

Murray Darling Association Inc.

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> 463 High Street P.O. Box 1268 Echuca, Vic 3564

Region 6 Ordinary Meeting AGENDA

Location: Video conference

Time/date: 10.30am – 2.30pm, Friday 15 May 2020

Presenters: Deana Mildren (MDBA) & Jarrod Eaton (DEW)

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country

MDA Region 6 and its communities acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri people as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of the Lower Murray, Lower Lakes and Coorong region.

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 In Attendance

1.2 Guests

Emma Bradbury (MDA CEO)
Deana Mildren; Monique White (MDBA)
Jarrod Eaton (DEW)
Monika Rhodes (Secretariat)

1.3 Apologies

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

3. MINUTES (Attachment 1)

For the full minutes and attachments of the 14 February 2020 meeting please follow the link to the MDA website – Region 6 under "Meetings": https://www.mda.asn.au/regions/region-6.aspx.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the MDA Region 6 committee meeting held on 14 February 2020 as circulated to members, be received as a true and correct record.

4. GUEST PRESENTERS

Deana Mildren (MDBA) and Jarrod Eaton (DEW) have been invited to present on Federal and State Government drought preparedness.

5. REPORTS

- 5.1 CEO's Report Emma Bradbury
- 5.2 Chair's Report Cr Melissa Rebbeck
- 5.3 Strategic Advisory Group Report Mayor Lewis
- 5.4 Murray Darling Basin Authority Report Deana Mildren
- 5.5 Secretariat Report Monika Rhodes

Recommendation

That reports 5.1 to 5.5 be received.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Drought Preparedness (All Member Councils)

• Member Councils to update on Federal drought funding & Council drought preparedness

6.2 Climate-ready communities (Cr Rebbeck; Attachments 2a-c)

- MDA Board meeting 392 Motion 6.2 resolved That the MDA express a statement of climate ready communities. A position statement has been drafted, with provision for each region to contribute a region profile and commitment to support their communities to be climate ready (Attachments 2a,b). Refer to Region 11's profile as an example (Attachment 2c).
- A Region 6 statement for consideration will be distributed separately by Cr Rebbeck.

6.3 Forward planning for National Conference motions (Attachment 3 a-e)

• Voting of proposed motions that were provided (as per template; Attachment 3d).

N.B. Supporting comments for Region 6 endorsed motions will then be required to be provided to the Executive Officer by Tuesday, 2 June 2020. EO to collate and send final suite of motions to MDA Inc by 9 June 2020.

6.4 Working closer with LGA (Cr Rebbeck; Attachment 4)

For noting:

- Alexandrina Council submitted the Region 6 motion re Agricultural Productivity Target successfully endorsed at 2019 MDA National Conference to ALGA, calling for an increase in R&D re how to improve agricultural productivity in a water constrained future (Attachment 4). The existing Future Food CRC and proposed One Basin CRC were put forward as good examples.
- SAROC is currently consulting on their Draft 2020-21 Annual Business Plan. Submissions close on 22 May. The draft plan includes a \$2000 allocation to host and facilitate the annual MDA South Australian inter-regional meeting. Local government members of Region 6 are encouraged to note their support for this inclusion in their submissions to SAROC.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 For noting:

- On 15 April 2020, State Government <u>announced</u> that the projected minimum opening water allocation for the 2020-21 water year is 2%. This is a worst case scenario and there is a 45% likelihood that allocations will increase to 100% at some point in the water year. The next update is due to be released on Friday 15 May.
- The Interim Inspector-General Mick Keelty has completed the inquiry into the management of Murray—Darling Basin water resources. The Report was released on 17 April 2020.
- On 15 April 2020 the <u>Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse</u> was adopted with amendments:
 - The amendments to the Plan make changes to the private carryover policy, to provide greater flexibility in accessing carryover in dry years by allowing carryover volumes to roll over into future dry years. It continues to provide a form of insurance to boost allocation in dry years.
 - In addition, references to 'Class 3' water access entitlements have been updated to 'Class 3 (High Security)' water access entitlements. This better aligns South Australia's River Murray irrigation water entitlements with similar products interstate, such as New South Wales High Security licences and Victorian High-Reliability shares.

