught up with Minister Spears and Mayor Lewis in Murray Bridge.
- Discussion re climate change.
- Highlighted the success in SA, now how do we use and pass on this knowledge.
- Met with Department with regards to community consultation – how to elevate the role of local government, how to export the learning of SA to our colleagues.
- Two weeks prior met with Mayor of Dubbo, again a quick and productive visit. Invited a councilor to Chair Region 10.
- Confident all 12 Regions next year will be chaired and the MDA will have a very active period.

- Cr Andrew Kassebaum raised a question in regards to the MDA Infrastructure Program and what the community wants. Do the criteria need to be re-stated? Advocate for consultation to broaden out, criteria and process for assessment needs to be clear.
- Interstate Water Allocation Plan currently behind, lapse in accountability standards. Community and Federal Government not responsible, failure from the states and authorities.
- Emma raised a motion without notice to the meeting, re addressing (as the drought continues through NSW), where they have 0% and we have 100%. Suggested allocations be examined and would Region 5 re consider, progressing a motion to the board of MDA.
- Councilor Andrew Kassebaum expressed that this is where the water allocation plan comes in. If they want high security water they need to pay for it. Emma encouraged the states to talk with one another.

2. WELCOME

We welcomed Michelle Campbell - Regional Engagement Officer, Local Commonwealth Environmental Water Engagement Officers and all members to our December Meeting.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: Ian Mann

That the minutes of the meeting of the MDA Region 5 held in Morgan, on the 30th July, 2018 are a true & accurate record of the meeting.

Seconded: Cr Peter Raison

Agreed

4. BUSINESS ARISING

- 4.1 SA / Regional Cooperation - Joint Meeting/s with Region 4 (Wentworth / Mildura / Broken Hill) and all SA Regions – in the Riverland.
- Timing - Late Jan / Early Feb preferred
 - Location / Invitations / Agenda – good opportunity to invite all MDA members, great occasion to meet all who is involved. Location most likely to be Berri Barmera.

5. MDA REGION 5 UPDATE

- 5.1 Correspondence to members (as listed) was noted in the Agenda.

6. MDA CEO / NATIONAL AGM

- 6.1 CEO, Emma Bradbury Update via Zoom – as noted in earlier notes.
- 6.2 MDA National Conference Discussion & Review - held in Leeton, NSW - 29th & 30th August, 2018. Worthwhile attending, good quality speakers. 2019 in Toowoomba.
- 6.3 Information Flow:
- MDA Newsletter
 - MDBA (Weekly) Newsletters already received by members, no need to forward.
 - 'The Flow' – already received by members.

7. PLANNING & COORDINATION

7.1 Frequency / Location / Timing of Region 5 Meetings

- Potential Meetings Planning:
 - Day & Time – the second Monday was deemed a suitable time for everyone.
 - Location / Rotation:
 - Renmark / Paringa – December, 2018
 - Berri / Barmera – March, 2019 – Region 5 AGM
 - Loxton / Waikerie – June, 2019
 - Mid Murray – Morgan – September, 2019 – Preparation for MDA National AGM / Motions etc
 - Karoonda East Murray – December, 2019
 - Renmark Paringa – March, 2020 – Region 5 AGM

7.2 Future Topics / Guest Speakers:

- Guest Speakers & Priority? – What topic/s is/are next?
 - Fisheries & PIRSA / Carp Update/s / Mike Young
 - Jarrod Eaton & DEW
 - MDBA Representative – Monique White (presentation of the report from Phil Townsend)

7.3 Future MDA Dates:

- 2019 Toowoomba
- 2019 Wentworth or Shepparton are the most likely options

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Michelle Campbell – CEWO - Regional Engagement Officer

- Presentation:
 - History of the irrigation development.
 - 1947 VIC Mallee had 17,00ha irrigated as a pose to 2017 having 75,000ha.
 - The basin – complex competing needs.
 - How water flows naturally (natural seasonal pulses) vs how water flows after human intervention. How creating man made pulses / flows can have great environmental outcomes.
 - What occurs in a hypoxic water event and how often this is deemed as bad yet has positive consequences for fish stocks.
 - Demand across basin and in particular the southern basin.
 - The importance of the Darling River System to SA/recent northern basin flows.
 - How various fish species require different environmental water flows, in addition how this can be manipulated within water delivery to benefit these fish species.
 - Will forward booklets re who is responsible for various aspects of water management in the basin.
 - Will forward completed pictorial of water security variations across the country & how this effects the massive variations in current allocations.

9. NEXT MEETING

Date: (to be finalised) March Time: 10.00 am Location: Berri Barmera

10. CLOSE: 11.50 am

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Renmark Paringa Council for hosting this meeting of Region 5*