



Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group

General Meeting Minutes

June 26th 2008
10:00 a.m.
YYCMG Office, Kalannie

1. Open General Meeting (10.15am)

Attendance: Barrye Thompson, Chris King, Stacey Hudson, Dene Solomon, Jan MacPherson, Peter Syme, Lizzie Butler, Wally Barnes, Keith Camac, Max Hudson, Jo Ashworth

Apologies: David Coaker, Larry Mincherton, Robert Nixon, Ian Fordyce, Mark Reynolds

2. Minutes of previous General Meeting, held 24th April 2008

2.1. Amendments

Wally Barnes move that minutes are true and accurate account

Seconded Jan, Carried

2.2. Matters Arising

2.3. Sign previous minutes if true and correct record (Chairperson)

3. Executive Reports

3.1. Correspondence (SH)

3.1.1. Correspondence In - tabled

3.1.2. Correspondence Out – tabled

No matters arising

3.2. Funding and Finance (SH)

3.2.1. Financial report

As of 25th June 08

Ian's wages still to come out of Enterprise Ac – this is for Red River work

See Stacey's report –

Invoiced NACC 1st April – NRMO and Oil Mallee

RC – will pay as soon as they get money from NACC

Spoke to Katherine re NACC invoicing for paleo

Envirofunds on track to be finished by September

Discussion re money must be spent from June account – particularly Kevin Lyon – Ask

Kevin Lyon to invoice up to 30th June - Max to do? Funds will be committed by 14th

July (cut off date)

Wally accepts, Seconded Keith, Carried

3.2.2. Assets purchased for Perenjori office on 23.5.08: Projector screen \$271.82, double-sided magnetic white board \$289.98. (The interactive white board was decided against as they cost \$2499)

These were approved at the last meeting.

4. Staff Reports

4.1. Dene's Report - attached

4.1.1. Sub surface drainage project, Three Springs, dramas due to heavy rains. Final report done, will have to send remaining funds back to NACC . Three Springs worked the best, but overall project not that successful.

All water comes through the blue metal – not the slotted pipe

4.1.2. Easement surveys

4.1.3. Monitoring stations- with Dept of Water, will need to spend some time with Colin Walker to learn how to use them properly -

DoW – requested Dene for more work, fine

4.2. Lizzie's Report

4.2.1. NRMO report (Lizzie and Dene)

Raising awareness of NRM – and info in local papers, information

Contact Jackie – if any issues to highlight

Acronyms – make things more difficult to understand

4.2.2. Kalannie office update

GOodlands NOID, Jo done from home

One of the farmers has pulled out of wanting the drain through his property, may be able to pump water around his farm. No clearing permit required for Goodlands – this is Stage 2 project. Issues of ongoing costs from pumping water.

If this is creating a lot of problems, there are other areas that are keen on drainage MU16 -

Max in Kalannie office three days a week -

4.3. Max's Report –

4.3.1. Drainage – working in 2 catchments currently, will end up with 87Km of drain.

4.3.1.1. Burakin, railway crossing. Update on history of Burakin drain problems.

Have \$53,000 to put pipe under railway. Drain started, and is filling up, water currently going into surface water . John Holland working 9th/10th July supposedly, will start pumping on Monday (June 30th) using R Nixons pump until rail crossing sorted. Kevin almost finished all work at Burakin and MU16

4.3.2. New Funding arrangements for 2008/09

4.3.3. NACC – wages

Have \$706,000 to cover wages for the next year, (which will be \$300,000), money for easements, \$60,000, \$20,000 operations -. There will be money for about 15km of drain, which will allow for completion of one drain – possibly . Should look further at horizontal line boring – to get under the railway, has become more affordable. Should consider future use of railway – iron ore, increasing use. – which drain?

Wages are separate from projects –

Monitoring, important

Chris – saying for the money, 15km of drainage is not enough – so how do we do this?

Barrye – wages are not entirely for drainage – need to split the money so it works out as a much lower cost for drainage per km – ie/ split capital works from operations

Perceptions – that all the money is being used for drainage.

NHT projects – funding is finishing, Under CFOC, projects may be funded again, but at the moment we don't know

Max/BArrye still discussing with Alan B and Bill C

Easements – discussed further, possibly way of doing it for less mney

LCDC – only way to raise service fee, farmers are paying this over a longer length of time,

If we can lease land within the easements, opportunity to raise funds from this = to become self supporting
Broombush project, -

Merkanooka, 7km more to do here,

4.3.4. Have secured meeting with minister Chance. Max preparing briefing paper for this meeting. Also WCA – meeting with Tim Sparks and DoW, 1st July – Continue YY pilot project

4.3.5. Wally Barnes – Q about Federal money, - Have had different responses from everybody asked. Caring for Our Country – no money available for large engineering works – at the moment not sure what counts as large works. But, unlikely to be federally funded.

Sending info package to politicians who have an interest in NRM – documents produced

4.3.6. Update of MU16 clearing permit.

DEC requirements, Max went to Perth met someone high up with DEC – followed by further discussions by phone. Took photos of the remnant bush patch the day before – and photos of the drain there. Suggested, increase drain batter, and may not need the fence. 1:1 batter – going to meeting today, decision will be made.

