

PROSERPINE IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE



MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 JUNE 2008

Meeting opened at 10.00am

Present:

| Attendees | | Representation |
|-------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Glenn Clarke | GC | IAC Chairman |
| Patrick Griffiths | PG | IAC Secretary - Canegrowers |
| Doug Lee | DL | Chairman - Kelsey Creek Water Board |
| Peter Muller | PM | Chairman - 6 Mile Creek Water Board |
| Mark Blair | MB | Committee Member |
| Andrew Pini | AP | Committee Member |
| Mark Hall | MH | Committee Member |
| Bill Atkinson | BA | Committee Member |
| John Telford | JT | Committee Member |
| John Mau | JM | Committee Member |
| Gary Everson | GE | Regional Manager – SW |
| Michael Taylor | MT | Business Services Coordinator – SW |
| William Weaver | WW | Service Delivery Coordinator – SW |
| Fiona Christie | FC | IROL/ROP Compliance Officer - SW |

1. Apologies

Dave Pratt

Standing Acronyms:

- IAC – Irrigators Advisory Committee
- PRWSS – Proserpine River Water Supply Scheme
- SW – SunWater
- AA - Announced Allocation
- CO – Carry Over
- EMT – Executive Management Team (SunWater)
- BHWSS – Burdekin Haughton Water Supply Scheme
- Attendees initials as per above table

2. Previous Minutes

Nil

3. SW Manager's Report

Provided to the committee.



MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 JUNE 2008

4. General Business

1. Announced Allocation and Carry Over

- GC requested details of the 2008/09 water year AA and CO amounts and if the previous IAC request for an increase in CO from 15% to 30% has been granted.
- GE advised that the SW modellers ran the AA calculations using both 15% and 30% CO amounts and the predicted AA appears to be 100% with CO of 30%. However need to wait for official calculation on 1 July 2008. If the AA is less than 100% CO will be 15%. Loss amount will be 10% to be used by 31 December 2008.
- PM commented that the increase in CO was really needed last July as it's too late this year for the growers
- GE advised that the CO product rules have now been set and will apply each water year from now on – copy will be forwarded to PG for distribution
- MB requested details of the AA trigger amount for a 15% CO – amount not divulged to GE at time of meeting
- GC asked if committee members were happy with the AA & CO amounts and all agreed it was as expected.

2. Scheme/Manager's Report

- GE provided information on the SW Irrigator Advisory Committee Information Kit and asked IAC to read through and provide feedback
- GE also requested a general approval of the Kit and acknowledged that the IAC were generally operating as per the charter
- An operational report will be provided at every meeting and format will remain the same. SW to email PG with the operational report each month.
- GC enquired as to who will provide minutes for uploading to SunWater's website? GE advised that SW will provide a staff member to take minutes at meetings. Minutes will be forwarded to PG for perusal before upload to SW website.

3. Mimosa Pigra

- PG advised that funding has been confirmed through to July 2009 as per the amount in the budget presented at the stakeholders meeting.
- DL queried who was on the Pest Committee – Patrick Griffiths – and have they had a meeting lately? DL advised that Peter Garrett will be in the Proserpine area at the end of July and thought it may be a good opportunity to meet with him regarding the mimosa pigra.

4. Future shutdown advice

- DL advised that an advice letter was not received during the recent shutdown
- PG requested that SW advise Canegrowers at least a month in advance and they can distribute shutdown notice (in their monthly newspaper perhaps)
- The SW office answering machine wasn't working last week therefore no water orders were received. Apparently storage supervisor shut down releases to determine who was pumping. SW would investigate this and put steps in place to prevent it from occurring in the future.



MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 JUNE 2008

5. New SW internal structure and Executive Management Team appointments

- MB enquired as to whether Chairpersons of the IAC met with the SW Board members and GE advised that although this does happen from time to time it is not a scheduled occurrence.
- GC requested information on SW's new structure
- GE advised:
 - there is a new EMT:
 - Peter Boettcher has been selected by the Board as Chief Executive Officer
 - Ken Gouldthorp has been appointed as General Manager, Water Services.
 - Ken would be visiting the regions next month and the IAC may be able to meet with Ken and raise any significant issues. PG suggested that a BBQ at Peter Faust Dam could be organised instead of a formal meet and greet.
- SW is currently still a Government Owned Corporation with a shareholding minister however as at 1 July 2008 SW will become a company Government Owned Corporation with an Executive Board, an Executive and Shareholding Minister.
- DL asked if SW would eventually go onto open market and GE replied it would be hard to predict and/or provide comment.

6. Continuous Sharing & Modernisation Project

- GC attended a continuous sharing presentation in Brisbane some time ago and feels that Proserpine WSS would benefit. GC enquired as to how and where they could get more information.
- GE also provided information on the Modernisation Project which has stemmed from the Murray/Darling predicament.
- The Project is government funded and presentations will start rolling out over the next few months starting with the larger schemes.

7. Metering

- IAC members enquired:
 - how is SW going to deal with fixing the meters
 - will meter upgrade costs appear in the next price path
 - why are recycling pits required to have meters (IAC member had interpreted that all bores, ringtanks & recycling pits had to be metered starting July 2008)
 - can both boards have a person trained by SW to maintain meters as the new initiative appears to require a registered meter person to maintain/repair meters (may only require one nominee representing both boards?)
- GE advised:
 - SW is awaiting the outcome of the National Water Initiative
 - NRW is pushing SW to meter everything
 - NRW is currently rolling out their own metering projects around the state
 - SW would prefer to install 'smart' meters to enable data loggers to be used



MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 JUNE 2008

- The first draft of the Initiative was provided to SW staff in Ayr recently
 - SW currently changing detritus wheels to electro-magnetic meters in the BHWSS at the rate of 40 per year for the next 10 years
 - Bureau of Meteorology has been appointed by Government as Australia's data collection agency. Examples of data collected will be water levels, stream flows, water usage etc.
 - Costs of metering will be allocated to meter recipients as \$10,000 over 25 years. NRW performs site assessment and provides drawing and specifications to farmer who is then responsible for site preparation. NRW will then basically cut and drop meter into place.
 - SW is unable to certify metering personnel, however perhaps the Boards could nominate a member to attend SW's registration/certification sessions
 - SW to advise PG of course dates
-
- PM enquired as to who incurs the cost of compliance with the new standard. GE reiterated that it is not legislated as yet and will be dealt with after legislation.

8. New Price Path

- GC enquired as to when the next Price Path commence
- GE advised negotiations commence early next year.

9. General Pricing

- IAC had heard that there was to be a price increase
- MT confirmed that there would be an increase which would be the Brisbane March CPI figure
- MT advised that the figure and pricing information would be included in the next periodic invoice
- IAC requested details of the actual amount of the Brisbane March CPI prior to the invoice and MT advised this would be possible. Figure to be emailed to PG.

1. Correspondence

NIL

2. Next Meeting

Advice of the next meeting will be provided by IAC Chairperson?

Meeting closed at 11.05am.

**PROSERPINE
IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



MINUTES OF MEETING – 23 JUNE 2008

MINUTES CONFIRMED

Chairperson

SW Manager

Date