



# 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 – Annual General Meeting

Berri – Barmera Council Chambers

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

Meeting commenced at 10:04am

#### 1. ATTENDANCE

##### 1.1 Present:

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Cr Peter Raison     | Mid Murray Council               |
| • Cr Jeff Hall        | 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          |
| • Ashleigh Baker      | EA – Renmark Paringa Council     |
| • Michelle Campbell   | Regional Engagement Officer CEWO |
| • Tony Herbert        | Acting Director DEW              |
| • Malcolm Wilksch     | Potential Private Member         |

##### 1.2 Apologies:

- Emma Bradbury CEO of MDA - currently @ MDA Board Meeting
- Neil Martinson – Mayor, Renmark Paringa Council
- Kym Webber – District Council Loxton Waikerie

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

#### 2. WELCOME

Welcomed Tony Herbert – Acting Director, River Murray Operations, DEW to our March Meeting.

#### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING/S

Moved: Ian Mann

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of MDA Region 5 held in Berri, on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 are a true & accurate record of the meeting.

Seconded: Cr Peter Raison

**Agreed**

Moved: Cr Peter Raison

That the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of MDA Region 5 held in Renmark, on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 are a true & accurate record of the meeting.

Seconded: Cr Margaret Howie

**Agreed**

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING**

##### 4.1 SA / Regional Cooperation

- Joint Meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> February
  - Highlights were from the substantial quality of speakers.
  - Peter Hunter to distribute the presentations he has on his computer to members who requested.
  - Lots of positive information coming out of the presentations rather than negative reflections on the MDB Plan.
  - The use of Slido was very beneficial.
- Involved Regions 4, 5, 6 & 7 – National Speakers / Duplicated across Basin
  - Keen to be involved with Region 4 in further work
  - Region 6 recently appointed an employee to work 2 days per week.
- Discussion
  - Continue to chase informative, high level speakers – perhaps even controversial ones.....

##### 4.2 Other items not currently listed - to be dealt with in this agenda

**Nil**

#### **5. MDA Region 5 Update**

##### 5.1 Correspondence to Members – (since Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2018):

- 16<sup>th</sup> December - Minutes of Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December
- 17<sup>th</sup> December - Dates & Planning Update
- 19<sup>th</sup> December - Socio Economic Assessments / Niall Blair & Basin Plan
- 10<sup>th</sup> January - Menindee Fish Kills
- 14<sup>th</sup> January - Review of Environmental Watering Priorities
- 6<sup>th</sup> February - Connecting Catchments & Communities Session
- 8<sup>th</sup> February - Proposed Motions for Councils to move in support of ongoing funding from Federal Government for MDA
- 13<sup>th</sup> February - Menindee to the Mouth Connecting Communities (22/2)
- 14<sup>th</sup> February - MDA Region 5 AGM Notification & Council Nominations
- 18<sup>th</sup> February - Input to MDA re Buybacks – for Senate Committee
- 21<sup>st</sup> February - Economic Activation Plans
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Reminder re Region 5 AGM & Agenda Items

##### 5.2 Region 5 Annual General Meeting

- Chairperson's report to AGM
- Nominations Received:
  - Berri Barmera: Cr Kassebaum / Cr Fuller – Voting Delegate / Proxy
  - Loxton Waikerie: Cr Walker / Cr Webber – Voting Delegate / Proxy
  - Mid Murray: Cr Raison Cr Hassett /– Voting Delegate / Proxy
  - Karoonda East Murray: Cr tba / Cr tba / Voting Delegate / Proxy
  - Renmark Paringa: Cr Howie / Cr Maddocks- Voting Delegate / Proxy
  - Renmark Paringa as Chair – Nominates: Cr Peter Hunter  
& Secretarial – Ashleigh Baker

These have been forwarded to MDA CEO, Emma Bradbury, individual councils.

Nominations:

Moved: Cr Peter Raison

That the nominations submitted by member councils be ratified as representatives for Region 5 of the Murray Darling Association.

