



# Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group

## General Meeting Minutes

September 3rd 2009  
2.30 pm  
YYCMG Office Kalannie

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### 1. Open General Meeting (Approx 2.40pm)

#### 1.1. Attendance

Peter Syme, Dene Solomon, Lizzie King, Janette MacPherson, Barrye Thompson, Keith Camac, Stacey Hudson, Max Hudson, Jo Ashworth

#### 1.2. Apologies

Ian Fordyce, Keith Carter

### 2. Minutes of previous General Meeting, held 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009

#### 2.1. Amendments

None

#### 2.2. Matters Arising

None

**Moved Jan MacPherson, seconded Jo Ashworth that the minutes of the YYCMG meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009 be adopted as a true and correct record**

**Carried 8/0**

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

Minutes from the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009 signed by Peter Syme

### 3. Executive Reports

#### 3.1. Correspondence (SH)

##### 3.1.1. Correspondence In – tabled

Australian Tax Office, Income tax withholding rates will change from July 09

##### 3.1.2. Correspondence Out – tabled

Letter to Lotterywest, with the first lot of invoices for payment from the broombush planting.

#### 3.2. Funding and Finance (SH)

##### 3.2.1. Financial Report – Tabled (YYCMG & YYCRC)

###### 3.2.1.1. YYCMG:

- Funds on hand significantly less as have spent the oil mallee project money
- Still \$2605 outstanding for drain fees at 31/08/09.
- YYCRC owe YYCMG \$2,947 for two Ute payments, website subscription, and rent of kalannie house.
- The oil mallee project is currently being audited by North Midlands Accounting Service.
- Keith Carter's Envirofund; currently looking for the actual budget, as the one we have does not match exactly with what money we have received.

- Still have to pay Mark Waters for his tree planting; funds will be paid to YYCMG by Lotterywest, waiting for Mark's invoices.
- An extra 20,000 broombush seedlings were planted and the cost of the seedlings will come from the Enterprise account. The cost of the planting will come from the Lotterywest grant.
- Total uncommitted funds of \$32, 201 at 31/08/09

Max – second year of lease payments need to go out, YYCMG will have to send them out again.

McWhirter – still has an outstanding account from last year. Not sure if the address we have is correct.

#### **YYCRC:**

- Bank balance \$288,363
- Accounts payable of \$3, due to not having the August invoices yet.
- We have not received invoices from Colin Walker for the works he completed two months ago.
- The drainage wages includes the additional funds received from NACC (\$135,970). What is unspent by 30<sup>th</sup> September is what will be transferred to the successful tenderer.

**Moved Jan MacPherson, seconded Keith Camac that the financial statements for the YYCMG and the YYCRC be received**

**Carried 8/0**

## **4. Reports**

### **4.1. YYCRC CEO report (Barrye Thompson) – tabled (see attached)**

- Annual report completed and can be submitted for audit
- At the last meeting the regional council received two notices of intent to withdraw from Dalwallinu and Koorda. The Shire of Dalwallinu have since put forward a motion for the next RC meeting to wind up the RC at the earliest opportunity. As yet there have been no details of a mechanism of how to do this.
- Advice received is that Royalties for Regions (R for R) money will not come to the YYCRC, but have also received contradictory advice from the Minister for Local Government that (R for R) is the right platform for the RC. A letter from Brendan Grylls (attached) states that:

- The RC should be able to apply for funds under the regional grant scheme, Royalties for Regions (as part of WCA)

Other advice from Brendan Grylls is to have a professional proposal drawn up, with full support from DOW, and this could be presented to Cabinet. Max has been in touch with Richard Ball of Keston Technologies about this

- Barrye has spoken to the Minister for Water who is supportive but feels RC is small fish
- There are 6 ministers involved in allocating the \$30million funds for State NRM. Feel it would be beneficial to speak to each of them, as we would need support of all ministers