This will cost an extra \$5,000 . This would reduce the need for maintenance -

4.4. Yarra Yarra Catchment Regional Council report

4.4.1. CEO update

30th of June, will be the change over. Talking to Stacey about this, re financial side of it
Only project funds will transfer to the RC, nothing else. Only drainage and NRMO's
RC have no involvement with anything else finance related

YYCMG – had special meeting to agree all of this

Visit to Minister Chance, 3rd July. Also chairman and CEO of NACC attending – don't know what outcomes will be. THIs meeting particularly about drainage

Leasing – easements, covenants, - The main problems are longevity of the agreements for easements. In contact with solicitors about possiblilty of leasing
Leases can cover everything required, long term lease, can be registered on a title
Also – if lease is under control of RC – is an argument for the drains being public infrastructure – and move away from public/private benefit

Westnet rail – wait until pipe is under the line, before raising issues re cost

Peter Syme – why not use horizontal line borer in Burakin?

Would still work out more expensive, would need 6 bores under

Also silt trap issue,

Surface water also going under the railway –

Regional Council, next meeting is 8th July

RC will want NRMO reports

4.5. Jo - Oil Mallee update

4.5.1. price of diesel, makes it too expensive to use the boiler, have EOI into
Wheatbelt Development scheme for solid fuel boiler

4.5.2. Bought a truck, YYCMG own the truck (not the RC) bin being made
Chlorine issue, lost trees, may be able to get more from Angela
Project is on track. Don't have a harvester driver.
Brickette plant – where it's being set up
Will all be happening – 80km radius,
To break even – need to keep boiler going for a good length of time, takes 3 hours to
heat up –
If oil mallees are counted in reveg plan, ?
Wally Barnes – Short's place, ripped and mounded, ready for trees to go in, 6000acres
this year, 4,000 next year

5. General Business

5.1. Outcomes of the YYCMG Special Meeting held 13th June
5.1.1. Minutes have gone to NACC, only drainage projects and NRMO's
Nothing else, because everything else currently happening, is finishing by September
Moved that minutes accepted, Dene, seconded by Jan
Carried and signed by Peter Syme

YYCMG as it is now – will still have enterprises

5.2. meeting.

5.3. LCDC update

5.3.1. Morawa still waiting to hear from us on how it YY LCDC will operate. They have
agreed in principle. Morawa LCDC will wind up in August anyway.

5.3.2. Held public meeting in Morawa, motion was passed that Morawa disband and
let YY form LCDC – Andrew Watson was present

5.3.3. If drainage project does stop – what happens with the YY LCDC,

5.4. Regional Council – purpose document- establishment agreement, is only drainage
– **tabled** (get wording from Barrye) to establish control, manage and use the
surface and sub-surface water in the Yarra Yarra catchment basin.

At one stage all projects were going to transfer to the RC –

Unresolved

Question to Barrye to take to the Regional Council, what is their actual purpose –

Can it change to cover all projects, current and future

A lot of discussion over the role of the RC – we need clarification from the next RC
meeting exactly what it manages

They have a purpose and objectives –

Who is going to clarify this –

Administration funds come from the projects.

5.5. Action Needed: To discuss the forming of a committee or committees to report to
the YYCRC in an advisory capacity and if possible to form the committee(s) at this
meeting

Nominations now, but decisions do not have to be made at this meeting. The works
committee will attend meetings. Meetings alternate between Morawa, Perenjori and
Dalwallinu

Nominations:

Keith Camac, Jan MacPherson, Peter Syme, Cameron Tubby, Dave Baxter

Laurie Butler, Keith Carter, Dave Coaker, Larry Mincherton, Brian McCreery, Kent Lane,

Proxies are okay.

5.6. Website Update

Jo and Lizzie to do the website –

Speak to Dawn and Leah at PJ shire, Katherine and Rebecca at NACC -

5.7. Green Office – as above

5.8. New funding, open grants from CFOC, Does anybody have ideas.

Applications need to be in by 1st August.

6. Business without Notice

Barrye, Chris and Jan have left

6.1. Look at Land access and MOU agreements

6.1.1. Land Access comments recorded on print out, to type up later

6.1.1.1. legal requirements

6.1.1.2. Area of the easement – should be a set area, but with some flexibility.

With the exception of drain passing through productive land 50m, and if no surface water management may be reduced to a minimum of 30 metres wide

6.1.1.3. Maintenance – discussed \$150 still adequate (should we send out the rate notices on the 1st July? Who is going to do this?)

6.1.1.4. Commercial crops within the easement – changed to shall have access (from wish to have access)

6.1.1.5. Road crossings and other culverts – add in, minimum of 4 metres for vehicle access at Shire, main road and farm boundaries

6.1.2. MOU – updated attached

6.1.2.1. Motion to accept that MOU and land access agreements were reviewed and updated.

Moved by Keith, seconded by Wally, carried

6.2. Kalannie office building, lease update under CRC

6.3. Motion that we invoice existing drainage works from the 1st July, valid for period 1st July 2008 to 30th June 2009.

Moved Max, seconded Keith, carried

Dene will let Stacey know details for invoicing

6.4. Max to send Barrye an email to bring up issue of CEO wages for the Regional Council, at the next RC meeting.

7. Close Meeting (Approx 2.40 pm)

7.1. Agenda items for next meeting

7.2. Next meeting is at Perenjori, August 28th 2008, 10.00am

7.3. Close Meeting

I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and correct record of the meeting held on 26th June 2008.

Signed: _____
Chair of YYCMG

Date: _____

Please see website for copies of all previous minutes
www.yarrayracatchment.asn.au
