

MINUTES

Meeting No.	18
Meeting	FN Qld Water Alliance
Date	22 September 2017
Time	10 am
Venue	Cairns Regional Council- Civic Reception – Room 2– Level 1

The meeting opened at 10.10 am.

1. Attendance

Name	Organisation
Lachlan Rankine	FNQROC
Mark Wuth	Cairns Regional Council
Tash Glaskin	Cairns Regional Council
Graham O'Byrne	Cairns Regional Council
Dawn Lake	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Andrew Healey	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Jeff Bunt	Etheridge Shire Council
Morris Hamil	Mareeba Shire Council
Arron Hieatt	LGAQ
Sarah Buckler	LGAQ
Geoffrey Smart	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Jon Turner	Tablelands Regional Council
Peter White	Douglas Shire Council

2. Apologies

Name	Organisation
Robert Fearon	Qld Water
Darlene Irvine	FNQROC
Stephen Linnane	Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council
Gene Brookes	Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council
Gary Pickering	Croydon Shire Council
Paul Hoyer	Douglas Shire Council
Robyn Maddalena	Cook Shire Council
Robert Uebergang	Cook Shire Council
Robert Fenn	Cook Shire Council
Rohan Geddes	Mareeba Shire Council
Victor Mills	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Peter Kirchmann	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Anna Christensen	Etheridge Shire Council
Shane Butler	Etheridge Shire Council
Norm Garsden	Etheridge Shire Council
Denney Phillips	Cairns Regional Council
Simon Page	Cairns Regional Council
Katherine Wiggins	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council

Toni Veronese	Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Mark Sexton	Torres Straight Island Regional Council
Shaun Nancarrow	Torres Straight Island Regional Council
Graham Stanford	Tablelands Regional Council
Mark Vis	Tablelands Regional Council
Peter Martin	Hinchinbrook Shire Council

1. Welcome

The meeting was opened at 10.10 am and introductions undertaken for new participants.

2. Acceptance of previous minutes, No. 17, 30 June 2017

The previous minutes were accepted.

3. Actions from Previous Meeting:

15.1 CRC to present, at next meeting - Levels of service - Health based targets.

15.1 Outcome:

Mark Wuth presented both an overview of Health Based Targets(HBT) and a review of (HACCP Plan) and Risk Assessments. Copy of presentation will be attached to minute's circulation.

16.3 Creation of a Bid Pool Interaction Portal

With regard to the creation of an interaction portal and Bid Pool Funding request, Cairns Regional Council to go out to the committee and seek approval and commitment to funding and provide responses back to Darlene to formalise an endorsement date on the QWRAP Bid Pool Funding Request..

16.3 Outcome:

On hold – Pending determination from FNQROC board on FNQROC participation in QWRAP. Also refer to action 17.2.

16.4 Water Security Planning

With regard to the proposal to undertake a desktop qualitative assessment of current water security planning activities across the FNQROC Councils, Cairns Regional Council to talk to Steve Brown at Widebay and further detail the scope and financial contributions for members consideration and recommendation prior the next water alliance meeting.

16.4 Outcome:

On hold as above for 16.3

16.5 Regional Workforce Skills Gap Analysis

With regard to the proposal to undertake a workforce skills gap analysis across FNQROC Councils, Cairns Regional Council to further detail the scope and financial contributions for members consideration and recommendation prior the next water alliance meeting.

16.5 Outcome:

On hold as above for 16.3.

16.6 Major Amendment Assessment Fee

Darlene to follow up with Rob Fearon regarding the Major Amendment Assessment Fee issue which was to be raised with the Senior Management Group late January 2017.

16.6 Outcome:

Long term legislative change under consideration by EHP. Current alternative process found.

17.1 Focus on restriction levels and what they mean at meeting No. 18

(Previous Minutes)

To identify if there is any consistency for water level restriction campaigns, Councils to provide with a summary of their restriction levels and requirements for those restriction level. Representatives advised that there are challenges with aligning restrictions and timings of these. As a region we could align actions at the different levels and could look at what the restrictions mean.

17.1 Outcome: Lachlan briefly presented a regional comparison of a restriction levels, trigger points and requirements of those restriction levels. Members indicated that there is no longer intent to consider this regionally.

17.2 (See 16.3) Creation of a Bid Pool Interaction Portal – Contact Details

Mark advised that he has progressed the concept and presented a demonstration on what the portal can do. The portal is through an Australian company, Atlassian (Confluence). Continuing with the application will be pending the FNQROC Board decision.

Darlene to send member council contact details to Mark Wuth to set up in the system for testing of an interactive portal being trialled within Cairns Regional Council.

17.2 Outcome: Complete – Contact details provided with email circulating 30 June 2017 meeting minutes. Further Development - See 16.3.

17.3 Arron to provide a copy of the draft Guidelines for Levels of Service for Water Supply.

Update from LGAQ indicated that the Advisory Committee currently has a copy of the Draft Guideline for Levels of Service for Water Supply.

17.3 Outcome: Complete – Draft guidelines emailed 17 July 2017.

17.4 FNQROC to further investigate regional Sewer relining contract for the 2018/19 financial year.

Update from LGAQ indicated Cherbourg Council grant of \$15mil to undertake sewer relining works, which were subsequently undertaken under a regional program, providing savings. Interest raised in running a similar program with member councils.

