



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Region 8 Ordinary Meeting

Date: Friday 22nd May 2015, 10.00am

Location: Port Pirie Regional Council-Council Chambers

Address: 115 Ellen Street, Port Pirie SA 5540

1. ATTENDANCE

1.2 Present

Cr John Rohde	Mayor – Port Pirie Regional Council
Cr Deb Devlin	Port Pirie Regional Council
Hon Geoff Brock MP	Minister for Regional Development
Cr Greg Toll	MDA National President
Rodney Button	MDA Region 8 Chair
Emma Bradbury	CEO MDA
Paul McInerney	CEO-CLGR
Terry Reichelt	Economic Development Officer RDAYMN
Peter Stockings	MDA Member

1.3 Apologies

Cr Kelly-Anne Saffin	CEO RDA
Cr Ray Agnew	Mayor-District Council of Yorke Peninsula

2. WELCOME

2.1 Mayor's welcome

Mayor – Cr John Rohde, Mayor Port Pirie Regional Council

John gave us a great welcome and was pleased that water was back on the agenda. John spoke about the water used in the region. John mentioned that without water they could not move forward.

There has been a major investment into the city of Port Pirie and the local region, which is in a really good position. John spoke about the importance of water security and the need for management.

John welcomed the Murray Darling Association and Region 8 to Port Pirie and thanked them for their efforts.

2.2 MDA Chair, Region 8

Chair, Region 8 Rodney Button also welcomed all to the meeting and explained it had been a long time since there had been a meeting of Region 8 and it was hoped that with a new team in Echuca that things could turn around.

3. MINUTES

The meeting acknowledged that there was no minutes available from the previous meeting and noted that records would be kept of all future meetings. A copy of the meeting notes from the MDA meeting held on the 14th of February 2008 are attached below.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Correspondence out from 2014 AGM resolutions

(Summary of AGM Resolutions and Communication Report MDA 006)
Noted.

4.2 Responses to correspondence out from 2014 AGM

(Responses to Correspondence out AGM 2014)
Noted.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Mr Rodney Button-Region 8 Chair

5.2 Cr Greg Toll-MDA National President

Greg gave an insight into his Chairing the MDA and also wishing to see greater involvement of Council/Shires across the Basin. Greg was full of support for Emma and her new innovative way of trying to get the MDA into a more prominent association.

5.3 Chair Emma Bradbury-MDA-CEO

Presentation on the MDA, Emma gave a very detailed power point presentation of where the MDA is and where it is now seeking to head. It was very informative and was set out to encourage Local Government mainly to get on board. The MDA represents 127 Councils across the Basin, so the MDA has a powerful voice.
There were questions from those present.

5.4 Hon Geoff Brock MP-Minister for Regional Development

Geoff spoke about the need for water and echoed John Rohde comments that without water in the regions there will be no advancement or economic wellbeing. Geoff also spoke of the need to again try and meet on a more regular basis and he would do his best to attend or have a staff member present.

Geoff also mentioned his concern for the future due to the 'Millennium Drought' and he spoke about the importance of the MDA. Geoff mentioned that some City MP's do not engage enough, and emphasized the importance of continuous engagement.

He mentioned the necessity to get out and understand the issues and he identified the importance of the governance structure.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Review of the Constitution

A draft for review and feedback will be available in the near future.

6.2 MDA Governance Model Review

Discussion Paper EB008 - Noted.

6.3 Motions for 2015 AGM

Emma Bradbury CEO spoke on the above information and the need for people to respond if they had an issue that needed raising or feedback of the constitutional changes.

6.4 Local Issues

- Comments from Debbie Devlin on ways to get greater interest from the Region 8 Local Government and Business to be involved. Greater explanation of how the ratepayers rely on water and that it is not something that will be taken care of by someone else.
- Many Council's feel that SA Water put the water in the pipe so it is not their concern, Emma took this point up in the discussion and it is a point that needs input with State Government and the MDA.
- Encourage the Agriculture sector to be greater informed that without an association there is no one seeking to get continuing supply, greater innovative ways to encourage Councils to be involved.

It was also discussed that members of Parliament be invited:

- Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP stuart.portaugusta@parliament.sa.gov.au
- Steven Griffiths MP JP goyder@parliament.sa.gov.au
- Rowan Ramsey MP rowan.ramsey.mp@aph.gov.au
- Geoff Brock frome@parliament.sa.gov.au

7. NEXT MEETING: To be announced via email

8. CLOSE Rodney Button thanked all for their attendance and a safe journey home.

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Port Pirie Council for arranging and hosting this meeting of Region 8*