



Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group

April 30th, 2010
2.00 pm
YYCMG Office Kalannie

General Meeting - Minutes

1. Open General Meeting (Approx 2.00pm)

1.1. Attendance

Lizzie King, Stacey Hudson, Keith Carter, Janette Macpherson, Peter Syme, Max Hudson, Ian Fordyce, Dene Solomon, Barrye Thompson, Brian McCreery

1.2. Apologies

Keith Camac, Wally Barnes, Jo Ashworth

2. Minutes of previous General Meeting, held 4th February 2010

2.1. Amendments

No Amendments

2.2. Matters Arising

No matters arising

2.3. Sign previous minutes if true and correct record (Chairperson)

Moved Lizzie King, 2nd Keith Carter that the minutes of the meeting held 4th February 2010 be confirmed as a true and accurate record

Carried 10/0

3. Executive Reports

3.1. Correspondence (SH)

3.1.1. Correspondence In - tabled

- Letter from Bankwest regarding new security tokens for online business banking.
- Letter from FRRR acknowledging receipt of the grant application

3.1.2. Correspondence Out - tabled

- Ian - application to FRRR

3.2. Funding and Finance (SH)

3.2.1. Financial Reports – tabled

3.2.2. YYCMG – as at 27th April 2010

- Cheque account has a balance of \$70,730
- Enterprise account has a balance of \$13,445. Have paid out \$13,080 from this account for the DOW works at Burakin (funds from DOW)
- Accounts receivable of \$9,488. \$7288 is outstanding drainage maintenance fees and \$2,200 from Newholstein.
- Accounts payable - \$330 for the audit of Keith Carter's envirofund (not sent to the auditor yet).
- Have to pay \$329 to Attorney General for fine and court costs for the YYCMG trailer.
- There is \$35,349 left in the monitoring project, to cover wages. Fortnightly wages are \$4,900 plus expenses of around \$1,000 per month. The funds will run out by mid June at the latest. Stacey to calculate all annual leave owing. There are potential funds in the pipeline but we are unlikely to know the outcomes of these before this money runs out.
- If we do run out of funds, the YYCMG will go into recess as has happened in the past, and hopefully get by with volunteers.

- Dene has been in contact with Gindalbie mines to see if there are any opportunities for funding Ian, eg through vegetation surveys. There is also a new company – Magnetic Resources that may provide other opportunities. Dene to follow up.
- Ian's ute insurance will need to be paid in May, will pay for 6 months. Discuss at the next meeting what action to take regarding the ute.
- All insurances have been paid for 6 months up to the end of August

3.2.3. YYCRC – as at 27th April 2010

- Balance of \$92,322
- Accounts receivable, \$64,804, which is money owed to YYCRC by NACC for NRMO's for the 1/4/2010 to 30/6/2010 quarter
- Need to repay \$3,329 to NACC for remaining NRMO funds from October – December 2009.
- NACC have offered \$200,000 to fund 2 NRMOs for a year, this is less than what we currently receive but can work with this.

Moved Max Hudson, 2nd Jan Macpherson that the financial statements for the YYCMG and the YYCRC be received

Carried 10/0

4. Reports

4.1. YYCRC CEO report (Barrye Thompson) – tabled (see attached)

- YYCRC meeting had to be rescheduled due to lack of councillors and subsequently unable to form a quorum.
- The YY deep drainage project was one of NACCs projects selected to be audited, by Andrew Huffer & Associates. They had a list of requirements, Dene and Stacey sorted this.
- Attended climate change workshop in Carnamah. Shires also attended. Organised by MWROC, doubtful of any benefits in attending future meetings.
- In communication with Minister Burke regarding finding funding for salinity.
- Had eventual communication from the federal government, through Ron White, he has promised to find out the intent of the letter from Minister Burker re finding funding for salinity. 6th April last communication.
- Attended the State Salinity review panel. No explanation given for lack of state recognition of salinity. Asked to submit a case study by 6th May, which Max is writing.
- Audit - disappointing that 2009/10 has still not been completed, they have had the books since mid December and we have only recently heard of their requirements. Hoping to admit them at the next Regional Council meeting.
- YYCRC asked to support a submission from the Moore Catchment Council for the landcare facilitator to be located at Moora. Spoke to NACC CEO and decided it would be better to support the NACC application.
- Still haven't heard from the State NRM funding about when they will make decisions on funding. We should hear imminently.

4.2. NRMO reports (DS & LK)

4.2.1. Dene – tabled (see attached)

- The NACC incentives are providing the majority of our work. We are having limited success with the oil mallee incentive and more success with the fodder shrub incentive. Very regular reporting is required by NACC.
- Working on the Rabbits incentive. This is very targeted and is only available to farmers where there are TEC's (threatened ecological communities) within the CFOC rabbit target area. Money for baiting/warren ripping etc...
- Supplied information for the audit of the drainage project. Attended meetings with Andrew Huffer & associates.
- Surface water monitoring – the Crump weir is now in place at Burakin. Data station set up so it can be downloaded from anywhere but it has to be downloaded every 2/3 weeks or the memory will be filled. There is a cost for this, \$19/month for 24 months. Who can pay this?

