

Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

MINUTES OF MEETING



Held on Thursday 20 June 2013, commencing at 9.00am
at the Marine Operations Centre, 107 Breakwater Parade, Mandurah Marina

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9.10am.

1. Attendance

<u>Present:</u>	Jan Star	Chairman
	Marilyn Gray	Treasurer
	Dr Peter Hick	Secretary
	Bob Pond	Executive Committee [DoW]
	Don Glenister	Member
	Shane Kelliher	Member
	Denyse Needham	Member
	Cr Richard Smith	Member – Local Government [from 9.15am]
	Nuray Veryeri	Member
	Cameron Bulstrode	Department of Planning (Peel) [from 9.40am – 12.00]
<u>In Attendance:</u>	Jane O’Malley	PHCC - Executive Officer
	Kim Wilson	Program Manager
	Christine Comer	Lake Clifton Recovery Coordinator [from 10.05am]
	Thelma Crook	Project Officer
	Juan Luis Montoya	PHCC - FNS Project Manager
	Paddy Strano	PHCC - Stormwater Strategy Officer
	Patricia Sutton	PHCC – Minute Taker [until 1.15pm]
	Mark Langdon	Manager, Environmental Services, City of Mandurah [from 11.00am]
<u>Guests:</u>	Carey Johnston	Hydro-geologist, DoW
<u>Apologies:</u>	Andy Gulliver	Deputy Chairman
	Jim McNamara	Member [Leave of Absence]
	David Arkwright	Peel Development Commission
	Leon Brouwer	DoW
	Scott Haine	Department of Planning (Peel)
	Craig Olejnik	DEC
	Rob Summers	DAFWA
	Colleen Archibald	Waroona Landcare Centre
	Jane Townsend	Rivercare Officer (HRRT)
	Francis Smit	Executive Officer Landcare SJ
	Kristy Gregory	Landcare SJ
	Dale Miles	Greening Australia
	Samantha Pickering	Environmental Officer, Shire of Harvey
<u>Absent:</u>	Maxine Whitely	Member
	Cr Dennis Veitch	Local Government (Inland)

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 18 April 2013

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 18 April 2013.

There was not a quorum at this point in the meeting.

Moved: Peter Hick Seconded: Marilyn Gray

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED (Quorum reached at 9.15am when Cr Richard Smith arrived – refer Item 4.2)

4. Business arising from previous Minutes

4.1 Summary of actions from previous meetings:

No.	Details	Resp.	Complete
1.	Chairman's Report [Item 7, 16 August 2012]. There was a need to focus on successes, such as frogs returning to Lake Mealup. Progress towards getting a link of frog sounds onto website. <i>Jane has found software and will continue to explore (18/10/12).</i>	Jane O'Malley	In progress
2.	Chair's Report [Item 7, 20 September 2012] Oil Mallee. Maxine to forward information on Oil Mallee initiative to Jan for distribution. <i>Further liaison required with SWCC about future of oil mallees already planted and their role in the CFI. Maxine to follow up. 18 April 2013 - There is a role for DAFWA but their funding has been cut.</i>	Maxine Whitely	
3.	Agency and Officer Reports [Item 11.1, 20 December 2012]. Find out details of the DoW groundwater assessment program being delivered by Carey Johnston and see if it is relevant for a future presentation. <i>18 April 2013 - Bob to arrange a presentation on the DoW groundwater assessment program.</i>	Bob Pond	Complete
4.	Agency and Officer Reports [Item 11.3, 20 December 2012]. DEC to provide presentation in 2013 on results of fauna surveys, showing species such as Honey Possums. <i>[18 April 2013] DEC to provide presentation at the meeting scheduled for Thursday 20 June.</i>	Craig Olejnik	Pending
5.	Items for Comment - Correspondence In [Item 6.1, 18 April 2013]. Submission - Strategic Assessment of Perth and Peel Region Jane to write to the City of Mandurah, congratulating them on their proactive approach in preparing the submission on the Strategic Assessment of the Perth and Peel Region and advise it was well received by the PHCC. <i>Letter has been sent</i>	Jane O'Malley	Complete

