



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Region 4 Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 31 May 2022 – 1:00pm EDT

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

MINUTES

1. ATTENDANCE

2. Meeting Opened at 1:15pm

Cr Greg Evans (Wentworth Shire Council)	Greg Hill (Central Darling Shire Council)
Cr Steve Heywood (Wentworth Shire Council)	Mark Lamb
Cr Tim Elstone (Wentworth Shire Council)	Tim Phillips
Cr Jason Modica (Mildura Rural City Council)	Brian Grogan (Life Member)
Cr Marion Browne (Broken Hill City Council)	Sam Wall (Wentworth Shire Council)
Ken Ross (Wentworth Shire Council)	

3. APOLOGIES

Cr Algate BHCC

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – Ordinary Meeting 2 March 2021

Motion

That the minutes of the 2 March 2021 meeting being accepted as circulated.

Moved: Cr Tim Elstone

Seconded: Cr Jason Modica

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Meetings will be organised quarterly. Cr Jason Modica to organise handover between Mildura Rural City Council & Wentworth Shire Council. The next meeting will occur in September

6. REPORTS

The following verbal reports to be provided:

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

Wentworth

Membership is a big issue – Lack of numbers.

Cr Modica will speak with Swan Hill & ask them to join.

We are an under performing region. Letters will be sent out to non-members advising why they should join.

Broken Hill

Council has now changed meaning they now have different priorities. All the water issues have faded into the background. The Menindee Lake is full so everyone is happy.

Central Darling

The lake issue will never go away.

18 months ago, we were in drought.

Currently 23ML are being released a day. This is causing isolated flooding to properties.

The property owners are working with SES to overcome the problem. SES have staff on the ground sand bagging to prevent flooding. There has been a volunteer shortage due to Covid-19.

Some roads will be closed due to minor flooding. The Pooncaire - Menindee Road Reconstruction project shouldn't be impacted by the flooding. Construction is still underway.

Mildura

MRCC has gone into the market with the vote from Council to buy water – Lack of understanding.

There are concerns with the almond farms.

Water issues have been flagged for discussion at the next council meeting.

Need to prepare for the dry season. How much water is accessible in the drier years?

Mark Lamb

- People only focus on water in drought – there are many challenges to change priorities.
- Prior to Christmas it was discovered the office lease in Echuca was expiring. The main office is now based in Albury.
- Basin community leadership program will deliver project by end of March.
- Conference – 19-21st September in Albury. The CEO of MDBA will be coming.
Encouraging people to attend.

6.2 Water Meetings Attended

Nil

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING September 2022

9. CLOSE – 2.05pm

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