

# BARKER BARAMBAH IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 September 2014

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Meeting opened by Stuart Nicholson at 4:00pm Murgon RSL Board Room

### Present

Attendees	Representation
Andrew Mayne	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Stuart Nicholson	Irrigator Advisory Committee - Chairman
Kev Armstrong	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Jason Godden	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Damien Sippel	Irrigator Advisory Committee
Mark Wheeler	DNRM
Amanda Casey	DNRM
Christine Schmalfuss	DNRM
Rob Bartlett	SunWater
Andrew Maughan	SunWater
Milton Pukallus	SunWater – Service Manager Central

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Peter Enkelmann, Claire Kapernick and Barry Green.

### 2. Agenda

- Release of Burnett WRP
- Capacity Sharing
- IAC Membership
- General business

### 3. Release of Burnett WRP

Representatives from DNRM attended the meeting to present some of the changes in the new WRP to the committee. Further details of the changes can be found on the DNRM website.

Mark Wheeler informed the group of the elevated salinity levels in the Burnett River and that DNRM would monitor parts of the Barambah catchment as part of their program.

### 4. Previous Minutes

Accepted

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**5. Capacity Sharing**

Stuart advised that there was strong interest within the scheme to pursue capacity sharing in the future. At this stage, SunWater is not in a position to progress this and has not planned to develop any further in the short term.

**6. IAC Membership**

The committee welcomed two new members – Jason Godden and Damien Sippel. The committee is now well placed to represent the issues of irrigators in the Barker/Barambah scheme.

**7. General Business**

- Water ordering and cooperation of irrigators in certain areas was raised as a matter of concern. It was generally felt that some sections are more easily affected by incorrect ordering or use. It was resolved that a letter restating the process to order and take water would be sent as a first action. Committee members are encouraged to be proactive in their sections and liaise with SunWater staff as necessary to allow prompt action. SunWater has the responsibility to manage water use and relies on the cooperation of all irrigators to ensure the scheme operates effectively.
- Andrew provided an update on storage levels:
  - Bjelke Petersen Dam is at 61.2%
- Milton gave a brief update on the recreation area handover. There have been minimal changes to progress since last meeting however a meeting was held with a SBRC representative to agree on the process to advance the handover.
- Jason advised his view that surveillance in the upper parts of the schemes is important to ensure the scheme is operating properly.

**Next meeting** – The next meeting is tentatively set for end of March in line with the adopted 6 monthly ordinary meeting schedule.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 5:45pm

_____	Milton Pukallus
<b>Chairperson</b>	_____
	<b>Service Manager Central</b>
	23/9/14
_____	_____
Date	Date