



## NRAR Board meeting - Minutes

MEETING	NRAR Board meeting		
MEETING NO.	No.30	DATE	20 May 2020
LOCATION	VC	TIME	12.00pm – 3.45pm
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		

Agenda Item	Notes
Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes of 15 April were adopted as a true and accurate record.</li> <li>No declarations of a conflict of interest.</li> </ul>
General Business Update	<p>CRO Grant Barnes provided an update for the Board:</p> <p><b>NRAR in the media</b> NRAR received significant regional media coverage in relation to its 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary media release and commencement of its 20<sup>th</sup> prosecution. This included print articles and seven interview requests.</p> <p><b>Stakeholder engagement</b> The CRO met with NSW Minerals Council to discuss application of exemptions for certain water use in mining operations. The CRO advised that technical guidance is under development, which will be shared with all relevant stakeholders once it is finalised.</p> <p><b>Compliance trends</b> Investment during Covid-19 has meant NRAR is increasingly finding ways to utilise technology to efficiently undertake compliance work and take regulatory action without the need for physical site visits. The CRO committed to report back to the Board in July on how recent external factors are influencing compliance workload.</p> <p><b>NRAR-MDBA MOU</b> It was noted that an independent review is underway into the effectiveness of the MOU between the MDBA and NRAR, with findings intended to be presented in the June Board meeting.</p> <p>The Board requested an invitation be extended to the WaterNSW Board to attend a future NRAR Board meeting.</p>
DPIEI Water Update <i>Invitee: Vanessa O'Keefe (Executive Director Policy Planning &amp; Sciences)</i>	<p>Ms O'Keefe provided an update on the work of DPIEI Water in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Supply (Critical Needs) Act implementation</li> <li>New mandatory licensing conditions</li> <li>Water Resource Plans</li> <li>Water Sharing Plans</li> </ul>
Financial Report	<p>Mr Lynn advised the Board of year-to-date financial performance, and current projections which suggest NRAR will meet its 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>The Board were advised of delays to the NSW State Budget for 2020/21 and the implications for NRAR. NRAR has two funding cases pending with Treasury for consideration.</p>

<p>Prosecutions Update <i>Invitee: Kirsty Ruddock (Director WET)</i></p>	<p>Four matters were considered in relation to prosecutions (confidential). The Board resolved to adopt recommendations as presented, with the exception of one recommendation which was withdrawn on updated legal advice.</p>
<p>WAMC Submission <i>Invitees: Tim Gilbert (Director RC&amp;C), Stuart Ronan (Principal Project Officer Economics)</i></p>	<p>The Board were updated on NRARs progress in preparing its WAMC submission for funding from 2021-25. It was noted that uncertain forward budget implications due to Covid impacts were presently being considered, and the Board resolved to meet out of session as required to discuss.</p>
<p>Strategic Risk Register <i>Invitee: Tim Gilbert (Director RC&amp;C)</i></p>	<p>Mr Gilbert provided an updated risk register including assigned risk owners and control plans. The Board resolved that increased budget uncertainty required an upgrade of NRARs future budget risk. It was also agreed that improved financial reporting and governance processes appropriately addressed other risks and warranted a downgrade in the register.</p>
<p>NRAR Strategic Works Program <i>Invitee: Margaret Sexton (A/Director Innovation)</i></p>	<p>The Board endorsed the framework presented as a method of undertaking NRARs strategic works programme.  The Board resolved to engage in a strategic planning workshop with the NRAR Executive in Q1 2020/21.</p>

<b>New/Continuing action items following meeting</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Invite WaterNSW Board to a future NRAR Board meeting	Board Secretariat	TBC
Report on compliance trends	Chief Regulatory Officer	July

**Next meeting**

Wednesday 17 June