

MINUTES

MEETING OF:	Orana Water Utilities Alliance Technical Committee Meeting No 14
DATE:	Thursday 17 December 2020
VENUE:	Dubbo RSL
MEETING COMMENCED:	10.10am

ATTENDEES	
Bourke Shire Council	Peter Brown
Brewarrina Shire Council	David Kirby (left 11.00am)
Cobar Shire Council	Scott Casey
Mid-Western Regional Council	Claire Cam (10.20am), Rod Morton (10.20am)
Narromine Shire Council	Doug Moorby
Warren Shire Council	Raymond Burns
Warrumbungle Shire Council	Cornelia Wiebels Andrew Milford
DPIE – Water	Graham Attenborough, David Swan (12.30pm), Brendan Miller, Trent Betts, Cindy Houston
Department of Regional NSW	Angela Shepherd (left 1.00pm)
NSW Water Directorate	Brendan Guiney
OWUA Project Officer	Alayna Gleeson

APOLOGIES	
Bogan Shire Council	Graeme Bourke, Alister Quarmby, Trevor Waterhouse
Central Darling Shire Council	Darren Scotti
Cobar Shire Council	Victor Paperniak-Wojtowicz
Gilgandra Shire Council	Mark Linton-Harland
Mid-Western Regional Council	Brad Cam
Walgett Shire Council	Abhishek Suwal, Raju Ranjit, Colin Gatgens
NSW Health	Mark Nave Jason Harwood
DPIE - Water	Shyamala Manorathan, Bruce Lamont

ACTIONS LIST

ITEM	ACTION	WHO	STATUS
Outstanding actions			
8/4 4.3	Cryptosporidium Risk Assessments Overdue – Councils to submit or contact their EHO with an update.	Outstanding Councils	Ongoing
11/6 2	Orana JO Workforce Development Project ACTION: Confirm Department of Premier and Cabinet Funding	BC/AG	No update
New actions			
15/10 3.3	Risk Management Training – follow up with Murray Thompson for potential date to deliver the training	MN	Early 2021 (February TBA)
15/10 6	Circular 18 – David Swan to follow up internally at DPIE for inclusion of Circular 18 in DW Annual Report as a standard practice.	DS	Awaiting confirmation
15/10 6	ITAB Water Survey – Project Officer to follow up with outstanding Councils so information can be used for future OWUA planning	AG	Awaiting response from 2 x members
15/10 8	Asset Revaluation Project – Project Officer to arrange meeting with relevant Councils to discuss progressing as an Alliance project	AG	Awaiting response from 2 x members
15/10 14	Project Management support – Project Officer to investigate procurements/embedment model	AG	NOT COMMENCED
17/12 2.3	NSW Health test transportation SOP – distribute to members	AG	
17/12 5.1	Condition Assessment of Existing Groundwater Bores – feedback on draft report	AG/Councils	
17/12 5.2	BCP – provide feedback to StateCover re Council BCP process	AG/DM	
17/12 5.3	BCP – distribute draft Tier 1 BCP and CBF/MAO's to members	AG	
17/12 5.4	Asset Revaluation – follow up outstanding members	AG	
17/12 6	Operators Group Meeting – schedule meeting for early 2021 and include DPIE – Water Inspectors for presentation	AG	

