

Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING



Held on Thursday 19 June 2014, commencing at 9.00am
at the Marine Operations Centre, 107 Breakwater Parade, Mandurah Ocean Marina

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9.10am

1. Attendance

<u>Present:</u>	Jan Star AM	Chairman
	Andy Gulliver	Deputy Chairman
	Bob Pond	Executive Committee [DoW]
	Don Glenister	Member
	Dr Peter Hick	Member
	Denyse Needham, OAM	Member [from 10.35am]
	Cr John Allert	Local Govt Member (Inland)
	Cr Richard Smith	Member
	Dave Arkwright	PDC
	Craig Olejnik	DPaW
	Rob Summers	DAFWA
	Scott Haine	Department of Planning (Peel) - Observer
<u>In Attendance:</u>	Jane O'Malley	Chief Executive Officer
	Kim Wilson	Program Manager
	Thelma Crook	R2R Project Manager [from 9.30am]
	Jo Garvey	R2R Officer [from 9.30am]
	Farid Bagheri	Project Support Officer [from 9.30am]
	Patricia Sutton	Office Manager
<u>Guests:</u>	Neil Riches	WA NRM Team, Regional Officer Environment Department of Environment
	Andrew DelMarco	Ironbark Environmental [from 9.20am]
	Dr Carlos Ocampo	UWA [from 10.20am to 11.45am]
	Meg Ryan	UWA [from 10.20am to 11.45am]
	Wendy Dymond	Thinkscape (on behalf of SWCC) [from 9.30am]
<u>Apologies:</u>	Marilyn Gray	Treasurer
	Shane Kelliher	Member
	Nuray Veryeri	Member
	Maxine Whitely	Member
	Cr Caroline Knight	Local Govt Member (Coastal)
	Cr Keith Ellis	Proxy Local Govt Member (Coastal)
	Lean Bouwer	DoW
	Chris Malley	DER
	Kristy Gregory	Landcare SJ
	Francis Smit	Landcare SJ

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 17 April 2014

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 17 April 2014

Moved: Andy Gulliver Seconded: Peter Hick

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

4. Business arising from previous Minutes

Summary of actions from meeting of 17 April 2014:

No.	Details	Resp.	Complete
1.	Item 7 [17 April 2014] Chairman's Report Cr Ellis to liaise with Jan to discuss proposed water flow modifications from the Wungong with an aim to stop the migration of feral pearl cyclids to the Peel rivers from the Wungong. <i>Cr Ellis & Jan Star are liaising and intend to meet on site. Fisheries to hold a meeting. Jan to report.</i>	Cr Ellis	
2.	Item 9 [17 April 2014] Treasurer's Report Modify access arrangements, delegations and credit card arrangements in line with the endorsement of the PHCC meeting of 17 April, 2014. <i>Actions have been initiated and will be finalised in preparation for the new financial year.</i>	Karen Henderson	Complete

Item No 2 – Feral Pearl Cyclids

Jan reported that the site visit had not yet taken place. A meeting had recently been held by the Water Corp and Fisheries to address the concerns and there is a plan of action to stop the spread of the cyclids by blocking off the man-made connection between the systems; the SJ Shire will be asked to assist or failing that, Water Corp. contractors maybe used. This is all providing access is possible. A MoU between Water Corp and Fisheries was proposed. Jan will keep us informed on this matter.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Correspondence List for April 2014 – June 2014

Correspondence was available on the PHCC website Members' Page.

Members noted that the new system of receiving agendas and associated attachments via the website was more efficient.

Moved: Andy Gulliver Seconded: Don Glenister

That Correspondence In and Correspondence Out be accepted.

6. Monthly Meeting Inventory

Members noted the Monthly Meeting Inventory for April 2014 – June 2014. Some updates were made since the agenda was sent and it was noted that the updated Inventory was available on the PHCC website (Members page).

7. Chairman's Report

Jan Star presented her report:

“There is some good news: the State Government have supported our request for the surface water catchment boundaries to define our NRM Region.

You may or may not have noticed but in the metropolitan area the local government amalgamation discussion is getting more heated, especially since the government have not delivered funding for it in the State Budget. We did meet with the LGAB simply promoting the imperative to keep the catchment intact. We were told we should start talking to Armadale! We were also told that no decisions have been made!

