



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Region 6 Ordinary Meeting

Location:	Coorong District Council Chambers 95-101 Railway Terrace, TAILEM BEND
Time/date:	10am, Friday 5 th of April 2019
Guest Speaker :	Barb Cowey , Drought Response with Regional Coordinator Murraylands and Riverland - PIRSA / Regions SA
Chair:	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck
Executive Officer:	Tracey Strugnell, Coorong District Council

AGENDA

In attendance:

Apologies: Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), Vincent Cammell (Coorong District Council), Heather Bradbury and Mayor Brenton Lewis (Rural City of Murray Bridge), Keith Loeser.

1. WELCOME

2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

2.1 Present:

Voting Members:

Guests:

Apologies:

3. HOUSEKEEPING

3.1 Welcome

3.2 Housekeeping: safety, toilets and catering.

3.3 We will break for lunch at 12.30pm.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

5 MINUTES

Minute check of the previous Ordinary Meetings held on February 15th 2019– **Attachment A**

6 CORRESPONDENCE

INCOMING

- Irrigation Information Meetings, 13-18 March (via email)
- Coorong Dire Straits Tinny Tour Flyer & Invitation – 30th March (via email)
- Correspondence between Minister Littleproud & Lifeblood Alliance re Darling River fish kill and failure of Basin Plan - **Attachment B**
- Region 5 Minutes and Priority Summary from Councillor Peter Hunter (via email)
- News Update sent out on 18th of March

OUTGOING ***To be ratified**

- ***Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee - Inquiry into the Water Amendment (Purchase Limit Repeal) Bill 2019 – Attachment C**
- ***Region 6 - Murray Darling Association Letter of Support for MDA Basin Communities Leadership Program Application – 8th of March 2019 – Attachment D**
- ***Region 6 response to the SA Murray Darling Royal Commission *to be handed out at the Meeting***
- **Region 6 Report to MDA Board Meeting 384– Attachment E**
- **Letter of thanks to Neil Andrew – immediate past chair MDBA– Attachment F**
- **Media Release: new Chair Melissa Rebbeck– Attachment G**

7 BUSINESS ARISING

7.1 **Ordinary and Executive Meetings Action Lists – Attachment H**

8. REPORTS

8.1 **CEO's Report – via phone conference**

Including:

MDA's response the Federal Labor's announcement 29th of March (forwarded on).

Any other policy developments in the lead up to the Federal Election?

Minutes of Murray Darling Association Board Meeting No. 383 – Friday 1st February 2019 & CEO's Report – *to be handed out at the Meeting.*

8.2 **Executive Officer Report**

- Application made as part of the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan funding application to the Natural Resources SA MDB Community Grants to assist with running a Region 6 Symposium, and set up of a 'groups in the Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong' web page.
- News update sent on the 18th of March
- Royal Commission on the Murray Darling Basin response
- Region 6 Executive Meeting held on 22nd of March
- Press Release: New Region 6 Chair Melissa Rebbeck
- Trialing a Region 6 MDA web page www.coorong.sa.gov.au/region6mda
- Ongoing distribution of news and information as it comes in

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Recent Events

Those in attendance to report back

Connecting Catchments and Communities	Renmark – 22 nd of February
Launch of NRSE Our Coorong, Our Coast NLP2 Project	Noonameena
River Murray Water Allocation & Carryover Workshops	Murray Bridge & Langhorne Creek 18 th March
River Murray Water Allocation & Carryover workshops	Goolwa Yacht Club Event
Coorong Dire Straits Tinny Tour	Goolwa – Seven Mile Road -30 th March

10.2 Continuity through Local Government Elections / Vice Chair position? Julie Barrie

10.3 Working toward the Murray Darling Association 75th Jubilee National Conference and AGM in Toowoomba – October 22-24, 2019 Cr Michael Scott

<https://www.mda.asn.au/annual-conference/2019-toowoomba.aspx>

- Start considering motions for the Toowoomba Murray Darling Association National Conference and AGM
- Who will attend the Toowoomba Murray Darling Association National Conference and AGM
- Plan up to 2 inter Regional SA meetings in the lead up to the Toowoomba Murray Darling Association National Conference and AGM

10.4 Groups Symposium and Web Page concepts

Cr Melissa Rebbeck

<http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/region6mda>

Tracey Strugnell

Timing: May - June 2019.

Convened by: Region 6 Murray Darling Association.

Invitees: All River, Lakes and Coorong related groups in our region, other SA MDA Regions & potentially Mildura / Wentworth, RDAs, all Councillors, relevant staff, SABFAC.

Symposium Aim: This session is about collaboration and understanding between the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong Groups and our actions going forward as a region.

DRAFT PROGRAM

Speaker	Topic
Jarrold Eaton (DEW)	River, Lakes and Coorong scenarios for the coming season
Economic Development Managers (RDA's)	Potential low river scenarios and trigger points to roll out a community and economic response
Minister David Speirs Dept for Environment and Water	Our Coorong, Our Coast – Natural Resources SE (Commonwealth NLP2 funding - \$3 million plus), Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (announced at the Ministerial Council Meeting in December- \$70 million).
Murray Darling Basin Authority	Economic Development Fund
Melissa Rebbeck	The Climate Change context

10.4 Suggestion to spend time of revisiting and reviewing Region 6 Strategic Documents at a future meeting

Tracey Strugnell

To refresh your thinking as a group with new members. To revisit the ideas in these documents in the current and changing Murray Darling Basin political environment.

Revisit Strategic Planning process, outcomes, and status.

Revisit Communication Strategy process, outcomes, and status.

Name & Tagline Adopted: "Murray to Mouth: Working together to secure a freshwater future for the Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong".

10.5 Schedule of Potential Guest Speakers and Tours for Region 6 Ordinary Meetings

Things are moving fast in the MDB space. Has this changed what you want to hear about or see?

Speakers

- *Speaker on new Our Coorong, Our Coast project (NRSE*
- *Jarrold Eaton- River Murray Water Operations Manager (DEW)*
- *Salinity Management*
- *Goyder re alternative water sources for urban areas i.e. desal & recycled*
- *Local irrigator who has participated in water recovery/efficiency upgrades*
- *Use of the Adelaide Desalination Plant. What does it mean in relation to the 450GL?*
- *Professor Mike Young – MDB Water Audits*
- *Faith Coleman – Ecologist, Coorong Trust*
- *Focus on integrated water management i.e. utilisation of alternative water sources such as recycled storm water and wastewater*
- *Livestock Water Security*
- *Gary Hera Singh – Lake & Coorong Fishery*
- *MDBA Regional Engagement Officer to provide future presentation to MDA-R6 on SA's three supply/constraint projects.*

Tours

- *Organise a visit for all MDA Region 6 and Councillors to the barrages. Organise with Ann Liddell at Alexandrina Council.*

12.30pm Break for Lunch

11 GUEST SPEAKER 1pm

Barb Cowey, Drought Response with Regional Coordinator, Murraylands and Riverland PIRSA / Regions SA

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15 MEMBER REPORTS

14 NEXT MEETING:

Ordinary Meeting on Friday 28th of June – to be hosted by Rural City of Murray Bridge.

15 CLOSE

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Coorong District Council for its support in hosting this meeting of Region 6 – Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong.