1	<p>Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome and Apologies – D Moorby, Chair Refer to attendee and apologies above.</p>
2	<p>Stakeholder Updates</p> <p>DM – meeting with Jim Bentley and Garry Barnes held on 10 November in Mudgee (BC, DM and AG) Opportunity to discuss burning issues – innovation, training, Section 60 and IWCM.</p> <p>2.1 Orana Joint Organisation – Doug Moorby on behalf of OJO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brad Cam still acting as EO, continue liaison with stakeholders and various government departments - Most of the Councils have provided a submission to the Regional Water Strategy – no OWUA submission due to competing interests throughout the catchment. <p>2.2 DPIE – Water – Graham Attenborough and Brendan Miller</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Graham Attenborough – Chief Operating Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPIE – Water has restructured – organisation more structured around short term, strategic and knowledge, Water Infrastructure NSW – delivering major state significant infrastructure across the state. • SSWP PMO – sits under Water Infrastructure NSW, can support delivery of projects for LWU if requested. • Operations – vehicle to allow operations, delivery of Water Management Act, Hunter Valley Flood Mitigation Scheme, water sector performance and improvement etc. • Focus on Sydney Water, Hunter Water and WaterNSW but how do we involve LWU’s? • Risk Reduction Program – reducing risks to the community in regional NSW, communication will be coming to all LWU to provide more information around the program. Focus on listening rather than telling, working in partnership, working on solutions with LWU’s. Some root causes around scales, remoteness, skills, strategic planning. How do we make better use of the funding we have and do things differently? • Skills and training – meeting with Training Services NSW and Department of Regional NSW in early 2021. • Reform over the next two years. We all want to see results and the community deserve results. - Brendan Miller – Acting Regional Manager West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Infrastructure NSW – nothing will change for LWU’s in terms of reporting or claiming. • Nigel Deakin is moving on, DS stepping in to Manager SSWP - PMO, BM acting Regional Manager. <p>DM – keep the lines of communication as open as we can. Look to expert panel (NSW Water Directorate) to represent LWU’s.</p> <p>2.3 NSW Health – AG and DM on behalf of NSW Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mosquito monitoring program – sample transport. ACTION: Project Officer to distribute information. - Water Source Newsletter – lots of relevant information included. - Drinking Water Quality improvement reports – due towards the end of February. <p>2.4 NSW Water Directorate – Brendan Guiney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanks to Graham Attenborough for the opportunity – can tell the government is listening. - Element of consultation fatigue – needs to be done at the right pace. Prioritise issues in conversations. - All LWU’s are unique but regional alliance models are beneficial. 13 x JO’s – trying to make WD known to all. They all have strategic priorities and almost all of them include water. - Regional Managers and Inspectors have a great rapport – they know our people and our assets and that’s where the risk reduction program should start. - Drought, fire, water quality, COVID. The risks have happened and the risk management plans have actually come in to play. - Resilience – incident and drought management to strategic water planning. - NSW WD assists at technical level but also support strategic priorities.

	<p>DM – 2020 has shown the amazing resilience in the sector and in our region. WD – advocating at the highest level but also assisting individual Councils from the ground up. Risk reduction starts with us.</p> <p>2.5 Transport for NSW - N/A</p> <p>2.6 Department of Regional NSW – Angela Shepherd - Established in March 2020 - Currently focused on Regional Job creation Fund - 2021 will see another round of Resources for Regions, Stronger Country Communities Fund and the Regional Growth Strategy Programs (competitive programs for all Councils). Funding should be available to bring projects up to shovel-ready. Programs are focused on creating jobs and driving economic growth. - Trying to streamline projects to be jointly funded between Council, State and Commonwealth. - Training package funding – working with BG and DM to continue in to 2021.</p> <p>DM – OWUA shift focus to joint alliance based projects.</p>
3	<p>Confirmation of Minutes from OWUA Technical Committee Meeting – 15 October 2020 Motion: C Weibels/D Moorby That the Minutes of the OWUA Technical Committee Meeting held in Mudgee on 15 October 2020 be taken as a true and accurate record. CARRIED</p>
4	<p>Actions from Previous Minutes Noted. Refer to actions list.</p>
5	<p>Matters In Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condition Assessment of Existing Groundwater Bores – draft report received, to be distributed to participating Councils for review by 15 January. ACTION: Project Officer to distribute draft report for feedback. - Training – NWPGEN001 – to be held in early 2021. NSW Health awaiting confirmation of dates from Murray Thompson. - Business Continuity Plan – draft CBF/MAO’s table and draft Tier 1 BCP received, to be distributed for review and feedback by 15 January. Training will take place in early 2021 for CIRT. ACTION: feedback to StateCover on BCP process. PO to distribute draft Tier 1 BCP and CBF/MAO’s to member Councils for feedback. - Asset Revaluation – Bourke and Brewarrina confirmed participation. Awaiting response from Bogan, and Central Darling. Procurement to commence in early 2021 with project to commence next Financial Year. ACTION: Project Officer to follow up outstanding members.
6	<p>OWUA Operators Group 27 October meeting did not proceed due to lack of attendance. ACTION: face-to-face meeting to scheduled for early 2021. Include DPIE – Water Inspectors in meetings for access and presentations.</p>
7	<p>Best Practice Compliance/Asset Management Noted.</p>
8	<p>Member Council Updates Bourke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bourke WTP nearing completion (expected March 2021) - Feedback from village consultation is that they don’t want their water supply chlorinated. - Currently on Level 2 Water Restrictions - STP design ongoing - Charles St Reservoir out to tender Jan 2021 - 4 x bores nearing completion – water licencing issues.