6.	Periodicals [Item 6.3 referring to item 3.9] Jane to look at submitting nominations in relevant categories of the 2013 Banksia Awards (closing 26 July).	Jane O'Malley	
7.	Chairman's Report [Item 7, 18 April 2013] Pat to upload the PHCC submissions on the Strategic Assessment of the Perth and Peel Region on website.	Pat Sutton	Complete
8.	Executive Officer's Report [Item 8.1, 18 April 2013] Write to Don Randall asking for his support for PHCC applications for funding under the CfoC & Clean Energy Fund (Biodiversity) funding.	Jane O'Malley	Complete
9.	Agency Reports [Item 13.2, 18 April 2013] Craig to forward the link to the website for more information on Myrtle Rust.	Craig Olejnik	Complete

Item 2. Oil Mallee – keep on Actions List

Item 3. DoW Groundwater Assessment - Carey Johnston presenting at today's meeting.

Item 4. Results of Fauna Surveys – Pencilled in for August meeting.

Item 6. 2013 Banksia Awards - Jane said she would endeavour to submit a nomination. Francis Smit is submitting Cockatubes.

[Richard Smith arrived at 9.15am]

4.2 Richard Smith agreed with confirmation of the minutes (refer Item 2.)

5. Treasurer's Report (this report followed the Chairman's report – Item 7)

5.1 May 2013 Financials presented

Marilyn presented the May 2013 Financials.

1. Reinvested term deposit with Westpac Bank. Interest accrued for the previous five months was \$7236.67 with a total amount of \$26214.49 interest earned since December 2011. Term Deposit has been reinvested for a further six months.
2. SWCC Peel Lake Project closed 31 May. Project audit to be done on 24 June and once signed off the remaining \$2500.00 will be paid by SWCC.
3. FNS II and Lake Clifton Recovery Projects are due to be completed 30 June 2013.
4. Jane and Karen have started preparing the Draft Budget for 2013/14 and it will be ready for endorsement at the next Finance and Audit Committee meeting.
5. The Audit is scheduled for late August with AMD.
6. Payroll is being moved to the City of Mandurah.
7. The Finance Manager advised that when comparing the Total Earnings to date compared with May 2012, be mindful that last year the organisation was being run by MPNA which was classed as a project, thus, any unspent funds at the end of month was classed as a Liability - not Equity. We won't start to see 'apples for apples' when comparing the Balance Sheet to previous year, until January 2014. Saying this, PHCC equity is healthy, with June Salary, Stipend, Sutton Street Contingency and the monthly expenses to be expended. Jane has run a tight ship!

8. There would be funding left over from the Lake Clifton project. The project was delivered over 18 months, so there was a saving in salaries. Those funds could be put into other projects to achieve the same end. Due to the community engagement being so great, government permission could be sought to use that funding to continue with community engagement.

Moved: Don Glenister

Seconded: Bob Pond

That the May 2013 Financial reports be ratified.

CARRIED

[Christine Comer arrived at 10.05am.]

6. Correspondence

The Correspondence List for April 2013 – June 2013 was circulated.

6.1 Items for Comment - Correspondence In

Item 1.1 – DEC application to clear native vegetation. Jane advised that she had been working with DEC Perth office and endeavouring to gauge how influential our comments were. She had requested a meeting with the manager of that section. It is important to know that it is worth us putting a submission and that our comments are valuable.

Items 1.6 and 1.7 – City of Mandurah amendments to TPS 3 and proposed ODP. Jane would ascertain if these were relevant to PHCC. The City of Mandurah and the Shire of Murray, the two local governments with Ramsar implications, consider PHCC a stakeholder and they usually ask PHCC for comment.

Item 1.11 – Shire of Murray 2023 Strategic Community Plan tabled. This is an updated plan from the previously prepared Strategic Community Plan 2021, which contained more detail. The new plan has more strategic items and a four year Corporate Plan that sits behind that. The Shire of Murray asked for comments, and Jane suggested that the funding put aside for PHCC projects fits with our strategic directions and those of the Shire of Waroona and the City of Mandurah.

6.2 Items for Comment – Correspondence Out

Nil.

6.3 Periodicals

Nil.

