

# BARKER BARAMBAH IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## MINUTES OF MEETING – 19 May 2011

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Meeting opened by Stuart Nicholson at 7:10pm Murgon RSL Board Room

### Present

Attendees	Representation
Tony Sippel	Member
Stuart Nicholson	Chairperson
Peter Enkelmann	Member
Kev Armstrong	Member
Andrew Grant (for Cr. Cheryl Dalton)	South Burnett Regional Council (SBRC)
Milton Pukallus	Service Manager - SunWater
Ross Hosking	South Burnett Supervisor - SunWater
Neville Wogandt	Area Operations Manager Central - SunWater

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Michael Stewart, Mark Quinn and Cr. Cheryl Dalton.

### 2. Previous Minutes

Peter Enkelmann moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Seconded** - Kev Armstrong **Carried**

### 3. Business Arising from Minutes

Water ordering – some general discussion made about the water ordering system. Ross advised that Gary Goschnick (Storage Supervisor) was able to take orders via answering machine if the main system was not working correctly.

### Agenda Items

#### 1. **Flood Damage – Regional Update**

Neville presented an overview of the regional flood damage to the storages and other infrastructure through out the region

#### 2. **Parthenium – South Burnett**

A "Fact Sheet" handout was provided to the members on Parthenium. SunWater has received a letter from the SBRC advising on an outbreak of Parthenium. Neville advised of the precautions and control methods used by SunWater to avoid the spread of the weed. Local SunWater staff will be receiving additional training on vehicle wash down procedures. SunWater will be working closely with local landholders and the Regional Council on the identification of outbreaks of Parthenium.

Andrew Grant – provided an update to the committee on the Parthenium distribution and the work the SBRC was facilitating.

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**3. Water Storage Position**

At the current time all storages within the region are full and overflowing.

**4. Update Announced Allocation**

The announced Allocation for the Barker Barambah Scheme is at 100%

**5. Carryover Applications Proposal**

Discussion centred on the current unmanageable quarterly accounting for carryover of water allocation and the one issue is that it is impossible to nominate volumes for the forward quarters. If carryover is nominated for the first quarter and not used it is then returned to the system for re allocation, this affects the ability for irrigators to effectively manage their on farm and planting requirements.

A proposal of having a once off application for “carryover period” for six months with only one loss being applied was put forward.

Following further discussion it was agreed that the “carryover” product would be re visited with the view that:

*Carryover be available for the full 9 months following a once off application form customers at the beginning of the “Water Year”. Losses would be calculated at the start of each quarter. Any “carryover water” not used at the end of the third quarter would be returned to the system for re allocation .*

Neville advised that the loss percentages as outlined in the current product document would need to be reviewed before the proposal could be considered further. The time frame for review and consultation with the committee would need to be completed prior to the cut of for applications for the 2011 / 2012 water year.

## **4. General Business**

1. Stuart Nicholson asked for an update on the proposed handover of the Recreation facilities at Bjelke Petersen Dam. Neville advised that progress was continuing and that a meeting with the SBRC was scheduled for Friday 20 May 2011 and again on the Wednesday 25 May 2011 to discuss in more detail proposed land area and infrastructure as part of the handover.
2. Stuart Nicholson followed up on previous discussions with Neville regarding the drawdown of the storage level in Silverleaf Weir to allow the SBRC to carryout an inspection of the footings of a local bridge. Following discussion it was agreed that the inspection could be managed with no water loss to the system. It is proposed that the drawdown of the weir would be managed by Ross Hosking in consultation with the relevant staff from the SBRC and Peter Enkelmann.
3. Peter Enkelmann raised the issue of bank slumping in Silverleaf Weir and the creek system resulting for the recent floods and seeking some advice on

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possible management strategies. Following discussion it was agreed that the issue should be discussed with DERM for possible assistance and advice.

4. Information Handouts - Neville Wogandt provided the committee with a copy and comments on the following documents.

1. *Charter for Irrigator Advisory Committees*
2. *Water Supply Arrangements and Service Targets for the Barker Barambah Scheme*
3. *Parthenium Weed – Fact Sheet*
4. *Flood Management – Information sheet*
5. *Application for Carryover form*

### 5. Next Meeting

While no meeting date was set it is planned to meet within the next 3 weeks to further discussion on the “carryover product “in time for the next water year.

### 6. Close Meeting

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm

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**Chairperson**

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**Area Operations Manager**

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**Date**

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**Date**