

MINUTES

Meeting No.	20
Meeting	FN Qld Water Alliance
Date	10 August 2018
Time	10 am
Venue	Cairns Regional Council- Civic Reception – Room 2– Level 1

The meeting opened at 10.15 am.

1. Attendance

Name	Organisation
Brad Milligan	Queensland Health
Rohan Geddes	Mareeba Shire Council
Geoff Smart	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Jon Turner	Tablelands Regional Council
Morris Hamill	Mareeba Shire Council
Mark Wuth	Cairns Regional Council
Peter White	Douglas Shire Council
Robyn Maddalena	Cook Shire Council
Arron Hieatt	LGAQ
Dawn Lake	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Victor Mills	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Peter Kirchmann	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Lachlan Rankine	FNQROC

2. Apologies

Name	Organisation
Amy Yates	Mareeba Shire Council
Robert Fearon	Qld Water
Gene Brookes	Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council
Gary Pickering	Croydon Shire Council
Paul Hoyer	Douglas Shire Council
Robert Uebergang	Cook Shire Council
Robert Fenn	Cook Shire Council
Anna Christensen	Etheridge Shire Council
Shane Butler	Etheridge Shire Council
Norm Garsden	Etheridge Shire Council
Mark Wuth	Cairns Regional Council
Denney Phillips	Cairns Regional Council
Simon Page	Cairns Regional Council
Graham Stanford	Tablelands Regional Council
Mark Vis	Tablelands Regional Council
Peter Martin	Hinchinbrook Shire Council

1. Welcome

The meeting was opened at 10.15 am and introductions undertaken for new participants.

2. Acceptance of previous minutes, No. 19, 16 February 2018

The previous minutes were accepted.

3. Actions from Previous Meeting:

Item	Action	Responsibility																																								
18.1	LGAQ Asset Replacement program data survey/Response	All Councils																																								
19.1	Collective tender for sewer relining programme for 2018/2019 FY																																									
	<p>19.1(a) Remaining Councils to advise of the council's current sewer re-lining contract arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Value - Contractor - Specific contract arrangements (i.e. engagement period) - Programmes/Schedule <p>19.1(c) Action Item: Lachlan Rankine to follow up with Cairns Regional Council Regarding current process around water infiltration issues internal to the property boundary.</p>	<p>Cairns Croydon Hinchinbrook Hope Vale Tablelands Wujal Wujal Carpentaria</p> <p>Lachlan Rankine</p>																																								
19.1(a)	<p>Action Item 19.1(a) Update: Councils requested 2 March to provide further detail to enable further development to occur:</p> <p>To date, councils below have responded:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Council</th> <th>Response</th> <th>Technical Contact</th> <th>Contract Period</th> <th>Docs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mareeba SC</td> <td>No Formal Response. To Advise.</td> <td>(Morris Hamill/Rohan Geddes)</td> <td>YoY</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tablelands RC</td> <td>No Formal Response. To Advise.</td> <td>Jon Turner</td> <td></td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Douglas SC</td> <td>No Formal Response. To Advise.</td> <td>Peter White</td> <td>Expires June 18</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cairns RC</td> <td>Support (Commencement Year TBA)</td> <td>Steph Kinnane</td> <td>Re-engaged</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cassowary Coast RC</td> <td>Support</td> <td>Geoff Smart</td> <td>Expires June 18</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cook SC</td> <td colspan="2">No relining requirement</td> <td colspan="2">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Croydon SC</td> <td colspan="2">No relining requirement</td> <td colspan="2">N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Council	Response	Technical Contact	Contract Period	Docs	Mareeba SC	No Formal Response. To Advise.	(Morris Hamill/Rohan Geddes)	YoY	N	Tablelands RC	No Formal Response. To Advise.	Jon Turner		N	Douglas SC	No Formal Response. To Advise.	Peter White	Expires June 18	N	Cairns RC	Support (Commencement Year TBA)	Steph Kinnane	Re-engaged	Y	Cassowary Coast RC	Support	Geoff Smart	Expires June 18	Y	Cook SC	No relining requirement		N/A		Croydon SC	No relining requirement		N/A		
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	Cooktown SC	No relining requirement	N/A		
	Yarrabah ASC	No requirement(watching brief)	N/A		
	Hopevale ASC	No relining requirement	N/A		
	Wujal Wujal ASC	No relining requirement	N/A		
	Hinchinbrook SC	External Arrangement	N/A		
	<p>Action Item 19.1(a) Update: Councils discussed timing of works, contract inclusions and the opportunity to do preparatory CCTV inspections (Further discussion was had around the requirement to time this work in the wet season to monitor infiltration) and the quality/limitations experienced with contractors operating in the region. After further discussion, it was recommended that a regional re-lining program be deferred to the 19/20 Financial Year.</p>				
19.1(b)	Councils under current contractual arrangements (ie. CCRC, MSC, DSC et al) to send copy of current contract and procurement documentation, and current program of works to Amanda Hancock.				
19.1(b)	<p>Action Item 19.1(b) Update: See Above.</p>				
19.1(c)	Action Item: Lachlan Rankine to follow up with Cairns Regional Council Regarding current process around water infiltration issues internal to the property boundary.				
	<p>Action Item 19.1(c) Update: Discussed with Paul Bates from CRC Plumbing & Trade Waste – of which advised CRC undertake standardised smoke testing and where required, enforcement through section 128G of the Plumbing and Drainage Act 2017.</p>				