Moved: Marilyn Gray Seconded: Bob Pond

That Correspondence In and Correspondence Out be accepted.

CARRIED

- 6.4 Richard Smith said that it would be timely to for the PHCC to seek stakeholder status with the City of Rockingham and he offered to facilitate a meeting.

7. Chairman's Report

Jan Star presented her report:

While I thought I had spent most of my time since our last meeting on picking olives a lot else seems to have happened.

We have been talking to PDC about PHEMC, progress is slow but they are seeking some more substantial funding in order to run it effectively. Meanwhile the Healthy Estuaries 2111 Working Group led by Jane Chambers out of Murdoch University, is progressing with its strategy for getting better governance and action on estuaries in general. When we met with the Chief Scientist, Lyn Beazley, WAMSI seemed to be the main hope for any action. It is now led by Patrick Sears. Lyn was keen to see support for Honours and other higher degree students to tackle some of the research gaps (as outlined by Fiona at the last meeting). Murdoch is also linked into WAMSI through ENCASE which is a collaborative estuaries, catchments and near shore marine environments initiative. Lyn also mentioned that the Science Office, under the Premier, is being set up and will engage with agencies with science divisions. Any money we have for a scientist should be used to leverage more was her advice.

Meanwhile the Strategic Assessment proceeds, for the MNES document which is being prepared. They have decided to treat water quality as a 'process' issue not an 'outcome' which I see as a problem if the cumulative impact is not covered sufficiently and the role of drains and wetlands is not acknowledged. They have also decided on two assessments (Commonwealth and State). We were invited to a meeting between their team and the City of Mandurah, where Mayor Paddi Creevey was very clear that there would be disastrous social and economic consequences if the estuary was to collapse again.

At a recent Forest Seminar focussed on science Mark Andrich (UWA) showed relationship between clearing and rainfall decline attributing 50% of post 1960 decline to clearing and 40% to climate change. One speaker took an interesting historical look at WA's forest management making a clear conclusion that it was led by social and economic factors and that since 1919 "sustainable harvesting" was a goal hoped to be reached a decade later but never achieved and with the changing climate will not be possible. It seems the forest ecosystem is changing and there is an argument for management of an altered system, but no one trusts the current managers because of their history and the Wungong trials were not designed well enough to inform management.

On a brighter note at the Environment Day at SJ, Peter Newman spoke on all the positive happenings that point to a shift to the green economy with renewables now attracting more finance than coal globally; solar power costs now equivalent to normal power; car use has declined 23% in the young; Chinese and Middle East expanding metro rail, greening of cities – Singapore aims to be a biophylic city; and a general acknowledgement of need for greenery in cities, buildings and especially hospitals. Andy also gave a talk on soil carbon and Francis Smit one on the Cockatubes.

In comparison, a talk on the Carbon Farming Initiative by Carbon Quest was heavy going, though very interesting, and we will be hearing more on it as it evolves and is taken up.

Similarly the Digital Futures Forum pointed to big changes, but these are already happening. It is a more connected world with citizens now able to organise themselves, and quickly, and are telling government what is needed. Government are slow to take up social media. The big changes in retail trade between customers and companies are paralleled by changes in the way government and community interact. The use of smart phones is a game changer with a large and growing proportion of young people using them as their main, or only, internet connection. The advice was to digitise as much as possible, use apps so can

concentrate on essentials, have a digital strategy and don't ask IT people for advice – turn to innovators in your own industry. CSIRO's Colin Griffith mentioned the use of sensors in Tasmania to measure ecosystems, possible to track water quality changes (eg to lift oysters when pollution is detected upstream), centre at Geelong works on Ecosystem developments. Good examples were given on the usefulness of Twitter!

[9.40am Cameron Bulstrode arrived at the meeting (mid Chairman's report)]

Moved: Richard Smith Seconded: Don Glenister

That the Chairman's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

The Treasurer's Report (Item 5) followed this item.

