



Gundduwa Regional Conservation Association Meeting Minutes

Venue Gundduwa Office – Perenjori/Teleconference

Date 11/11/2016

Time 2:30pm

Participants	Luke Bayley	Chair GRCA/Bush Heritage Australia
	Ben McLernon	Proponent
	Gordon McNeill	North Central Malleefowl Preservation Group
	Raul Valenzuela	Shire of Yalgoo
	Richard McLellan	Northern Agricultural Catchments Council
	Melissa Farrelly	Australian Wildlife Conservancy
	Jude Sutherland	GRCA – Business Manager

Apologies: Jess Sackman, Leah Bell, Steve Churchill, (Ben McLernon had to leave at 3.30pm)

Distribution Gundduwa Regional Conservation Association

Chair: Luke Bayley

	Section	Action By/ Deadline
1.0	Introductions and Welcome	Luke
	Everyone welcomed to the meeting.	
2.0	Declaration of Interest	Luke
	No declaration of interest.	
3.0	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Luke
	3.1 Minutes were presented to Management Committee: Acceptance of previous Management Committee Minutes 16/08/2016 Moved: Raul Valenzuela Seconded: Melissa Farrelly	
4.0	Matters arising from Previous Minutes:	Luke
	4.1 Constitution: Further discussion regarding the wording for the constitution under Governance Section 7.0.	
5.0	Correspondence	Jude
	Out: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to partners Re – Website Thank you Letter – Peter Waterhouse In: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from Proponents - EPA Boundaries Variation to contract – Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group NARSAN EOI – 17th February. Due 25th November 2016 Emails: Positive response from website request; Bush Heritage Australia, Shire of Dalwallinu & Mt Marshall, Rangelands NRM, North Central Malleefowl 	

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	<p>Preservation Group, National Malleefowl Recovery Team, Northern Agricultural Catchments Council.</p> <p>5. Emails: Following the Gunduwa Forum with positive feedback regarding the event.</p>	
6.0	Finance Report	Jude
	<p>6.1 Audited Financials: Audited Financials ending June 2016 presented to the Management Committee, these included year 2014, 2015 & 2016. Moved: Melissa Farrelly Secoded: Ben McLernon</p> <p>6.2 Financial report ending 30 October 2016: Period ending 31st October 2016 Financial Statement Moved: Gordon McNeill Secoded: Raul Valenzuela</p>	
7.0	Governance Discussion	Luke
	<p>7.1 GRCA Operating Boundary Correspondence from proponents. Boundary for Gunduwa is specified by the EPA with the intent that the offsets are to be spent in the specific area. Proponent advised GRCA in 2014 in writing that the map being published was incorrect and required modification to comply with the requirements of Ministerial Statement (MS) 753. The issue was discussed in several subsequent meetings and GRCA refused to modify the map boundaries. The GRCA operating boundary was in place prior to the establishment of the GRCA. It is fundamentally important to comply with Ministerial Statement 753. Environment Offset funds must be spent within the boundary specified in Ministerial Statement 753 Gunduwa could attract future funds to be spent in the wider region. Important to clearly define the region on the website and business plan map, (dotted line for the offset area). GRCA to continue to display the original ambitious boundaries for outside funding. Seek opportunities from the State NRM and Royalties for Regions. Map edits: Add in LGA Boundaries, Offset boundaries. Ensure Shire of Yalgoo continues to be a part of GRCA and does not exclude Yalgoo to apply for funding rounds. To be decided upon by the Management Committee during the application process. Letter to the Shire of Yalgoo – outlining and clarifying current situation to ensure Shire of Yalgoo will continue to support GRCA and see value in this regional initiative. Unnecessary boundaries can stifle development of good biodiversity. Correspondence: Luke and Richard to arrange a meeting to discuss current future Ministerial Statements directly with the EPA. Copy of letter sent from proponent to EPA and correspondence received back from EPA. Proponent does not routinely distribute correspondence with regulators to third parties as the issue of compliance with MS753 is a matter for the company and the regulator. In this case the regulator has issued a clear compliance instruction to the proponents to implement MS753 as it is written. Check with proponent if they would support sharing their correspondence with GRCA to enable transparency and understanding of recent dialogue.</p> <p>7.2 Constitution: Discussion on number of Management Committee members. Management Committee to send through variations to be presented at next meeting.</p>	
8.0	Projects	Jude

	Section	Action By/ Deadline
	<p>8.1 New Expression of Interest Funding 2017/18: EOI: Adverts and Flyers – Geraldton Guardian, MidWest Times & local papers. Add EOI advert onto website . Committee endorsed advertising of new EOI round.</p> <p>8.2 Final Written Reports: Shire of Perenjori – Challenge of Change Program Shire of Perenjori - Youth Engagement</p> <p>8.3 Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group: Request for a variation to their project. Underspend on current project and requesting to organise a BioBlitz in Buntine September 2017. Good opportunity to collaborate with other organisations, additional investment opportunity. Value- adding for the funds. Management Committee agreed it was a great initiative and would support the variation request. Motion: Approval of variation to the YYCMG & MCC Project Moved: Melissa Farrelly Seconded: Raul Valenzuela</p>	
9.0	Website	Jude
	Forum presentations on display and next week the new EOI's for the new funding round will be uploaded.	
10.0	Blues for the Bush Event	Luke
	Gunduwa Forum – Funded by Gunduwa RCA & NACC. Challenge of Change Program. Thank you to Elisabeth McLellan for being MC for the event. Well run event. High level questions raised. Posters generated a lot of interest, enabling the community to connect with Project Coordinators. High level attendees: David Carter, Gerard O'Neill, Hon Melissa Price. Positive feedback from all participants and audience - Gunduwa Forum Action: Dean Revell – Letter of thanks. Scheduling & programming.	
11.0	General Business and Late Items	Luke
	Engage with members: Minutes be put on the website. Send out information/newsletter to the members. Update for members. Projects, minutes on website. Guest Speaker, next meeting. Newsletter (Expanded) deliberation on Gunduwa Meetings. Put forward ideas for guest speakers and member engagement. NARSAN – Presentation to the NARSAN meeting in Mingenew – 17th February 2017.	
12.0	Meeting Closed & Next Meeting	Luke
	Meeting Closed: 4.10pm Next Meeting – to be held 24 th February 2017 Following Meeting: To be held @ Dalwallinu	

Signed as a true and correct record of proceedings:

Chair: Mr Luke Bayley

