



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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**Ordinary Meeting of the Board
1.00pm – Friday 1st Feb 2019
Moama Bowling Club – 6 Shaw St, MOAMA.**

MINUTES - MEETING No. 383

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present

Cr David Thurley	Albury City Council	Region 1
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moira Shire Council	Region 2
Cr Jane MacAllister	Wentworth Shire Council	Region 4
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	Region 5
Heather Barclay	A/Chair	Region 6
Cr Andrew Tilley	City of Mitcham	Region 7
Cr Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	Region 8
Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	Region 9
Cr Craig Davies	Narromine Shire Council	Region 10
Cr John Campbell	Gunnedah Shire Council	Region 11
Matt Magin (Proxy)	Balonne Shire Council	Region 12
Pete George	M&S Group	Treasurer
Emma Bradbury	MDA	CEO

1.2 Apologies

1.3 Declaration of Interests

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion 2.1: That [Minutes Board Meeting 382](#) held Monday, December 17, 2018 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Peter Hunter/Denis Clark Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Flying Minute

Following the first fish kill at Menindee the MDA engage effected councils, agencies and the MDBA. On 21 December, MDA wrote to the MDBA seeking clarification of the circumstances contributing to the event and responded to requests for support from impacted councils.

Flying Minute 21/12/2018: That the Murray Darling Association recognize the dire conditions currently impacting river health and related social and economic conditions in the Darling River system, and support the request from Bourke Shire Council for an appropriate measures to address current issues and support the long term health of the Barwon-Darling system.

Motion 3.1: That the MDA note the flying minute of 21/12/2018.

3.1 New Vehicle & CEO Contract

Report -

Terms for the purchase of the vehicle are as follows:

1. A Mazda CX5 has been purchased by the CEO under Hire Purchase.
2. The CEO's contract has been amended to reflect the change from a vehicle being supplied as part of the employment package, to a vehicle expense allowance provided to cover the costs of the vehicles supply, operation and maintenance.
3. Terms fo the HP are 5 years with a 30% residual.
4. Repayments are approx. \$406 per month keeping costs to the MDA as close as possible to what we have been paying for the XTrail.
5. Transfer from a vehicle supplied to a re-imburement for costs will save the MDA approximately \$6000 per year in fringe benefits tax under rule changes introduced subsequent to the purchase of the previous vehicle.

Motion 3.2: That the MDA

- i) Note the report on the update of the vehicle, and
- ii) Note the revised contract of employment for the CEO.

Matt Magin/Peter Hunter

Carried

4. REPORTS

4.1 Region Reports

Region chairs to table, or provide a verbal report on matters relevant to their region.

Items from the executive.

Background: Resolution 355 – 5.2 20 May 2016

Motion: *That the board*

- a) *Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to engage an appropriate council to the position of interim Chair of a region, in consultation with the National President, where an extraordinary vacancy exists.*
- b) *Notes that the council must meet all required nomination criteria.*
- c) *Will ratify the appointment at the next meeting of the Board.*

Region 3 - Region 3 is the only region of the Murray Darling Association without a chairing council or active committee. Following meetings late last year with the Mayors of Gannawarra and Swan Hill, I am pleased to report that these councils, and Loddon Shire Council will attend the 2019 Strategic Planning workshop.

Region 4 – With no active leadership in region 3 for over a year, the Chair of Region 4 wrote in in November 2018 to Balranald Shire Council, inviting them to join Region 4 of the Murray Darling Association.

Balranald Council, at its ordinary meeting on 27 November 2018 resolved to accept the invitation with joining Region 4, stating in a letter to MDA Region 4 that Council looks forward to joining and working together with Region 4 of the Murray Darling Association.

This process is consistent with the principle that coulis are aligned as communities of interest, and is consistent with the process and decision taken by the board in June 2015 346 – 3.1 to note the move by Mid-Murray Council from Region 6 to Region 5

Motion 4.1.1: That the board

- i) Note the move of Balranald Shire Council from R3 to R4, and that the MDA's records be adjusted accordingly.
- ii) That the MDA write to the Chair of R4 to confirm the change
- iii) That the MDA notify the Dept of Environment mapping department to facilitate the update of our maps.

Jane MacAllister/Peter Hunter

Carried

Region 6 – Following the 2018 SA local government election Region 6 was left without a Chair, or any elected members on its executive committee. The remaining executive committee members determined, in consultation with their members to leave the chair vacant and conduct their AGM after all member councils has finalized their committee appointments and had the opportunity to consider nominations.