I think you all know about Lowlands – our large area of intact vegetation on the Serpentine River. DPaW recently acquired it, though not the buildings and their curtilage. We have had two meetings on management and general liaison. DPaW are not intending for it to have open public access. It was apparently acquired as an offset which is disturbing as I don't think it qualifies.

The update on the ARC Linkage project was fascinating particularly as Hans Lambers outlined the conclusion of ten years of work on tracing P uptake through plants. He started it with question of how have native plants adapted to the poorest soils in the world with a very low P level, and the patterns and processes that evolved. In fact he found that some cannot tolerate a high P. I would think this is a speaker we would enjoy; I have already flagged that it would be good to have a presentation from Carlos O'Campo. Dion Nicol seems a good contact re implications for farming. What did come up in that meeting (which I will write a summary of for Jane) was that of the three farms involved in the ARC Linkage project, Kevin Dilley's was the most unusual because of his conservation informed farming methods. Since he died it has been sold and there is concern that data and knowledge accumulated will be partly lost. Can we think of a way of collecting and storing – or has DAFWA done that?

The Tipping Point Conference had an interesting set of speakers on Day 1. Craig Davis was insightful in his analysis of where capitalism has become corrupted and trends that point to a hopeful change. Unfortunately I had to get back for the PLRF on Day 2 so Kim can tell you anything of importance.

There was one item of interest in the PLRF that we wanted changed and that was with respect to the Peel Region Priorities Plan where there were errors in the “environment” section. The ARC Linkage project also received support with encouragement of other councils to contribute (City of Mandurah contributes \$50,000). Incidentally Jane and I attended their Council Meeting to give a presentation.

Jane and others have, of course, been working very hard on the NRM Strategy and allied to our Regional recognition there was a Governance Audit done for the Commonwealth. Andy and I had an interesting interview with the consultant (Norbet Vogel, Director Australian Knowledge

Management Group Pty Ltd) who gave some good advice, particularly that NRM Regions have to demonstrate that they are delivering value to other stakeholders (and their funders).

There was the opening of the Learning Circle at Fairbridge, built to support their Aboriginal training initiatives, and presumably built by them, Harry Nannup ‘opened’ it, Mark Anderson , the CEO, and their Board Chairman spoke very well with an obvious empathy and knowledge.

World Environment Day was celebrated at the Buddhist Retreat Centre at Serpentine. Dr Kruszelnicki started with the economic invisibility of biodiversity, highlighted the impact of 3D printers (parallels the effect of the industrial revolution), computer technology, the enormous strides in genetics such as ability to grow organs, basic science e.g. implications of the Hadron Collider (Higgs Boson) and ended with climate change. For Dr Dingle the problem was the way we think, leading to the immediacy of economics and the environment fixes seen as long term. Joel Hall (DoW) gave a very informative explanation of his modelling work and the Upper Serpentine Water Management Plan – worth a repeat to us if possible.

Last week we had a very short meeting with Eric Lumsden, Chair of the WAPC, to raise some concerns we had. Simon Taylor from DPC and Kym Davis and Sue Burrows from DoP were present. Our main concern was the development of market gardens in Murray, being encouraged by the PDC, but apparently with little cognisance of SPP2.1. Because policy can only direct, not mandate, and because it’s being reviewed anyhow as a priority for the PRPC, the advice was to refer to the EPA. If they don’t assess then Eric will use power of WAPC to call in the DA. On Nambeelup, WAPC have asked for a rework of the structure plan and suggested we talk to OEPA re reclassification of wetlands. We raised Fraser’s Landing, Byford by the Scarp and Whitby of examples of whittling down of any ‘good’ planning through successive owners. The WAPC is looking at ‘process improvement overall which should address this. Being consistent we raised the head of power for the WQIP (or statutory standing of P-H) which Eric saw as a PHEMC matter and relevant to review of planning policy framework. He flagged that the WAPC are trying to bring in rural land use as a use in its own right - not “awaiting urban” approach as currently. They are looking at mandating landscape scale planning. Not bad for half an hour!

Another interesting meeting was with Simon Taylor of DPC with Andy exploring possible roles for the PHCC in delivering on the requirements of the strategic assessment. By the way while there is negotiation on going, and consultation, on the one-stop shop for environmental assessments it will not apply to strategic assessments as there is no power of delegation for those under the EPBC Act.”

