



MEETING	NRAR Board Meeting		
MEETING NO.	04	DATE	28 February 2018
LOCATION	Secretary's Boardroom, MLC Building	TIME	9.00 am – 3.00pm
ATTENDEES	Craig Knowles (Chair), Ilona Millar (member), Bruce Brown (member), Ross Carter (CRO), Kendy Burke (Executive Officer), Emma Solomon (Director, Water Renewal Taskforce)		
APOLOGIES	n/a		
PREPARED BY	Kendy Burke (Executive Officer)		

Previous meeting

Action	Status
Prepare protocol to articulate the roles and respective responsibilities for NRAR and the Department.	For action when the Chief Regulatory Officer is appointed
Prepare presentation suitable for external stakeholders on floodplain management and harvesting explaining the key terms, milestones and benefits	In preparation
Circulate Prosecution Guidelines to staff for comment prior to publication.	Completed
Schedule meetings with meetings with aboriginal groups such as the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations (NBAN) and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN) as well as the NSW Farmers Federation.	To be scheduled
Circulate WaterNSW report on current enforcement action to Board members	Completed
Provide more detailed advice to the Board on work health and safety responsibilities	Completed

This meeting

Item	Issue	Action
1.	Conflict of interest – declarations	No declarations of any conflicts of interest.
2.	Minutes of previous meeting	The Board endorsed the minutes of the 14 February meeting.
3.	Update on action	<p>The Board was advised that staff were being transferring from DOI Water to the NRAR and that negotiations with WaterNSW continued.</p> <p>The Board requested the interim Chief Regulatory Officer contact the Public Service Commission to ensure appropriate advice was provided for recruitment actions.</p> <p>The Board noted that it was meeting with a range of representatives from the NSW Irrigators Council</p>

Item	Issue	Action
		on 7 March and requested any recent correspondence between the Council and the Department be provided to ensure Board awareness of relevant issues.
4.	Policy update	<p>The Board was presented with the draft metering discussion paper which is to be published prior to the regional consultations scheduled for March and April.</p> <p>A more developed draft paper is to be circulated to Board members early next week.</p>
5.	Communications update	<p>No communications representative attended this meeting.</p> <p>The Board noted that it required distinct NRAR branding to reflect its independence.</p>
6.	NRAR Establishment Plan	<p>The Board provided comments on the circulated draft Establishment Plan and requested earlier delivery of some activities. A revised version is to be provided to the Board prior to its publication in mid-March.</p> <p>The Board requested that the Plan be differentiated in format to the NSW Government's Water Reform Action Plan.</p> <p>The Board noted its intention to provide regular progress reports against the Plan.</p>
7.	Public register - presentation	<p>The Board was advised that a range of information on water management was available however it was difficult to access and was not collated in a single portal.</p> <p>The Board was advised that a draft discussion paper on transparency of information would be provided early next week prior to its publication.</p>
8.	Data 61 presentation/spatial techniques - presentation	<p>Departmental and WaterNSW staff provided a demonstration of online portals and tools being developed to support transparency, compliance and trade in the water market.</p> <p>The Board requested access to the submission made to Treasury on resourcing for further development of these tools.</p>
9.	Other matters/forward actions	<p>The Board acknowledged receipt of the Minister's letter of expectations and requested the Secretariat prepare an acknowledgement letter.</p> <p>The Board discussed its attendance at the regional consultations scheduled for March and April.</p> <p>The Board requested that a presentation be scheduled on unregulated rivers.</p>

Item	Issue	Action
		The Board confirmed that it would hold its 14 March in Tamworth and its 28 March meeting in Parramatta to meet with departmental water regulation staff.

Next meeting

14 March 2018