

22 MARCH 2021

Minutes of Meeting

Subject: Stakeholder Engagement Committee
Boardroom, 298

Location: Marine Terrace and **Time:** 3.00pm
Skype for Business

Chairperson: Dr Rochelle Macdonald **Minute Taker:** Tracy Fitzpatrick

Attendees: Dr Rochelle Macdonald, Damian Tully, Sandra Pigdon, Vickie Williams, Courtney Ackland, Colin Cox, Jennifer Thomas, Charlize Manado and Tracy Fitzpatrick

1. Welcome

Rochelle Macdonald welcomed all those in attendance.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Dr Howard Gray, Ian Dempsey, Jason Partington, Mike Kendrick, Trish Palmonari and Maurice Battilana.

3. Declaration of conflict of interest

Nil

4. Actions/Items arising from the previous meeting

N/A

5. MWPA Update of items from the previous meeting

N/A

6. MWPA Reports and overview of activities:

CEO Resignation

Rochelle Macdonald advised that she had resigned; her last day being 16 April 2021. She will take up the role as CEO at Sea Swift in Cairns.

Acting CEO Arrangements

General Manager Operations and Logistics Damian Tully will be acting CEO until a permanent appointment is made.

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Ports Minister

Ports has returned to the Transport portfolio therefore Rita Saffioti is the new Ports Minister. The Minister will be invited to the launch of the new tugs.

Capital Works

MWPA are trying to secure funds for the Port Maximisation Project.

Board of Directors

MWPA director Lara Dalton was successfully elected to the State Parliament so will resign her position on the MWPA Board. The Chair will be working with the Minister on the selection of 2 new directors.

Anyone wishing to become a board director can apply via OnBoardWA, www.onboardwa.jobs.wa.gov.au

7. Progress of Strategic intent and MWPA operations

- a) Update on current, new and emerging projects that are of relevance to the community:

MWPA Community Grants 2021

\$108k worth of community grants were awarded to 20 recipients. All were aligned with MWPA's values.

The Board has approved \$100k per annum for the Shore Leave Festival. This will be reviewed each year.

Jennifer advised that the Irwin District Historical Society were very grateful for the grant for the museum. They are doing an oral history of the crayfish community and are able to move forward with the program

Vickie advised she had been approached and thanked for the grant to the Shire of Chapman Valley Primary School.

LEAD Program

MWPA have provided a scholarship to the LEAD program for a community member. The successful candidate will be determined by NGALA Community Services who run the LEAD program from applications received. The program gives the skills and confidence to potential leaders to develop. Previously this program has been available to under 35's only but consideration is being given to expand the age range. MWPA have sent 2 staff members each year and have seen great progress in the development of the participants. Vickie will pass on the details to Courtney as LEAD will approach Iluka for a contribution.

Status of the Ferry Jetty

The money for the jetty planned at the Eastern Breakwater is currently sitting within the Department of Transport portfolio so they are to manage the project. This may change now that the Minister for Transport also has responsibility for Ports.

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Projects

Wharf 4 Deck

The contractor (Fortec) started on site last week. Operationally there is no change at present and MWPA will endeavour to keep shipping as normal and will come up with a plan to minimise any disruption.

Courtney expressed thanks at being kept informed throughout the process so far.

Sandra advised that the regular meetings (every 3-4 weeks) with Berth 4 users to share information is working well. Any issues raised are fed back to Joe Reilly and Stefanus Strydom so they can liaise with the contractor.

Navigation Aid Tops

TAMS will be doing the navigation aid tops. They will be using a jack up barge as this type of barge was less affected by weather. They are a very experienced contractor.

PMOP

MWPA is looking at better utilisation of the Shore Tension Units (STU's) and mooring facilities. This should reduce the time spent bringing vessels in and taking them out and also not overstressing the bollards.

Firefighting Suppression System

Some money has been allocated to the firefighting suppression system with MWPA will try to secure more funds next year.