[Andrew Del Marco arrived at 9.20am during the Chairman’s Report]

ACTION: Invite Joel Hall (DoW) to present at a future meeting on his modelling work and the Upper Serpentine Water Management Plan.

Moved: Bob Pond Seconded: Rob Summers

That the Chairman’s Report be accepted.

CARRIED

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

8.1 Nominations for the position of Secretary

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

8.2 Adoption of Policy – Workplace Health and Safety

The draft Workplace Health and Safety Policy was presented with the agenda.

Moved: Andy Gulliver Seconded: Bob Pond

That the draft Workplace Health and Safety Policy, as presented, be endorsed.

CARRIED

8.3 Chief Executive Officer's Report

The Chief Executive Officer presented her report:

NRM Strategy and Investment Plan

The majority of time has been spent preparing the draft NRM Strategy and Investment Plan and these will be presented soon.

Funding for 2014/15

Australian Government

I would like to minute my thanks to the SWCC, particularly Damien Postma for the manner in which he is managing the process of our 'velvet divorce'. This includes proposals to shifts of funds from the SWCC to the PHCC as well as project delivery continuing as an in-kind contribution to the Peel-Harvey Catchment, as detailed in correspondence previously provided (Item 2.6 of this agenda).

We understand that a briefing paper was provided to the Minister about two weeks ago and we are awaiting advice from the Australian Government as to when we will be in a position to enter into a contract with them for Regional funding. We would like our Regional allocation to reflect the figures detailed in the draft investment plan. We do not know if a contract would be for 6 or 12 months initially. The new National Landcare Program contracts are expected to commence in early 2015 so it may be that the Commonwealth prefer an initial six month contract, in line with this. We also do not yet know if we will enter into a contract with the Department of Environment for 100% of the funding or separate contracts with the Department of Environment (70%) and the Department of Agriculture (30%). Two contracts would obviously double the workload to report and acquit projects.

We are awaiting further advice as to the details of the proposed National Landcare Program but understand that the following changes have been made to the NRM funding:

- Reduced funding for NRM programs from \$2.1 billion over five years (\$420 million per year) to \$1.240 billion over four years (\$310 million per year) – approximately 26% reduction - back to 1999/2000 levels
- \$124 million new projects which will put further pressure on remaining funding

- Reduced funding for regional delivery, community environment and Landcare grants is expected. It is understood that regions will be responsible for delivery of Landcare grants from existing funding and we are unsure how this will work
- Landcare funding has gone to the Green Army. There are concerns with this shift from supporting ongoing skilled Landcare workforce to short term program.

State Government

There is also uncertainty about State NRM Funding that will be available to Regions. Previously Regions were provided \$250,000 a year. \$150,000 was allocated towards the running of the organisation, including supporting groups to apply for and manage State NRM Grants. \$100,000 was to support community groups with e.g. training, capacity and governance and networking/info sharing events such as the SWCC Celebration. Our understanding is that this is no longer available, however there are still expectations on Regional Groups to support community groups.

As a Region we are ineligible to apply for Community Grants.

We hope to have more clarity about this following the NRMRLG meeting in early July.

Governance Review – against Regional NRM organisation governance standards (2013-18)

Thank you to everyone who participated in this. We have received the draft report and this was provided to the Commonwealth as required. The findings were good overall, e.g :

“..... PHCC is widely regarded as being in a strong position to take on the role of a regional body, this review also identified..... opportunities for improvement in capability and practices..... Many of these have already been identified prior to review and are in various stages of development. To a large extent, the review findings provide an affirmation of the direction the PHCC is taking.”

“PHCC has established a high reputation for its role in coordinating efforts with a range of stakeholders and supporting community groups in the region. The need to maintain and build on these strengths was reinforced through review.”

The review provided a list of ‘Opportunities for Improvement’ which will assist to guide improvements.

Capacity/Governance Reviews

Governance and capacity reviews are continuing. These include, Workplace Health and Safety; Finance; Human Resources; Knowledge Management; and IT needs and services.