8. Executive Officer's Report

- 8.1 Juan's project finishes at the end of July. Christine's project is also coming to an end. Christine has been invited to stay on in a part-time capacity. Jane thanked Juan, Christine and Kim for all their hard work in delivering these projects. We are working to look at our staff structure in the short term and long term. Have been doing some scenario work.
- 8.2 Applications for funding – all three EOIs were accepted and we were invited to submit full applications, which have been presented. If all three EOIs were successful there would be close to \$9m funding. Have looked at how we would continue to manage financial, staff and project delivery in the event that we receive all, some or no funding.
- 8.3 Working through key achievements, with the potential increase in staff numbers. Kim has recently completed a master class at Murdoch University and is helping to put procedures in place. Jamie Wright is consulting on project reporting structures, which would help staff and steering committees.
- 8.4 Payroll is moving to the City of Mandurah from the next pay period, which should save \$7,000.00/year.
- 8.5 We are in the new office and currently going through the omissions and defects. We have 12 months for them to be corrected, but have 10 years to finalise them. There is still outside work to be completed.
- 8.6 IT is up and running. There are still some problems that we are working through.
- 8.7 PRLF – still progressing with Peel Priorities. RDA is putting up a framework for Commonwealth funding. PDC is doing their blueprint, into which PHCC has had input, and the Regional Leaders have their priorities. All are making sure they feed back to each other and complement each other.
- 8.8 Senior Scientist – is a priority.
- 8.9 Fee for service – some quotes have been submitted which are helping to set up partnerships we normally wouldn't have. Paddy has been successful in setting up a small water quality monitoring process which we may be able to roll out to other local governments.

Jan congratulated Jane on the move into the new office and the work done on the CfoC applications.

- 8.10 Jane advised that she has a lot of leave accrued and that the Executive had agreed for her to have three months off. She would be away from 15 July to just before the AGM in October.

Jan added that it was well-deserved break.

- 8.11 We are still following up on becoming an independent region. We had support from both sides of government.

Members discussed funding related to a scientist and Peter Hick undertook to discuss it with Kim Hames.

Moved: Marilyn Gray

Seconded: Bob Pond

That the Executive Officer's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

9. Monthly Meeting Inventory

Members noted the monthly meeting inventory for April 2013 – June 2013.

Tabled.

The meeting broke for morning tea at 10.30am and resumed at 11.00am

10. Guest Speaker – Carey Johnston, Hydro-Geologist, DoW on Coastal Groundwater Investigations

Carey Johnston provided a presentation. The Murray-Peel Groundwater Investigation findings would be used to create a comprehensive 3D model for that area. It is scheduled for review in 2017. Some points noted were:

- There are gaps in the knowledge of monitoring bores.
- Current Understanding – have been two primary studies in this area - in 1995 and 1989.
- Investigation Sites – eight sites and a number of bores at each site.
- Groundwater Investigations – Mud rotary drilling. Samples collected. Not a lot of water found. So the result was some good information for those wanting to put in a bore. Indicative bore construction. Scale of operations.
- Project Outcomes :
 - Have installed 19 monitoring bores, over 3,000 metres of drilling, mainly superficial, not many deep ones south of the Murray R.
 - Have collected palynology, lithology, geophysics and water chemistry. Considerable uncertainty of geological formation – different between north and south of Murray R. (Leederville vs Catamarra resp.)
 - Installation of dataloggers and collection of minimum of two years continuous water level data from mid June 2013. Will be electronically captured.
 - A published report on the hydrogeology of the Leederville and Cattamarra aquifers in the Murray-Peel region will be out in 18 months.
 - A comprehensive 3D model of the study region to update groundwater allocations.

11. End of Project Presentation – FNSII – Juan Luis Montoya

- The project aims to construct or modify water management systems in the Peel-Harvey Coastal Catchment, to improve water quality and reduce nutrients entering the lower rivers and estuary.

The project will contribute towards Management Measures 4.1.7, 4.1.11 and 4.1.13 identified in the Peel-Harvey Water Quality Improvement Plan (2008).