CURRENT REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP

Position	Name	Council	Member of Executive	Voting Member
Chair	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina		
Executive Officer	Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District		
Council Representatives	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Malcolm Downie	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Vincent Cammell	Coorong District		
	Councillor Miles Hannemann	Tatiara District		
	Councillor Vern Leng	Coorong District		
	Councillor Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District		
	Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina		
	Councillor Michael Scott	Alexandrina		
Private Members	Keith Loeser			
	Julie Barrie			
	Frank Tuckwell			
Private Member Applicant	Bruce Brooks			

NEXT MEETING DATES

Agreed Ordinary Meeting schedule for Region 6 for 2019 Ongoing locations to be confirmed 10am-2pm	Friday 9 th of August
Friday 15 th of February, Goolwa	MDA – AGM October 22-24, Toowoomba
Friday 5 th of April Coorong District Council Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend	Friday 11 th of October - Alexandrina Council, Goolwa - Chambers
Friday 28 th of June - to be hosted by Rural City of Murray Bridge	Friday 20 th of December

Meeting schedule for Region 6 Executive Group for 2019 Some locations to be confirmed 10am-1pm	Friday 26 th of July Strathalbyn Library, Angas Room
Friday 22 nd of March Strathalbyn Library, Bremer Room	Friday 27 th of September Strathalbyn Library, Angas Room
Friday 7 th of June – location to be confirmed	Friday 6 th of December – location to be confirmed



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Region 6 Ordinary Meeting Number

Location:	Alexandrina Council Community Chambers "Wal Yuntu Warrin", 11 Cadell Street, Goolwa
Time/date:	Post AGM, 11.30am – 3.00pm, Friday 15 February 2019
Guest Speakers:	Angus MacGregor , Manager - Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (DEW) Monique White , Assistant Director – Engagement (MDBA) Michelle Campbell , Local Engagement Officer (Cwltw Environmental Water Holder) Deana Mildren , new Regional Engagement Officer, Lower Murray (MDBA)
Chair:	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck
Executive Officer:	Tracey Strugnell, Coorong District Council

MINUTES

1. WELCOME

2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

2.1 Present:

Apologies: Tony Wilson (Rural City of Murray Bridge), CEO Anne Champness, Councillor Miles Hannemann (Tatiara District Council), Adrian Pederick (Member for Hammond), Andrew MacDonald (Kingston District Council), Faith Coleman, Peter Mettam (DEW), Professor Mike Young (University of Adelaide), Councillor Tracy Hill (Coorong District Council).

VOTING MEMBERS: Heather Barday, Mayor Brenton Lewis (Rural City of Murray Bridge), Councillor Vern Leng, Councillor Brenton Qualmann, (Coorong District Council), Councillor Michael Scott, Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, CEO Glen Rappensberg, (Alexandrina Council), Julie Barrie, Keith Loeser, Frank Tuckwell.

NON VOTING MEMBERS: Shen Mann (Alexandrina Council), Mayor Paul Simmons, CEO Vincent Cammell, Councillor Tank Arthur (Coorong District Council), Peter Smith, Lorraine Leese, Lesley Fisher, Steve Wilkinson, Bruce Brooks, Councillor Andrew Tilley (Chair Region 7 & Mitcham City Council), Geoff Gallasch.

3. HOUSEKEEPING

3.1 Welcome to all of our new Region 6 delegates. The content of today's meeting will serve as an update and induction for all ongoing and new members.

3.2 Housekeeping: safety, toilets and catering.

3.3 We will break for lunch at 1pm.

4 WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF REGION 6

5 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

6 MINUTES

Minute check of the previous Information and Ordinary meetings held on December 14th and October 19th 2018 respectively– **Attachments A & B.**

Councillor Leng moved that the previous minutes meeting be accepted. Seconded by Keith Loeser. Passed.

7 CORRESPONDENCE

INCOMING

**Kingston District Council approach in regard to rejoining the MDA
MDA funding support - Proposed motion for Councils**

Heather Barclay said this matter will go to the MDA Board on the 23rd of February. She suggested that each Council put a report up from this meeting in regard to this suggested motion CEO Glenn Rappensberg said that they would put a report to Alexandrina Council.

Councillor Vem Leng explained that this matter arose on the last day of the Strategic Planning Workshop at Echuca on the 3rd of February.

Mayor Brenton Lewis suggested that Region 6 support the CEO's and delegates write a report to their Council to consider this motion. He urged that Councils be supportive, but to ask the Murray Darling Association what the fall back position is in regard to financial security of the organization.

Approach from Andrew Lake of Pristine Forage Technologies to speak to Region 6

Tracey Strugnell recommended that this approach be referred to the Region 6 Executive for discussion.

**Communique's from Murray Darling Basin Authority (forwarded on)
Media Releases from Murray Darling Association (forwarded on)**

OUTGOING

**Executive Officer report on the Murray Darling Association Strategic Workshop – 3rd Feb
Media Release: Murray Darling Basin Councils across four states meet to look forward - 6th Feb**

8 BUSINESS ARISING

7.1 Action List – Attachment C

Julie Barrie moved that completed Actions be removed from the list. Seconded Glenn Rappensberg. Passed.

Tracey Strugnell suggested that non completed items be reviewed and discussed at the next Region 6 Executive Meeting.

8. REPORTS

8.1 CEO's Report – via phone conference – covered during AGM

8.2 Executive Officer Report

- Ongoing discussion with partners in regard to Coorong Summit including Peter Mettam, Natural Resources SE, Friends of the Coorong. Hoping that the impetus to take this forward becomes dearer now that the \$70 million for the Coorong by Minister Speirs has been announced. Tracey Strugnell will communicate further with Angus McGregor (Manager - Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin) to discuss partnership opportunities.
- Distribution of announcements re Ministerial Council announcement re the Socio Economic impact, and \$70 million for the Coorong
- Media updates on the 16th of January and 11th of February
- Royal Commission into the Murray Darling Basin Plan distributed
- Invited to attend Murray / Mallee Drought Community Action Group with Mayor Paul Simmons (Coorong DC), ongoing
- Attendance of MDA Strategic Planning Workshop at Echuca/Moama February 1-3 2019
- Invited to attend State Water Price Inquiry Workshop on 4th of March.

Councillor Vern Leng moved that the Executive Officers report be accepted. Seconded Julie Barrie. Motion carried.

9. RELEVANT MEDIA

News updates 16th of January, and 11th of February – **Attachment E**

Are these updates of any value?

Executive Officer Tracey Strugnell asked the group if these updates were of any value, and invited member to send through any media articles that they would like included in the news updates.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 Refresh, Update and Induction for Members of Region 6 Delegates Shen Mann

Revisit Strategic Planning process, outcomes, and status. **See Attachment F**

Revisit Communication Strategy process, outcomes, and status. **See Attachment G**

Name & Tagline Adopted: "Murray to Mouth: Working together to secure a freshwater future for the Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong".

Chair Melissa Rebbeck asked what the process is for moving forward for the Strategic and Communications Plan. Shen Mann responded that this is up to the Region 6 Executive and Executive Officer to work on the delivery of this plan. This is not time limited.

Councillor Michael Scott asked the group whether Region 6 still want to give their full support to the Murray Darling Basin Plan. Keith Loeser added further comment to this.

