



MEETING	NRAR Board Meeting		
MEETING NO.	No. 8	DATE	16 May 2018
LOCATION	Level 43 Casuarina Room, MLC Building Martin Place	TIME	12.00pm – 5.00pm
BOARD ATTENDEES	Craig Knowles (Chair), Ilona Millar (Member), Bruce Brown (Member)		
NRAR EXEC ATTENDEES	Grant Barnes (Chief Regulatory Officer), Kirsty Ruddock (A/Director Regulatory Capability & Coordination), Greg Abood (Director Regional Water Regulation–East), Graeme White (Director Regional Water Regulation–West), Russell Johnston (Executive Officer), Daniel Blacker (Director NRAR Services & Operations), Ryan Lynn (Senior Project Officer), ,		
OTHER ATTENDEES	Listed next to relevant agenda item		
APOLOGIES	Tim Gilbert (Director Regulatory Capability & Coordination) Kaia Hodge (Director Regulatory Innovation)		
PREPARED BY	Ryan Lynn (Senior Project Officer)		

### Previous meeting

Action	Status
Board requested detailed briefing on NRAR budget	Completed
Legal and Communications models determined and Board to review role descriptions prior to advertisement.	Continuing. Model agreed and role descriptions to be finalised for review.

### This meeting

Agenda Item / Item specific attendee(s)	Notes
Confirm Minutes	Minutes of 20 April 2018 were confirmed.
Declaration of conflict of interests	No declarations of conflicts of interest.
General update – NRAR	<p>The Board were provided with an update on property inspections and investigations that have taken place in properties around Newcastle, Gosford, Wollongong, Woolgoolga, Coffs Harbour, Nepean River, Murray River and Murrumbidgee River on farms, industrial and private properties.</p> <p>Grant Barnes noted continued presence of NRAR Investigators to support the shepherding of environmental flows in the North West.</p> <p>The Board requested reporting be developed for external publishing of NRAR activities.</p> <p>Graeme White &amp; Gregory Abood provided an update on current recruitment to grow regulatory capacity of NRAR.</p> <p>The Board noted the appointment of Russell Johnston as Executive Officer to NRAR and conveyed appreciation for the service provided by Kendy Burke in the interim role.</p>
NRAR legal structure	Kirsty Ruddock & Tim Holden presented options for legal support for NRAR moving forward.

<b>Agenda Item / Item specific attendee(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Additional attendees: Tim Holden (General Counsel)	<p>The Board endorsed a legal structure where officers would sit within the Departmental Legal Branch for their ongoing professional development and guidance, while receiving direction from NRAR regarding day-to-day work activities.</p> <p>The Board requested a review of the current legal model and suppliers to ensure appropriate for NRAR. It also requested a 6 month review of the approved option.</p>
New DoI Secretary introduction Additional attendees: Simon Draper (Secretary)	<p>Simon Draper met with the Board and affirmed his clear support for the independence of NRAR in managing compliance and enforcement of water in NSW.</p> <p>The Board thanked Mr Draper for the continued support of the Department in the work establishing NRAR and maintaining the independence of the regulatory function.</p>
NRAR Budget	Daniel Blacker presented an update on the budget for NRAR for the 2018/19 financial year. The budget envelope was endorsed by the Board. Next steps and aspects of good financial governance were also discussed. The Board requested continued reporting on budget during the NRAR establishment phase.
Ethics centre Additional attendees: Simon Longstaff (Executive Director Ethics Centre), Emma Solomon (Group Director Water Renewal Taskforce)	<p>Simon Longstaff led a thorough discussion with the Board and NRAR Executive team on ethics, strategy and frameworks for ethical leadership to promote and embed an ethical culture within NRAR. The need to ensure behaviour, decision making, systems policies and structures align with values and are measured was noted and endorsed.</p> <p>The Board noted the considerable work already underway to embed a positive, values-based culture within NRAR and an intent to continue working with the Ethics Centre as NRAR matures.</p>
Update – Policy/legislative reforms Additional attendees: Emma Solomon (Group Director Water Renewal Taskforce), Susan Alchin (Principal Legal Officer)	<p>Emma Solomon, Group Director – Water Renewal Taskforce, provided an update on the water legislative amendment package, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outline of major features</li> <li>• timeframes for introduction to parliament and debates</li> <li>• publication of consultation phase outcomes</li> <li>• detailed briefing on the new metering requirements</li> </ul> <p>The Board commended the Water Renewal Taskforce on the work undertaken to improve outcomes for water users in NSW.</p>
WaterNSW Prosecutions	<p>Kirsty Ruddock updated the Board on prosecutions commenced by WaterNSW prior to the commencement of NRAR on 30 April.</p> <p>The Board affirmed that prosecutions commenced before 30 April remain the responsibility of WaterNSW.</p>

Action items arising from meeting	Person responsible	Due date
Review Legal Model and report on potential external legal options for future prosecutions	Kirsty Ruddock	30 May meeting
Ongoing reporting to the Board on NRAR budget position	Daniel Blacker	Ongoing
Reporting templates for regular publishing of compliance activity	Russell Johnston	12 June meeting
Provide updates to the Board as required on WaterNSW prosecutions not moving across to NRAR	Kirsty Ruddock	Ongoing

**Next meeting**

Wednesday 30 May