19.2	Contract and Procurement Documentation Project																											
19.2(a):	LR/AH to develop a Regional Contract and Procurement Documentation Project stakeholder/update list.	Lachlan Rankine																										
	Action Item 19.2(a) Update: Complete and sent to councils(21/2/2018). Committee members detailed below.																											
	19.2(b): LR to send out list of Regional Contract and Procurement Documentation Project committee members for each council.																											
	<p>Action Item 19.2(b) Update: Complete. Sent 21/2/2018.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Council</th> <th>Representative(s)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cairns Regional Council</td> <td>Geoff Burdon & Julia Deleyev</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cassowary Coast Regional Council</td> <td>Ashley Filbee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cook Shire Council</td> <td>Debra Colledge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Croydon Shire Council</td> <td>Garry Pickering</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Douglas Shire Council</td> <td>Lloyd Nunns</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Etheridge Shire Council</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hinchinbrook Shire Council</td> <td>Jenna Devietti</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council</td> <td>Gene Brooks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mareeba Shire Council</td> <td>Julie Pitcher</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tablelands Regional Council</td> <td>Frank Barbieri</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council</td> <td>Victor Mills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council</td> <td>Dawn Lake</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Council	Representative(s)	Cairns Regional Council	Geoff Burdon & Julia Deleyev	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Ashley Filbee	Cook Shire Council	Debra Colledge	Croydon Shire Council	Garry Pickering	Douglas Shire Council	Lloyd Nunns	Etheridge Shire Council	TBA	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Jenna Devietti	Hopevale Aboriginal Shire Council	Gene Brooks	Mareeba Shire Council	Julie Pitcher	Tablelands Regional Council	Frank Barbieri	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council	Victor Mills	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	Dawn Lake	
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19.2(c)	LR/AH to raise opportunity for council specific training within the Regional Contract and Procurement Documentation Project committee. If supported, submit a funding request under QWRAP for council specific training in the use and understanding of the documentation for end users.	Amanda Hancock																										
	<p>Action Item 19.2(c) Update: First Contract Suite released 10/8/2018. Arranging introductory workshops across the region currently, with dates and times to be advised shortly (through the above contacts).</p> <p>More detailed contract workshop to be arranged in October (to align with next FNQ Regional Water Alliance meeting workshop – Specifically aimed at Project Engineers/Project Managers etc.</p>																											
19.4(a)	Lachlan to follow up with Brad Milligan(Queensland Health - Tropical Public Health Services) regarding water supply training and educational videos to be distributed to member councils.	Lachlan Rankine																										
	<p>Action Item 19.4(a) Update: Queensland Tropical Health presenting at current meeting. See item 20.1 for further discussion held around Regulation approach/ Implementation of current requirements (i.e. Turbidity/Crypto notices etc.)</p>																											

