



**MINUTES MEETING – 26 August 2008**

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**Meeting opened at 9.15am**

**Present**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Representation</b>
Ian Brimblecombe	Chairperson
Rob Jakins	Committee Member
Richard Lomman	Committee Member
Colin Bendall	SunWater
Deb Waters	SunWater
Sue Beard	SunWater

**1. Apologies**

John Knights, Paul Brimblecombe and Glenn Rogan

**2. Previous Minutes and Action List**

- The minutes from the previous meeting on 27 February 2008 were accepted
- R Jakins moved to accept minutes. I Brimblecombe Seconded. Motion carried.

**Actions from previous Minutes**

**SunWater investigation of purchasing motors to operate Low Level Pump Station**

SunWater is obtaining quotes for purchase of two motors to operate the Low Level Pump station at Beardmore Dam. Colin Bendall stated that SunWater would only be purchasing the two motors and should SunWater require a third motor during low level operations it would hire one.

**Action:** SunWater to continue to investigate and advise the Irrigation Advisory Committee of the outcomes.

**SunWater to send a request through to Peter Boettcher to develop an issues based working group on possibility of reducing Channel Harvesting lease Fee.**

SunWater declined the request for an issues based working group, and alternatively advised the committee that a product to allow trading of leased channel water harvesting entitlement would be progressed.

**Gap in the construction joint of Beardmore Dam Wall**

Colin Bendall discussed the gap in the construction joint in the Beardmore Dam Wall with the safety engineers for SunWater. The engineers stated that they were aware of the gap in the construction joint in Beardmore Dam Wall and these are being monitored through Dam Safety reports.

**New rules being drafted for Channel Harvesting**

Colin Bendall stated that SunWater was in the process of drafting new rules for Channel Harvesting and would hopefully have them for presentation to the IAC members at the next meeting.



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**Cost of repairing meter Downstream Jack Taylor Weir**

It was brought to the attention of the IAC members by Colin Bendall that Andrew Sevil's meter downstream of Jack Taylor Weir required repairs. Colin stated that SunWater had Condamine Electric come out to complete a quote to fix the meter. The quote had come back for \$12,500. Colin stated that SunWater was writing to NR&W to request that they share the cost of fixing this meter as 20% allocation and 80% River Harvesting water went through the meter.

**Action:** SunWater to advise the Irrigation Advisory Committee of the outcome.

**3. General Business**

**Discussion of Third Party Access**

Colin Bendall presented the IAC members with the letter written by Glen Price and R Jakins read the letter aloud for all attending members to hear. Colin then supplied the IAC members with the background on Glen Price's request to install a Drainage Meter. Colin stated that he (Colin) had misinterpreted the third party access policy and had since cleared up the issue with Glen Price. Mr Price will now have to pay a one off application fee of \$1600 and a contract will need to be drawn up. Mr Price will then pay per ML for any drainage water metered.

**Scheme report**

An over view of the current water status was given to IAC members.

An over view of Assets and Refurbishments scheduled programme was given for 2008/2009. It was explained that some of the scheduled projects were being put on hold until the modernisation program was finalised. There is hope that some of the scheduled projects for the St George scheme may form part of the modernisation programme

**Safety Audit on Footbridges within the Irrigation area**

Colin Bendall stated that SunWater had completed the Safety Audit on the footbridges in the irrigation area and has identified two footbridges that needed replacing as they do not meet Australian standards. The two footbridges will be replaced in due course.

**Recreations area at Beardmore Dam**

The IAC members queried what was happening with Beardmore Dam Recreational area. Colin Bendall stated that he had a meeting organised with the Balonne Shire Council's new appointed CEO later today to discuss the option of them taking over the upkeep of the recreational facilities at Beardmore Dam.

**Action:** SunWater to advise the Irrigation Advisory Committee of the outcome.

**Ipswich Regional Office Update**

Ipswich Office has officially been transferred to an Office in Toowoomba and was up and running as of 25 August 2008.



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**Channel Shutdown**

Colin Bendall stated that SunWater needed to shutdown Thuraggi Channel for about a week to complete the Thuraggi Outlet Rock Protection project. The question was put to the IAC members on what date would be suitable to shut Thuraggi down, in light of winter crop watering and pre watering for Cotton.

The question was raised whether it was better to send a letter out to all irrigation customers to request dates that would suit most irrigation customers or alternatively should SunWater set a date and send a letter out informing all irrigation customers of the shutdown.

It was brought to IAC's attention that as of today SunWater had still not confirmed the supply of rock needed to complete the project but a formal letter had been written to the property "Myrtle Mount" in the hope that we could obtain the rock from "Myrtle Mount" again; as we had in past practise. Rob Jakins supplied Debra Waters with a possible contact number for "Myrtle Mount".

**4. Next Meeting**

To be advised

**5. Close Meeting**

Meeting concluded 10.10am