

# Summary of Board meeting 192 Thursday 8 April, 2011 Tatura

Llew Vale OAM Chairman Jenny Dawson Director

Shane McGrath Acting Managing Director

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# Opening

The Chairman welcomed all in attendance to the second meeting of the interim board appointed by the Minister for Water and noted that no conflicts of interests or declarations were raised.

# **Chairman's Report**

Submission of G-MW's Corporate Plan to the Department of Sustainability and Environment was discussed with DSE and it was agreed to submit a three year plan rather than request a two year plan period.

The Chairman attended a recent NVIRP board meeting and discussed ongoing interaction between the organisations during the period of the interim G-MW board.

# **Critical Finance Projects**

The Board noted the current position with respect to critical finance projects, updated since the last meeting,

The financial report was accepted by the Board, noting that key positions were close to being filled.

The G-MW Business Plan is being prepared for inclusion in the Corporate Plan. The proposed emphasis will be on business structure, moving to best practice in finance, risk, IT, compliance and customer communication / engagement. The internal concentration on purpose and improvement will not be at the expense of G-MW's external / customer focus.

## Appointment of Internal Auditors

Tenders for the internal audit function have been received and are being assessed. A recommendation will be provided to the next Board meeting. Recommendations to improve internal audit processes and systems will be an expectation of the new auditors.

#### Service Point Fees for the Remainder of Water Plan 2

The Board acknowledged the intended reduction over time of service points and confirmed that no increase in Service Point Fees will occur in 2011/12 or 2012/13, and that changes to Service Point Fees will be considered as part of the broader consultation on tariff structures, as part of Water Plan 3 development.

## **Technology Status Report**

The Board noted the paper and agreed that an IT Plan required scoping to enable assistance from external sources and that both internal issues and external relationships with customers required consideration, as did the development of front end technologies that support back end interface.

## Managing Director Overview

The Acting Managing Director drew the Board's attention to current issues that were being dealt with, with the following noted -

- Amended water trading rules came into effect on 25 March 2011, requiring other States to comply with Victoria's trading rule requirements
- General Counsel will review G-MW's Whistle-blower procedures
- Flood affected customers were taking advantage of payment plans offered by G-MW.

#### Governance Report

The Board noted G-MW governance arrangements including documents sealed and correspondence.

The appointments process for Water Services Committees commences on 18 April 2011 with recommendations for appointments brought to the July Board meeting.

#### Water Services Committee Report

The Board considered the reports from the various Water Services Committee meetings and comments from management with respect to some of the issues raised.

Shane McGrath Acting Managing Director Russell Barnier General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

13 April 2011 #3035961