Peel-Harvey Estuary Management Committee (PHEMC) / Strategic Assessment

The Senior Officers Group of the PHEMC have been working on a range of papers for presentation to the PHEMC. We have been working closely with Malcolm Robb and his team on proposals for Drainage intervention projects, particularly focussed on the Serpentine Catchment. There are a range of opportunities which were broadly identified in the PHCC’s Subcatchment Implementation Plan (SIP). It is hoped that these will be supported to enable some investment in the near future.

There are a number of other issues that impact on the health of the Peel-Harvey Estuary and we tabled these on behalf of the PHCC. Most of these relate to land use planning and were discussed at the meeting with Eric Lumsden, as detailed in Jan’s report.

Market Gardens – Support for planning mechanisms to protect water quality

The Shire of Murray recently approved a market garden and is in the process of assessing another. This has highlighted the need for support for local governments to enable sound decisions that do not detrimentally impact on the quality of the Peel-Harvey waterways (in line with the intent of the WQIP and Statement of Planning Policy 2.1), and a reasonable level of certainty to prospective and/or current landowners about what is and isn't permitted in the Peel-Harvey.

We met with representatives from PDC, DoW, DAFWA and Shire of Murray to discuss the matter. It was clear from this that it is unlikely that traditional market gardens can be established on the SCP and comply with SPP 2.1. A number of management proposals were considered and each of these were rejected as unable to meet the standards required. Concern was expressed about enabling establishment and relying on monitoring programs with contingencies, when there are no support structures for local government, should the monitoring show that contingencies need to be 'enforced'. The establishment of the likes of a local planning policy, and perhaps model scheme text and technical guidelines, with an appropriate monitoring framework were discussed. Participants agreed to reconvene for a further meeting in four weeks to report on progress.

Home River Ocean – Water Quality Engagement Program

We have entered into a partnership with the SWCC to increase the community engagement actions of the Home River Ocean program in the Peel-Harvey. The program will run from late June to mid September and includes television adverts, billboards on the back of buses, various materials including coasters and postcards. An evaluation of the previous year's campaign (in Bunbury) was very positive with 25% recall of the message "*waterway protection, crab conservation and fertilising wisely (not in winter)*". 37.5% said they changed their behaviour by using less fertiliser after seeing the campaign". The campaign has been based on the successful Chesapeake Bay campaign. A link to view the adverts will be provided on our Facebook page.

Andy commented on the amount of work done being undertaken by staff to meet June 30 deadlines and commended everyone involved. He asked if the Governance Audit was something we were required to do within this timeframe or something we had opted to do. Jane advised it was a milestone for reporting for foundational funding and PHCC were strongly advised to undertake it as part of the process to being recognised as a Region. Andy asked about progress to recruit for the Senior Scientist. Jane advised that other priorities had put this process back but that Kim was liaising with recruitment businesses to present a recommendation for a sound recruitment process.

Moved: Bob Pond

Seconded: Don Glenister

That the Chief Executive Officer's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

9. Treasurer's Report

The Chief Executive Officer presented the Treasurer's report in her absence:

Project Funding

During April and May, we have received a number of progress payments for:

- Rivers 2 Ramsar
- Ramsar 482
- Lotterywest
- Lake Clifton Ramsar Restoration
- Local Government Stormwater;
- Blackberry
- Lake Clifton Engagement Projects.

We have also received the majority of funding for PHCC NRM Foundation Funding.

June has/will be extremely busy finalising Projects which are due for completion, or Project commitments requiring to be expended by June 30th June, 2014.

The retained funds of the OC12-00462 Lake Clifton Project were expended and the project completed on 30 April 2014. Acquittal documents have been sent to the funding body.

Financial Position

PHCC's equity held at 31 May, 2014 is \$759,500. We have a number of NRM Strategy, Salary and project commitments to pay for by 30 June, but we are solvent to continue operations.

Term Deposit

Our Westpac Term Deposit is due for renewal on 27 June. We are in the process of looking at the best rates available and are confident to renew the full amount for a further period of 4 to 6 months.

Moved: Richard Smith

Seconded: Peter Hick

That the funds (principal + interest) currently held in Westpac Term Deposit 036134-231503 be rolled into a new Term Deposit at the best quoted rate for a period of 4 - 6 months.

CARRIED

ACTION: Treasurer and Finance Manager to arrange rollover of funds currently held in Westpac Term Deposit 036134-231503 at the best quoted rate for a period of 4 - 6 months.

