



SUMMARY OF THE ORDINARY BOARD MEETING #OM7:11/12 for GWMWater held Wednesday, 1 February 2012

The Board of Directors approved and/or discussed the following matters.

Decision Papers

1. The Acting Managing Director provided a report on a range of key operational matters.
2. The Board endorsed the general principles included in the General Level of Service – Water Quality Discussion Paper developed for community consultation as part of the 2013-2018 Water Plan.
3. Consultation is to occur with customers on Lake Buloke in relation to their tariffs and ability to trade water.
4. The Board agreed that the pre-existing rate policy as it applies to salt-affected lands be cancelled.
5. The Board confirmed appointments to the West Wimmera Groundwater Management Area Implementation Committee. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the newly appointed Committee will be held in March 2012.
6. Groundwater irrigation customers will be advised that groundwater use in the Neuarpur sub-zone 1 of the West Wimmera Groundwater Management Area will be set at 92% for the 2012/13 season.
7. An Annual Public meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday 4 April 2012. A public notice advising customers of the meeting will be published in all major regional newspapers.

Discussion Papers

8. The Board received an update on development of the 2013-2018 Water Plan and was provided with a series of discussion papers that have been developed for consultation with our Customer Committee groups.
9. Advice was provided on the Department of Sustainability and Environment's plans to develop a model by-law for the management of recreational areas.
10. Input will be sought from the Regional Recreational Water Users Group on the arrangement for apportioning entitlement to and subsequent filling of recreational lakes that will assist GWMWater in future planning.

11. The Board was updated on the status and direction of Wimmera Mallee Pipeline channel decommissioning works.
12. The current status of the rural back to base metering project and its implications in the development of the 2013-2018 Water Plan and current Corporate Plan was reported to the Board.
13. Information on the potential impact of the Carbon Pricing Mechanism on GWMWater and the environmental and financial issues to be considered were presented to the Board.
14. The Board received the Essential Services Commission Water Performance Report for performance of Victorian urban water and sewerage businesses for 2010/11.
15. A copy of the GWMWater Stakeholder Engagement Strategy was circulated to Board Directors for information. The Strategy ensures key actions in GWMWater's 2010-2020 Strategic Directions are achieved, particularly in relation to delivering customer focussed products and services.
16. The questions contained in the draft 2011/12 Customer Survey were provided to Board Director for information. It is proposed to conduct the survey during early February 2012.
17. A change of venue for the March 2012 was considered by the Board given the timing of the next meeting coincides with the annual Wimmera Machinery Field Days.
18. The Board was informed on the status GWMWater's involvement in the Department of Planning and Community Development's of Regional Growth Plans. The plans aim to establish a land use plan to direct long term growth and change in the region.
19. Comment was sought from the Board on the content of a GWMWater submission on the proposed Murray-Darling Basin Plan.
20. The Board received an update on planning and actions undertaken to address water quality issues that have arisen from the high turbidity levels in Lake Bellfield since the January 2011 flood.
21. Board Director attendance at future Customer Committee meetings to be held during February 2012 was confirmed. A summary of the responses and feedback received from previous Committee meetings held was also provided.

General Business

22. Discussion was held on the future water supply demand requirements of the Donald Mineral Sands mine.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on 7 March 2012.

DISCLAIMER:

This is a summary of record of the Ordinary Board Meeting held 1 February 2012 provided for information only as meeting minutes will not be confirmed until the March 2012 meeting.