CEO Glenn Rappensberg added that he felt the previous perspective had been that a Plan is better than no plan. We need to analyse whether the Plan is the issue, or the way it is being implemented. A key issue is however the lack of consideration of climate change.

Chair Melissa Rebbeck made comment on the climate change elements of the Royal Commission into the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Shen Mann suggested that we should listen to the perspectives of our guest speakers.

Mayor Brenton Lewis also backed Glenn Rappensberg's comments. He urged that Region 6 not walk away from the Murray Darling Basin Plan. That a plan, is better than no plan.

10.2 Discussion of Murray Darling Basin Strategic Planning Workshop

Heather Barclay, Councillor Vern Leng, Mayor Brenton Lewis, Tracey Strugnell

Item arising from MDA Strategic Planning Workshop, suggestion from Region 7 (City of Mitcham-Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross) that the South Australian Regions aim to meet quarterly.

Mayor Brenton Lewis commented that 12 Regions came together, with the overall feeling was the issues that united us were stronger than those that divided us. There was an acknowledgement of the need to improved the financial position of the Murray Darling Basin.

Heather Barclay said she took away that the Murray Darling Association is transforming and growing in strength in its ability to provide advocacy. 47% of the Councils in the Basin are MDA members. A key reflection was that we need to encourage more Councils, and our neighboring Councils to become members. A highlight was the SA Region representatives all met on the Sunday. This was a terrific opportunity to build relationships with neighboring Regions.

Executive Officer Tracey Strugnell thanked Coorong District Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, and Alexandrina Council for providing the opportunity for her to attend the Strategic Planning Workshop.

10.3 MDA Inter Regional Meeting

Connecting Catchments and Communities Menindee to the Murray Mouth

Friday 22nd of February 2019 – Remark – **see Attachment H**

Who is attending from Region 6?

Topics for subsequent **MDA inter-regional forums** in the coming year include:

- Albury to Adelaide - exploring topics of inflows and urban water use, planning, flood management etc.
- Balonne to Broken Hill – exploring topics of irrigation in the Northern Basin, Barwon-Darling water sharing plan etc
- Moira to Mildura – exploring issues of constraints, management of the Barmah choke, impact of expanding the irrigation footprint to permanent plantings below The Choke, total capacity and supply obligations etc.

- Naran Lake to Nyngan – Managing the Macquarie Marshes – exploring the relationship between the irrigation, the SDLs and ephemeral wetlands of the interior.

10.4 Schedule of Guest Speakers

Existing schedule of Guest Speakers to be reviewed at the next Region 6 Executive Meeting.

11 GUEST SPEAKERS – PANEL FORMAT

To assist with our Region 6 refresh and induction process Angus, Peter, Monique, and Michelle were invited along to introduce themselves and to explain their roles.

Angus MacGregor, Manager - Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (DEW)

Angus introduced himself as the newly appointed Manager of the Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (HCHB) project. Angus explained his background, including in the administration of the CLLMM Recovery Project from 2011-2017. The Federal Government has quarantined \$70 million toward the Coorong, with \$2 million earmarked to progress and finalise an action plan.

Angus explained that Department for Environment and Water's (DEW) intention is to undertake a detailed consultation and planning process to identify the best options for the funding. This will commence over the coming weeks and months and DEW is open to suggestions about the best way to do this.

Angus discussed the Coorong Summit and the Goyder Report. These reports will inform the investment of the \$70 million, but Minister Speirs has also indicated a desire for grass-roots, community-led involvement. The focus will be on the long-term health of the Coorong, with a focus on the Southern Lagoon.

A range of sub-projects are likely to be developed under the HCHB umbrella, including:

- Research and investigations; On-ground works;
- Operational tools and systems;
- Feasibility investigations of large infrastructure solutions;
- Aboriginal partnerships; and Community engagement and capacity building

Councillor Vern Leng asked Angus about whether funding the use of desalination plant was coming out of the \$70 million? Angus said it is not.

Mayor Brenton Lewis asked about where the \$70 million figure came from? Angus explained that the figure was the approximate balance of the \$610 million State Priority Project funding commitment made in 2008.

Councillor Brenton Qualmann asked what the time frame is for the delivery of the \$70 million projects? Angus explained that the current end date for the project is 2024, however projects investigated as part of this project may be delivered beyond 2024.

Tracey Strugnell asked whether there was any likelihood of devolving of funding to other bodies such as the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan or Councils for the delivery of projects. Angus answered that community delivery was being considered.

Councillor Vern Leng asked whether the Lake Albert to Coorong Connector concept will be looked at through this project. Angus said that a number of large infrastructure concepts have been identified for potential feasibility investigation under the HCHB project, including the Lake Albert to Coorong Connector. Angus indicated that DEW is open to revisiting previously investigated

concepts, including that of a Connector, to undertake an objective assessment of their potential impacts on the Coorong.

Lorraine Leese asked about the Terms of Reference for the project. Angus explained that the final project scope / terms of reference for the project were still being developed, but that the focus will be on the ecological health of the Coorong, with a focus on the Southern Lagoon.

Councillor Brenton Qualmann asked what the time frame is for the delivery of the \$70 million projects? Angus answered that the current date for the project completion is 2024, however projects developed as part of this project may be delivered beyond 2024.

Tracey Strugnell asked whether there was any likelihood of devolving of funding to other bodies such as the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan or Councils for the delivery of projects. Angus answered that community delivery was being considered.

Councillor Vern Leng asked whether the Lake Albert to Coorong Connector concept will be looked at through this project. Angus said that this project will be looked at freshly under the Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin Project.

Lorraine Leese asked about the Terms of Reference for the project. Angus answered that the focus will be on the ecological health of the Coorong, with a focus on the Southern Lagoon.

Michelle Campbell, Local Engagement Officer (Cwlth Environmental Water Holder)

Michelle explained her role and that of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). They can manage the water in three ways, use carryover, trade water and deliver/use water. The CEWH relies on the State Governments to deliver water. Water remains the responsibility of the States under Australia's Constitution Section 101.

The CEWH works in conjunction with many other bodies eg. Barrock Station, SA MDB NRM Board, Nature Foundation SA, and Renmark Irrigation Trust to deliver water for the environment. She explained that in the Southern Basin the delivery of water is simpler due to the range of structures, locks, regulators and volume of water held in large storages. This is more difficult in the Northern Basin. The aim is to release water in line with natural cues, or rainfall events.

Michelle explained that there is currently small volumes of water for the environment in the Darling system, making it difficult to help the fish kills. However there is sufficient water in the Murrumbidgee system to have a positive impact on the fish kills in this area.

Michelle was asked how are we going to mitigate blue green algal blooms and fish kills given it has been an issue in the Basin over such a long period of time.

Michelle answered that one of the tools we have where there is a re-occurring problem is the CEWH can sell water in a catchment where there is more than required, and buy water in the catchment where it is needed more.

Keith Loeser asked what happens when all of the states have exhausted their licences, is there a clear path from there?

Michelle said that there is a complex process that is entered into called 'special accounting' when South Australia's allocation cannot be met.

She reflected that it is now critical that local communities are very well informed about their local conditions, and are ready to debate intelligently and maturely with other basin dependent communities in other parts of the Basin.

