

NOTES OF MEETING – 25 May 2012

Canegrowers Office Mareeba

1. Shutdowns

Presented MDIAC with expected next 12 months shutdown program and discussed recent shutdowns.

2. Internet Water Ordering

- Discussed water ordering in general.
- Discussed features of current system
- Explained that new version would come out later this year - possibly October.
- Not everyone was using the system - explained requirements for water ordering.
- Explained that those not ordering would be shut off if those who ordered did not get their water

Customers requested if next version could have text ordering or an App developed.

3. Upcoming shed meetings

Discussed recent shed meetings with various levels of attendance. Highlighted how the recent shed meeting was scheduled to discuss shutdown and was well attended and well represented by different crop growers.

Expect next round of meetings to be about October - possible may coincide with next version of internet water ordering

4. Weirs

Committee enquired whether weirs were in Bulk or Distribution. - Charlie explained that they are in distribution.

5. Announced allocation

Discussed the End of Water Year Newsletter being sent out with information about meter reading, carry over and allocations. - Charlie could not give advice regarding AA in the next year as the dam is still currently overflowing, and meter reads are not in for the full year.

6. Planned Barron River releases

Committee asked what river releases were planned. - I explained that this is unknown as the recent releases in river have been quite low. This may change depending on weather, overflows and customer demands in the next few months.

7. Refurbishment program

Charlie went through a list and explained next years program. He could not distribute the list as it has the cost estimates against the projects. Committee asked if the list could be distributed to them? Charlie has since emailed them an amended list without the inclusion of the cost estimation.

8. Weed Control

- Members have seen improvement in Algae reduction - It was discussed that the sooner we know about algae blooms the easier it is to treat, and less blockages caused to SunWater and irrigators. Encouraged farmers to notify us if they see early signs of blooms.
- Discussed progress to date regarding renewal of CuSO₄ licence with APVMA but could not give full assurance as we will have a new licence.

Mareeba Dimbulah MDIAC Meeting



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- Discussed recent slashing.
- Customers requested that we notify them when we are doing big slashing runs on channel batters such as recently done as the cut grass in the channel caused some blockages to their filters

Mill expansion

As a heads up Charlie explained of some water delivery risks and expected pressure reduction in service on pipelines if more water is significantly used. Also explained milling risk for Canegrowers if the mill does not have any storage