



**Summary of  
Board meeting 180  
Tuesday 9 March, 2010  
Nagambie**

Stephen Mills  
Chairman

Peter Fitzgerald  
Director

Catherine Scott  
Director

Craig Cook  
Deputy Chairman  
(Apology)

Claire Penniceard  
Director

David Stewart  
Managing Director

John Brooke OAM  
Director

Des Powell  
Director

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### **Chairman's Report**

The report of the Chairman was discussed with the following noted –

- The chairman attended the first meeting of the Pyramid-Boort Customer Reference Group in February and welcomed the members to their new role advising the Board and management of G-MW on customer related issues.
- The Chairman also attended the first public information session in Boort and Durham Ox. He described the feeling of those irrigators present as one of faith in the future of irrigation and farming in the area but noted there was a continuing uncertainty about connecting to the backbone and a lack of understanding of the reserve policy outlined in the NRSWS
- The Chairman attended the decommissioning of Lake Mokoan with the Minister.

### **Managing Director's Report**

The Managing Director's report was discussed, with the following noted –

- Rainfall over the weekend has increased flows in several rivers and into storage facilities such as Eildon and Waranga Basin
- Waranga Basin had increased capacity by 24GL and more was expected over the next few days. There is a flood watch on the Goulburn River and a large flows in the Ovens River

- Irrigation demand has ceased as a result of the rainfall and some drains are flooding
- An AICD update on “Reporting to Board” was recently attended. One procedure discussed was quarterly reporting to board against agreed strategies
- The Managing Director has been invited by the chair of the VFF Water Council to attend and to present to the next meeting of the Water Council.

### **Governance Report**

The Board noted the report and in particular, the following –

- Closer relationship for the Boards of G-MW and Southern Rural Water, as proposed by the chair of SRW, had been further discussed by the respective chairs at a recent VicWater meeting.
- Notification would be provided to directors of upcoming WSC Forums and Leadership meetings, the next one being scheduled for 16 March, 2010.

### **Water Services Committees Report**

The Board noted the deliberations at committee meetings held since the last Board meeting. The Board noted the recommendations of the Murray Valley WSC, particularly with respect to its view on service point fees.

### **Finance and Management Audit Committee**

The Board approved amendments to the Finance and Management Audit Committee charter, to be adopted at the next meeting of the Committee.

### **Risk and Compliance Committee**

The Chair of the Risk and Compliance Committee gave a report of the meeting held earlier in the day –

- improvements have been noted in OH&S activity with a flow on improvement in workplace safety
- presentations were received from General Manager Organisational Development and Executive Manager Information & Business Systems
- the corporate risk of management capabilities going forward was discussed, in terms of SCADA and automation and resulting skills base changes
- management succession issues were noted and also the need for the introduction of some additional skills at senior level and the nurturing of younger staff members

### **NVIRP / G-MW Coordination Committee**

The Board considered and approved (subject to approval of the NVIRP board) the wording of an amended version of the charter for the Joint Coordination Committee.

### **Board Committees**

The Chairman proposed changes to the current committee structure and composition.

### **NVIRP Proposal for the future of the Campaspe Irrigation District**

The Board considered NVIRP's proposal and approved in principle the amalgamation of the Campaspe Irrigation District with the Rochester Irrigation Area, subject to the outcomes of the current NVIRP process.

### **Tariff Approvals for 2010/11**

For Gravity Irrigation tariffs, the Board approved tariff levels presented to the February 2010 Board meeting. For Surface Drainage tariffs, the Board agreed an amended surface drainage tariff for primary drains for 2010/11 then approved the submission of all prices to the ESC, as required, by 12 March 2010.

### **Watermove Pty Ltd**

The Board discussed the future operations and governance of Watermove, having gone through the exercise of achieving competitive neutrality status. It was agreed that whilst the Board of Watermove had well qualified applicants for additional director positions it would like to see the addition of a regulatory specialist and someone with first hand commercial experience to the number applicants for consideration.

It was also agreed to engage the services of a strategic advisor to develop a plan for the future operations, governance and commerciality of Watermove.

### **Reports**

The Board also noted the following reports –

- Finance Report
- Capital Performance Report
- Apportionment to Customers of NVIRP Water Savings
- Composition of Infrastructure Access Fee
- USA Dept of Homeland Security SCADA Security training
- Customer Communications Plan:
- Radio Communication System Status

David Stewart  
Managing Director

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Russell Barnier  
Corporate Secretary

15 March, 2010