

Mareeba Dimbulah Irrigation Area Council

MINUTES OF MEETING – 27 November 2015

Meeting opened at 10.11am

Present:

Attendees	Representation
Joe Moro	Mareeba Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
Bronwyn Dwyer	Secretary
Evan McGrath	Left at 1.56pm
Eva Arena	Barron River/Tinaroo Falls Dam Area
Remo Terranova	Mitchell Catchment Supplemented Streams - arrived: 11.30am
Charlie Martens	SunWater Service Manager Mareeba
Jim Mummery	SunWater Area Operations Manager Far North
Patrick Huber	DNRM Coordinator Water Planning - arrived: 12.55pm
Gordon Delaney	SunWater Water Planning Manager – arrived 12.55pm
Colin Bendall	SunWater Manager Service Delivery

1. **Apologies:** Makse Srhoj, Shaun Fassio, Brad Maisel, Karen Muccignat, Kylie Collins, Peter Howe, Maryann Salvetti

2. Previous Minutes & Action List:

- Minutes of the 15th October 15 Meeting were *Moved: Evan McGrath Seconded: Eva Arena as a true and correct record. Carried*

- Action List: Tabled

Flow Rate Entitlement Letter – Charlie Tabled latest copy

Action: Charlie email to Bronwyn so she can e-mail to Committee for final approval

3. Correspondence:

- Reply from DNRM to our request to change ROP Barron release rules - SunWater need to put proposal to DNRM

- SunWater proposed changes about 3 years ago and DNRM rejected them

Action: Jim to chase up with SunWater staff the previous submission to DNRM

- Committee to sit down with SunWater and go through previous Submission

Action: Bronwyn to put ROP Release Rules Submission on agenda for next meeting

- If water is ordered we would deliver it even if there is rain at Myola as those days can be removed from the monthly averages and it would still be within ROP tolerances

Action: Joe to organise a river users meeting in the new year to go through water ordering

- Current text messaging policy for river user notifications is if fluctuation is up or down by more than 100ML.

- Jim has written up draft service targets for text if release from Tinaroo drops below 30ML.

Action: Jim to send through draft service target and Bronwyn will e-mail to committee for approval

4. Network Service Plans:

- Bulk: Op Revenue: \$2.1million and \$1.22million expenditure. \$78,000 R&E expenditure.

- 79% actual water usage QCA assumed 60% (irrigation)

- 69.4% assumed, actual 76% on all water used

- Operational expenditure 116% of target (operations under, preventative maintenance over target and insurance over target which is what put it over as a whole)

- Non routine - \$78,000 no refurbishment budgeted by QCA.

- First 3 years overall spend is 600% over target, expect it to come back to 400% over in next 2 years

- R&E Annuity balance – just over 1 million. QCA forecast was \$952K

- No CSO for the bulk

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- Distribution: Operational Revenue: surplus of \$515,000
- 80% actual water usage, QCA target 60.6% for irrigation
- Overall water usage 77%, QCA target 67.1%
- CSO 14/15: \$142,000, 15/16: \$82,000
- Routine Expenditure: 17% over target (insurance and power put it over)
- Preventative and Corrective Maintenance. – Preventative 96% over budget – weed control, scada, lower amount of non-routine R&E work. Corrective 7% above – 232 pipe repairs. This year to date already completed 258 about 300 expected by end of calendar year.
- Non-routine – 55% spend over last 4 years 35% spend last year. (Scour valve replacements, scada, dissipation screens)
- Annuity balance - \$2.981million. QCA target was \$2.124million. Expecting \$4.031million next year

5. Asset Strategy Review:

- 2023 – 2041 QCA based annuity expenditure is \$8million per year
- SunWater reviewing as doesn't think they are accurate as not all assets are fully replaced at the end of their lives
- Colin went through proposed changes. This would change the annuity expenditure to \$5 million per year
- Current program \$160 million by 2046. New strategy \$40 million by 2046.
- Colin looking to load into the SunWater program by end of January. Can be adjusted at anytime after it is loaded.
- Committee will have a look at the spreadsheet and get back to Colin on whether we support proposed changes

Action: Colin to send to Bronwyn the spreadsheet so she can forward to Committee

Would be good to pick 5 assets and go for a tour to have a look at those assets and review the strategy

Action: Charlie and Joe to look at organising a bus trip to review asset adjustments

6. Critical Water Sharing Rules:

- It was clarified that Critical Water Sharing rules are optional under the ROP.
- Gordon went through a PowerPoint presentation explaining what the Announced Allocations would have been under the rules we drafted 8 or 9 years ago vs the current ROP tables. DNRM never accepted the draft Critical Water Sharing rules that we previously submitted, as they would have disadvantaged irrigators.
- The current ROP tables would provide for a slightly higher announced allocation than the rules we previously drafted. High Priority water is always 100% so the critical water sharing rules are more about how the high priority water would be used rather than medium priority water.
- *It was resolved to take no further action on the Critical Water Sharing Rules*
- Could convert MP to HP allocation – water charges are a lot higher and only get 0.7ML for each ML you convert

Action: Gordon to e-mail Critical Water Sharing PowerPoint presentation to Bronwyn to forward to the Committee for their information

7. Other Business:

- Water Trading Forms: 7 forms received. 6 wanting to purchase water and 1 that has East Barron water available for temporary transfer.
- Will look at whether we need to place ads in the paper at the next meeting

Action: Bronwyn to put Water Trading Register Advertising on agenda for next meeting

8. Next Meeting Date & Agenda Items: TBC at 10am

Meeting closed: 2pm

Mareeba Dimbulah IRRIGATION AREA COUNCIL

ACTION LIST – 27th November 2015

Agenda No.	Action	Who	By When	Status
17Apr15 2.7	Put Termination Fees on agenda for next price Path	Bronwyn	Next price path	
15Oct15 4.3	Put Changeover of Water Ordering System on agenda for March 16 Meeting	Bronwyn	March-16	
27Nov15 2.1	E-mail Final Draft of Flow Rate Entitlement letter to Bronwyn so she can e-mail to committee	Charlie	ASAP	
27Nov15 3.1.1	Find previous Barron Release Rules Submission sent to DNRM	Jim	ASAP	
27Nov15 3.1.2	Put ROP Release Rules Submission on agenda for next meeting	Bronwyn	Next Meeting	
27Nov15 3.1.3	Organise a Barron River Users Meeting for early 2016	Joe / Charlie	Feb-16	
27Nov15 3.1.4	E-mail Bronwyn the Draft Service Target so she can e-mail to Committee	Jim	ASAP	
27Nov15 5.1	E-mail Bronwyn Asset Strategy Review spreadsheet so she can e-mail to Committee	Colin	ASAP	
27Nov15 5.2	Look at organising a bus trip to review asset adjustments	Joe / Charlie	Jan-16	
27Nov15 6.1	E-mail Bronwyn Critical Water Sharing Rules presentation so she can e-mail to Committee	Gordon	ASAP	
27Nov15 7.1	Put Water Trading Register Advertising on agenda for next meeting	Bronwyn	Next Meeting	