



Region 4 Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 2 March 2021 – 1:00pm EDT

Venue: The Midway Centre, 6 Midway Drive, Buronga, NSW or
Via Video Conference

AGENDA

1. ATTENDANCE
2. APOLOGIES
3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – Ordinary Meeting 8 December 2021
4. BUSINESS ARISING
5. REPORTS

The following verbal reports to be provided:

- 5.1 Council Reports – each Council to provide a verbal update of activities from their region
- 5.2 Water Meetings Attended

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 6.1 MDA National Conference & AGM – Guide for the submission of Motions (attached)

Call for Motions open:	4 January 2021
Accepting of Motions closes	12 April 2021
MDA National Conference and AGM:	17-19 May 2021

- 6.2 Three Minute video from each Council in Region 4 (see attached document)

An invitation is extended to all Region 4 councils to submit a 3 minute video highlighting their community and region at the 2021 National Conference. This video which will be showcased to delegates throughout the conference, offering a unique opportunity to promote your region to Councillors from all across the Basin, as well as key state and federal decision makers.

- 6.3 Wentworth Shire Council motion - MDA name change

At the 16 December 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Wentworth Shire Council the following resolution was carried.

That Council not support the name change from Murray Darling Association to Murray-Darling Local Government Association.

The Chair, Cr MacAllister requests that other Councils in Region 4 provide their motions/feedback regarding the name change to the MDA.

The Chair, Cr MacAllister requests that MDA Region 4 also provide feedback by passing a motion relation to the name change.

- 6.4 Name of MDA Regions – At the MDA Board meeting 22 February 2021 it was mentioned that MDA Regions are identified by number only, which does not give outsiders an idea of where in the basin that region is located. Chair, Cr MacAllister has requested member Council's consider a name for the region, and/or a logo and provide feedback to MDA Region 4 for the next meeting.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING 8 June 2021 AGM

8. CLOSE

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Wentworth Shire Council for their support in
hosting this meeting of Region 4.*



Region 4 Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 8 December 2020 – 1:00pm EDT

Venue: The Midway Centre, 6 Midway Drive, Buronga, NSW or
Via Video Conference

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE

Meeting opened at 1:00pm

In Person	
Cr Jane MacAllister (Wentworth Shire Council)	Mike Colreavy (Balranald Shire Council)
Cr Steve Heywood (Wentworth Shire Council)	Gavin Helgeland (Balranald Shire Council)
Cr Tim Elstone (Wentworth Shire Council)	Cathy Keegan
Ken Ross (Wentworth Shire Council)	Greg Hill (Central Darling Shire Council)
Gayle Marsden (Wentworth Shire Council)	Emma Bradbury
Cr Jason Modica (Mildura Rural City Council)	Mike Colreavy (Balranald Shire Council)

2. APOLOGIES

Mayor Darriea Turley and Cr Browne (both of Broken Hill City Council)

Motion

That the apologies from Mayor Turley and Cr Browne be accepted.

Moved: Cr Heywood

Seconded: Cr Modica

CARRIED

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion

That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 September 2020 be accepted as circulated.

Moved: Gavin Helgeland

Seconded: Cr Heywood

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

5. REPORTS

The following verbal reports to be provided:

5.1 Report from the Chair – Cr MacAllister

- Minister for Environment, Matt Kean visited to release Numbats in the Region.
- Premier Berejiklian & Minister for Regional NSW and Fisheries, Adam Marshal MP released 60000 cod fingerlings in the Darling Baaka River at Menindee.

5.2 Council Reports – each Council to provide a verbal update of activities from their region

Balranald Shire Council

- Water in Lake Yanga at the moment and the wet lands are alive.
- Council has appointed Oliver McNaulty as new General Manager

Central Darling Shire Council

- Premier Berejiklian was in Menindee for cod release.
- Rachel Strachan & Terry Smith met with Premier and Minister Marshall and discussed Menindee SAG in particular regarding connectivity issues.
- There is no water flowing over the weir and river is dry upstream of Wilcannia.

Mildura Rural City Council

- Concerned about big rain event in February and already there is no water in Wilcannia.
- Council elected Cr Modica as Mayor and there were also five new Councillors elected.
- Cr Modica also advised he is Chair of Murray River Group of Councils

Wentworth Shire Council

- ICAC report – bureaucrats are still running the system to their own tune.
- Weir at Pooncarie a work in progress

5.3 Water Meetings Attended

- Wentworth Shire Council contributed financially to the Slattery+Johnson project – Bill & Maryanne and team presented to Council. Extraction in the early 90's was 500GL and now 1400GL
- Gavin Helgeland presented Murrumbidgee River: "Yanga Lake – Murrumbidgee River e-Water Optimisation Project: Improving Connectivity" to the MDA Region 2 meeting
- RAMJO Water position paper tabled

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 MDA Change of Name – Attachment 1

- Consultation is open until February 21

6.2 Climate Ready Communities – Attachment 2

- Mildura Rural City Council & Broken Hill have climate policies, Balranald, Wentworth & Central Darling Councils do not.