Surge and Swell

Modelling is being done so forecasting can be improved.

General

Rochelle advised that historical shipping data is being looked at as recently at Berth 5 there were no vessels on Berth 5 for 17 days and then 3 vessels arrived within 28 minutes.

MWPA noted the impact on price and availability of contractors. Costs have risen by approx. 20% from before the COVID-19 pandemic.

- b) Monitoring and environmental performance

Licencing Amendment

MWPA currently have a licence amendment application under consideration with DWER. Throughput has previously been measured on an annual basis and then a daily total calculated. Some days the maximum daily limit was exceeded so an amendment has been submitted for the maximum on the port on any day. The annual limit hasn't been increased as this would trigger works approvals etc.

Maintenance Dredge Planning Process

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The maintenance dredging is planned for October this year. Currently doing modelling and sediment sampling and then will come up with a beneficial re-use of the dredge material.

A community engagement plan is being developed and consultation will commence in the coming months once the modelling is complete. The aim is for 100% re-use of the dredge materials. A vacuum dredge will be used rather than a driller.

The dredge will not have a big impact on shipping but there will be some impact when the berth pockets are done. The shipping schedule will be done as early as possible to minimise disruption.

c) Maintenance and public space update

FBH Carpark

Streetlighting at the Barnacles area will be done and there will be roadworks around the Fishing Boat Harbour area.

South Pens Toilets

The toilets are complete.

d) Community complaints and response to these complaints

- Nil

e) Information provided to the community and any feedback

- A development plan for the implementation of the Port Masterplan is currently being developed and will be shared with the Minister before publication. Lots of projects are getting close to fruition and all sheds are full.
- MWPA's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is being updated.
- There was no negative feedback received from the community following the recent oil spill. Flow Vitality and Total Toilets were excellent with provision of food and services. The Port Operations team identified the spill and reported the issue early and the port communicated the issue with the media and community to ensure full transparency. DoT who are the lead agency in the state allowed MWPA to manage the process. MWPA and DoT have established a good relationship and will work together further as the State Oil Spill exercise will be held in Geraldton in October. There was confusion internally from some staff due to a lack of understanding of the responsibilities of DoT and MWPA in oil spill situations but this has now been clarified.

8. Community Update

- Courtney Ackland – Iluka are very busy and prices are currently very good and are expected to stay that way for some time. The titanium and zircon markets are extremely strong. With regard

to Eneabba Phase 1 five (5) vessels have shipped so far out of a total of ten (10) for the year. For phase 2 Iluka will be looking at sea containers and bags.

- Jennifer Thomas
 - On Thursday the Shire of Mingenew held a local tourism day. The event was well attended with the focus on wildflowers. Upon the resumption of cruise they'll be looking at doing a food and arts tours etc.
 - Jennifer mentioned at new Oyster farm. There is enough stock at Kalbarri and the Abrolhos Islands to start farming. New oyster varieties would normally take 5 years to reach the market but they hope to get this off the ground in 2 years. They will be based at Abrolhos. They benefitted from a Regional Economic Development Grant.
 - There is also someone looking at seagrass farming. If fed to cows this can reduce methane emissions.
- Colin Cox noted that the 2021-22 Princess Cruise itinerary didn't include visits to Geraldton; although the ships plan to visit Broome and Exmouth. Vickie advised that both the Australian Cruise Association (ACA) meeting and WA Cruise Committee meetings had been cancelled recently as cruise isn't expected to resume in the near future. Colin advised cruise tours were the only source of income for Leanes Trench.

9. Other Items – (Questions on Notice)

Nil

10. General Business

Stakeholder Engagement Committee Membership

Vickie will speak to Carol Martin regarding having an indigenous member on the committee and the current membership will also be asked if they wish to be extended.

11. Next Meeting

Monday 21 June 2021 at 3pm

12. Meeting Closed

Rochelle thanked everyone for their support and feedback over the past few years. The meeting closed at 4pm

ACTIONS

Nil