



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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463 High Street
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Region 11 Meeting
11am, Friday 14 June, 2019
Moree Plains Shire Council

MINUTES – June 2019

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present

Cr John Campbell - Chair	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Don Forbes	Tenterfield Shire Council
Cr Greg Sauer	Tenterfield Shire Council
Frances Young	Gwydir Shire Council
Annabelle Guest*	Regional Engagement Officer, Murray-Darling Basin Authority
Zara Lowien*	Executive Officer, Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association Inc

- * Non-member– attendance by invitation
Attendance by teleconference

1.2 Apologies

Emma Bradbury	Chief Executive Officer, Murray Darling Association
Mayor Peter Petty	Tenterfield Shire Council
Col Murray	Tamworth City Council
Bruce Logan	Tamworth City Council
Mayor Jamie Chaffey	Gunnedah Shire Council
Andrew Johns	Gunnedah Shire Council
Michael Pearce	Uralla Shire Council
Cr Andrew Hope	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Andrew Hopkins	Uralla Shire Council
Cathy Redding	Narrabri Shire Council
Mayor Ian Woodcock	Walgett Shire Council
Cr Manuel Martinez	Walgett Shire Council
Frances Young	Gwydir Shire Council
Alec Luke	Individual Member

Action: That the apologies be accepted

Move G Sauer/J Campbell

Carried

2. WELCOME – Meeting commenced at 11:20

Welcome by Mayor Katrina Humphries and Cr John Campbell

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. MINUTES

Motion: That the minutes of the Murray Darling Association Inc. held on 12 March, 2019 as typed and circulated, be confirmed as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Action: **Move G Sauer/ J Campbell** **Carried**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

NIL

6. REPORTS

6.1 Chief Executive Officer **(Attachment 1)**

- As per attachments

6.2 Chairman's report

- This afternoon, will be releasing tools on promoting membership with MDA. Greg asked to send through to Glen Innes as they are quite keen to join.
 - Annabelle advised that she provides a quarterly update to Narrabri Shire and advised at the last update, Council was quite keen to join and Emma was to prepare a presentation advising of details.
 - J Campbell advised that he is requesting that Mayor Jamie Chaffey discuss with Emma in Canberra next week regarding Advocacy on behalf of Namoi Unlimited. Emma was going to try and organise for Barnaby Joyce to attend the Toowoomba meeting.
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7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 NIL

8. PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Zara Lowien

- Explained her position as Executive Office with Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association and what they do. She also discussed what the region is producing this season. Please see Attachment 2 for further details.

8.2 Annabelle Guest

- MDBA did satellite monitoring of the Northern Fish Flows. All seemed to be in order. Please see Attachment 3 for full details.
- Federal and State election has put things on hold but getting going again now on the same patch as prior to election;
- MDBA regionalization – 20-30% staff being moved to regional areas. By middle of 2021, 20 staff members will be placed in regional areas;

- New report card coming out regarding the implementation of the Basin Plan;
- 2020 – 5 year assessment of Plan taking place. Evaluation framework being updated on website;
- Socioeconomic study has been commissioned. Independent taskforce been set up for input. Panel for study met last week with discussion on how study should look;
- Water Resource Plan accreditation processes continuing. Extended until December to incorporate ongoing issues which has resulted in the delay;
- Floodplain Harvesting Policy;
- Sustainable Diversion Limit Accounting Framework taking effect on 1 July 2019. Particularly in the Namoi, at a stalemate on how it is going to happen. Need water flow to test what they are suggesting to happen;
- Few things in the pipeline but due to caretaker mode, not a lot has been happening;
- August Meeting – Philip Glyde has agreed to attend. MDA to provide brief on what to discuss.

9. NEXT MEETING

Friday 9 August 2019 in Walgett

10. CLOSE

The meeting closed at 12.25pm