(Barrye Thompson left the meeting at 3.00pm)

4.2.2. Lizzie – tabled (see attached)

- There has been talk within NACC of changes being made to the incentives, eg different \$/ more options for farm forestry but none of this is finalised as of yet.
- Organised two sandalwood field days in March, well attended and well received.
- Working towards getting the Jibberding revegetation project sorted out
- Dramas with my laptop, asked NACC if I could have one of theirs, but will have to wait and see on this as they are sorting out their assets etc...
- Planning to work part time from July, and finish for 12 months at the end of August.

4.3. Max's report (MH) – tabled (see attached)

- Submitted an application to the Wheatbelt Development Commission asking for support for writing up a business case. Have asked for \$30,000. Have also approached the shires and so far have received \$18,000 towards this.
- The Burakin weir – with hindsight could have done the work for a lower cost as we ended up with in effect a concrete and a steel weir.
- Submitted application to CBH to ask them to sponsor the monitoring and research in YY and for some administration support for the Wheatbelt Catchment Alliance.
- Asked by NACC to complete a questionnaire for the salinity review, which took a few days to compile. Attended the meeting in Geraldton, they seemed very interested and wanted YY to submit a case study by 6th May, currently working on this.
- Submitted application to CFOC for Broombush (150,000 seedlings, plus planting costs), with Lizzie. Asked for \$94,500
- Working on YY final report booklet. We need to get this finished and onto the website as soon as possible (Lizzie & Max to follow up).

4.4. Ian's report: The all new website (IF)

- Looking at website up on the screen, rundown of what's what.
- Photo needed for Stacey (Stacey to follow up)
- The new website address needs advertising to all contacts (Lizzie to follow up)
- Ian to send invoices to Stacey for the work on the website.

- We need to decide how best to continue updating the website, would it be easier to send things to Chris (website designer) than for staff to do it? Chris would be willing to do the updates, this is likely to be not more than an hours work once a month. Ian to find out what this may cost and how much time it is likely to take.
- Aim to have all our monitoring data so far on the website before the end of June
- Still planning to have a map (similar to the West Midlands group website) that has project locations pinpointed.
- There is somebody within DAFF who can help with websites if needed (Lizzie to follow this up through the Liebe group)
- Well done Ian
- New address www.yarrayarracatchment.org.au

Moved Keith Carter, 2nd Jan Macpherson that reports from Barrye Thompson, Dene Solomon, Lizzie King, Max Hudson and Ian Fordyce be received.

Carried 9/0

5. General Business

5.1. Outcomes from the DOW meeting (30th April)

- No significant outcomes, we have not gained much from the meeting but discovered their attitudes towards drainage. We need our monitoring data to negate what they are saying.
- Discussion of whether we should replicate some of the formats that they use to display data, some if it was easier to understand.
- Dene spoke to Jason Lette regarding getting some assistance from them for getting the data from the odyssey loggers, ie how to download and use the data. They appeared happy to help.

5.2. Funding applications – discussed above

5.2.1. CFOC Broombush submission (open grants)

5.2.2. State NRM – the Surface water management submission

5.2.3. FRRR submission, for the Kalannie herbarium

5.3. The new Salinity Review – discussed above

- The Minister commissioned Colin Creighton and Roy Green to investigate whether we really do have a salinity problem. It seems like future works may hinge around deep drainage following these discussions. This is our input to the salinity review. Our findings will be passed on to the minister in due course. They gave the impression of being pro drainage.

5.4. Drain maintenance

5.4.1. The Canna Gutha drain was quite silted up near the flume. Has been de-silted today, Kevin Lyon was there today with time to do it. \$2,000 cost.

5.4.2. Stephens Lease – having trouble persuading someone to have a go at putting a crop in. Could share-farming work? Perhaps approach summit for some fertilizer? This could then be our contribution if somebody else would crop it? Alternatively offer for somebody to crop it and they can keep the profits and we can get the data from this.

Moved Max Hudson, 2nd Keith Carter that the de-silting works carried out at the Canna Gutha drain be paid for out of the drain maintenance fund.

Carried 9/0

5.5. Data number required for weather station (DS)

- As discussed above this will cost \$456 over the 2 years (minimum term). There is also a second weather station that hasn't be set up yet and if we do set it up, we may need a second data card /phone plan set up. Originally planned to put it at Morawa, but they have a good weather station there already. Would Mongers be suitable or is there somewhere better? Dene to approach BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) to see if they might fund the data card for the second weather station.
If it is only set up as a rain gauge then it will be able to store more data (eg 3 months). The Ag Dept may be another option

Moved Max Hudson, 2nd Keith Carter that we pay for one data number for Burakin from the Enterprise account.

Carried 9/0

6. Business without Notice

6.1. Ian's job – discussed above

6.2. Change next meeting to Perenjori

6.3. LCDC Update

- We do not need to write a constitution, we need to sort out a membership group. This must include somebody who is a member of WAFF (WA Farmers Federation) plus other representatives.

7. Close Meeting (Approx 4.30 pm)

7.1. Agenda items for next meeting

7.2. Next meeting will be in Perenjori, 29th July 2010

7.3. Close Meeting