6.3 NSW ICAC Report – [ICAC Report](#)

- Not independent, report released two days after Premier announced cutting of funds, the Act needs updating, found no evidence of individual corruption, many concerns similar to SA Royal Commission re objects, principles and duties of the WMAAct and inversion of legislated priorities (irrigators above communities, stock & domestic, environment and cultural needs)

6.4 Presentation of Project Proposal by Gavin Helgeland – Murrumbidgee River: "Yanga Lake – Murrumbidgee River e-Water Optimisation Project: Improving Connectivity"

- Request MDA Region 4 support Project for inclusion into SDLAM program

Motion

That MDA Region 4 support the Yanga Lake – Murrumbidgee River e-Water Optimisation Project: Improving Connectivity project to be presented as a SDLAM option.

Moved: Cr MacAllister

Seconded: Cr Elstone

CARRIED

6.5 Western Weirs Program – Attachments 3 & 4

- Hard to comment on Western Weirs project until we know what is happening at Menindee Lakes
- There are gaps in process and consultation

6.6 Proposed Legislative Amendments for Floodplain Harvesting in NSW – [Click here](#)

- MDA have had off line conversations with DPIE around consultation processes
- Link for submissions in agenda
- Cumulative effects not been taken into account ie effect on Lower Darling

6.7 Menindee Lakes Water Saving Project

- Meeting of 16 December 2020 has been cancelled and next meeting will be February 2020. SAG has pulled out of consultation until there is connectivity of the river.
- New option – additional 3 metres on Main Weir and Wetherall levy bank – **Chair will supply option via email**

6.8 MDA Conference 2021

- Emma Bradbury reported that she has spoken to Minister Pavey's office advising the Conference will be at Wentworth focusing on Menindee Lakes and SDLAM project
- Whole of Region represented in some way. All Region 4 Councils requested to provide a two minute video representing your area for delivery to the delegates.
- Theme: "Connectivity" Councils Communities Regions Rivers
- Call for local Sponsors who might want to be engaged

6.9 MDA Submission to the NSW Border Rivers: Floodplain Harvesting in Water Sharing Plans – Attachment 5

- For information and can be copied for submissions (permission given by CEO)

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Proposed 9 March 2020 & 8 June 2020 AGM

8. CLOSE 2:35PM

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Wentworth Shire Council for their support in
hosting this meeting of Region 4.*

Guide for the submission of motions for the Murray Darling Association 2021 National Conference & AGM



The purpose of the MDA is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Basin resources by exchanging information; facilitating debate; and seeking to influence government policy.

Motions resolved at the National Conference and AGM form the foundations of the MDA's leadership and advocacy work for the year and years ahead.

We invite you to begin considering and consulting with your regions on prospective motions for the AGM. These motions are a unique opportunity to elevate your region's issues, challenges and opportunities.

You are encouraged to engage all member councils within your region in the development of your region's motions before submitting them to the MDA.

Motions should be supported by a resolution at a region meeting before being put to the Board for final approval before the AGM.

Where multiple motions are received that are similar in intent, the MDA executive will liaise with proposing regions to identify opportunities to integrate into single motions.

Key dates

Call for Motions open:
4 January 2021

Accepting of Motions closes:
12 April 2021

**MDA National Conference
and AGM:**
May 2021 (date TBA)



How to submit a motion

1. Consult with your region about the proposed motion at your next Region meeting.
2. Use the attached template to write your motion, adding any supporting information such as region meeting resolution.
3. Submit your motion to policy@mda.asn.au no later than 12 April 2021.

The final agenda and meeting paper for the 2021 National Conference and AGM will be distributed at least 14 days before the AGM.

Motion Template

Motion # **Region # – [Proposing Council]**


Motion: *Clear instruction / directive / call for action*

Objective:

- *What is your motion trying to achieve?*
- *Who would benefit from your motion?*

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*
- *What are the risks if this motion doesn't get up?*
- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*



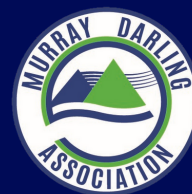
REGION 4 VIDEO TOUR

2021 National Conference & AGM

Wentworth, NSW & Online

16-19 May 2021

Murray Darling Association



Proudly hosted by

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE

SUBMISSION OF VIDEOS FROM REGION 4

About the Conference

Mayors, councillors and executive officers from all over the Murray-Darling Basin are currently being invited to register and attend the Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference & AGM to be held on 16 - 19 May 2021 in Wentworth.

Themed **Connectivity: Connecting Councils and Catchments**, this exciting event will bring together leaders and decision makers from across the Murray-Darling Basin.

This hybrid event will provide a range of attendance options. Meeting in Wentworth will provide those rich opportunities to reconnect with each other, while full digital connectivity will ensure that all options are covered seamlessly in the event of a Covid-19 interruption.

Your council

The MDA warmly invites your council to submit a 3 minute video highlighting your community and region. This video which will be showcased to delegates throughout the conference, offering a unique opportunity to promote your region to councillors from all across the Basin, as well as key state and federal decision makers.

Each council is encouraged to put together a video that:

- showcases council and local government area
- highlights any challenges or issues
- highlights any opportunities

Councils are welcome to use existing footage or produce a new video for submission.

Councils are encouraged to be creative with their videos. Examples include:

- Mayoral address to camera with iconic location as background
- Short virtual tour of your community
- Vox pop of community members about the importance of water / connectivity

Video Submissions Due

Thursday 29 April 2021

MDA National Conference

16 - 19 May 2021

Videos can be submitted via email: j.maher@mda.asn.au

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact MDA Communications and Engagement Officer Jess Maher on (03) 5480 3805 or j.maher@mda.asn.au

