



Murray Darling Association Inc.

MINUTES

Region 6 Annual General Meeting

Location:	Murray Bridge Local Government Centre, 2 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge SA 5253
Time/date:	11.05 – 1.22am, Friday 14 February 2020
Chair (2019/20):	Cr Melissa Rebbeck
Newly elected Chair for 2020/21:	Cr Melissa Rebbeck

1. Welcome by the Chair, Cr Melissa Rebbeck

2. Declarations of Interest

Nil

3. Attendance

CEO Bridget Mather, Cr Vern Leng, Councillor Brenton Qualmann (Coorong District Council);
CEO Heather Barclay, Mayor Brenton Lewis (Rural City of Murray Bridge);
Cr Melissa Rebbeck (Chair), Shen Mann (Proxy for Glenn Rappensberg), Cr Michael Scott
(Alexandrina Council);
Marilyn Henderson (City of Victor Harbor)
Keith Loeser, Bruce Brooks (Individual Financial Members).

Guests

Monika Rhodes (Executive Officer)

Observers

Tracey Strugnell (Coorong District Council)
Peter Smith (MDA Region 5 member)

4. Apologies

Julie Barrie; Frank Tuckwell (Individual Financial Members)

5. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM held in Goolwa on 15 February 2019 were confirmed.

Moved: Mayor Lewis

Seconded: Vern Leng

Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising

N/A

7. Reports

7.1 Chairman's Report for 2019/2020

The Chair's report is attached (Attachment 1).

7.2 CEO's Report for 2019/20

The CEO's report was provided at the Ordinary meeting that followed directly from the AGM.

In reflecting on the past year, the CEO commented that 2019/20 was a successful year for Region 6, and that it was good to see Region 6 supporting and educating others on local issues. The CEO reflected that during her past six years, Region 6 became a standout leader to other MDA regions that requires respect. She thanked the Chair's work for the past year, including the Chair's input into national issues.

8. Election of Office Bearers

The election officer, Ros Kruger, from Rural City of Murray River, announced the election results, based on the outcome advised by CEO Emma Bradbury (Attachments 2a,b):

"Nominations have now closed for the annual election of the Region executive of Region 6, to be held at their AGM on Friday 14th Feb at Murray Bridge.

The MDA Constitution at Part 5 s15 (4) states that regions will elect annually at a Region Meeting a Region Executive made up of: (a) a chair; plus (b) not less than 2 and not more than 5 other Region Executive Members.

As only one nomination has been received for the position of Region Chair, I am pleased to declare Cr Melissa Rebbeck of Alexandrina Council duly elected to the position.

Three nominations for the regional executive committee have been received, and I declare Heather Barclay of Murray Bridge Council and Glenn Rappensberg of Alexandrina Council, and Bridget Mather of Coorong Council are also duly elected to the Region 6 Executive."

The re-elected Chair, Cr Rebbeck, congratulated the newly elected Executive Members.

9. Schedule of Meetings for 2020

Discussions and timing of meeting schedules for 2020 was postponed to the Ordinary meeting that followed the AGM.

10. General Business

Motion: That in the event the Chair, Cr Rebbeck, is unavailable to attend meetings and events, the executive member of the Chair's Council to be her proxy (i.e. CEO Glenn Rappensberg from Alexandrina Council).

Moved: Heather Barclay

Seconded: Vern Leng

Carried unanimously.

Cr Rebbeck stated that it would be beneficial for as many as possible to attend Ordinary Meetings in 2020 to have a collective voice.

11. Stakeholder presentation

N/A

12. Close

The Chair closed the AGM at 11.22am.

2020/2021 REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP

Position	Name	Council	Member of Executive	Voting Member
Chair	Councillor Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina		
Secretariat	Monika Rhodes	Alexandrina		
Council Representatives	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Murray Bridge		
	Heather Barclay	Murray Bridge		
	Stephen Packer	Murray Bridge		
	CEO Bridget Mather	Coorong District		
	Councillor Vern Leng	Coorong District		
	Councillor Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District		
	Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina		
	Councillor Michael Scott	Alexandrina		
	Marilyn Henderson	Victor Harbor		
	Councillor Miles Hannemann	Tatiara District		
	Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee		
Individual Members	Keith Loeser			
	Julie Barrie			
	Frank Tuckwell			
	Bruce Brooks			
	Adrian Pederick, MP JP			

ATTACHMENT 1 – MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION REGION 6 – CHAIR’S REPORT

Region 6 comprises a total of six member councils. We have no life members and five individual financial members. The 2019/2020 executive committee was made up of:

Councillor Melissa Rebbeck (Chair)	Alexandrina Council
Shen Mann / Monika Rhodes (Secretariat)	Alexandrina Council
<i>Executive Committee members:</i>	
Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Tracey Strugnell (proxy for Tracy Hill)	Coroong District Council
Councillor Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
Councillor Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council
Glenn Rappensberg	Alexandrina Council

The following meetings were held in 2019:

Date	Meeting	Location
15 February 2019	AGM and Ordinary	Alexandrina Council
22 March 2019	Executive	Alexandrina Council 4
5 April 2019	Ordinary	Coorong District Council
21 June 2019	Executive	Rural City of Murray Bridge
28 June 2019	Ordinary	Rural City of Murray Bridge
9 August 2019	Executive	Alexandrina Council
11 October 2019	Ordinary and Executive	Coorong District Council
13 December 2019	Ordinary and Executive	Alexandrina Council

As the chair to Region 6 this has been an interesting and challenging year with the worst drought ever on record and lowest flows ever into the MDB. There have been constant challenges to the implementation of the MDB Plan which have needed considered response.

