



Summary – Board Meeting 317, 26 February 2020

Overview

The February meeting was held in the Tatura Conference Room. All Directors were present with no apologies.

Diane James AM, Chairman, welcomed Directors to the first Board Meeting of the year and on behalf of the Board congratulated:

- Alana Johnson AM, Director, on being made a member of the Order of Australia in the 2020 Australia Day honours
- Patrick McNamara, Deputy Chairman, on being appointed Chair of the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Advisory Panel
- Charmaine Quick, Managing Director, on her one year anniversary of appointment as Managing Director: Charmaine Quick reflected on her delivery of the one year plan she had committed to deliver when she was appointed

Managing Director Report

Charmaine Quick, Managing Director, discussed with the Board:

- the status of GMW's Price Submission: the Board discussed the public submissions that the Essential Services Commission (ESC) had received
- the status of GMW's application to the Commonwealth Government for funding for additional backbone capital works
- the progress of the Irrigators Share Consultative Committee

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Glenda Smith, General Manager People, Culture and Safety, discussed with the Board:

- GMW's health, safety and wellbeing performance: the Board noted several safety initiatives that were underway including improved safety reporting and the updating of GMW's Pandemic Management Plan
- GMW's readiness for compliance with the new *Workplace Safety Legislation Amendment (Workplace Manslaughter and other matters) Act 2019* which becomes effective on 1 July 2020: the Board emphasised that its greatest priority was the safety of GMW staff.

Finance

Michael Gomez, General Manager Finance, discussed with the Board GMW's:

- Water Storage and Delivery financial performance in January 2019 including:



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- a decrease in variable charges due to lower water orders caused by lower water allocations
- an increase in externally funded works including Connections Project and Murray Darling Basin Authority activities
- latest financial forecast still shows strong financials with an increased EBITDA, increase in the cash position and a small reduction in borrowings.

Corporate Plan Preparation

The Board discussed timelines and inputs for the development of GMW's Corporate Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25.

Connection Project

Patrick McNamara, Project Control Group Chair, and Frank Fisseler, Project Director, discussed with the Board the status of the Connections Project including:

- that the Project as at 18 February 2020 had achieved 96% of its Stage 1 and Stage 2 water saving milestones
- the achievement of a total of 8.5GL of water savings during December 2019 and January 2020
- the establishment of a Connections Project Handover Team to facilitate the integration of the Project back into GMW after Project practical completion

Seasonal update

The Board discussed with Warren Blyth, General Manager Water Delivery Services, water availability and operations across northern Victoria during 2019/20 and associated risks to GMW.

Board Approvals

The Board approved:

- the Framework to be used to develop GMW strategies aligned to its five strategic outcomes:
 1. Safe, skilled, engaged people
 2. Satisfied customers, trusting partners
 3. Innovation, data and technology driven services
 4. Sustainable business, viable customers
 5. Water security and other water values are recognised
- the People and Culture Strategy incorporating four priorities of:
 - creating a workplace free from injury and a culture that enhances our wellbeing and the employee experience
 - building a high performance learning culture that recruits, retains, develops and rewards





- building organisational leadership capability
- transforming the people, culture and safety business unit to create a team of trusted business partners

General Business

The Board also reviewed and discussed:

- the status of GMW's Transformation
- GMW's customer service performance including how GMW customers had benefitted from the Water for Fodder Program
- GMW's Financial Relationship with MDBA
- the latest seasonal update

The Board concluded its meeting with a 'meet and greet' with the newly formed Senior Leadership Team.

Board of Goulburn-Murray Water

Directors: Diane James AM (Chairman), Patrick McNamara, Margot Henty, Alana Johnson AM, David McKenzie, Jonathan Koop, Margaret O'Rourke, Dennis Quinn, Ari Suss

Managing Director: Charmaine Quick

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