### **4.2. NRMO reports (DS & LK) – tabled**

- 4.2.1. Kel Baldok from Hydrosmart has taken over from Colin Walker as the hydrologist assisting with the DoW project. There are 3 surface water monitoring sites - Merkanooka, Mongers 55 and Burakin. KB will be putting a large flume in the drain at Burakin, proposed to be either a stainless steel flume or concrete crump system (which is very good for de-silting). Also proposed to put a flume in at Mongers 55.
- 4.2.2. NRMO roles; Barrye is meeting with NACC next week and one thing he will be asking about is the split of NRMO time between YY projects and NACC projects, and the degree of flexibility within the roles.

#### **4.3. Lease update (DS)**

With lease agreements and surface monitoring

#### **4.4. Oil mallee update (JA)**

- 4.4.1. Final report finished but in limbo as have been informed that the truck must be sold. Having spoken to Katherine Atkinson agreed that it would be put up for tender in local papers, Kalannie Kapers and the Totally Locally. Part of the tender specifications are that the hooklift must be removed from the truck. Only 1 tender received, from Kalannie distillers for \$3,300 (including GST). The Truck was valued at \$8,000, but whoever buys it has to pay for removal of parts.
- 4.4.2. Currently the Oil Mallee association is custodian of all remaining assets. May need to follow up with OMA to see who of OMA and YYCMG covers any future costs. Suggested that they could remain on the asset list and depreciate. This is not a tax issue, SH to follow this up and Jo to seek clarification from Katherine on how to proceed with ownership of remaining assets. YYCMG will need to sign off on this.
- 4.4.3. The trial went really well, everything worked as hoped

**Motion to accept the tender from Kalannie distillers of \$3300 including GST for the truck**

**Moved Lizzie King, seconded Keith Camac that the YYCMG accept the tender from Kalannie Distillers for the truck**

**Carried 8/0**

#### **4.5. Max's report (MH)**

- 4.5.1. Still need to clarify some changes to the lease agreements. Max pointed out there needs to be an addendum attached to the lease agreements stating the rules or obligations under the lease – Barrye has rectified this.
- 4.5.2. Greg Milloy's drain: Around \$13,000 has been spent extending the drain after Mr. Milloy had objected to the unscheduled route the drain had taken, claiming he had not been consulted on this matter. A further \$10,000 has been spent on a connection through Vinci's (Tropiano) property to allow Brain Winterbourne, David Coaker and Jim Milloy to add around 7km of new drain. There is already a lot of water flowing out of this new drain, Mr. Vinci, the owner of the Tropiano property did not want the extra drain so it is all piped underground through the 200m on his land, to allow the other farmers access to the main drain. They also contributed \$10,000 towards the laying of the pipe.

- 4.5.3.** Broombush: 220,000 seedlings planted this year in good conditions. There are now well over 400,000 broombush in this region and there is a real potential for the commercial side of it. Met with Helen Job (working as an advisor for MCC's project)
- 4.5.4.** YYCMG have submitted a tender to carry out monitoring works in the catchment
- 4.5.5.** Fencing: We are getting towards the end of this. Nixon's has been started; Counsel's are starting next week. Ryan's have the strainer posts in. Coaker's and McWhirter's have not been done yet. We may need more wire, but not sure of exact amounts yet. We have been asked to report on the fencing and received a letter from State NRM saying that if the fence is not all up by the end of September then all money will have to be paid back. We may need Heppy and Sparky to give some farmers some help to finish off.
- 4.5.6.** Have been looking around all the drains and taking photos, there are visual improvements, with crops growing up to the very edge of the drain in some places.
- 4.5.7.** Stephen's Lease: Has finally gone through. About 12,000 broombush have already been planted on the lease site, and have organized to have it sprayed next week in preparation for ploughing.
- 4.5.8.** Funding for stage 2: If we are to get funding for stage 2, we need to lobby the ministers. Have been spending a lot of time doing work for the Wheatbelt Catchment Alliance (WCA), but this is working towards getting money for the YYCRC as well. Ministers do seem to be asking for projects that are on-ground and ready to go. Have spoken to Eric Wright (David Hartley's successor) he thinks that there could be a call to the community for submissions but nothing is certain. We need to source funds for a consultant to prepare a submission. The Treasury don't understand arterial, trying to get an appointment with Craig Warner (Acting Assistance Director, Strategic Policy and Evaluation, Department of Treasure and Finance ) to put the case forward, as all submissions will go to Treasury. Also trying to meet with Minister Terry Redman again and try and get him to come up and have a look at the project.