I started the year with the release of the SA Royal Commission into the MDB Plan which after reading gave me a great understanding of the challenges ahead with its implementation. This resulted in Region 6 asking both state and federal ministers to respond in full to Royal Commission highlighting particular issues it brought to light including recovery of the 450GL, climate change, structural adjustment and regional development. In addition we asked and received the MDA EO asking federal ministers for a response.

We had a response from the Federal Minister and welcome recent initiatives to address some of these issues such as strengthening compliance and protection of environmental flows, and creation of the new Inspector-General position.

During the year on top of our bi monthly meetings and monthly board meetings, I attended meetings of the CLIMM CAP and CLIMM SAG, the Alexandrina Council Environmental Advisory Panel, Dairy Industry Fund Board, Sustainable Agriculture Round Table, Fleurieu Farming Systems, Fleurieu Beef Group and the SA Livestock Consultants Groups to keep on top of issues effecting these groups and communities. I also attended meetings in Murray Bridge and at Goolwa on water allocations

In September we ran a Region 6 symposium with many of the regional groups working on river issues. Here we discussed our individual priorities and how to work together better collectively to achieve a greater outcome. A report has been circulated with the outcomes and recommendations to become part of our strategic plan.

In late September we coordinated an inter-regional meeting between all of the state MDA chairs and our state advisor at LGA house and were welcomed to work with the LGA on the 2020 review of the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

In October I along with other R6 members attended the National Conference of the MDA in Toowoomba where I was honoured to present 6 motions put forward by Region 6 which were all endorsed by the national board and in addition all of our amendments were accepted. Our motions were the most substantial of all and I thank the region 6 team, exec and secretaries for their support on these which included; drought preparedness, regional chair post local government elections, proxy attendance at MDA Board meetings, investment in nutrient load research, agricultural productivity target and population growth.

It is at the board level where I have the chance to promote the good things that SA and our region is doing within Region 6 including the [Healthy Coorong, Healthy Basin Action Plan](#) which aims to provide on-ground works, management tools, research, trials and investigations, and infrastructure projects between 2019 and 2024 to get the Coorong back on track for a healthy future. I have been to many meetings on this and look forward to the projects rolling out.

In addition there is the Coorong Environmental Trust Bill which is the pipeline and aims to support longitudinal monitoring and data collection, State of the Estuary reporting and increased stakeholder collaboration in support of a healthy Coorong.

Some particular issues I have responded to on behalf of region 6 at the board level include advocacy around no lock 0, coordinating and supporting the correct information to the board re the historical fresh water nature of the lower lakes, advocacy around the great work SA has done to input water infrastructure measures such as the low flows, the need for our barrages, the amount of water put back to the MDB by SA and more.

I have also responded to many EO requests for information on the socio-economic impact to the panel, the water commissioner enquiries into water trading, the 4 corners report about water trading and water infrastructure and more.

In December 2019 at our council I moved a motion to declare a climate emergency with recommended actions. This was accepted unanimously, and I look forward to council response and reference to the Coorong and lower lakes. I have since moved a motion at the MDA board level to declare a climate emergency and have had a response to put forward a climate position statement which we will respond to today.

All of what I have discussed would not have been possible without the great support of initially Tracey Strugnell, then Shen Mann and now Monika Rhodes as the secretary for R6. Everyone in these positions have gone over and above their normal call of duty to ensure we can achieve all we have in the past year. I thank you all very much. In addition Stephen Packer and Glen Rappensberg attended an event each on my behalf and reported back so thank you.

As we go into 2020 with many challenges ahead, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your commitment and support to R6. It is a team effort and I feel my position is as a coordinator and spokesperson of many voices and I have been proud to represent you all. I do hope and trust you can all advocate to your councils for the need for our executive position to relieve the stress from our secretary and myself as we tackle the concerns put forward by other states and the imminent possibility of another dry down in the lower lakes.

Thank you.



