

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday 7 March 2018

**Time:** 12:00 – 14:00

**Location:** St George Office Meeting Room

**Attendees:** **Committee Members** :Scott Armstrong, Luke Stower, Rob Jakins, Hamish McIntyre, Bill Knights, Glen Rogan, David Moon, Chad Prescott;  
**SunWater Staff:** Richard Coe, Lisa Welsh, Wayne Curtis;  
**Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRM&E) Staff:** Mark Bartlem;

**Chair:** Rohan Thorogood (SunWater) **Minutes:** Rohan Thorogood (SunWater)

Agenda Items		
Item No.	Agenda Item	Action Point
1.	<p><b>Current staffing at St George.</b></p> <p>Wayne Curtis updated the committee –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cohen Nunn has been appointed as Operator / Maintainer</li> <li>• Gordon Roberts is on long service leave</li> <li>• Wayne and Cameron working on reducing time off in lieu balances</li> </ul>	No Action
2.	<p><b>Projects.</b></p> <p>The majority of refurbishment and enhancement (R&amp;E) projects have now been completed.</p> <p>Buckinbah Pumps. One returned, waiting on another.</p> <p>Order has been placed for shelter and table for Banjo Bennett’s memorial.</p> <p>Rohan went through current operational works including clearing trees in Thuraggi channel and improving the drainage to drop boxes.</p>	No Action
3.	<p><b>5 Year R&amp;E Project Plan</b></p> <p>Rohan presented the 5 year project plan. Members raised questions in regards the following projects –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X-ray examination of winch ropes. It was asked if it would be cheaper to simply to replace these rather than x-ray them. The perception is that it would be cheaper to replace them.</li> <li>• What in the SunWater policy on replacing river meters? Should these be customer funded?</li> <li>• What are the two studies regarding cranes in 2019 and why will it cost 70k?</li> </ul>	Rohan Thorogood to provide responses.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rohan informed the IAC that the fencing project for animal exclusion (563K in 2020) would be removed from the list and rescope and the costing revaluated.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>2019 – 2024 price path.</b></p> <p>Lisa Welsh presented the future price path for Bulk Water. More transparency was assured and more interaction with the Irrigation Advisory Committee (IAC) was guaranteed.</p>	Rohan Thorogood to provide Lisa Welch with contact details of IAC members.
5.	<p><b>Thuraggi Update</b></p> <p>Richard Coe presented the works to date and long term solution for Thuraggi Channel. The works to date have been mainly investigation and risk assessments with the exception of the raising of Moolabah Weir which was necessary to enable SunWater to meet service obligations.</p> <p>Richard explained that while he had yet to receive final sign off, he was reasonably confident that around 90% of the costs to date would be covered under the DSIP program and the remainder under R&amp;E. Members endorsed the funding solution but were uneasy in regards to why the project has accumulated so many costs for what appeared to be minor outcomes.</p> <p>Richard presented the long term solution and the preferred option which entails extending headworks downstream approximately 60 meters. The works will take approximately two months and requires the dam to be empty. All members raised concerns in regards this timeframe as on average the dam did not remain empty for this amount of time on a regular basis. The committee asked Richard to investigate other options including a regulating structure downstream in order to maintain downward hydraulic pressure. Funding for future works was not discussed.</p>	Richard Coe to provide the IAC with regular updates.
6.	<p><b>DNRM&amp;E Update</b></p> <p>Mark Bartlem from DNRM&amp;E attended and gave the committee an update on Environmental, Stock and Domestic (ESD) water. Committee members voiced concern in regards to ‘banking’ ESD water and then having it ‘dumped’ when the dam filled.</p> <p>Mark also indicated, under the Resource Operations Plan, DNRM&amp;E were taking the step of securing 10% of Beardmore inflows for the purpose of ESD. This step is to maximize the downstream flow and will be ‘paid back’ on the next inflow into Beardmore Dam. The committee was divided on this issue.</p>	No action

**Next Meeting:**

Date: 16 May 2018  
 Time: TBA  
 Location: St George Office – Meeting Room