19.4(b)	LR/DI to discuss with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) for opportunities in getting specialist advice/training in the development of asset management programs.	Lachlan Rankine Darlene Irvine
	<p>Action Item 19.4(b) Update: After a brief discussion about the content of the sample training agendas sent by QTC, it was noted that these appeared to be quite broad (and focussed on the general preparation of asset management plans. It was noted that significant benefit would be found if QTC would be able to provide targeted AM training, in a more 'real world' treatment of assets/environment.</p> <p>Examples being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on asset treatments when not being replaced, or with significant service level reduction, • Standards/standardisation and streamlining of componentisation. • Advices around the preparation of short, succinct AM plans that are more practical, that still meet the requirements of the QTC. • Practitioners guide where insufficient/broad/ineffective data sets are available. <p>It was resolved that councils would send their specific areas of AM training to Lachlan, whom will subsequently liaise with QTC/UQ on possible options.</p>	
19.4(c)	Cassowary Coast Regional Council (Geoff Smart) to discuss findings at the next meeting on the findings of their trials of Magnesium Hydroxide Injection Systems in the control and management of Hydrogen Sulphide and the consequential issues associated with odour, asset deterioration and failure.	Geoff Smart
	Action Item 19.4(c) Update: Deferred to next meeting.	
19.4(d)	Cairns Regional Council requested to present/advise on their loss management strategy and loss detection approach/methodology.	CRC
	See 19.1(c) for details internal to the property boundary. On a larger network basis. General monitoring performed through existing SCADA network. Treatment is by standard techniques (Ground Penetrating Radar), on a site by site basis.	

4. New Business

20.1	Round Table Discussion – Regulation & implementation of current water quality requirements with Queensland Health	Brad Milligan (Queensland Health)
<p>Presentation to be distributed with the minutes.</p> <p>Brad Milligan from Queensland Health(QH) - Tropical Public Health Services(TPHS), identified the role that TPHS plays in enforcing the Public Health Act 2005 and Public Health Regulation 2005. It was identified that TPHS co-regulate with Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME), in the implementation Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, and of Council's Drinking Water Management Plans(DWMP), however there was the delineation that neither DNRME, nor QH 'approve' plans. Councils' noted that this appears to be a practice of risk management, as there is significant(in some cases, years) of negotiation undertaken in order for councils to be able to get their DWMP agreed to by QH and DNRME.</p> <p>It was noted that Councils preference to have QH in consultation early in the development phase of the DWMP's, and that there is significant value in doing so as the staff/personnel in QH have a</p>		

better understanding of the water science, and willingness to impart that knowledge than DNRME.

Councils noted the frustration with the 'more information required' issue. i.e lack of definition of requirements/lack of certainty associated with testing water sources, and the subsequent negotiation with QH/DNRME. QH noted the option of testing catchments(over a 12 month period to capture seasonal variation) to partially offset the some treatment options, with QH providing support (Testing) in this context, of which councils noted their appreciation.

It was additionally noted by councils that there appears to be a asymmetric level of scrutiny currently being applied on what is considered to be low probability risks in most areas(ie. PFAS testing). It was identified there was a need to consider 'what is knee jerk risk vs what is real and genuine risk to water supplies.

Where water supplies were deemed to not comply (non-potable), it was identified that there were alternatives to still provide water to appropriate standards through the use of 'point of use' filtration to commercial/hospital etc. premises(subject to appropriate maintenance). QH noted that the use of these are still pending professional advice on the risk to the community.

