

**Burdekin Haughton
IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

SunWater staff entered the meeting 10.10am.

Present:

Attendees	Representation
Colin Bendall (CB)	SunWater – Clare Office
Carmen Ricca	SunWater – Clare Office
Wayne Smith (WS)	BRIA Secretary - Canegrowers
Mario Barbagallo (MB)	Chairman
Terry Williams (TW)	Deputy Chairman
Mauro Garbuio (MG)	Committee Member
Russell Jordan (RJ)	Committee Member
Greg Barbagallo	Committee Member

1. Apologies

Standing Acronyms:

BFD – Burdekin Falls Dam
BHWSS - Burdekin Haughton Water Supply Scheme
BOM – Bureau of Meteorology
BRIA Committee - the above listed committee
IROL – Interim Resource Operating Licence
DERM – Dept of Environment & Resource Management
QFF – Queensland Farmers Federation
ROL – Resource Operating Licence
ROP – Resource Operating Plan
SMT – Senior Management Team
SW – SunWater

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

IAC Meeting 26th June 2012

Pump Station Availability 24th June 2012

Dalbeg A

Pump# 1	Available
Pump# 2	Removed for rebuild – NDB failure
Pump# 3	Available

Dalbeg Relift

Pump# 1	Available
Pump# 2	Available

Dalbeg B

Pump# 1	Unavailable – Testing programmed for 7/5/2012
Pump# 2	Available

Millaroo A

Pump# 1	Available
Pump# 2	Available
Pump# 3	Out for overhaul – Being reinstalled
Pump# 4	Unavailable – Waiting for river level to drop to allow divers to isolate. Rebuild needed

Millaroo Relift

Pump# 1	Available
Pump# 2	Available

Millaroo B

Pump# 1,	Available
Pump# 2	Available
Pump# 3	Available

Haughton

Pump# 1/1	Telescopic Main refurbish
Pump# 1/2	Unavailable – Rebuild in progress
Pump# 2	Unavailable – appears to be PLC fault
Pump# 3	Unavailable – investigating vibration issue
Pump# 4	Available
Pump# 5	Available

Clare B

Pump# 1	Available
Pump# 2	Available
Pump# 3	Available
Pump# 4	Unavailable – Removed for repair

Clare A

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

Pump# 1	Available.
Pump# 2	Available.
Pump# 3	Unavailable – Cable installed, programmed to install pump 1/06/2012
Pump# 4	Available.

Elliott

Pump# 1	Unavailable – Arrived in Clare
Pump# 2	Available.
Pump# 3	Available.

Healy's Lagoon Relift

Available

Reed Beds Relift

Available

Divers scheduled to clean-out intake 04/07/2012.

Irrigation

Demand is currently 200 ML/Day.

Recent issues have been addressed with mechanical weed removal.

Maintenance

Mechanical weed removal ongoing – H10 & H20 /1 completed

Acrolein

Acrolein injections carried out on Haughton Main Channel - H10 between Regs 4 & 5
Change in strategy plan to do the whole scheme twice per year and the hotspots 3
times per year. This is planned 12 months in advance and the timetable will be
available on the web for irrigators to be able to plan around these dates.

Annual Shutdown

The annual shutdown ended on Saturday 23rd June 2012. The following work was
carried out during the shutdown:

- Divers inspected and cleaned out all intakes at all pump stations. Removed rock etc with vac pumps and manually removed larger rocks.
 - 5 yearly dam safety inspections carried out – Clare Weir/Gorge Weir
 - Regulator Gate refurbishments, bearing, seals and ropes replacement carried out.
 - Channel repairs and de-silting carried out in Millaroo. Unable to access Dalbeg channels due to water requirements for small crops and sandalwood plantations.
 - HV inspections and testing were carried out on all pump stations.
-

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

- New reflux valves and radios installed at Clare A pump station.
- New screen installed at end of HMC (not an automatic screen). An aluminium weed gate has been fabricated and is working well.
- Sewage pumps rebuilt at Burdekin Falls Dam.
- Drained HMC at H10 between Regs 4 & 5
- Replaced 9 Stilling tubes (measure depth on reg gates).
- Poly-lined channels have been cleaned with vac pump successfully. This was a trial. WMS to state start at bottom of channel to avoid flooding irrigators' paddocks etc.
- **JOBS NOT DONE DURING SHUTDOWN**
- Dalbeg concrete linings and some Clare concrete linings were unable to be done during this shutdown due to the requirement to keep water in channel for small crop irrigators.
- Siphon leaking on Tiller Road not repaired this shutdown.

