

LOWER MARY IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE



MINUTES OF MEETING – 21 June 2016

Meeting opened by Darren Large at 10:00am.

Present

Attendees	Representation
Trevor Turner	Canegrowers Sect.
Allen Birt	Irrigator Advisory Committee Tinana
Trevor Crook	Irrigator Advisory Committee MSF
Des Morris	Irrigator Advisory Committee Walker Pt
Norm Muller	Irrigator Advisory Committee Walker Pt
Chris Nitschinsk	Irrigator Advisory Committee Copenhagen
Ross Mewett	SunWater – Senior Engineer Bulk Water
Roshan Singh	SunWater – Construction Manager
Peter Richardson	SunWater – Contractor Engineer
Milton Pukallus	SunWater – Service Manager (BW)
Darren Large	SunWater – Operations Manager (IS)

1. Apologies

Roy Goldenstein

2. Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction to new committee
- Election of Chair
- Mary Barrage Repair Works Presentation
- Storage Position
- 2016/17 Network Service Plans
- General Business

3. Previous minutes

Not reviewed at this meeting.

4. Welcome and Introduction

Darren and Milton welcomed the new committee members and opened the floor for introductions. All representatives, except Trevor Crook and Trevor Turner, were new to the committee.

There are two sections that did not receive nominations and are currently vacant; Mary Barrage and Main Roads. The committee discussed options for these sections and under

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the charter recommended a nominee for each section for endorsement. The recommended persons for the two sections were;

- Andrew Adams from MSF – Mary Barrage and Main Rds
- Brad Cronau – Mary Barrage.

The committee agreed that these were appropriate representatives and will be contacted to seek their acceptance.

Moved Allen Birt, seconded Des Morris.

5. Election of Chair

The election of Chairperson was the next order of business. Nominations were called for with two nominations given for Allen Birt. No other nominations were given. Allen accepted the role of chair.

A question was raised whether there is any conflict of interest as chairperson of the IAC and having involvement with the LMA board. It was discussed and agreed that both groups clearly represented irrigator interests and felt that this wasn't a concern. Allen advised that he would voluntarily declare any conflicts should they arise and exclude from voting should that be required.

Allen chaired the meeting from this point forward.

6. Storage Position

As at 21/06/2016	<u>Storage ML</u>	<u>%</u>
Mary Barrage	12,000	100 Overflowing
Tinana Barrage	4,750	100 Overflowing

1. Mary Barrage repair works

Milton introduced the engineering team of Ross Mewett, Roshan Singh and Peter Richardson from SunWater who had attended to provide an overview of the structure and repair works for Mary Barrage. Handouts were provided.

The Mary Barrage downstream rock protection had incurred damage historically during larger flood events. Most recent was in February 2015. The importance of the rock protection was explained with reference to the risk to the structure should any scouring occur. The engineering team presented all risks to the asset that could undermine the structural integrity of the asset and highlighted that due to recent frequent damage sustained, SunWater has assessed all risks and decided to consider various options for repairs. A preferred option is selected based on time, value & money. An options study

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had been produced, which is consistent with QCA requirements, to investigate what options are available to address the damaged rock protection. Roshan presented 6 options and outlined the process for each. The 6 options were;

1. Do nothing,
2. Replace with imported 0.6m rock,
3. Replace with 0.8m rock,
4. Concreted rockfill (preferred option),
5. Replace rock with concrete slab,
6. Replace rocks with tetra blocks or similar.

The preferred option selected was number 4, Concreted rockfill.

Des asked whether the concrete blocks could be made on site to save costs. This had been explored and found to have a limited reduction in costs for option 6.

Des also asked if it would be better just to continue with the repair process following each event. This option, whilst comparatively low cost per event, does not address the risk of barrage failure from scour during an event.

A question was raised regarding insurance and coverage for this works. Insurance has covered some of the repair costs historically but was not expected to cover a similar repair in future. If an event was to occur in the Mary alone it may not reach the excess trigger for insurance.

The committee also asked about SunWater's meter replacement strategy, noting in the past there was a program to swap out meters. Ross advised the program is currently allowing for 2-3 meter failures per year and not planning significant numbers of replacements.

Ross, Peter and Roshan departed the meeting at 11:30 am after further general discussion.

2. Annual Maintenance Shutdown

Darren provided some detail on the work completed during the shutdown in April, with hot weather still being experienced a revision to the shutdown lengths was made. Twelve monthly Mechanical and Electrical maintenance was undertaken at each pump station. Patch painting was conducted in Walker Point channel at the Regulator Gates, with de-silting works in Walker Point channel scheduled for mid winter at advice of IAC.

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7. 2016/17 NSP

Milton and Darren presented the Network Service Plans for Bulk Water and Distribution respectively. Questions and comments were noted for feedback later.

8. General Business

- Trevor Turner advised that the IAC had a bank account with approximately \$1,000 dollars. This was originally from the previous Customer Council era which was provided by SunWater in the early 2000's. Trevor asked the committee what should be done with the money. It was unanimously agreed that the money should be used for IAC business and meetings and as should go towards venue hire and catering for the meetings. It was agreed that it was appropriate for the money to cover back hire and catering for the Canegrowers room.
- Trevor Crook raised an issue with the level in Tinana Barrage and some offtakes that were not able to draw water recently. Trevor was aware of the responsibility for irrigators to configure their offtakes to access the water but felt there could have been a transfer to raise the level in this instance. Milton advised that the circumstances and benefits to the scheme were evaluated at the time and it was determined that a transfer via Owanyilla could not be justified. Allen advised the offtakes in question were large and not easily altered. Milton provided a copy (excerpt) of the Mary Basin ROP for reference of the minimum levels in the barrage.

Meeting Closed 1:10pm

<hr/>	Darren Large	Milton Pukallus
Chairperson	Service Manager (IS)	Service Manager (BW)
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Date	Date	Date