- The project formally commenced on 11 February 2010, on-ground works and capacity-building activities for stage 1 were completed in 30 December 2011 (Stage 1). Stage 2 commenced on 30 January 2011, all deliverables completed to 30 June 2013, with some extra projects finishing in 30 May 2014.
- Three major components Biofilters, Stormwater Retrofits, and Riparian works/SIP.
- Improving drain management important-could be a game changer

Filtering the Nutrient Storm Project (Deliverables)

Stage	Deliverable	Outcome
1	Biofilter Component (December 2011): 1 major biofilter completed	Lake Mealup Recovery Program (Dec 2011) Buchanan's drain trial (June 2011) Pitter's drain trial (June 2011) Kentish Farm Graded Banks (August 2011)
	Stormwater Retrofits Component (June 2011): 3 stormwater retrofits completed	Muddy Creek, CoM (June 2011) – PHS Greenham Way, CoK (June 2011) - PMD Banksia Terrace, SoM (June 2011) - MR Fouracre street, SoW (January 2011 – Design only)
	Riparian Works Component (June 2011): 10 ha/km of fencing and revegetation	23 ha/km of riparian areas protected across the PHC (December 2011)
2	Biofilter Component (June 2013): 2 major biofilter projects completed	Parkfield Lake Project (December 2012) Jenkins Wetland Restoration Project (June 2013) WWTP Upgrade (June 2013 – Design and approvals)
	Stormwater Retrofits Component (June 2013): 6 stormwater retrofits completed	MLC, SoM (June 2012) - MR Olive Road, CoM (June 2012) - PHS Peel Parade, CoM (June 2012) - PHS Ravenswood Road, SoM (June 2013) - MR Riverside Drive, SoM (June 2013) - SR Ormsby Terrace, CoM (June 2013) - PHS Walter Street, CoM (June 2013) - SR Waterside Drive, CoM (in progress – 2014)- MR
	SIP: 3 SIP completed (June 2012)	SIP completed for Nambeelup, Dirk Brook – Punrak and Mayfield (August 2012)

12. End of Project Presentation – Lake Clifton Threatened Species – Christine Comer

Christine provided a Powerpoint presentation outlining the Lake Clifton project achievements:

- To increase by at least 1062 hectares the area of native habitat and vegetation that is managed, to reduce critical threats to biodiversity and enhance the condition, connectivity and resilience of habitats and landscapes.
- To increase by 15 the number of farmers adopting activities that contributes to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity.
- Increase landscape scale conservation of 2640 hectares.
- To increase by 60 the number of farmers improving their knowledge and skills in natural resource management (NRM).

She presented the following ‘numbers’ related to the project:

- 18 month project
- 4 Australian Government Project Coordinators
- 6 Project Partners
- 5 Project Steering Committee Meetings
- 2 TAG Meetings
- 4 Project Updates
- 158 purchases orders
- 41 budget versions
- 3 Ford Ranger utes
- 47303 kms
- 2 speeding tickets
- 5061 emails
- 17 media releases.

Christine then showed the group a presentation of all the photos that were entered in the Lake Clifton Photography competition.

She had also arranged a video presentation “One Breath”, which was a compilation of photos taken by visitors to the Photopost at Lake Clifton.

Both the above videos can be viewed via the “YouTube” icon on the PHCC website.

The meeting broke for lunch at 12.45pm and resumed at 1.15pm

13. Agency and Officer Reports - Commenced 11.00am prior to morning tea break

13.1 Cameron Bulstrode – Department of Planning Peel

- Nambeelup District Structure Plan was presented to the Shire of Murray in May. The Shire Council adopted it with a number of issues to be addressed. Have been working with the Shire and others to address those issues. The aim is to present it to the WAPC later this year. PHCC put in a comprehensive submission and they are working through all the issues raised in the submissions.
- Various amendments to the Peel Region Scheme are finalised including industrial rezoning proposal for Alcoa water storage facilities for their operations. This is related to Shire of Murray associated infrastructure.
- Rezoning in Madora North and a small rezone in Furnissdale.
- Strategic Assessment for Perth and the Peel is having a major impact on various projects, particularly the South Metropolitan Region Peel Structure Plan. Because of the need to address environmental issues it has added time taken to put the documents together and have them out for public comment.
- In answer to a question about the development of Amarillo (Keralup), Cameron advised that the Department of Housing is yet to lodge anything formal. There was a rezoning proposed for Stage 1 on the west side of the Serpentine River which was finalised last year. There has been no formal submission for a proposed development.