Councillor Melissa Rebbeck
Chair, Region 6
Murray Darling Association



Monika Rhodes

From: Monika Rhodes
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 3:16 PM
To: 'bqualmann@coorong.sa.gov.au'; 'frank.tuckwell5214@outlook.com'; Glenn Rappensberg; 'h.barclay@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; 'keith.loeser@gmail.com'; 'm.downie@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; 'mayor@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; Melissa Rebbeck; Michael Scott; 'miles hannemann@tatiara.sa.gov.au'; Shen Mann; 'tstrugnell@coorong.sa.gov.au'; 'vleng@coorong.sa.gov.au'; 'jbarrie40@gmail.com'; 'jbbrooks@bigpond.com'; 's.packer@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; 'marilyn.henderson@victor.sa.gov.au'; 'Jason.Taylor@southernmallee.sa.gov.au'; 'hillfish1@gmail.com'
Cc: Bradbury, Emma (MDA); Cathy Keegan
Subject: FW: Region 6 - election of Chair and regional executive committee

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Dear All

Please refer below to the announcement of election of chair and regional executive committee members.

Kind regards

Monika

Monika Rhodes
Environmental Strategy Officer
Alexandrina Council



Phone: (08) 8555 7000
Fax: (08) 8555 3603
Email: Monika.Rhodes@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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From: Emma Bradbury [<mailto:e.bradbury@mda.asn.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 10:21 AM
To: Monika Rhodes
Cc: Melissa Rebbeck; Heather Barclay; Glenn Rappensberg; Cathy Keegan
Subject: Region 6 - election of Chair and regional executive committee

Dear Members and stakeholders

Nominations have now closed for the annual election of the Region executive of Region 6, to be held at their AGM on Friday 14th Feb at Murray Bridge.

The MDA Constitution at Part 5 s15 (4) states that regions will elect annually at a Region Meeting a Region Executive made up of: (a) a chair; plus (b) not less than 2 and not more than 5 other Region Executive Members.

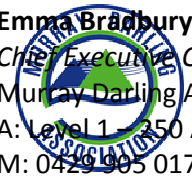
As only one nomination has been received for the position of Region Chair, I am pleased to declare Cr Melissa Rebbeck of Alexandrina Council duly elected to the position.

Two nominations for the regional executive committee have been received, and I declare Heather Barclay of Murray Bridge Council and Glenn Rappensberg of Alexandrina Council elected to the REX.

I would like to offer my congratulations to Cr Rebbeck, Heather and Glenn, and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Kind regards

Emma Bradbury
Public Officer
Returning Officer of the Murray Darling Association

 **Emma Bradbury** B.Soc Sci, Grad.Dip Ed, GAICD
Chief Executive Officer
Murray Darling Association Inc.
A: Level 1 – 250 Anstruther St, Echuca VIC 3564 | P: (03) 5480 3805
M: 0429 905 017 | E: e.bradbury@mda.asn.au | W: www.mda.asn.au



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Join the MDA Basin Community Leadership Program
Applications open February 2020
Email bcclp@mda.asn.au for more information.



Monika Rhodes

From: Emma Bradbury <e.bradbury@mda.asn.au>
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 8:46 PM
To: 'Ashlee Crossman'
Cc: Melissa Rebbeck; Glenn Rappensberg; 'h.barclay@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; 'Tracey Strugnell'; 'Bridget Mather'; Monika Rhodes
Subject: RE: Nomination of Bridget Mather to MDA R6 Executive Committee
Attachments: image001.cleaned.png

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Hi Ashlee

Thank you for the nomination attached – and I am sorry to hear of the admin oversight. It can happen to the best. Given that council clearly resolved on the 21 January 2020 to nominate Bridget Mather, this is a valid nomination and as such I am pleased to accept it.

Kind regards

Emma



Emma Bradbury B.Soc Sci, Grad.Dip Ed, GAICD

Chief Executive Officer

Murray Darling Association Inc.

A: Level 1 250 Anstruther St, Echuca VIC 3564 | P: (03) 5480 3805

M: 0429 905 017 E: e.bradbury@mda.asn.au | W: www.mda.asn.au

From: Ashlee Crossman
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 6:33 PM
To: Emma Bradbury
Cc: melissa.rebbeck@alexandrina.sa.gov.au; 'glenn.rappensberg@alexandrina.sa.gov.au'; 'h.barclay@murraybridge.sa.gov.au'; Tracey Strugnell; Bridget Mather; Monika Rhodes
Subject: Nomination of Bridget Mather to MDA R6 Executive Committee
Importance: High
13th February 2020
Attn: Emma Bradbury (Returning Officer)
Dear Emma,
We note that the Region 6 Murray Darling Association Chair and Executive positions have been announced this afternoon.

A resolution was made by Coorong District Council at its ordinary meeting held on 21 January 2020, that Chief Executive Officer Bridget Mather be nominated to the Murray Darling Association Region 6 Executive Committee (see Attachment 1 showing this motion).

Please also find the completed Nomination Form (Attachment 2), and Bridget Mather's Biography (Attachment 3). Due to an unfortunate administrative oversight, this Council minute, Nomination Form and Biography was inadvertently sent to the wrong email address within the nomination period. We sincerely apologise for this mistake, however we now hope to rectify this.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would give consideration to the nomination as the Returning Officer for the MDA Region 6.

Many thanks,

Ashlee Crossman (Executive Assistant) and Tracey Strugnell (Senior Sustainability Officer)

Ashlee Crossman

Executive Assistant

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