Monique White, Assistant Director – Engagement (Murray Darling Basin Authority)

Monique spoke to the 450GL component. The change is around the socio economic consideration of projects that are developed for implementation.

The Murray Darling Basin Authority is preparing a report in response to the Royal Commission.

The Productivity Commission found that progress had been made in the implantation of the Basin Plan, and highlighted areas where progress was not occurring quickly. One of the key recommendations was that compliance be separated from the other areas of work of the MDBA.

The MDBA do not go out and check water meters or use, but they do oversee the States to ensure that they are doing this compliance work. The MDBA has identified that Water Resource Plans are at risk. Michelle explained that the States develop the Water Resource Plans which are then handed to the MDBA for assessment.

Monique reported that the MDB Plan did look at dimate change over time, as will the Adaptive Water Resource Plans which are due for completion between June and December 2019.

Monique said the Sustainable Diversion Limit Projects are going ahead to be delivered by 2024.

The Northern Basin initiatives are ongoing, but the 450 GL with the socio economic components may be difficult to implement.

Councillor Vern Leng asked whether given the current climate are the MDBA going back to the drawing board in regard to the Sustainable Diversion Limits.

Monique answered that in the Northern Basin the Groundwater and Water Resourcæ Plans are currently being completed. Having input into these Plans during the consultation plan is important.

Chair Melissa Rebbeck asked “The Bureau of Meteorology and the CSIRO worked together on a report for the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which from memory showed a significant difference in rainfall decline and streamflow over the last 20 years for south eastern Australia. Has this been or can this be considered by the MDBP for their SDL and ESLF? “

Monique answered that the MDBP are working closely with CSIRO to enhance their knowledge in this area.

Councillor Peter Smith asked whether this group would like to write a letter of thanks to the past Chair of the MDBP Neil Andrew. Chair Melissa Rebbeck answered that this will be discussed at a meeting of the Region 6 Executive Group.

Michelle suggested that it may be of value to ask someone along to explain the new Water Connect Water Allocation Dash Board.

Chair Melissa Rebbeck opened the floor to questions.

Councillor Jeff Arthur made the comment that no new storage has been built in Australia in a very long time, except privately.

Monique said the work done privately is regulated by the States.

Lorraine Leese commented that the MDBP is a Plan in progress. Each State has their own water legislation as per the Commonwealth Constitution.

12 INTRODUCING

Deana Mildren, new Regional Engagement Officer, Lower Murray (MDBA)

Deana introduced herself and suggested that it may be of value to invite a future guest speaker to discuss Water Allocation Plans.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Murray Darling Association financial position

Councillor Michael Scott raised that the MDA Executive should be promoting themselves to non member councils to improve their non financial position.

Mayor Brenton Lewis responded that the MDA Executive are currently not well enough resourced to carry out this work. He added that this needs to fall back to the Regions and individual Councils to speak to their neighbours.

Chair Melissa Rebbeck suggested that the issue of alternative funding sources be discussed at the Region 6 Executive.

13.2 Response to the Royal Commission on the Murray Darling Basin Plan

Glenn Rappersberg asked what the Strategy is moving forward for a response to the Royal Commission. Does one response go up from the Murray Darling Authority, or from each individual Region.

Heather Barclay said this was discussed at the Strategic Planning Workshop. The position was that one position will go forward from the Murray Darling Association. That if Region 6 have points of view we should communicate these to Emma Bradbury.

Mayor Brenton Lewis suggested that the strategy for responding to the Royal Commission should become clearer at the next MDA Board Meeting.

Chair Melissa Rebbeck will ask CEO Emma Bradbury what the best process is for Region 6 to have input into the overall submission Murray Darling Association on the Royal Commission Report.

13.3 Paperwork

Executive Officer Tracey Strugnell requested that consideration be given to moving to electronic copies of meeting documents hosted on one of the Council web sites. This will save a lot of paper and wastage. Tracey will report back to the Regional 6 Executive on the possible alternatives.

14 NEXT MEETING:

Ordinary Meeting on Friday 5th of April - bought forward to the first Friday of the month, in the Coorong District Council Chambers, Railway Terrace – Tailem Bend.

15 CLOSE

Lifeblood Alliance

Hon David Littleproud MP
Minister for Agriculture and Water Resource
Minister assisting the Prime Minister for Drought Preparation and Response
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Cc Tony Burke, Shadow Minister for Environment and Water
Bill Shorten, Leader of the Opposition

Friday 25 January 2019

Dear Minister Littleproud,

Darling River fish kill and failure of Basin Plan

The Lifeblood Alliance consists of environmental, Indigenous and community groups committed to keeping the rivers, wetlands and aquifers of the Murray-Darling Basin healthy for the benefit of current and future generations.

We wish to draw to your attention the overall environmental objectives of the Basin Plan as they appear in Chapter 8 Part 2 Section 8.04:

The overall environmental objectives for the water-dependent ecosystems of the Murray-Darling Basin are, within the context of a working Murray-Darling Basin:

- (a) to protect and restore water-dependent ecosystems of the Murray-Darling Basin; and
- (b) to protect and restore the ecosystem functions of water-dependent ecosystems; and
- (c) to ensure that water-dependent ecosystems are resilient to climate change and other risks and threats.

We consider that the recent large fish kill on the Darling River indicates that progress towards these objectives is not being achieved, particularly in the Northern Basin, and these objectives will not be met by the Basin Plan, in its current form, when fully implemented.

We consider that the main reason for this failure of the Basin Plan has been caused by:

- The lack of climate change predictions in MDBA models
- The lack of a balanced approach in arriving at the Basin Plan final outcome
- Maladministration of the process of developing and implementing the Plan

We are concerned that the Basin health will be no better off despite the investment of \$13b.

For the Basin ecosystems to maintain resilience in the face of longer droughts and heat waves it is imperative that more water is returned to river systems and wetlands.

The outcome of the politically charged SDL adjustment mechanism will return as little as 2100 GL to the Basin when 4000 GL was estimated to be the minimum requirement based on good science.

The recent socio-economic strictures placed on projects to improve the efficient use of water across the Basin are not matched for the supply projects which lack detailed business plans and feasibility studies.

This is a prime example of the lack of balance in the Plan implementation process.

The development and accreditation of Water Resource Plans is another key area of concern. For example NSW has water sharing plans on exhibition that base water allocation decisions on the worst drought prior to 2004, have no rules to protect environmental water (although this was a key toolkit measure in the Northern Basin Review), have no volumes for floodplain harvesting extraction and have not completed Aboriginal nations consultation.

We are very concerned about the scale of the impact of the recent Darling River fish kills on the Murray Cod population, a species listed as vulnerable under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. There is a National Recovery Plan for this threatened species that requires:

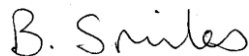
- A thorough understanding of the ecological processes relating to flows that result in improved recruitment into adult Murray Cod populations and the implementation of appropriate river flows.
- Develop and implement flow management practices to benefit recovery of Murray Cod populations.¹

We do not believe that the Basin Plan has taken these requirements into account.

We request a meeting with you to discuss how the Basin Plan can be improved and the actions needed to prevent further threats to threatened native fish populations.

