

## *A summary of information and deliberations*

### PRESENT:

**Stephen Mills**  
Chairman

**Craig Cook**  
Deputy Chairman

**John Brooke OAM**  
Director

**Peter Fitzgerald**  
Director

**Claire Penniceard**  
Director

**Des Powell**  
Director

**Catherine Scott**  
Director

**David Stewart**  
Acting Managing Director

**Peter Guy**  
Executive Manager  
Business & Finance

**Brian Carr**  
Corporate Secretary

*For queries regarding this information sheet, please contact Brian Carr on telephone  
No. 03 5833 5550 or email [brianc@g-mwater.com.au](mailto:brianc@g-mwater.com.au)*

*The next Board meeting will be held at Tatura on Wednesday 9 April 2008.*

---

### **Inspection tour and meetings in Pyramid-Boort and Torrumbarry Irrigation Areas**

The Board participated in an inspection tour in the Pyramid-Boort Irrigation Area on Tuesday 11 March.

The tour, guided and hosted by the Pyramid-Boort Water Services Committee and G-MW Pyramid-Boort Area management, encompassed visits to a range of farming properties, discussions with customers (particularly on their coping in drought conditions) and general discussion on system modernisation matters.

Part of the program included the official opening of the Catumnal pipeline project at Mysia, an initiative funded by Coliban Water for the amount of \$464,000 in return for 220 ML of water savings. The Catumnal pipeline project replaces 21 km of open channel with 13 km of pipeline, servicing 13 G-MW customers in the



*WSC members at the Catumnal Pipeline project opening, Mysia*

## ***Summary Information Sheet Board Meeting 158 – 12 March 2008***

West Loddon Water District. Following introductions by the Chairman of G-MW, Stephen Mills, and Executive Manager Service Delivery of Coliban Water, Neil Burns, the pipeline was officially opened by Loddon Shire Mayor, Cr Christine Brooke.

Directors and G-MW management representatives, together with a number of stakeholders which included the Chairman and acting CEO of the Northern Victorian Infrastructure Renewal Project (NVIRP), Mayor and CEO of the Loddon Shire, Coliban Water Chairman, and North Central CMA CEO were hosted by the Pyramid-Boort WSC at a dinner meeting at Durham Ox.

Directors also met representatives of the Torrumbarry WSC at Kerang on Wednesday 12 March to discuss topical issues (predominantly system modernisation), following which the Board held its March Board meeting at the Pyramid Hill College.

The time provided by all involved in hosting farm tours and discussions, along with the hosting of dinner at Durham Ox, is most appreciated by the directors of Goulburn-Murray Water.

### **Water Resource Issues**

The Board noted reports on current resource issues, including the report that irrigation deliveries are at record lows for this time of year with only 21% of high reliability water shares having been delivered in the Goulburn system to 28 February and 13% in the G-MW component in the Murray system.

Drought pumping facilities at Waranga Basin have been completed and are ready for operation, however pumping has been delayed until early April to minimise potential issues which may arise downstream of Waranga Basin due to pump capacity limitations.

The estimate of water volumes expected in the Menindee Lakes from flows in the Darling River is 600 GL, being under the trigger point at which Menindee Lakes storage is shared with other states. As such this water resource remains in NSW control.

### **Modernisation**

The Alliance Agreement being established for delivery of the \$180m combined Shepparton modernisation and CG1-4 projects, together with a number of NVIRP early works, was discussed at this Board meeting. An announcement on the FutureFlow Alliance is due to be made shortly.

The Board also noted a report of the meeting of representative directors of the NVIRP and G-MW Boards; the representatives are meeting regularly to ensure effective coordination and communication of governance, policy and strategies relating to the modernisation of northern Victoria's irrigation system.

Procedures to allow for increased flexibility in meeting the changing nature of work programs, and the way in which G-MW continues to meet its regulatory commitments in terms of the Water Plan, were noted and approved by the Board.

### **Laanecoorie Dam Safety Upgrade Project**

The Board addressed a report on proposed works to the Laanecoorie Dam which have been assessed as a priority in accordance with G-MW's corporate risk framework. The works, which include the installation of anchors to the spillway training wall and construction of a filter buttress at the embankment-spillway interface, are designed to ensure the long-term integrity of the dam.

## ***Summary Information Sheet Board Meeting 158 – 12 March 2008***

The Board accepted a recommendation that, pending Treasury approval, the project proceed at an estimated cost of \$5.7m. Subject to that approval it is planned that works commence in May, taking approximately 5 months to complete.

### **Goulburn Weir Pier Anchor Replacement**

A report on the replacement of pier anchors at the Goulburn Weir at an estimated cost of \$2.8m was discussed and was subsequently approved by the Board. The required work, identified during load testing, will commence in May and is programmed to be completed within 4 months.

### **Managing Director Appointment**

Since the 12 March Board meeting advertisements for the Managing Director appointment have appeared in the media (Saturday press, internet and internally within G-MW); the Remuneration Committee is overseeing the executive search process, with the intention of nominating a short list of candidates for consideration by the full Board at the earliest possible date.

### **REPORTS**

The Board addressed further reports:

- Financial report.
- Capital project reporting.
- Project reports.
- Stakeholder relations.
- Eildon pondage incident 21 February 2008.
- Lake Tutchewop
- Strategy workshop arrangements
- 2008 WSC Workshop.
- 2008 ICOLD Meeting.
- 2008 IAL Conference.

Brian Carr  
CORPORATE SECRETARY

David Stewart  
ACTING MANAGING DIRECTOR

25 March 2008