



# Murray Darling Association Inc.

admin@mda.asn.au  
www.mda.asn.au  
T (03) 5480 3805  
ABN: 64 636 490 493

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 553 Kiewa Street  
P.O. Box 359  
Albury, NSW 2640

**Ordinary Meeting of the Board #366**  
**10.30am AEST Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017**  
**Location: Desktop – GoTo Meeting**

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## MINUTES – BOARD MEETING No. 366

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### 1. ATTENDANCE

#### 1.1 Present

Cr David Thurley (Chair)	Albury City Council	Region 1
Cr Peter Mansfield	Moirra Shire Council	Region 2
Cr Daria Turley	Broken Hill City Council	Region 4
Cr Peter Hunter	Renmark Paringa Council	Region 5
Cr Barry Featherston	Alexandrina Shire Council	Region 6
Cr David Shetliffe	Walkerville Town Council	Region 7
Cr Denis Clark	Northern Areas Council	Region 8
Cr Paul Maytom	Leeton Shire Council	Region 9
Cr Richard Marsh	Balonne Shire Council	Region 12
Emma Bradbury	Murray Darling Assoc	CEO
Bobby Brook*	Moirra Shire Council	Secretariat R2
Annette Waters*	Murray Darling Assoc	Administration Trainee

\* Non-board member – attendance by invitation

#### 1.2 Apologies

Cr Leigh Byron	Balranald Shire Council	Region 3
Pete George	M&S Group Accounting	Treasurer

Motion: That the apologies be accepted  
P Hunter/P Maytom

Carried

1.3 Declaration of Interests and Conflicts                      None declared

### 2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 That the minutes of Meeting 365 held Friday 2nd June 2017, AICD Melbourne be accepted as an accurate record.

D Shetliffe/P Maytom

Carried

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING

#### 3.1 MDA Business identification - update

Board members are keen to avoid conflict or diminution of relationship with other stakeholders through the use of the acronym LGA.

Barry Featherston expressed a view that after such a significant change as the new constitution and other recent reforms, name change may be too much.

Darriea Turley noted that there are many local government associations across Australia with LGA in name, in various forms (ie. ALGWA and LGMA etc.)

David Thurley suggested that board members should continue discussion and turn minds to what, if any changes to name to better reflect MDAs connection with Local Government, may be appropriate.

D Shetliffe/P Maytom

Carried

#### 3.2 6.1 – Position Scope for noting

An email was sent to the Board providing information in regard to the MDA Senior Officers position description.

Motion: That the board note the position description for the MDA Senior Officer.

D Turley/P Maytom

Carried

### 4. REPORTS

#### 4.1 Region Reports

Region 1 – attached

Region 5 – attached

Region 7 – attached

Region 9 – Cr Paul Maytom reported on Region 9s progress and the EWAGs positive and beneficial meeting.

Region 12 – Cr Richard Marsh reported on having some difficulty with their inaugural meeting, which is now set for 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug.

**Motion:** That the region reports be accepted.

D Shetliffe/P Maytom

Carried

#### 4.2 Chief Executive Officer report

Report taken as read.

Emma spoke to the recurrent theme of needing local governments to be involved in the decision-making process in the continuing implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan, discussed in Canberra. Also pressed the importance of local government meeting challenges and opportunities in planning across the basin in year ahead.

General discussion agreeing that the MDA will exhibit at next year's ALGA Meeting (to be held in Sydney) and combined with a face-to-face board meeting.

Cr Peter Mansfield noted the boards commendation on arranging an excellent array of high caliber engagements in Canberra.

**Motion:** That the CEO's report be accepted.

P Maytom/D Shetliffe

Carried

#### 4.3 Finance and Treasurer report

Taken as read

**Motion:** That the Finance reports be accepted.

P Hunter/D Shetliffe

Carried

## 5. General Business

### 5.1 Motion to amend the constitution

That the CEO is to liaise with Russell Kennedy lawyers to draft a constitutional amendment to address the risk to the MDA of sitting councilors of non member councils being allowed to join as individual members.

**Motion:** That the Board authorise the CEO to liaise with Russell Kennedy lawyers to draft a constitutional amendment as follows;

- a) Part 3, item 6 – remove the words *of a member council* or similar; and
- b) Part 11, item 38 – add the following subclauses
  - a. The amendment must be lodged with the executive six weeks prior to the MDA Meeting
  - b. The amendment must be listed as a motion and published in the agenda for the MDA Meeting.

B Featherston/P Maytom

Carried

### 5.2 Approval of membership

The Board may reject any applications of membership at its absolute discretion under Part 10 s21(2) of the constitution.

**Motion:** That the Board will reject any applications of membership from a serving councilor

D Shetliffe/ D Clark

Carried

### 5.3 Membership, engagement, and regional development strategy

General discussion regarding chairs to make better use of the professional skill sets that exist within their council to strengthen regional engagement, and provide greater consistency of progress across the regions.

### 5.4 Adopted positions of the Murray Darling Association

General discussion regarding the MDAs position on Regional issues which include the challenges for local government, 450GL of upwater, and enabling regions to form a position on these sorts of issues. It's also important that Regions set positions through decisions, resolutions and effective minute taking.

### 5.5 'Membes' membership and stakeholder management software

General discussion around current inefficiencies in the MDAs current membership database managements systems and communication. Assigned a high priority to finding a more efficient system that can assist the organization to communicate and to grow memberships. Noted that Pete George and Emma has attended a digital presentation by 'Membes' software previous day.

**Action:** Emma to investigate

## 6. NEXT MEETING

6.1 4<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am AEST – (digital)

7. CLOSE 11.50 am