Commercial Cards

The issuing of additional credit cards has been delayed due to the wrong forms being provided at the time of enquiry in April. This has now been rectified and new forms have been submitted to ANZ. We envisage that we should have these in operation at the end of June/early July.

Additional Vehicle

Peel-Harvey Catchment Council took delivery of its second vehicle, a 2012 Toyota Hilux Traytop 4x4, on 11 June 2014. This vehicle will be leased to the *Rivers 2 Ramsar Project* for the duration of its project. The project will cover the running costs of the vehicle.

MYOB Update

Our Finance Manager Karen Henderson has now completed an implementation plan to purchase a server-based version of MYOB and transfer all of our data across to a revised chart of accounts. In this she has been assisted by the team from SWCC and MYOB technical support personnel, together with our auditors. The new system cannot be implemented until our FY2013/14 books have been closed and audited, so at this stage the plan is for the new system to be implemented in October/November, after the audit. Many thanks to Karen for the work she has done in preparing us for this upgrade.

Moved: Bob Pond Seconded: John Allert

That the May 2014 Financial reports be ratified.

CARRIED

- 10. Presentation – Interim NRM Strategy** - Andrew DelMarco and Jane O’Malley provided an update on the Interim NRM Region Strategy.

Andrew acknowledged all who were involved and provided an overview of the following:

- Key milestones
- Overview
- The Interim Investment Plan is just for the Australian Government and priorities for investment needed to be cognisant of the ability to deliver within a timeframe with uncertainty about funding and commencement dates (ie when a contract would be secured to enable projects to commence)
- Strategy development Framework – much work has been put into this
- Community Consultation- a significant number of comments have been received
- Framework - Was generated after a thorough process.
- Main strengths and pluses
- Weaknesses
- Noted that it has been quite a process to get relevant updated data
- Feedback from the Australian Government is that we need to accentuate agriculture.

[Carlos Ocampo arrived at 10.20am]

Andrew then opened the floor for comments from Members, as summarised below:

- The preparation of the Strategy and Investment Plan are a requirement of the Australian Government but also a process for ourselves to have longevity beyond funding cycles and changes in government programs
- The **WQIP and nutrient** problem didn’t really jump out and it would be good to strengthen this for the final Strategy
- The emphasis on healthy soils is well articulated and supported, but **sediment** needs to be strengthened

- It was noted that the appendices were still being prepared and this would assist with some of the more detailed information sitting behind the statements/positions in the Strategy
- **Mining** is underdone and should be strengthened. The potential impacts of mining are going to be huge in long term to do with bauxite residue storage, more in this catchment than anywhere else in the world. There are ways of dealing with it and it was suggested we should build a greater reference to mining that fosters a relationship in a positive sense. Down the track going to have to be a key decision made as to what position we take as to bauxite residue storage. Is hard to paint in positive light. It is Alcoa's Achilles heel. Long term geologic implications for auxiliary residue storage on the catchment are massive. We need to increase the reference in the document in a positive way to mining, including bauxite residue storage.
- **Water for Mining** should be emphasised. E.g. Newmont is taking water from the Hotham River and have approached Shire of Boddington about a dam. They are still expanding and management of water allocation and environmental water provisions need to be considered. It was noted that PHCC had met with Newmont recently and they have requested to meet with PHCC to discuss the Water Development Strategy they are preparing.
- **Wastewater** disposal also raises some opportunities
- Noted to ensure that the mining companies have adequate input for the Final Strategy

[Denyse Needham arrived at 10.35am]