Seconded: Cr Margaret Howie

**Agreed**

Private Members Continuing:

- Ian Mann OAM

## 6. MDA CEO / NATIONAL AGM

6.2 MDA National Conference to be held in Toowoomba – 22 – 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

6.2 Basin Communities Leadership Program

- Seeking funds
- Peter Hunter will forward information from today's MDA Board Meeting once he has received.

6.3 Federal Funding for MDA Staffing / Activities / viability information shared

6.4 MDA Board Meeting in Moama

- Summary given circulated as a part of the agenda documents
- Very positive support from members who attended
- Councils forwarded letters to relevant ministers regarding adequate ongoing staffing funding

## 7. PLANNING & COORDINATION

7.1 Frequency / Location / Timing of Region 5 Meetings

- Future Meetings – **General Pattern to be second Monday of selected month**
  - [Berri / Barmera – 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 – Region 5 AGM – (Today)]  
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  - Loxton / Waikerie – Monday 3 June, 2019  
– R5 Discussions re Motions for National MDA AGM
  - Mid Murray – 9<sup>th</sup> September - Morgan – September, 2019  
– Discussion re voting on MDA National AGM / Motions
  - National AGM – Toowoomba – 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2019
  - Karoonda East Murray – 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 - tbc
  - Renmark Paringa – 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 – Region 5 AGM
- Every second Monday of the month is preferred for meeting frequency, tying in with the above proposed dates.
- Topics / Guest Speakers:
  - CEO Phone Link for meetings where suitable
  - Guest Speakers – Topic/s:
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> June:
      - Neil Martinson & MDBA Community Representative Committee
      - Panel including three industry specialists ie Steve Burdette, Chris Bryne..... to be invited to June Meeting.
        - Members to formulate questions prior.

- Future Meeting Options:
  - Meetings / links with Region 6
  - Fisheries & PIRSA
  - Carp Update/s
  - Mike Young
  - Jarrod Eaton & DEW
  - MDBA Representative – Monique White – schedule
  - CEWO – schedule

7.3 Future MDA Dates:

- Potential Canberra based AGM in 2020 – to be finalised.

7.4 Our Priorities - Agreed Actions for Region 5 in 2017 / 2018

- Reminder – Priorities to be revisited. Peter Hunter to re-distribute as a reminder for all members.

## 8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 8.1 Communication – MDBA Newsletters / DEW Flow Reports... sharing of useful links
- Peter Hunter will continue to forward links on, members can choose to subscribe if they wish.

8.2 Tony Herbert – Acting Director, River Murray Operations, DEW

- Outlook:
  - Murray Darling Basin rainfall graph displayed
  - River Murray System inflow
  - Low levels of water in storage, below the long term average.
  - 3 month outlook – low rainfall with high temperatures.
  - SA receiving their full water entitlement at the moment, next year this will decrease.
  - Environmental water delivery – steady increase over the years, however, this year is low and not at the rate and time preferred.
  - Graphs displayed on how water has previously been delivered over the years.
- Outcomes:
  - Lakes and Coorong
  - Winter pulse – fish migration and tracking.
  - Spring flows – rise in water levels and wetlands.
  - Summer flows – Black Bream ready to spawn, first time they have been able to breed in a number of years. Looking at implementing for this year as well.
  - River channel – weir manipulation – Lock 5 and 2 raising approximately 50cm.
  - Salinity benefits.
- Operations and Delivery Planning
  - Annual planning process
  - Wetting and drying of local wetlands
  - Pumping wetlands
  - Weir pool raising
- Current work and Investigations
  - SARFIP – Pike and Katarapko – extensive floodplain inundation > 2,000ha.
  - Controlled level, rate of change timing and duration
  - Black water will be kept a close eyed on in addition to salinity levels.
  - Katarapko creek to always have a flow.

- Work to be done
  - Initial testing of Pike and Katarapko in Spring 2020
  - Currently completing site operation plans and risk management.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

Date: Monday, 3 June 2019

Time: 9:30 for 10am

Location: Waikerie Council Chambers

- Room Booking / Morning Tea / Set Up & Preparation Responsibilities:  
CR Walker & Webber

**10. CLOSE** 11.11am

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks  
Berri / Barmera Council for hosting this meeting of Region 5*