

Mareeba Dimbulah Irrigation Area Council

MINUTES OF MEETING – 29 April 2014

Meeting opened at 10.21am

Present:

Attendees	Representation
Joe Moro	Mareeba Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
Bronwyn Dwyer	Secretary
Brad Maisel	Channels/Pipelines – Central Area
Makse Srhoj	Barron River Catchment Supplemented Streams
Shaun Fassio	NQ Co-op (arrived: 10.25am)
Maryann Salvetti	Channels/Pipelines – Eastern Area (left 1.02pm)
Karen Muccignat	Relift Area
Peter Howe	Channels/Pipelines – Eastern Area
Charlie Martens	Sunwater Service Manager Mareeba
Jim Mummery	Sunwater Area Operations Manager Far North

1. Apologies:

Berto Srhoj	Mitchell Catchment Supplemented Streams
Eva Arena	Barron River/Tinaroo Falls Dam Area
Evan McGrath	

2. Previous Minutes & Action List:

- Minutes of the 28th October 13 Meeting were *Moved: Maryann Salvetti, Seconded: Brad Maisel as a true and correct record. Carried.*
- Action List: Tabled.

3. Correspondence:

- Correspondence Log. *The Committee Resolved to accept the correspondence log*
- *Tabled Letters from Ergon and SunWater*

4. Local Management Update:

- Went through the LMA Focus Group Business Proposal
- Discussion on Corporate Form, voting structure & Election of Directors
- Separation payments can not be used to reduce water prices in the form of a CSO

5. SunWater Report:

- Shutdowns: Had several small shutdowns. Carrying out a lot of pipe repairs.
- Water Ordering: Unauthorised Use Policy Update– deals with customers who have used more than their allocation or more than their flow rate entitlement. MDIA flow rate has not yet been restricted but as usage increases there may be a need to monitor flow rate entitlements and start rostering water. Customers who take more than their allocations will be notified within 7 days of the meters being read. Breach letters will be sent asking the irrigator to rectify. If they don't rectify the breach they will be locked out.
- Customer Newsletter: Being sent out in May. Will include the same information as last year.
- Text Messaging: Need to be able to have more than one mobile number per account on text messaging system

Action: Charlie to look into it having more than one mobile number per account on text messaging system

- Bulk NSP: Operating budget is over QCA cost budget by 6% which includes increase in insurance premium. Under by 7% if take insurance out, Non routine maintenance 53% over the QCA cost budget for the first 3 years of the 5 year price path, cone valve replacement, 5 yearly comprehensive inspection and projects resulting from inspection e.g. blasting and painting are main reasons for being over budget

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Action: Bronwyn to e-mail the Board the link to the bulk NSP

Action: Jim to provide breakdown of the operational costs

- Distribution System NSP: Operating budget is over QCA cost budget by 20%. Insurance and electricity makes up most of that. Take that off and still 6% over which is due to weed control.
- Non routine maintenance is under QCA budget by 17% for this year and has spent only 40% of budget for the first 3 of the 5 year QCA price path
- Budget \$800,000 refurbishing scada / gates, \$160,000 for Biboohra gates. \$200,000 for 2 x timber bridges on channel access road to Tinaroo siphon (will be carrying out options investigation to find out best way of fixing the bridges), \$500,000 minor jobs
- Annuity balances- negative at start of 2013, 13/14 positive \$660,000, 14/15 should be positive \$1.4 million and 15/16 should be positive \$2.1 million

6. Barron ROP Review Update:

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7. Other Business:

Termination Fees for amalgamating water – P Howe

Action: Joe to write to SunWater asking someone to come up from Brisbane to explain

9. Next Meeting Date & Agenda Items:

- TBC

Meeting closed: 2.03pm