17.4 Outcome: Complete. Provision made for consideration in March 2018.

17.5 EHP Licencing

Developed from difficulties with compliance issues and warnings issued to councils from EHP. As an interim measure, EHP officers were to advise Rob who will then contact the council CEO to discuss the matter and clarify the issue and potential solutions prior to sending the correspondence (if required after clarification with the CEO).

17.5 Outcome: EHP has workshopped issues relating to their change in structure, resulting in a more streamlined and collaborative process. Councils to advise of any further issues.

17.6 Darlene to contact Lynn Powell to have the licencing subcommittee meet again.
See Item 17.5.

17.6 Outcome: Ongoing. Applicable changes to be fed through Lachlan Rankine/Mark Wuth

17.7 Mark Wuth to provide a copy of the Request for Quote for the review of their current risk assessments and asset plans.

CRC had engaged Dan Deer to review risk assessment and asset plans. Consideration was given to undertake/engage services on a regional basis to review each councils risk assessments and asset management plans (Reviews required to be undertaken by March 2018)

17.7 Outcome: Complete. Request for quote sent to member councils. See email sent 5/8/16.

17.8 Review of councils risk assessments and asset management plans (DWQMP) on a regional basis

Darlene Irvine to seek interest in councils for a collective quote to review councils risk assessments and asset management plans (DWQMP).

See item 17.7 for background .

17.8 Outcome: Councils contacted to gauge interest prior to meeting. Due to lack of support, no further action on this item.

17.9 Review of councils risk assessments and asset management plans (DWQMP) on a regional basis

Mark Wuth to give an overview presentation of what, how and improvements encountered in terms of the CRC review of their risk assessment asset management plans at the next meeting.

See item 17.7 for background. Point relates to the outcomes experienced by CRC.

17.9 Complete. Mark Wuth presented both an overview of Health Based Targets(HBT) and a review of (HACCP Plan) and Risk Assessments.

4. Update from LGAQ and Water Directorate(Arron Hieatt/Ryan Cosgrove)

Concern raised around the lack of ongoing replacement of infrastructure reaching end of life. Current rate of replacement necessary across Queensland to maintain the existing infrastructure network is 1%pa of asset base. Current rate of replacement of existing infrastructure is 0.3%pa. This underspend will compound until such time as the assets fail, resulting in very large, capital intensive projects running concurrently across the state, causing additional resource/price peaking issues.

Of principle concern is the existing asbestos cement network(installed up to late 1980's, with a remaining asset life 15/25 years) .

Problem/Asset understanding is the issue, the size and make-up of the network needs to be identified to enable the quantum of the problem and the money required to rectify the issue understood, in order to prepare the report to seek funding.

Currently, approx. 50% of councils have provided feedback, it is requested that those that have not, do so to enable their information to be included, and the problem to be better understood/quantified.

Planning for replacement of these needs to consider the long political horizon associated with these, and the funding implications this may have.

Update from LGAQ Advisory Committee

Met with Productivity Commission whom is currently exploring water reform. Draft report released 15 September 2017, written submissions required by 19th October 2017. Report considers urban water management, identifying clearer roles and responsibilities for supply augmentation planning, enabling decentralised solutions and more outcomes-focused environmental regulation. Final report to be released by 31 December 2017.

<https://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/water-reform/draft>

5. Update from Utility Excellence Committee(Graham O'Byrne)

New WSAA national committee. Focussed on asset management. Graham identified the connection to CTM (Cairns-Townsville-Mackay Alliance). Currently 20 members, meeting quarterly (4 meetings to date), 7 Sub-committees. Currently setting out terms of Reference, addressing aspects relating to what makes a utility excellent. Next meeting held next month, to crystallise projects committee currently working on. Update to follow.

<https://www.wsaa.asn.au/news/introducing-new-utility-excellence-committee>

6. General Business

- 6.1. Yarrabah and Cairns current MOU. Providing operational and development guidance and mentorship.
- 6.2. Cassowary coast expanded a Boil water alert as of 19 September to cover 4 other communities as a result of turbidity.
- 6.3. Consideration of the use of smart metering within water restriction period as an effective methodology of monitoring during restrictions. Query was raised around legislation around non action of leaks (where leak notices have been issued).
(See: *Queensland Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002, Section 128G*)

7. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board

Nil

8. Action items for next meeting:

Item	Action	Responsibility
16.3	Creation of a Bid Pool Interaction Portal <i>With regard to the creation of an interaction portal and Bid Pool Funding request, Cairns Regional Council to go out to the committee and seek approval and commitment to funding and provide responses back to Darlene to formalise an endorsement date on the QWRAP Bid Pool Funding Request..</i>	CRC
16.4	Water Security Planning <i>With regard to the proposal to undertake a desktop qualitative assessment of current water security planning activities across the FNQROC Councils, Cairns Regional Council to talk to Steve Brown at Widebay and further detail the scope and financial contributions for members consideration and recommendation prior the next water alliance meeting.</i>	CRC
16.5	Regional Workforce Skills Gap Analysis <i>With regard to the proposal to undertake a workforce skills gap analysis across FNQROC Councils, Cairns Regional Council to further detail the scope and financial contributions for members consideration and recommendation prior the next water alliance meeting.</i>	CRC
18.1	LGAQ Asset Replacement program data survey/Response	All Councils

9. Next meeting

Next meeting will be set in early January.