



Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group

General Meeting

August 28th 2008

10:20 a.m.

YYCMG Office, Perenjori

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1. **Open General Meeting (10.20am)**
 2. **Present: P Syme, S Hudson, R Nixon – as President of YYCRC, K Camac, D Solomon, W Barnes, D Stein, B Thompson as observer and advisor from YYCRC, I Fordyce, M Hudson, J Ashworth**
 3. **Apologies: J Macpherson, K Carter, L Butler**
 4. **Minutes of previous General Meeting, held 26th June 2008 at Kalannie**
 - 4.1.1. Amendments – Nil

W Barnes Moved, K Camac Sec that minutes are a true and accurate record of meeting held on 26th June 2008. Carried

Discussion relating to voting rights of meeting attendants –decided that as this is a general meeting so all attendees are entitled to vote.
 - 4.1.2. Matters Arising – YYLCDC – waiting on development of governance, leasing/easement options. Morawa LCDC – plan to become a Landcare Group, at this stage. We will send a letter to Morawa LCDC, outlining planned constitution and guidelines (Max and Jo after gleaning info from Barrye). Currently thinking that the members of the works committee would make up the LCDC, which would be about 6 people.
 5. **Executive Reports**
 - 5.1. Correspondence (SH)
 - 5.1.1. Correspondence In
 - Carringtons – traffic management
 - Western Financial – Super
 - Bankwest
 - Landmark Rewards
 - Lotterywest – approved \$30,000 grant for tree planting – need to advertise this.
 - Shire of Dalwallinu – re Goodlands NOID road crossings
 - 5.1.2. Correspondence Out
 - Letter of support for Georgie Troup for CFOC Brushwood project (150,000 trees?)
 - 5.2. Funding and Finance (SH)
 - 5.2.1. Financial Report
 - Transfer to YYCRC 1/7/08 – not possible at this stage, getting closer, in next couple of weeks.

- BT – Transfer will occur at 1/7/08 running through YYCMG at present, will journal to correct when all set up.
 - Total uncommitted funds – \$90,117
 - Will have to return unspent funds to NACC of XXXXX
 - 20% to be invoiced to NACC for Xantippe, Burakin and Mongers16 – invoice Xantippe, checklist to be done on remaining 2.
 - Discussion on Lotterywest trees, trees to be planted, perhaps funds available for someone else to plant in Jibberding? P Syme to follow up. S Hudson to check up on outstanding invoices from Angela and Mark Waters.
- 5.2.2. YYCRC / YYCMG funds – YYCRC need to use Quickbooks, and need to set up new chart of accounts and budgets figures inputted. To comply with statutory local govt guidelines. Very involved, will need Haynes Norton to do this.
- 5.2.3. Update Envirofunds – All due next week, ready to be audited, all done.
- 5.2.4. Assets - *Oil Mallee truck \$40,078.84 9.6.08, 2 shelving units \$225.44 30.7.08 Cross fold boom and rack pack – \$1327.27*

K Camac accepted and M Hudson Sec Carried

6. Reports (reports attached)

- 6.1. NRMO report – Given by Dene. See attached. Amazed that there have been some losses in Broombush plantings. Significant weed infestation – not sure of chemicals to spray Broombush.
CFOC – huge farmer support, unfortunately none from NACC, as too similar to one of theirs.
New girl chasing Enviro Science work experience – Katrina from Morawa. She has been helping Ian, a few days here and there. Bore monitoring, once/month includes a reading of the flume.
- 6.2. Drilling report – currently drilling strainer holes, done some but now too wet.
Discussion relating to getting concrete to strainer holes.
- 6.3. Oil mallee report – given by Jo
- CO2, Oil Mallee Company takeover, it effects our project as we are not sure about the brickette plant.
 - All seedlings have been planted, waiting for reporting sheets to be returned from growers.
 - All funds have been committed.
 - Hoping the one bin will be complete so that can run whole process to test system
- 6.4. Drainage project report – Given by Max
- Few things fallen behind – Burakin NOID, need to get permission to go under rail line. 15m poly under rail line. LCDC a bit behind. Stephens lease, a couple of difficult inclusions from John’s lawyer. Need a further amount of work from the solicitor. Deposited plans – Landgate – Barry Cribb. Required for registered lease. Similar to wind farm system. ~\$25500 – 28500 to create deposited plans. Then we could use for govt authority long term lease (leasehold tenure) – preferable option at this stage.
 - Stage 1 of Drainage program is finished, difficult to keep to budget, esp. fencing, 87km instead of 100km.
 - Burakin – rail crossing problem, had to temporarily pump, (which died!) Has worked very well. One farm is on the market. Problems with location of the

broom bush planting. Something went wrong – 9ha instead of 3.5ha of trees, taken large sections of land out of his paddock. Resolved- \$2000/year lease. Maybe we could put the additional crossing in to forgo the lost land to trees. Do we have \$2000 to put an additional crossing in at Burakin.

- Mongers 16 - DEC restrictions, more expensive, but were able to complete. With farmers committing some additional funds resulted in drain having 1.1 batter through bush, also additional 2 crossings. Fence incomplete and no road crossing on North side of Dale's block. – Lyons still to do headwall.
- In springtime, need to prepare for next year's planting – spray.