QH further noted that there is currently discussions around the requirement for top up dosing plants in aged care facilities/hospitals et al, as there is more consideration being given to the consequence in the health environment, and the compounding effect water quality issues have (ie. Home dialysis patients requiring to be moved to regional centres etc.).

20.1	Request endorsement from FNQ Regional water alliance group to apply for package of funding from QWRAP for:	Lachlan Rankine
<p>The group resolved for FNQROC to submit for funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset Management Training (See Action Item 19.4(b) Update. It was also noted to consider IPWEA NAMS training. • Regional Procurement Documents – Training • Collaborative project with Queensland Health on developing videos towards 'gap training' operators on water supply systems. <p>Action Item 20.1: Lachlan to compile and submit QWRAP funding application for AM training, regional Procurement Document Training and 'gap training' videos for operators on water supply systems.</p>		

5. Update from LGAQ and Water Directorate

19.5	Update from LGAQ and Water Directorate	Arron Hieatt (LGAQ)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QWRAP – Program has been funded until 30 June 2022. The state increased the funding by \$215K, which has all been added to the bid pool available to the five groups. No additional groups will be added given the quantum of funding did not increase substantially. • Funding for water and sewerage infrastructure – Following representations to the State by Maranoa Regional Council, the Dept. of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural affairs have asked for input in developing a statewide program to deal with aging water and sewerage assets. The initial focus is on networks, but could be expanded to included treatment plants. The LGAQ is working to develop an approach to the funding program, and will likely put forward a proposal as part of the 2019-20 state budget. • Grant reform – The State has committed \$4.5M to support reforming the grants given to local governments by the State. There are more than 70 grant programs and more than 1000 		

individual grants given by the State to local governments. A manager has been appointed at Dept. of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs to lead the reform, and representations by the DG and Minister Hinchliffe has confirm that work to begin the reform is underway. Funding for water and sewerage infrastructure has been proposed as part of this reform.

- End of waste code, biosolids – The LGAQ has nominated Cr. Anne Maddern (Fraser Coast Regional Council) to represent local governments on the development of a code to replace the beneficial use arrangements for biosolids. The current arrangements are due to expire by the end of the year. Several key issues, such as identifying PFAS standards, and clarifying the role of third parties have been considered by the group. A draft copy of the code will be released for consultation in the next few weeks.
- Renewals annuities research – Dr. Janet Mack from QUT has completed her research into the differences between depreciation and renewals accounting for water and sewerage assets. She concluded that depreciation is not a good approach, and councils/water providers should consider a renewal approach to long life assets. A copy of her paper can be provided when it is finalised.
- Legislative changes – The Dept. of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy are considering changes to the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 that will require water service providers to declare their service areas and report on these annually (presumably through public posting on website or annual report.) The LGAQ will be seeking comments on these changes when a draft of the proposed legislation is provided. The current view is that this is not an new requirement, and that the additional reporting burden is minor.
- Attachments include a copy of the speech Min. Hinchliffe gave at the LGAQ’s water and sewerage advisory group about aging assets, the presentation by Dr. Janet Mack on her renewals annuities research, and the brief that Maranoa Regional Council provided to ministers about their failing network.

6. Update from LGAQ Advisory Committee representative (Mark Wuth)

19.6	LGAQ Advisory Committee Update	Mark Wuth	
None Arising.			

7. General Business

None Arising.

8. Points of Innovation or Improvement

As noted in 19.4(c), Cassowary Coast Regional Council (Geoff Smart) to discuss findings at the next meeting on the findings of their trials of Magnesium Hydroxide Injection Systems in the control and management of Hydrogen Sulphide and the consequential issues associated with odour, asset deterioration and failure.
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9. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board

None Arising.

10. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be 19 October 2018.

11. Actions arising out of current meeting

20.1	QWRAP Funding Application	Lachlan Rankine
Lachlan to compile and submit QWRAP funding application for AM training, regional Procurement Document Training and 'gap training' videos for operators on water supply systems.		