Region 6 will conduct it's annual general meeting at 10am on Friday 15 February 2019 in Goolwa, at which time the Chair and committee members for region 6 will be appointed.

Nominations for the chair and committee members close 5pm on Monday 7th Feb.

Region 7 – With no MDA committee members re-elected at the 2018 SA local government election, and no executive participation, region 7 was technically defunct after the SA local government elections. Following meetings with a number of councils in South Australia in December, including a meeting with the City of Mitcham's Mayor Cr Heather Holmes-Ross, Acting CEO and Cr Andrew Tilley, the MDA CEO invited the City of Mitcham, represented by delegate Cr Andrew Tilley to consider taking on the role of interim chair of region 7.

City of Mitcham resolved at its council meeting on January 22 to accept the MDA's to chair Region 7, and allocated resources, including officer engagement to support the commitment.

Region 10

Region 10 has been without active leadership since November 2016, following the resignation of Dubbo Regional Council. Since that time Narromine Shire Council, and Mayor Craig Davies have maintained an active interest in Basin issues, and communications with the MDA. The CEO met with Mayor Craig Davies and GM Jane Redding in Narromine in December. Following detailed discussions, the CEO invited Narromine Council to consider taking on the role of interim chair of region 10.

Narromine Shire Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on 12 December 2018 resolved that the Mayor (Cr Craig Davies) as Council's representative to the Murray Darling Association be endorsed by Council as a interim Chair of Region 10.

Motion 4.1.2 – That the MDA note the appointment of

- i) Cr Andrew Tilley, City of Mitcham Council to the position of Chair of Region 7 and
- ii) Cr Craig Davies, Mayor of Narromine Shire Council to the position of Chair of Region 10.

Paul Maytom/Jane MacAllister

Carried

Amendment: Motion 4.1.2 was amended at meeting 384 under Motion 2.1

Motion 4.1.2 – That the MDA note the appointment of

- i) Cr Andrew Tilley, City of Mitcham Council to the position of Interim Chair of Region 7, pending confirmation by election at a region meeting and*
- ii) Cr Craig Davies, Mayor of Narromine Shire Council to the position of Interim Chair of Region 10 pending confirmation by election at a region meeting.*

“Motion: That the minutes of board meeting 383, as amended be adopted.”

P Maytom/ M Rebbeck

Carried

4.2 Chief Executive Officer's report

Item 2.2 – National Carp Control Plan – invitation to nominate an appropriate council to the Operations Working Group.

Action : That the MDA liaise with eligible councils and prepare a recommendation to the NCCP for a local government representative on the NCCP OWG.

Item 2.8 referred to reports of economic activation initiatives for the Wakool, Toolybuc and Moulamein areas in the Murry River Council, Swan Hill, and up into the Balranald area. Initiatives include the growth in up to 7,000 jobs by 2030 supported by the activation of large areas of permanent plantings. Concern was expressed and further information requested in relation to potential conflict between substantial expansion of the irrigation footprint relying on water from the Murray and Lower Darling systems, and existing pressures on the resources required to sustain such developments.

Motion 4.2.1 : That the MDA seek detailed information from the NSW Government in relation to current economic activation plans (EAPs) involving the expansion of irrigation dependent industries relying on water from the Murray and Lower Darling systems, specifically

- i) Details of the NSW State Governments understanding of any proposed developments associated with the EAPs
- ii) The relationship between current EAPs and the States obligations under the Murray Darling Basin Plan
- iii) Total capacity of the system to deliver required volumes of water to sustain the proposed developments
- iv) Identified social, environmental and economic impacts of the developments on connected communities
- v) the role of local government in identifying the social, economic and environmental effects of any such developments.

David Thurley/ Jane MacAllister Carried

Motion 4.2.2: That the CEO's report be noted.

Andrew Tilley/Peter Hunter Carried

4.3 Finance Reports

Attached

Motion 4.3: That the finance reports be noted.

Pete George/Matt Magin Carried

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

Motion 5.1 That the MDA acknowledges the work done by outgoing Chair of the Authority Mr Neil Andrew AO, and notes the relationship between the MDA and the MDBA under Mr Andrew's chairmanship has been robust and respectful.

David Thurley/Paul Maytom Carried

6. CLOSE