Please contact me at inlandriversnetwork@gmail.com or 0428 817 282

Yours sincerely



Bev Smiles

President, Inland Rivers Network

On behalf of Lifeblood Alliance member groups:

Australian Conservation Foundation, NSW Nature Conservation Council, Conservation Council of South Australia, Environment Victoria, Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations, Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations, River Lakes and Coorong Action Group, Environmental Farmers Network, Inland Rivers Network, National Parks Association of NSW, Goulburn Valley Environment Group, Healthy Rivers Dubbo and Healthy Rivers Healthy Community Mildura.

¹ National Recovery Plan for the Murray Cod p30



The Hon. David Littleproud MP

Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources
Federal Member for Maranoa

Ref: MC19-001273

18 MAR 2019

Ms Bev Smiles
President
Inland Rivers Network

Via email: inlanddriversnetwork@gmail.com

Dear Ms Smiles

Thank you for your correspondence of 25 January 2019, on behalf of Lifeblood Alliance, regarding the Murray-Darling Basin (the Basin) and the recent fish deaths in the Darling River system.

I share the community's concern about the recent fish deaths in the lower Darling River and northern Basin. It is a terrible reminder of the effects drought can have on the environment. I also understand the ongoing challenges posed by the prolonged drought conditions for people in western New South Wales (NSW) and southern Queensland. The fish deaths we have seen over the summer months appear likely to have been caused by low dissolved oxygen levels caused by a range of factors including the breakdown of water layers in the river, decomposition of organic matter, algal blooms and the high temperatures followed by cooler periods. Unfortunately, there is still a risk of further fish deaths if there are not significant flows within the system soon.

The drought has been particularly harsh on the Darling River system, where there have been little to no inflows. In the Menindee Lakes, storage now sits below four per cent. The NSW Government is leading the investigation and response into the fish deaths. We have offered NSW any assistance it requires to respond to incidents and to rebuild fish stocks when it rains.

In view of the ongoing drought conditions and the potential for further fish deaths it is important that all Basin jurisdictions work together and do all that we can. As an immediate response, the Commonwealth and Basin state and territory governments developed and implemented an action plan to mitigate the risk of further fish deaths. These actions include:

- monitoring of water quality at a number of sites in the Lower Darling
- installation of aerators in a number of refuge sites
- fish rescues by NSW Fisheries at several locations
- delivery of a small environmental watering event in the lower Murrumbidgee to improve water quality.

The Action Plan is available on the Murray Darling Basin Authority's website at:
mdba.gov.au/sites/default/files/pubs/Response-fish-death-events-recommended-action%20plan-2019.pdf

I have also committed \$5 million to the development of a Native Fish Management and Recovery Strategy. The Strategy will support emergency response and recovery actions and additional research

into native fish stocks and their management – including the iconic Murray cod. This will help to protect native fish populations in the future, and build their resilience to future risks and threats. Regarding the Murray cod, the measures outlined above are supportive of its National Recovery Plan as a vulnerable species.

It is also important to continue to refine and improve our management practices so that we can mitigate fish deaths in the future. On 22 January 2019 I established an independent panel to identify the causes of the fish deaths and make recommendations within the framework of the *Basin Plan 2012* (Basin Plan) and Murray-Darling Basin Agreement. The independent panel released its interim report on 22 February 2019, which confirmed the findings of the NSW report into fish deaths. A copy of the report is available at: <https://www.mdba.gov.au/publications/mdba-reports/independent-panel-assess-fish-deaths-lower-darling>.

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has also recently launched a new phase of work into the impact of climate change on the Murray-Darling Basin. Working with scientists and other stakeholders, the Authority will identify the impacts of climate change on the Basin and ensure the Authority's climate change work program will meet the future needs of the Basin's environment, communities and industries. A discussion paper is available online at: <https://www.mdba.gov.au/publications/mdba-reports/climate-change-murray-darling-basin-plan-discussion-paper>.

The Basin Plan is critical reform which resets the balance between environmental and consumptive uses of water, and establishes a new framework for sustainable water resource management. The Basin Plan was not intended nor expected to deliver immediate results. It is a long-term plan, the benefits of which will continue to accrue over many years. Drought is the time to truly test the Basin Plan, and its value is clearer now than ever. It's not about supporting the environment or farmers, but a case of balancing the long-term needs of both in this uniquely important part of Australia. This includes delivering positive environmental outcomes while still minimising the socio-economic impacts of the Basin Plan and providing more stability and security to Basin communities.

I note your concerns regarding the balance between supply and efficiency measures. At the Ministerial Council meeting in December 2018 significant progress was made in progressing both these measures. Ministers agreed to the socio-economic criteria and assessment process for the consideration of efficiency measures. To maintain momentum and encourage further uptake of efficiency measures, the Commonwealth also committed to commence an engagement program across the Basin to raise awareness of the opportunities available to stakeholders and build understanding of the environmental benefits of the program.

Basin governments are committed to working in close consultation with stakeholders and local communities through the detailed design and implementation phase of supply projects, using an adaptive management approach between now and 2024. Importantly, Basin Plan also provides for the MDBA to undertake a reconciliation adjustment in 2024, if any agreed projects are not delivered. The reconciliation will ensure that any shortfall is recovered so the environment cannot be short changed.

I note your concerns regarding the development and accreditation of Water Resource Plans (WRPs) and water sharing plans in NSW. As you may be aware, Basin state and territory governments are responsible for the development of WRPs. These are then assessed by the MDBA, before I conduct the final accreditation as Federal Water Minister.

Part of the requirements of the Basin Plan are that states undertake consultation with Aboriginal Nations, and show how they will demonstrate compliance with the sustainable diversion limits. The mechanisms for the protection of environmental water are being developed through toolkit and pre-requisite policy measures, and where required will be reflected in state planning and operational documents. I assure you that I will not consider the accreditation of water resource plans that do not meet the legal requirements of the Basin Plan.

I understand that there are elements of NSW WRPs that have not yet been completed. The jurisdictions acknowledged that the Basin Plan Sustainable Diversion Limits take effect from 1 July 2019 and, where necessary, will enter into agreements with the Commonwealth to ensure that other key accountability and transparency requirements under the Basin Plan are also operative from 1 July. Where relevant, jurisdictions will ensure that any water resource plans delayed beyond this date are submitted by 31 December 2019.

If you would like to arrange a meeting, please contact my office on 02 6277 7825 or at minister@agriculture.gov.au.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Littleproud', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

DAVID LITTLEPROUD MP

From: Melissa Rebbeck
Sent: Wednesday, 27 February 2019 9:42 AM
To: Emma Bradbury
Cc: Glenn Rappensberg; Michael Scott; vleng@coorong.sa.gov.au; h.barklay@murraybridge.sa.gov.au; vcammell@coorong.sa.gov.au; Shen Mann
Subject: Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee - Inquiry into the Water Amendment (Purchase Limit Repeal) Bill 2019

Dear Emma,

Please find below the response supported by MDA Region 6 to the Inquiry into the Water Amendment Bill.

MDA Region 6 support amending the Water Act 2007 to repeal the statutory limit of 1,500 gigitalitres on Commonwealth purchases of surface water across the Murray-Darling Basin.

