



NRAR Board meeting - Minutes

MEETING	NRAR Board meeting		
MEETING NO.	No.14	DATE	12 September 2018
LOCATION	Dubbo – Meeting Room 1	TIME	10.00am – 3.30pm
BOARD INVITEES	Craig Knowles (Chair), Ilona Millar (member), Bruce Brown (member)		
NRAR INVITEES	Grant Barnes (Chief Regulatory Officer), Russell Johnston (Executive Officer), Ryan Lynn (Senior Project Officer)		
OTHER INVITEES	Listed next to relevant agenda item		
PREPARED BY	Ryan Lynn (Senior Project Officer)		
CONFERENCE DETAILS	Video - https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/vc/254543 ; Telephone - (02) 63914543		

Previous meeting

New/Continuing action items following meeting	Person responsible	Due date
Briefing for the Board on the 2018 People Matters Employee Survey (PMES) results for NRAR	Director Capability & Coordination	September
Continue addressing inherited legacy compliance cases	Operations Directors	August
Case Management Update to be a standing agenda item	Board Secretariat	Ongoing

This meeting

Agenda Item	Notes
Confirm Minutes Declaration of conflict of interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of 14 August 2018 were confirmed. No declarations of a conflict of interest.
General Business Update	<p>The Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> congratulated the NRAR staff and Executive on the work through the Budget Estimates process. noted the distribution to staff of the Capability Review completed on DOI Water Regulation in 2017. noted the Government decision to release environmental water for commercial purposes (15,000ML) as a one off occurrence in response to the drought.. instructed the CRO to present on NRAR risk management at the October Board meeting. instructed the Board Secretariat to ensure a presentation is received from DOI Water in the October Board meeting on the work being completed on Water Sharing Plans noted the appointment of Luke Simpkins as CEO of the NSW Irrigators Council, and instructed the Board Secretariat to invite Mr Simpkins to an upcoming Board meeting. mandated the regular publication of NRAR compliance activity data as determined appropriate by the CRO. recommends that the CRO regularly engages with the media to provide updates on NRAR activity.
NRAR Communications team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recently recruited NRAR Communications team were introduced to the Board.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board advised the team on NRAR's independence and mandated the publication of information as an open and transparent Regulator.
2018 Employee Survey Results (PMES)	<p>The Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reviewed the NRAR PMES results, noting an increase in engagement on the results of the Water Regulation branch in 2017. instructed the CRO to report back in October on action plan to build upon the 2018 PMES results
2017/18 Financial Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board reviewed and endorsed the 2017/18 NRAR financial statements.
Geoff Wise & Doug McKay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geoff Wise & Doug McKay spoke to the Board on their experiences working across western NSW and as members of the Western Lands Advisory Committee, highlighting areas they saw as risks in water management in NSW.
Update – Policy/legislative reforms <i>Additional attendee: Emma Solomon (Group Director Water Renewal Taskforce)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Solomon updated the Board on the recent stakeholder engagement sessions hosted by the Water Renewal Taskforce. Some stakeholders in coastal regions have provided feedback that the expenditure required for pumps that would only be used intermittently or infrequently is significant and have sought alterations. The Board requested an updated presentation on the public register and on how the Regulations will relate to environmental water.
Compliance Case Management Update <i>Additional attendee: Graeme White (Director Regulatory Operations West)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graeme White provided an update to the Board on the current compliance cases with NRAR. It was noted that there has been an increase in cases across the last month, which Mr White attributed to an increase in the number of new cases received and the need for experienced investigative staff to dedicate time to onboarding nine new Senior Investigators.
Prosecutions <i>Additional attendee: Kirsty Ruddock (Director Water Enforcement Taskforce)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kirsty Ruddock provided an update on the progress of matters recommended for prosecution by the NRAR Board.

New/Continuing action items following meeting	Person responsible	Due date
Present on NRAR risk management	Chief Regulatory Officer	November meeting
Water Sharing Plans – update sought from DOI	Board Secretariat	October meeting
NSW Irrigators Council – extend invitation to new CEO Luke Simpkins	Board Secretariat	November meeting
Request updated presentation on the public/private register and on how the Regulations will relate to environmental water.	Board Secretariat	October meeting
Request practical case example on Floodplain Harvesting project	Board Secretariat	October meeting
CRO action plan to build upon PMES results	Chief Regulatory Officer	October meeting

Next meeting

Wednesday 10 October