**Moved Janette MacPherson, seconded Keith Camac that the reports from Barrye Thompson, Lizzie King, Dene Solomon, Jo Ashworth and Max Hudson are received**

**Carried 8/0**

## **5. General Business**

### **5.1. LCDC Progress (JA)**

Has not progressed any further but now the oil mallee project has wound up will be getting on with it, Jo, Max and Brian McCreery will be getting together soon to write the constitution

### **5.2. Stephens lease agreement**

In addition to above the lease taken to Landgate was not up to the standard they need.

Recommended that Dene takes a lease agreement to Landgate to check that everything is on them that is required.

### **5.3. Committee has to authorize the use of the common seal**

**Motion that we authorize the use of the common seal for the signing of Stephen's Lease**

**Moved Keith Camac, seconded Janette MacPherson that we authorize the use of the common seal for the signing of Stephen's Lease**

Carried 8/0

#### **5.4. Funding applications**

- 5.4.1. Lotterywest funding - we were successful in getting this funding of \$44,000 (detailed in Lizzie's and Max's reports)
- 5.4.2. CFOC funding - We were unsuccessful in CFOC applications
- 5.4.3. FRRR funding – We were unsuccessful in this grant round.
- 5.4.4. Farm Ready Grants – call for applications, deadline 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 09, Lizzie to follow this up

### **6. Business without Notice**

#### **6.1. Motion for YYCMG to send out service fees for 2009/10**

**Moved Lizzie King, seconded Max Hudson that the YYCMG send out drain service fees for 2009/10 that will be the same as last year**

Carried 8/0

#### **6.2 Staff**

- Funding has been extended for NRMO's until June 2010
- Max and Ian will be employed full time with the RC until the end of September. YYCMG have submitted a tender to take on the monitoring project, if successful Max and Ian will be employed again by the YYCMG. Ian full time and Max on 3 days a week from the 1<sup>st</sup> October
- Max and Ian full time until end of Sept 09 with the RC

#### **6.3 Offer from NACC to fund a tree planter**

Jo to talk to Bill to see if this offer is still available up to 30<sup>th</sup> September (as money must be spent by end of September), and also if this offer is to YYCMG or YYCRC

#### **6.4 Can we modify the truck so it can also be used as a spray rig?**

Discussion - It would be better to set up on back of the Ute and we already have the equipment for the bike, so we won't modify the truck.

#### **6.5 Amalgamation of shires**

Advice from ministers that amalgamated shires will have more chance of attracting funding. Max suggested that considering the Dalwallinu Shire has decided to withdraw from the YYCRC, it may be a good opportunity for the areas of the Wongan-Ballidu and Dalwallinu Shires within the YYCRC gazetted area to be excised from those shires and amalgamate with Perenjori, Morawa and maybe Mingenew and Three Springs as well thus keeping the YYCRC altogether. It was resolved that Max should look into this matter and attend the amalgamation meeting to be held in Perenjori this evening.

### **7. Close Meeting (Approx 4.30 pm)**

**7.1.** Agenda items for next meeting

**7.2.** Next meeting is at Perenjori, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, 2.30pm (AGM and GM)

**7.3.** Close Meeting

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I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and correct record of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of YYCMG

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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[www.yarrayratchment.asn.au](http://www.yarrayratchment.asn.au)

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