- **Industry** – needs to be a breakout point re intensive agriculture. Irrigated horticulture is significant issue to be addressed.
- **Infrastructure** such as roads, rails, drainage have a huge impact on NRM issues and needs to be considered.
- **Regional Blueprint** – Management of proposed developments such as the proposed Nambeelup Industrial Park and potential impacts on NRM were discussed. This is an example of an opportunity to work with the State to ensure that economic development does not provide future NRM challenges and it was suggested that a stronger link to the PDC blueprint would be beneficial. Thanks were noted for PDC (David) sharing statistics and other background information to help inform the development of the Strategy.
- Given the significance of **Ramsar** for our community, government priorities and the existing Ramsar management plan it was suggested a Strategy around protection of Ramsar values be developed – it was noted that this had already been modified and included (B1)
- The change was noted and it was further suggested that another '**Activity**' be incorporated to ensure the benefits of actions around Ramsar are considered.
- Suggested that like WQIP, Ramsar was dealt with as principles, not specifics – but perhaps needs to be reviewed for the Final Strategy (not the draft given the time constraints).
- Members asked how the Strategy is intended to influence **strategic and statutory Town Planning** and it was suggested that an Activity or Action should be to try to incorporate the Strategy into Local Plans. Scott Haine offered to discuss further to look for viable mechanism to enable DoP (and others, including local government) to recognise the Strategy as a guiding document, perhaps in the same manner as Local Government Biodiversity Plans are linked to Town Planning Schemes. Discussions should also include Local Government.
- It was noted that there is no reference to the ERMP in the references.

Further consultation will be undertaken prior to the preparation of the draft for public consultation for consideration of:

- WQIP with Department of Water

- Ramsar with Department of Parks and Wildlife
- Linking the Strategy to Land Use Planning with Department of Planning

Moved: Richard Smith Seconded: Andy Gulliver

That the PHCC:

- 1. Support in-principle the Framework in Part B of the Draft Strategy, and its use to guide the PHCC until preparation of a final Strategy in 2014 and 2015; and***
- 2. Recommends that the Draft Strategy and Investment Plan, with changes agreed to by the Board at this meeting of 19/6/14, and any minor changes as required to correct and improve the current drafts at the discretion of the CEO, be submitted to the Australian Government as required under contract.***

CARRIED

Jan noted the incredible effort that was put into developing the Strategy and Jane thanked Bob, Andrew, Kim, Thelma, Julie and all the team for their support.

The meeting broke for morning tea at 10.55am and resumed at 11.15am

11. Guest Speakers – Monitoring Results of Jenkins Weir Project – Dr Carlos Ocampo and Meg Ryan, UWA

The PHCC and The University of Western Australia (UWA) agreed to jointly undertake a research program to assess the effectiveness of a constructed weir at the Jenkins’ wetland (Waroona, WA) in reinstating a more natural hydrology for the wetland and reducing nutrient export to Peel-Harvey estuary via water flow into the Mayfield drain. The PHCC approach aims also to create stakeholder capacity to achieve water quality targets. The research program, funded by Caring for Our Country (Australian Government), is now completed. This report presents the activities and results from the research undertaken by the UWA team over the period August 2013-May 2014.

The research program successfully gathered preliminary information on the hydrology, water quality and nutrient levels of surface water in the wetland area created by the weir. The promising initial results indicated that the weir made a positive impact by:

- Reducing water flow discharge into the Mayfield drain and, thus, movement of nutrients (up to a 70% reduction in annual load for total N and a 95% reduction for total P);
- Changing nutrient speciation (i.e. the chemical form of nutrients) on a seasonal scale;
- Enhancing nutrient concentration attenuation (i.e. the concentration of nutrients in water was found to be less when the water exited the wetland than when it entered);
- Stopping export of inorganic nutrients in water that results from runoff from the first heavy rains of the season (i.e. from the “first flush”);
- Extending the presence of surface water in the wetland over summer by up to 40 days.

The results also highlight the need to continue research via two parallel and complementary research activities to confirm benefits of weir installation and provide insight into some other issues that were highlighted by the study. It is strongly recommended that PHCC pursue the following activities:

- Assess where the retained nutrients in the wetland area are stored in the wetland (soil, plants) and whether they may be released in the future;

- Assess whether or not retained nutrients in the wetland area could negatively impact on nutrition of wetland native plant species at the Jenkins' wetland;
- Examine whether the results of this study are widely applicable by replicating the approach taken in this study at other sites in similar catchments guided by the Steele (2008) drainage classification system. Note that a minimum one year of hydrological and water quality monitoring must be undertaken prior to weir construction and operation.

All programs must follow specific criteria for site selection to demonstrate that results are not site-specific and that their transferability can be achieved across the Mayfield area.

12. Officer Presentations / Reports

12.1 Farid Bagheri – presentation

This item was deferred to the next PHCC General Meeting.

