



**Summary of
Board meeting 187
Tuesday 12 October, 2010
Tatura**

Stephen Mills
Chairman

Craig Cook
Deputy Chairman

John Brooke OAM
Director

Claire Penniceard
Director

Des Powell
Director

Catherine Scott
Director

Suzanna Sheed
Director

David Stewart
Managing Director

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Corporate Secretary
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Opening

The Chairman welcomed all in attendance to the meeting, following an informal discussion session commencing at 8am which included a presentation by the Managing Director of his monthly review.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman spoke to his report and raised the following in discussion –

- The MDBA Basin Guide was released recently and the Board discussed its role in relation thereto. The Board determined that the Guide was not a product of G-MW but of an independent body and G-MW was not in a position to comment on its contents or methodology. Instead, the Board needed to know how the Guide impacted on G-MW and its customers and requested management to prepare a paper on this. G-MW would be happy to provide government with customer views received through WSCs.
- G-MW had been praised by DPI over its efforts as a land manager in dealing with the expected locust plague, which has been held up as a model to be followed.
- The Board noted the Chair of the ESC had offered at the VicWater Annual Conference to visit water corporations and it was suggested that such a visit

could be incorporated into the G-MW consultation process for tariff reform in the next water plan.

Syndicates

The formation and structure of Syndicates is close to resolution, however legislative amendment is required as part of the necessary outcome.

Ownership of Road Assets

NVIRP is negotiating with six municipalities on the future ownership and maintenance of existing G-MW road assets off the proposed new backbone.

Pricing and Tariff Review Update

The Board noted progress of this review.

G-MW Business Model

The Board was provided with an update on implementation of the business model, noting the recent appointment of the Manger Modernised Irrigation Business (Kevin Preece).

East Loddon Pipeline Project

The Board approved the construction of the East Loddon Pipeline project and noted the proposal to apply the normal tariff procedure of introducing adjusted tariffs from 1 July 2012, the start of first financial year after completion.

Uniting the Campaspe Irrigation District and the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District

The Board noted that this procedure was an interim step toward closure of the Campaspe Irrigation District and was required to cover continuation of water services to customers who are transferring water source from one area of the combined district to the other. Accordingly, the Board resolved to unite the two areas in accordance with 122Y of the *Water Act* 1989; and that the united district be called the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District.

Governance Report

The report was considered, with the Board

- noting that Shepparton WSC will be chaired by the deputy, John Horder, until a permanent chair is appointed, following the resignation of John Wenske to take up a position with G-MW.
- noting that the name of the Pyramid Boort Irrigation Area has been formally changed to Loddon Valley Irrigation Area.

VicWater Guidelines for Remuneration Committees

The Board noted the review of the Remuneration Committee Charter having regard to the guidelines for Remuneration Committees prepared and published by VicWater. The Board discussed and agreed the proposed changes to the Charter arising after consideration of the guidelines.

Water Services Committee Report

The Report was taken as read, with the Board noting issues being dealt with at WSC meetings and correspondence received. The drafted response to correspondence from Murray Valley WSC and management responses to issues raised at meetings were also noted.

The Board considered a request from Central Murray WSC for appointment of an additional member to fill a vacancy. Noting that Mr Guy Duncan had signed the required certifications and declarations, the Board approved his appointment to that Committee.

General Business

Director Powell made the comment that G-MW has experienced 118 continuous days without a loss time injury, with the current record sitting at 137. The record could be broken next month and it should be recognised as a milestone.

David Stewart
Managing Director
20 October, 2010
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Russell Barnier
Corporate Secretary