	<p>Cobar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WTP complete with outstanding issues to be resolved. - Reticulation project to replace iron mains complete. - Nyngan pump station – long term temporary solution in place and working well. - Hermidale boost pumps in progress. - Reservoir roof on raw water reservoir tender closed and in process of being awarded. Old TP will be re-commissioned as temporary storage while works completed. - IWCM funding approved. - Corrosion of Nyngan to Cobar pipeline – level 2 water restrictions introduced to slow things down and temporary pumps to be commissioned in Hermidale. <p>Mid-Western</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSPGEN001 Training with Murray Thompson in progress – training across the organisation. 60 people total, 20 completed, 40 half way through. Hope to get 80 trained. Identified through NSW Health Audit in 2019. <p>BG - Aqua Card – based on QLD WD Blue Card model, water industry induction for staff – general risk principles in water. Originally aimed at contractors. Launch early 2021. Safety and Environmental Cards under investigation.</p> <p>Narromine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IWCM Strategy – PWA most likely to be engaged. - Innovation – AMR and cloud based solutions being investigated. - Replacement of water mains at airport in progress. - Temporary WTP complete – final works on bore 8 outstanding. - Level 1 water restrictions across LGA. - Tomingley WTP – tender meeting stage. - 2 x SPS commissioned in new subdivisions with more to come in early 2021. <p>Walgett (Trent Betts on behalf of Walgett)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Switched back to river – re-commission surface WTP. - STP at Walgett in progress - Chlorine being rolled out in remote villages. <p>Warren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IXOM audit on chlorination systems – working through compliance. - Cross connection between river and bore water system for drought relief and fire fighting. - Replacing elevated reservoir with low level tanks and pumps to pressurise reticulation system. - STP in progress. <p>Warrumbungle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A number of staff vacancies across the organisation, some position have been filled in water team. - Budget process in progress. - Submissions made for RWS and Dam Safety Levy. - BCP Sub-Plans for water and sewer updated. - 14 capital works projects in progress – Chris Devitt engaged and great progress being made on many of the projects. - DWMS Improvement Plan – 54 items outstanding. - Water Quality projects funding – meeting with DPIE – Water.
9	<p>Cold Call Surveys Noted.</p>
10	<p>2021 Meeting Dates 11 February, 8 April, 10 June, 12 August, 14 October, 9 December Bourke – June Meeting (TBC)</p>

<p>11</p>	<p>COVID-19 No updates.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>General Business BM – monthly drought status tracker – still important for Councils to let DPIE – Water know of any changes in their systems. BM will start to send out monthly reminders again.</p> <p>CW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DPIE Annual Performance Report – triple bottom line reports and action plans – no updates since 2015/16 but some data available online: https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/water-utilities/lwu-performance-monitoring-data. - Non-residential access water charges? A number of Council have scalable charges. Refer to Fees and Charges. - Boundary shaft policies? Can be dependant on where the mains are laid – Councils are required to bring connection to property boundary. Recommendation – shaft property of owner responsibility. Refer to WSAA codes and ASNZ 3500. BG – Regional NSW supplement to WSAA Codes to be launched in the New Year. - Meter Reading contracts – staff or contractors? Narromine use SkillTech.
<p>13</p>	<p>Meeting Close 2.00pm.</p>