Recovery of the full 3200GL of environmental water as required by the Basin Plan is critical for the health of the entire MDB. In a changing climate, we fear that even full recovery of the 3200GL target will not be enough to guarantee a healthy river. The impact of the current eastern Australian drought has demonstrated the importance of securing additional environmental water as required by the Basin Plan.

Back in 2015 – for the reasons indicated in the Explanatory Memorandum of the current Bill – at least one local government member of Region 6 (Alexandrina Council) made a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Environment & Communications expressing deep concern that adopting a 1500GL cap on water buybacks could undermine the efforts of the Commonwealth to implement the Basin Plan and increase uncertainty for the communities and ecosystems of the CLLMM region. At that time, our concern was that a legislative 1500GL cap on water buybacks would reduce flexibility of decision-making and make the task of recovering this environmental water considerably more difficult and more expensive. Those concerns remain.

For some time, Region 6 has been cautioning against the genuine implementation of the Basin Plan suffering “death by a thousand cuts” with the 1500GL cap on water buybacks being one of those cuts.

Region 6 is still recovering environmentally, socially and economically from the Millennium drought and with much of eastern Australia in the midst of another drought, we fear that our region will be negatively impacted once again unless as many options as possible are available to secure the additional surface water critical to the environmental, economic and social needs of our region.

Region 6 would welcome the opportunity to work with other levels of government to support agricultural industries across our region to survive and prosper in a drying climate with less surface water.

We appreciate you incorporating our response

Kind regards

Melissa



Melissa Rebbeck

Councillor - Goolwa-Hindmarsh Island Ward
Alexandrina Council

Phone: (08) 8555 7000
Fax: (08) 8555 3603
Email: Melissa.Rebbeck@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
Website: www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au
Consultation: mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au



PO Box 21 | 11 Cadell Street GOOLWA SA 5214

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8th of March 2019

Region 6 - Murray Darling Association Letter of Support for:
MDA Basin Communities Leadership Program Application

To whom it may concern,

Region 6 of the Murray Darling Association strongly support the Murray Darling Association's application for funding under the **Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Grants Program** to facilitate a **Basin Communities Leadership Program**, with multiple benefits designed to improve cross Basin understanding, and to deliver a significant multiplier of economic benefit.

At this point in our history of the Murray Darling Basin, strong leadership with a high level of maturity and knowledge of the Basin is required, drawing on an underpinning of social, economic, and environmental intelligence.

The potential for community leaders to access a Leadership Program of this standard would greatly improve the ability of local leaders, and the three levels of Government to engage in thoughtful dialogue leading to well informed policy, and real on ground outcomes.

For any further clarification of these points please do not hesitate to contact me as per my details below.

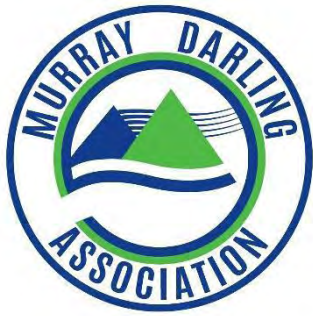
Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Rebbeck'.

Melissa Rebbeck
Chairperson
Murray Darling Association, Region 6 - Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong
E: melissa.rebbeck@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
M: 0427 273 727

Member Councils





Board Meeting 384

Region 6 Report

March 2019

Chair and Committee

- Chair Councillor Melissa Rebbeck (Alexandrina Council)
- Executive Officer Tracey Strugnell (Coorong District Council)

Region 6 Executive

Councillor's	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck (Chair) Councillor Vern Leng Councillor Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council Coorong District Council Alexandrina Council
CEO's or their delegates	CEO Glenn Rappensberg CEO Vincent Cammell Heather Barclay - General Manager Assets & Infrastructure	Alexandrina Council Coorong District Council Rural City of Murray Bridge

Meetings and events held

Region 6 AGM	February 15 th
Region 6 Ordinary Meeting	February 15 th
Included guest speakers:	Angus McGregor – Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (DEW) Monique White – Assistant Director – Engagement (MDBA) Michelle Campbell – Engagement Officer (CEWH) Deana Mildren – Engagement Officer (MDBA)

Member attendance at:

Connecting Catchments and Communities	Renmark – 22 nd of February
Launch of NRSE Coorong NLP2 project	Noonameena
River Murray Water Allocation & Carryover workshops	Murray Bridge & Langhorne Creek 18 th March

Upcoming meetings and events

Region 6 Executive Meeting	Strathalbyn – 22 nd of March
Region 6 Ordinary Meeting	Tailem Bend – 15 th of April

Member attendance at:

Goolwa Yacht Club event?	
Coorong Dire Straits Tinny Tour	Goolwa – Seven Mile Road -30 th March

Regional issues

- General community concern about ongoing dry conditions
- General community concern about the potentially reduced flows coming down the Murray and the potential impact on ground
- Two Coorong projects being rolled out in our region that we are still awaiting further detail on to understand what changes this will deliver on ground

- Our Coorong, Our Coast – Natural Resources SE (Commonwealth NLP2 funding - \$3 million plus),
- Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin (announced at the Ministerial Council Meeting in December- \$70 million).

Membership and engagement

Current Region 6 Membership

Position	Name	Council	Member of Executive	Voting Member
Chair	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina		
Executive Officer	Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District		
Council Representatives	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Malcolm Downie	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Vincent Cammell	Coorong District		
	Councillor Miles Hannemann	Tatiara District		
	Councillor Vern Leng	Coorong District		
	Councillor Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District		
	Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina		
	Councillor Michael Scott	Alexandrina		
Private Members	Keith Loeser			
	Julie Barrie			
	Frank Tuckwell			
Private Member Applicant	Bruce Brooks			

Region 6 will follow up on membership interest expressed by Kingston District Council



REGION 6
tstrugnell@coorong.sa.gov.au
www.mda.asn.au
T 1300 785 277
ABN: 64 636 490 493

Executive Officer
Tracey Strugnell
Coorong District Council
PO Box 399
TAILEM BEND SA 5260

23rd of March 2019

Letter of thanks from Region 6 – Murray Darling Association

Dear Neil,

Region 6 of the Murray Darling Association would like to sincerely thank you for your hard work in your role as Chair of the Murray Darling Basin Association over the past four years.

We appreciate your hard work and professionalism during your term, navigating complex and at times adverse environmental, climatic and political conditions.

We particularly appreciate your work and leadership in the areas of;

- engagement with people and communities across the Basin,
- achievements in salinity management due to your focus on long-term water quality standards,
- the Northern Basin Review,
- the Sustainable Diversion Limit adjustment mechanism, and
- the compliance review.

We wish you well in your future endeavours, and look forward to crossing paths with you in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melissa Rebbeck".

Councillor Melissa Rebbeck
Murray Darling Association Region 6 - Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong



REGION 6
tstrugnell@coorong.sa.gov.au
www.mda.asn.au
T 1300 785 277
ABN: 64 636 490 493

Executive Officer
Tracey Strugnell
Coorong District Council
PO Box 399
TAILEM BEND SA 5260

28th of March 2019

MEDIA RELEASE:

New Chair for Region 6 Murray Darling Association: Fighting for the future of the Murray Darling Basin

Alexandrina Councillor Melissa Rebbeck, is fighting for the future of the Murray Darling Basin, following her election as Chair of Region 6 of the Murray Darling Association (MDA).