2. Business Arising From Manager's Report

Irrigation

Barrata Main Channel overflow investigated – caused by reg gate jam, gate out of alignment. Management are aware they are not hearing about all overflows. A number of factors may have contributed to recent overflows:

- Set-point decisions
- Water operator error/experience.
- Weed overgrowth cause of Dalbeg overflow.
- Channel scraping to be done twice yearly/only delayed due to weather.
- Water operators now have laptop computers in their vehicles so they can monitor channel levels more closely.
- Communication to operators phones regarding serious problems with channel levels, breakdowns etc.

(RJ) asked if there could be any incentives developed for the use of dumped Water. (CB) to draft product guidelines for when it applies, price, environmental benefits etc.

(MG) suggested a colour-coded map be provided to irrigators showing dates and areas affected by shutdowns, acrolien etc. (CB) would organise a map and have it mailed out to all irrigators and also available on the web.

(MB) asked if all the committee could be notified of overflows. (CB) said all overflows are to be recoded in an incident report and investigated.

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

3 new operators starting – two for Millaroo. Supervisor has been asked to spend more time in the area. (CB) organising Scada training for all operational staff. Specialist SCADA technician required to do preventative maintenance and update manuals as knowledge has been lost over the years

3. Business arising from previous minutes

Nil.

4. General Business

(MB) mentioned he has been unable to change orders, Jackie Knight is working with Rubicon to adjust software – should have problem resolved within the next 2 weeks.

(MB) Channel harvesting message has to be acknowledged every time – can this be done once only?

(SJ) Can meter readings be accessed on line? (CB) Yes.

(CB) Channels and drains have been sprayed and are looking good, HBS has a problem, chopper has mechanical problems.

(CB) Outlet works – As a requirement of the ROP Giru and Val Bird Weirs to be run below crest – this will be explained at the next shed meeting in Giru. Outlet on weirs to be run by remote activation.

(TW) mentioned the floating excavator working in Molongle Creek – (CB) will get Dave Russell to investigate.

(WS) Attempted to contact Northcote member (Via phone) unable to contact. He is concerned about flooding from Horseshoe Lagoon farmer P Papadomiriou during water dumping. (CB) explained that this was caused by a BSC drain (not SunWater) not being maintained and a scour valve being opened fully. Problem solved by orifice plate being installed on the cylinder. (WS) will pass on what SunWater have done to prevent further flooding.

Poly-lined channels have been cleaned with vac pump. Dumping of material on the farm side of the channel has resulted in minor runoff into irrigators paddocks, WMS has been developed to start at bottom of channel and dump material on road side avoid flooding irrigators' paddocks.

(TW) asked if there could be more control over the amount of water let down from Mulgowie farming and going through Cassidy Creek. (CB) to follow up.

(TW) asked who looked after Leichardt Lagoon as it needs spraying. (CB) Burdekin Shire Council sprays Leichardt and Horseshoe Lagoons, Didgeeridoo and bottom of the Barrattas. SunWater contribute to the cost of this.

(CB) mentioned that SunWater Clare have replaced the Rhino with a Polaris which is capable of carrying 300L of chemical for spraying areas such as the Gumholes. The Rhino is to be used at Peter Faust Dam.

MINUTES OF MEETING 26th June 2012

(MB) asked if the channel overflow from Cadio Road H10 was due to the acrolein programme in the area. (CB) to investigate.

Email minutes to Wayne Smith wayne_smith@canegrowers.com.au
Bring copies for all irrigators

5. Correspondence

6. Next Meeting – Thursday 26th July 2012

Chairperson

Date

SunWater Manager

Date