12.2 Paddy Strano – update

This item was deferred to the next PHCC General Meeting.

13. Agency Reports

13.1 Craig Olejnik – DPaW

- Lowlands bushland - Over 1000 ha of bush been approved for an "A" class nature reserve in parks and wildlife conservation estate. Starting to implement the Rivers to Ramsar project on site. Hope to undertake 1080 fox baiting starting at the end of this month. Fencing done along the southern boundary. Have 50,000 plants to be installed.
- Mootiji – in Pinjarra townsite. Weeding within the reserve and has installed a rabbit proof fence which will be planted out on National Tree Day. Currently funded through SWCC to work on threatened ecological communities in the Peel-Harvey. Work focus on clay pans. Pinjarra NR is also funded by SWCC and this funding may be transferred to PHCC to manage.
- Involved in Strategic Assessment. PHEMC Senior Officer Working Group meetings been productive. Some work has been put together for those meetings and is gaining momentum.
- Martins Tank campground has opened up. Quenda and ringtails are in and around the campground.

13.2 Bob Pond – DoW

- Attended the National Acid Sulphate Soils Conference. There were two Lake Mealup presentations given.
- After change of WAPC Boating Facilities Policy now allowing construction of new private jetties on public foreshores, there have been quite a few jetty applications. These are generally requiring retaining wall licences and permits to interfere with bed and banks, which is creating quite a new workload.
- Three dredging licences have been issued, none are active and all are in the City of Mandurah.
- At Parkridge, the City has trialled big bags to collect and filter out dredge spoil. The bags have problems with clogging. The dredging program has been put aside due to injury of the operator.
- At Port Mandurah, licences have been issued for the north and south entrance channels, with the south looking at a side casting system, about which residents have complained. It is unclear if this will go ahead. We are still waiting for go ahead on the north entrance dredging program, with dredge spoil to be disposed of at Hook Beach.
- Have been instructed to continue with status quo on catchment monitoring.

13.3 Rob Summers – DAFWA

- DAFWA has been carrying out a soil sampling comparison of equipment and time of sampling our soil tests. This is part of the Fertiliser Partnership assessing farms and producing whole farm maps of soil parameters.
- Assessing the Swan River Trust’s trial of soil amendments at Ellen Brook, Muchea, and assessing demonstrations on growers’ properties.

ACTION: Rob said he could invite a DAFWA representative to address a future meeting in relation to biosecurity.

13.4 Scott Haine – Department of Planning (Peel)

Scott Haine did not present a report this month.

- In response to a question from the Chair regarding the status of the Nambelup Industrial Area District Structure Plan (NIADSP) project, Scott advised that he understands that the project is on the back burner pending further progress being made on the Strategic Assessment for Perth and Peel.
- In response to a question from Denyse Needham regarding the status of the Preston Beach townsite expansion project, Scott advised that he has no information on this matter.

14. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 21 August 2014.

The meeting closed at 12.15pm

Chairman

Date

Summary of actions from previous meetings:

No.	Details	Resp.	Complete
1.	<p>Item 7 [17 April 2014] Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cr Ellis to liaise with Jan to discuss proposed water flow modifications from the Wungong with an aim to stop the migration of feral pearl cyclids to the Peel rivers from the Wungong.</p> <p><i>Cr Ellis & Jan Star are liaising and intend to meet on site. Fisheries to hold a meeting. Jan to report.</i></p> <p><i>Site visit not yet held.</i></p>	Cr Ellis / Jan Star	

Summary of actions from meeting of 19 June 2014:

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1.	<p>Item 7 [19 June 2014] Chairman's Report</p> <p>Invite Joel Hall (DoW) to present at a future meeting on his modelling work and the Upper Serpentine Water Management Plan.</p>	Patricia Sutton	
2.	<p>Item 9 [19 June 2014] Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Treasurer and Finance Manager to arrange rollover of funds currently held in Westpac Term Deposit 036134-231503 at the best quoted rate for a period of 4 - 6 months.</p>	Marilyn Gray & Karen Henderson	
3.	<p>Item 13.3 [19 June 2014] Agency Reports (Rob Summers – DAFWA)</p> <p>Rob Summers to invite a DAFWA representative to address a future meeting in relation to biosecurity.</p>	Patricia Sutton to liaise with Rob Summers	