6.5. Survey report – Given by Dene – not a lot happening as busy doing YY work. Still to survey the strainers for the deposited plan for drains.

6.6. Monitoring- Given by Ian, Tabled report. Ian still unsure on trends either way on the results of the bores. No significant changes in vegetation that Ian has found to date. Are we looking in the right place? Wally suggested we get data from Maddens drain, Peter Syme also suggested getting some data from 1982 to start collating as historical data.

General Discussion on improving perception of drainage – need better results, and perhaps a presentation of expenditure, ie breakdown of expenses – fencing, wages, trees, wages. Photo monitoring that Ian has set up in Mongers 16 bush could show significant improvement. Funding for research. Mongers55 – recovery after rainfall events appears to be more sluggish – perhaps drain need cleaning? Silting on bottom which has come from the walls. Silting rate slows down after initial clean. Water quality, has the large rainfall events had any impact, water quality in drain is a bit better after rainfall events.?????

We need to present to Verity on Friday week that this is going to work!!!

Discussion on the difficulty in doing this, as need more than 3 months to determine. So many variables. Ian and Dene to work together to get to Barrye some indicative results.

We need to prepare some experiments for next season, use the leasehold land. Eg, cropping out from the drain to determine the effect of the drain on the surrounding crop land and recoverable.

Vegetation transects not showing anything but must still be done.

6.7. YYCRC report – Barrye

- Flat out trying to get funding from state \$21M, initially unsuccessful, then reviewed with the suggestion of reducing by 50%, we are now still in the mix, \$500,000 (compared with \$2.1M) subject to public benefit. Trying to value saved land – vegetation, land values, roads, railroad etc. TEC (Threatened Ecological Community) to save if there is one, would be significant. All of this is in the previous submission, but appears to have been ignored. The farmers are providing public benefit to farmer further up the catchment. Money will be solely for Merkanooka.
- Farmers could consider giving larger amounts of land for revegetation, as then we can use the TEC's in the recognized communities, to provide an environmental corridor to link TEC's from Ballaranga Hills to the Lake.
- Caring for our Country submission - \$400,000 won't hear until October, but then Money will flow quickly.

- Debating with NACC how IP3 funds will be spent, \$706,000 – we had put in for Burakin, Merkanooka and Canna Gutha, NACC have now said all must go to Meraknooka. Participating Shires may have issue with this decision, as some Shires have received no benefit, and control is taken from YYCRC and been transferred to NACC!
- Leases – Using John Stephens lease as the bench mark. Applying for a simple lease, 15 yrs, 10 yr option of fenced area. Landowner still has access. YYCRC will have quiet enjoyment. Deposited plan or just a plan that is sufficiently recognized, eg GPS points. Landgate highly recommend for longevity that the area be identified on deposited plan. Lessor will be responsible for the maintenance of the drain. Does that need to be included? Service fee by yylcdc system.
- Establishment agreement – regional purpose. To control, manage and use excess surface and ground water in the region. Vegetation, soil quality, drains, surface water is included.
- Budget – BT has completed a cash budget, which has been circulated – Haynes Norton will be preparing it in correct format. Funds need to be changed over and operating in the new structure.
- Works Committee – Angela Dring and Cameron Tubby? Email addresses? Keith Carter – OK to be a proxy. BT needs responses. Tender document needs review so that can be taken to council with recommendation. Single tenderer for 129km. Primary contractor, and secondary/tertiary contractors if primary contractor is unavailable. Works to 30th June 2009.(not 129km).

7. General Business

7.1. "Easement" progress report

Deposited Plan - \$37,000 has been put aside. MH is suggesting that is essential that it would be a very wise move and good investment to proceed with the proposal put forward by Harley Survey Group. Leases should be done immediately and the deposited plan idea needs to be investigated further. Lease will be registered on the title. MH under opinion that needs deposited plan to be lodged on title. This needs clarifying.

BT proceed with leases and if Dene surveys the points, this will be useful for both purposes.

Move that we recommend to the YYCRC that they proceed with arrangement of the lease and YYCMG investigate further the requirement of a deposited plan.

Moved Max Hudson, Sec Dene Solomon. Carried. We need clarification of what "adequately described" means.

7.2. Update on OMC Drill Rig purchase/lease (Jo) – not sure what will happen with the takeover of OMC by CO2 Australia.

7.3. Website Update – Nil at present, JA to liaise with LB, with view for LB to develop?

8. Business without Notice

8.1 Arcview 9.3 – update has arrived, we need to check that that is included in annual fees. SH will check.

8.2 Dene replacement vehicle – Toyota Hilux 4x4 crewcab – Geraldton Toyota – leased under Toyota Finance. \$1100/inc/month no maintenance. Resolved.

8.3 WCA – CFOC funding, have no banking facilities, could YYCRC manage the account? The WCA would have to apply to the YYCRC to hold those funds.

9. Close Meeting (2.20 pm)

9.1. Agenda items for next meeting

9.2. Next meeting at Kalannie, October 23rd 2008, 10.00am

9.3. Close Meeting
