



MEETING	NRAR Board Meeting		
MEETING NO.	No. 7	DATE	20 April 2018
LOCATION	Level 49 Bandicoot Room, MLC Building Martin Place	TIME	12.30pm – 4.00pm
ATTENDEES	Craig Knowles (Chair), Ilona Millar (member), Bruce Brown (member), Kendy Burke (Executive Officer), Tim Gilbert (Director Regulatory Capability & Coordination), Kaia Hodge (Director Regulatory Innovation), Greg Abood (Director Regional Water Regulation–East), Graeme White (Director Regional Water Regulation–West), Emma Solomon (Group Director Water Renewal Taskforce), Nicole Lestel (Communications Account Manager), Sue Liu (Communications Account Manager)		
APOLOGIES	Liz Moore (Strategy & Policy)		
PREPARED BY	Kendy Burke, Executive Officer		

Previous meeting

Action	Status
Ensure the Murray Darling Basin Authority Compact includes reference to the NRAR's Memorandum of Understanding with the MDBA signed on 20 February 2018.	Completed. Reflected in NSW schedule to the Compact.
Review of metering time-frames in the MDBA compact to ensure expediency of delivery and examine the potential for interim benchmarks	Completed. Metering time-frame has been changed from June 2019 to December 2018.
NRAR Executive to provide input on the instrument of delegations prior to Legal providing further advice to the Board at its 20 April meeting.	Completed.

This meeting

Item	Issue	Action
1.	Confirm Minutes Declaration of conflict of interests	Minutes of 28 March were confirmed. There were no declarations of conflicts of interest
2.	NRAR Update	NRAR Directors noted the staff workshops underway to discuss NRAR organisational structure. The Board was advised on budgetary matters. The Board requested a detailed briefing on NRAR budget for its next meeting. The Board was advised that further support was required in addition to the shared service arrangement between the NRAR and the Department in respect to legal and communication resources. The Board requested it review the position descriptions prior to advertisement.

Item	Issue	Action
3.	<p>Board papers:</p> <p>NRAR compliance procedure for notifications</p> <p>Approval delegations for NRAR policies and procedures</p>	<p>The Board endorsed the NRAR compliance procedure for notifications. The Board noted that it would publish aggregate statistics on referrals.</p> <p>The Board endorsed the approval delegations for NRAR policies and procedures.</p>
4.	<p>Update – Policy/Legislative reforms</p>	<p>Emma Solomon, Group Director Water Renewal Taskforce, advised the Board on the water legislative amendment package and the ongoing work needed to determine metering thresholds. The Board requested a detailed briefing on metering at its next meeting.</p> <p>The Board was advised on the Department's recent consultations across regional NSW on the water reforms comprising 20 meetings and involving 350 stakeholders. A summary of the regional consultation process will be circulated to the Board and will also be published when finalised. The Board was advised that further consultation would be required on the proposed legislative changes.</p> <p>The Board was advised of the scheduled release of environmental water into the Barwon-Darling system for end April. It was noted that NRAR would be represented on the interagency working group set up to manage the event.</p> <p>The Board requested provision of WaterNSW submission to the water reform process.</p>
5.	<p>Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations (NBAN)</p>	<p>Fred Hooper, Chair of NBAN, provided an overview of NBAN and its work in relation to cultural flows, including its research project. The Board noted that it would seek a briefing with NBAN on its cultural research project at a future meeting.</p> <p>NBAN noted its intention to work more closely with NSW in relation to the water resource plan consultation process.</p> <p>The Board noted that it viewed NBAN and the Murray Lower Darling rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN) as its key contact points in relation to Aboriginal community input on cultural flows.</p>
6.	<p>Floodplain presentation</p>	<p>Geoff Cameron, Senior Water Regulation Officer, provided a presentation on floodplain harvesting to the Board.</p> <p>The Board requested the provision of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summary one page paper on the

Item	Issue	Action
		<p>successful outcomes of the floodplain project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • briefing on matters impacting the Healthy Floodplain Project that require WaterNSW resolution • confirmation that Water NSW has centralised historic water licensing records on floodplain harvesting. • video clip on the operations of floodplain harvesting.
7.	Delegations	Andrew Macdonald, A/Director Natural Resources Law, provided an update on the delegations process. He noted the need for Board sign off by Sunday 29 April.
8.	Other matters	The Board noted the Australian Floodplain Association's proposal to establish the Barwon-Darling Community Water Advisory Group.

Next meeting

Wednesday 16 May