The Murray Darling Association is a representative body for local government and the communities we serve across the Murray-Darling Basin. The MDA's purpose is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at a state and federal level in the management of Basin resources by providing information, facilitating informed debate and influencing government policy.

Region 6 represents the interests of the Lower Murray, Lakes & Coorong region. Member Councils include Alexandrina Council, Coorong District Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, and Tatiara District Council along with a number of individual members.

"My plan while chair is to push for all Basin States to remain focused on further environmental water recovery as required by full and proper implementation of the Basin Plan. At the same time I would like to see our community supported and informed of potential economical, agricultural and environmental impacts if the current drought continues".

"The findings of the recent Murray Darling Basin Royal Commission report raised real concerns about whether Basin Plan implementation will be enough to sustain the complex biodiverse ecosystem that the Murray Darling Basin supports. In addition to the focus on environmental water recovery, we urge our state and federal governments to utilise integrated approaches such as co-investment in threatened species research, habitat restoration and regenerative agriculture in order to achieve ecological and economic recovery across the Murray- Darling Basin".

Councillor Rebbeck has a wealth of experience in this area, having worked for two decades as an applied agricultural scientist at the South Australian Research and Development Institute, the University of Adelaide, and now through her own applied agricultural, climate and natural resource research and extension company. She is heavily involved in the agricultural industry and is strongly connected to regional farm and natural resource management groups.

Her research work over 20 years includes projects specialising in soil health, minimising frost impacts on southern Australian cereals, improving seasonal climate forecasts for South Australian primary producers and improving productivity in livestock systems. She has also completed work on reducing greenhouse emissions and adapting to climate variability and change in agriculture.

She was recently elected as a first-time Alexandrina Councillor and said her experience and passion for agricultural, water and environmental issues drove her to campaign. "I have a broad knowledge of the impact of less water and climate change on the environment, agriculture, and our community and I wanted to really step up what I'm doing in that space".

"I want to work as an elected member to advocate upwards to the state and federal governments and do all I can to ensure our environment, our economy and our people can continue to thrive in a changing climate" she

said. "We are in an environmentally diverse, beautiful and vulnerable region and we must work together with community to protect it.

A farmer on Hindmarsh Island, Cr Rebbeck said she was all too aware of the devastating effects drought can have on communities, having suffered through the millennium drought. "Having been through that, I know just how seriously our local region was affected, not just agriculturally but impacting tourism, local business, recreation and so much more.

"The environment in parts of our region, particularly the Coorong still hasn't recovered and economically, the effects of the Millennium Drought are still being felt."

Cr Rebbeck emphasises the importance of working with community to prepare for a dryer climate.

"Over the past 20 years, south-eastern Australia has experienced a 10-15 per cent reduction in average rainfall and the corresponding effect on stream flows has been even greater. It's important that we raise community awareness about this issue".

Murray Darling Association Region 6 conduct public meetings bi-monthly, with a strong program of guest speakers on all aspects of the management of the River Murray, Lakes and Coorong. For further information please email Executive Officer Tracey Strugnell at tstrugnell@coorong.sa.gov.au

Photo caption: At the launch of the Our Coorong, Our Coast Project, Tony Pasin Federal Member for Barker,, Cr Tracy Hill (Coorong District Council), (Cr Melissa Rebbeck, Alexandrina Council), Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs

Executive Group, MDA Region 6 –Action List - as at 22nd of March 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
Executive March 22nd	2	MDA Funding Support Meeting The intention is to take the MDA funding support motion to the April Alexandrina and Coorong District Council Meetings	Glenn Rappensberg Vincent Cammell	April 2019	Tracey to send through Emma's documents in word to Glenn, Vincent, Margaret & Ashlee	June Executive Meeting
Executive March 22nd	2	Approaching adjacent Council to become a MDA member Glenn Rappensberg to speak to Victor Harbor Council. Vincent Cammell to speak to Kingston District Council, and Mount Barker Council. Heather Barclay offered to organise a meeting between herself, RCMB CEO Michael Sedgman and Southern Mallee Council. Melissa offered to attend any meetings that eventuate.	Glenn Rappensberg Vincent Cammell Heather Barclay Melissa Rebbeck	April to June 2019		June Executive Meeting
Executive March 22nd	2	Approach to Regional LGAs Create a summary brief to go on top of the initial minutes that are sent through to the three Regional LGA's – Glenn Rappensberg Glenn to approach SHLGA. Vincent to approach MRLGA, Tracey to approach LCLGA through Anne Champness (Tatiara District Council).	Glenn Rappensberg Vincent Cammell Tracey Strugnell	April to June 2019		June Executive Meeting
Executive March 22nd	2	Letter from Pristine Technologies Refer this letter on to Monique White at the Murray Darling Basin Authority.	Tracey Strugnell	March 2019		COMPLETE
Executive March 22nd	2	Region 6 Ordinary Meeting Guest Speakers & invitees Invite Jarrod Eaton (DEW) to the next Region 6 Ordinary meeting to repeat the presentation he has been delivering at various locations. Request that this information go on line. Invite the Economic Development Managers of both RDA's (Jo Podoliak & Damien Cooke) to engage in a discussion with after Jarrod's presentation in regard to potential	Tracey Strugnell	5 April 2019		5 April 2019



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

Executive Group, MDA Region 6 –Action List - as at 22nd of March 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
		<p>scenarios and plans in response. Request that they bring along any work that they have done in this space.</p> <p>See if Barb Cowey – PIRSA / Regions SA is also available</p>				
Executive March 22 nd	2	<p>Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong Symposium Concept</p> <p>Melissa Rebbeck to work on a Draft Plan for the Symposium. There may be a need to call a stand alone meeting to carefully plan out this event.</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell to work on funding applications to assist with this event and building web content Natural Resources SAMDB Community Grants, and Community Environment Development Funding.</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell to add the symposium and web site concepts (including groups listing) to the Ordinary Meeting Agenda.</p>	<p>Melissa Rebbeck</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell</p>	<p>Report on</p> <p>5th April 2019</p>		<p>Ongoing in lead up to Symposium</p>
Executive March 22 nd	2	<p>Region 6 response to the SA Murray Darling Royal Commission</p> <p>Glenn Rappenberg, Shen Mann, and Tracey Strugnell to work on the letter. Glen and Shen to have a Draft ready by next Friday, that will go out for comment on Monday 1st of April. Comments need to be made promptly, with an aim to send out to the relevant Ministers by Friday 12th of April.</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell to send Glenn and Shen the link to the Financial Review article in regard to plantings and water availability.</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell to send two versions of these letters one to State, one to Federal Ministers.</p> <p>Melissa Rebbeck to send Tracey the list of Ministers. Minister Josh Teague – Member for Heyson Minister David Basham – Member for Finnis</p>	<p>Glenn Rappenberg</p> <p>Shen Mann</p> <p>Melissa Rebbeck</p> <p>Tracey Strugnell</p>	<p>Report on</p> <p>5th April 2019</p>		<p>Send by 12th April</p>