7.2 Correspondence

- Region 6 Submission on Draft Panel Report: Independent assessment of social and economic conditions in the Basin (Attachment 5)
- Email to CEO Emma Bradbury regarding MDA Strategic Workshop Priorities (Attachment 6)
- Lifeblood Alliance Buyback campaign (Attachment 7)
- MDA Media Release on the Interim Inspector-General of Murray Darling Basin Water Resources Report (Attachment 8)
- Feature artice "Working together for a healthy Murray Darling Basin" Alexandrina Council Rates Newsletter, pages 8-9 (Attachment 9)
- Correpondence sent from Alexandrina's Mayor Keith Parkes and CEO, Glenn Rappensberg to Mount Barker District Council Mayor and CEO inviting their council to join MDA Membership.

7.3 Agenda items – new format (Tania Baldock)

7.4 Strategic Directions & Minutes Action List (Attachment 10)

- Confirmation of finalised items.
- Outstanding action items.

Recommendation:

That the Strategic Directions & Minutes Action List for the May 2020 meeting be received.

7.5 Member Reports

8. NEXT MEETINGS (refer to Region 6 Calendar below)

8.1 Region 6 meetings:

- 7 August 2020: Goolwa (Alexandrina Council)
 - Executive meeting: 9 10 am
 - Ordinary meeting: 10.30 am 2.30 pm.
- 6 November 2020: Murray Bridge (Rural City of Murray Bridge)
 - o Executive meeting: 9 10 am
 - Ordinary meeting: 10.30 am 2.30 pm.
- 5 February 2021: Tailem Bend (Coorong District Council)
 - o Executive meeting: 9.30 10.30 am
 - o AGM: 11am 12pm
 - o Ordinary meeting: 12.30 3.30pm.

8.2 Stakeholder symposium:

- September / October 2020: Date and venue TBA.
- 9. CLOSE

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

2020/2021 REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP Member of Voting **Position** Name Council **Executive** Member Chair Councillor Melissa Rebbeck Alexandrina Secretariat Monika Rhodes Alexandrina Council **Mayor Brenton Lewis** Murray Bridge Representatives **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 Councillor Marilyn Henderson Victor Harbor Councillor Miles Hannemann Tatiara District **CEO Jason Taylor** Southern Mallee Keith Loeser Individual Members Julie Barrie Frank Tuckwell **Bruce Brooks** Adrian Pederick, MP JP

The 2020/21 calendar for MDA-Region 6

| DATE | EVENT | NOTES |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 14 February 2020 | R6 AGM & Ordinary Meeting | Topic: set region direction for 2020 |
| 12-13 March | MDA Strategic Planning Workshop | R6 attendance |
| 15 May 2020 | R6 Ordinary Meeting | Topic: Drought Preparedness Member councils to share info re use of Federal drought funds Seek relevant guest speaker *Forward planning for National Conference motions |
| 26-27 May 2020 postponed | Basin Communities Leadership Program (BCLP) – Lower Lakes | Lead: Alexandrina |
| June/July 2020 Postponed | EM & Inter-Regional Tour of CLLMM | Lead: TBD, liaise with MDA Primary audience = Members & EMs of R6 member councils; Secondary audience = Members of upstream regions; BCLP Cohort |
| 7 August 2020 | R6 Ordinary Meeting | Topic: Consider National Conference motions |
| 12-14 August 2020 postponed | MDA AGM National Conference | R6 attendance TBD |
| Sept/Oct 2020 | Annual R6 Stakeholder Symposium | Lead: Executive Officer Outcomes of Lower Lakes Independent Science Review + Shared Vision Statement + Drought Preparedness |
| 6 November 2020 | R6 Ordinary Meeting | Topic: TBD |
| 5 February 2021 | R6 AGM & Ordinary Meeting | Topic: Set region direction for 2021 |

| R6 Meetings | |
|---------------------|--|
| R6 Events | |
| MDA Meetings/Events | |