

# NOGOA MACKENZIE IRRIGATORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date: 1 April 2015**

**Held: Emerald SunWater, Esmond Street, Emerald**

**Meeting Opened: 10:05 am**

**Present:** Robert Ingram, Neville Brownlie, Neek Morawitz, Les Fluerty, Matthew Barnes, Paul Wortley, Neil Farrell, Donna Lewis (scribe)

1. **Apologies:** Nigel Burnett, Chris Ryan
2. **Previous Minutes:** As circulated & published on website
3. **Business Arising from Previous Meeting:**

### **3.1 Service Standards for Notification of Shutdowns**

- At the meeting of all irrigators, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 held at Emerald Golf Club. The following motions were moved and carried: -
  - Motion – Pat Conway moved motion to reduce notification period for scheduled shut downs to 4 weeks. Seconded by Chris McCullagh.....Carried
  - Motion – For maintenance purposes, in periods of no demand, e.g. significant rainfall event, and with agreement of the majority of customers, SunWater may elect to shutdown and drain the channel system, in full or in part, by providing 48 hours verbal/SMS notice. Should any subsequent water order occur the channel shutdown will cease. Moved by Neville Brownlie. Seconded by Pat Conway.....Carried.
- Updated Service Standards incorporating the above changes is now available on the SunWater website. Copy given to all meeting participants.

### **3.2 Scheme Operations Opportunities for Improvement Action List**

Neil gave an update of the actions on the list.

- Slashing – hasn't gone out to tender yet. Brisbane is handling this process. Neil following up fortnightly.
- Cleaning out the poly lined channel – discussion on what has been trialled. Matthew Barnes offered to trial using Vac Truck when channel is drained. Look at removing excess silt with excavator with rubber edge and laser. To be trialled in first shutdown.
- IAC members requested additional information on budget allocation for drains as they believe sufficient maintenance is not being completed. Neil to gather further information regarding expenditure on drains and work conducted since the start of the current price path and provide to IAC. Information is to be sent around to all IAC members for consideration. Next IAC meeting requests Colin Bendall to attend discuss NSP's and budget.
- S2, S3 & S4 off take hazard – funding allocated in next year's R&E budget.

### **3.3 TCC System Update**

Neil and Robert gave updates:-

- St Helen's TCC battery replaced – up & working again.
- S2 – new structure being installed to do water flow testing.
- Walters farm TCC offtakes to be taken out and replaced by Dethridge wheel or electronic meter.
- Using Selma pumps for couple hours a day. Small amount of gravity feed water into Selma but not enough to meet full demand.

#### 4. General Business

##### 4.1 Shutdown

- Suggested dates given out:-
  - Weemah - 1<sup>st</sup> Shut – 13/05/15 to 03/06/15
  - Weemah – 2<sup>nd</sup> Shut – 24/06/15 to 15/07/15
  - Selma – 1<sup>st</sup> Shut – 03/06/15 to 24/06/15
  - Selma – 2<sup>nd</sup> Shut – 15/07/15 to 05/08/15 or 12/08/15
- Shed meetings to be held: –
  - Weemah – Miller’s Shed – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April – 10am
  - Selma – Ingram’s Shed – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April – 2pm
- Jobs to be completed during shutdown:-
  - PLC/Scada
  - New off-take gates
  - New off-take in Selma for Mosley to take off peak water
  - Desilting channels & batter repairs
  - Burning off to continue

#### 5. New Business

##### 5.1 Drainage –

- Neville raised Bob Anderson’s concerns regarding surface drainage system not being maintained and therefore the sub surface drainage system is not working. IAC to write to new LMA if one is formed noting the terms of agreement. Neil advised that SunWater will be working in with Bob during shutdown.
- Les Fluerty also raised issues regarding drainage and Winton Creek.

##### 5.2 Truck and Spray Rig


- Funds allocated in next year’s budget for lease of Canter truck for spraying weeds.
- \$10,000.00 allocated in next year’s budget for spray rig to be fitted to Canter truck.

#### 6. Meeting Closed: 11:10pm

#### 7. Next Meeting: mid July – Col Bendall to attend.

Minutes Confirmed:

Chairperson - Robert Ingram

Date: 5/5/15.  


SunWater Manager

Date: 5-5-15  