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

Executive Group, MDA Region 6 –Action List - as at 22nd of March 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
		Minister David Speirs – Minister for Environment Nick Mc Bride – Minister for MacKillop Rebecca Sharkie, Tony Pasin Federal Member for Barker				
Executive March 22nd	3.2	Letter of thanks to immediate past Chair of the MDBA Neil Andrew Tracey Strugnell to draft a letter of thanks to immediate past Chair of the MDBA Neil Andrew. Michael Scott to provide comment.	Tracey Strugnell Michael Scott	April 2019		June 2019
Executive March 22nd	3.6	Future Inter-Regional Meetings Invite all SA Regions to at least two inter regional meetings. These meetings must be well in advance of the MDA AGM at Toowoomba to ensure that as a State we have time to formulate motions to go up to this meeting. Find out form Emma the due date for submissions to the Murray Darling Association Board AGM.	Tracey Strugnell	May 2019		June 2019
Executive March 22nd	3.7 3.8	<u>Keep on Region 6 Executive Meeting Agendas</u> Region 6 Briefings to Council EO to brief RCMB and Coorong post-LG election. Communication Strategy Web Content, Promotional Flyer, Media Release	Tracey Strugnell	June 2019		June 2019
Executive March 22nd	5	MDA R6 Executive Officer Role Tracey Strugnell and Vincent Cammell to discuss the current Executive Officer role, and our thoughts on how it has worked. Council's to be invoiced for provision of Executive Officer services.	Tracey Strugnell Vincent Cammell	June 2019		June 2019
Executive March 22nd	6	Strategic Plan Revisit Executive Members to each review the Strategic Plan and compare notes prior to the next Ordinary Meeting.	Glenn Rappensberg Vincent Cammell Heather Barclay Melissa Rebbeck	April 2019		April 2019



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

Executive Group, MDA Region 6 –Action List - as at 22nd of March 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
			Michael Scott Tracey Strugnell			
	6.3	Ordinary Meeting Date Change From Friday 21 st of June to Friday 28 th of June	Tracey Strugnell	March 2019		



** Denotes Item Completed& will be removed next meeting*

MDA Region 6 – Updated Minutes Action List - as at 15 February 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
		Executive Officer role and continuity	Executive	March 2019		April 2019 Meeting
		Clarification of key contacts at each Council area	Executive	March 2019		April 2019 Meeting
AGM Feb 2019	9	Book venue and organise catering for Region 6 meeting Friday 5th of April, Coorong District Council Council Chambers -Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend	EO	Feb 2019		April 2019 Meeting
AGM Feb 2019	8	Councillor Michael Scott moved to give thanks for their work and to acknowledge their contribution via letter to Mayor Neville Jaensch, Mayor Keith Parkes, past Region 6 Chair Barry Featherstone, Julie Barrie, and Councillor Vern Leng.	EO	March 2019	Councillor Michael Scott to provide comment.	April 2019 Meeting
AGM Feb 2019	7	Forward summary of the MDA Strategic Workshop Report to all members.	EO	Feb 2019		Complete
AGM Feb 2019	7	Ensure MDA Board Meeting Minutes are provided at each Region 6 Meeting	EO	April 2019		Ongoing
AGM Feb 2019	7	Update the Voting list in Membership folder and provided in Meeting Papers	EO	Feb 15 2019		April 2019 Meeting
Dec 2018 Feb 2018	6.2	City of Victor Harbor New Chair to jointly approach new CVH CEO with respect to membership of the MDA.	New Chair	2019	R6 marketing collateral being developed to support recruitment drive.	
June 2018 Oct 2018	6.3	Ideas for guest speakers and tours for future meetings Speakers - Jarod Eaton - Salinity Management - Goyder re alternative water sources for urban areas i.e. desal & recycled - Local irrigator who has participated in water recovery/efficiency upgrades - Use of the Adelaide Desalination Plant. What does it mean in relation to the 450GL. - Professor Mike Young – MDB Water Audits	EO	As appropriate	Review appropriate time/topic to invite speakers that aligns with Strategic Directions.	DEW invited to Dec 2018 meeting re Coorong Summit Outcomes.



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

MDA Region 6 – Updated Minutes Action List - as at 15 February 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Faith Coleman – Ecologist, Coorong Trust - Focus on integrated water management i.e. utilisation of alternative water sources such as recycled stormwater and wastewater - Drought Impacts - Livestock Water Security - Gary Hera Singh – Lake & Coorong Fishery - MDBA Regional Engagement Officer to provide future presentation to MDA-R6 on SA's three supply/constraint projects. <p>Tours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organise a visit for all MDA Region 6 and Councillors to the barrages, Organise with Ann Liddell at Alexandrina Council. 				
June 2018	6.4	Coorong Summit EO to liaise with State Government re hosting a local consultation forum in collaboration with Coorong District Council once draft report has been released for public consultation.	EO	Report back October 2018	Offer has been extended to DEW – who have indicated willingness to work together to host local consultation events. Waiting on update re dates for consultation. Reports due for “imminent release” as at 4 October.	ONGOING DEW invited to Dec 2018 meeting re Coorong Summit Outcomes.
October 2018	6.1	<u>Resolution</u> That Region 6 write to the Hon David Speirs MP, Minister for Water, expressing concern about a lack of timely community engagement and communication with respect to the outcomes of the Coorong Summit and request that, moving forward, a greater level of priority is given to proactive and regular community engagement.				
August 2018	6.3	Future Inter-Regional Meetings Liaise with other SA Chairs re asking LGA to host future meetings – possibility two per year.	Cr Featherston	ASAP	MDA organising joint meeting of Regions 4,5 and 6 re Menindee Lakes to be held in Renmark in 2019.	Executive to progress.
June 2018	5.4	Council Briefings EO to brief RCMB and Coorong post-LG election. Note: proposal for tri-council induction tour of barrages. Liaise with Anne Liddell at Alexandrina Council.	EO	August 2018	Alexandrina – briefing undertaken on 2 October Murray Bridge – briefing date?	Regional Executive to discuss and organise.
April 2018	6.3	Engagement Strategy	EO	Update in Dec 2018	EO to undertake recruitment drive in collaboration with Chair	Ongoing
Aug 2018	7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All MDA-R6 members to provide details to Tracey of industry & community stakeholder groups to be approached for Organisational Membership of MDA- 				



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting

MDA Region 6 – Updated Minutes Action List - as at 15 February 2019

Minute	Item	Details	Responsible Person	Target Completion Date	Notes	Review
		R6 - Region name and branding adopted August 2018: “Murray to Mouth: Working together to secure a freshwater future for the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong”. - Web content, promotional flyer and media release to be developed.			once new marketing material available.	
Feb 2018	5.4	Regional Secretariat Position Description / Task List Tracey to work with Emma to develop standardised position description/task list for regional secretariats.	EO	As time allows		
Feb 2018	6.1	Priorities from Strategic Directions Report EO to prepare Engagement Strategy (Priority 3), Scoping Briefs for Priorities 2a, 2b and 2d and a response to MDBA socio-economic data (Priority 4a)	EO	Ongoing	Engagement Strategy presented at April 2018 meeting and branding proposal at August 2018 meeting (Priority 3). MDBA Chief Economist invited to inter-regional meeting on 11 July 2018 (Priority 4a).	To be revisited at todays Ordinary Meeting to refresh and assist in induction of new members Recommendation= focus on providing information & facilitating debate re water quality via State Government consultation on restoring health of Coorong.



* Denotes Item Completed & will be removed next meeting