- The effect of development of Nambeelup and Keralup on the Serpentine River would probably become an increasing important issue with the PHCC. The Serpentine River has the greatest number of options in terms of water quality improvement plans.
- Bridgewater North foreshore reserves – ODP has been advertised and it is out for public comment now. The issue of foreshore reserves was raised.

Item 13 (Agency and Officer Reports) continued after the lunch break, commencing 1.15pm

13.2 Bob Pond – Department of Water

- Amalgamation of Departments
- Opening of areas for recreational use – eg Wungong, North Dandalup and Harvey dams
- Maree De Lacey has Adrian Parker to brief the Minister on the Strategic Assessment from DoW perspective (rural urban drainage interface). Minister is interested in advancing Water Bills.

13.3 Paddy Strano – Stormwater Strategy Officer

- The Local Government Stormwater Strategy project is progressing well. A key upcoming event is the LGSS workshop to be held at the Edenvale Centre, Pinjarra, on Monday 24 June. At the workshop there will be directors, managers and other officers representing the four councils, Serpentine Jarrahdale, Murray, Waroona and Harvey. The objective of the workshop is to develop implementation strategies specific to each council.
- The stormwater monitoring program for the Shire of Murray is yet to happen due to no stormwater flow to monitor.

13.4 Thelma Crook – Project Officer

- Thelma provided a presentation on 2013-14 Community Landcare Grants (Funding \$49,000 excl. GST) - *“Building Community Capacity for Sustainable Ag Practices – Healthy Waterways”* outlining the following points:

Location: Focussing on the Mayfield Catchment. Compliments, but does not duplicate FNS 111 application. Provides funding to help build community capacity to improve water quality through:

- Site visits
- Field days, and
- Workshops
 - *As well as*
 - Opportunities to share project information on innovative projects that may be complimentary to the SIP:
- UWA “hydrological and P pathways in coastal plain catchments in the Peel-Harvey”
- Rural nutrient extension and Fertiliser Action Plan.
- Thelma advised that she had presented the Boddington Business Case to the Shire of Boddington Councillors. The feedback was positive.

13.5 Kim Wilson – Program Manager

- The Peel Ramsar Lakes Project
 - The Project Closure Report (final report) has been compiled by Colleen Archibald with some assistance from Jo Garvey and submitted to SWCC.
 - Case Study has been submitted to SWCC, we are awaiting final layouts for proof reading.
- HRRT _ Jane Townsend sends her apologies she was hoping to attend today as she will be on maternity leave from early July to approximately the end of September.
- HRRT’s original “Taskforce” funds will be expended within the next 12 months, possibly by December. The HRRT Community Panel meeting is this evening, the future of the HRRT will be discussed as the Strategic Plan covers the next few years and Jane continues to seek and attract other funds. For example: The Citizen Science-Smooth Marron project has been submitted to both RecFish West and CfOCF.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the PHCC is scheduled to be held at 9.00am on Thursday 15 August 2013 at the **Marine Operations Centre**.

The meeting closed at 1.50pm

Chairman

Date

Summary of actions from previous meetings:

No.	Details	Resp.	Complete
1.	Chairman's Report [Item 7, 16 August 2012]. There was a need to focus on successes, such as frogs returning to Lake Mealup. Progress towards getting a link of frog sounds onto website. Jane has found software and will continue to explore (18/10/12).	Jane O'Malley	In progress
2.	Chair's Report [Item 7, 20 September 2012] Oil Mallee. Maxine to forward information on Oil Mallee initiative to Jan for distribution. Further liaison required with SWCC about future of oil mallees already planted and their role in the CFI. Maxine to follow up. 18 April 2013 - There is a role for DAFWA but their funding has been cut.	Maxine Whitely	
3.	Agency and Officer Reports [Item 11.3, 20 December 2012]. DEC to provide presentation in 2013 on results of fauna surveys, showing species such as Honey Possums. [18 April 2013] DEC to provide presentation at the meeting scheduled for Thursday 20 June. [24 June 2013] Presentation to be pencilled in for meeting of 15 August.	Craig Olejnik	Pending
4.	Periodicals [Item 6.3 referring to item 3.9] Jane to look at submitting nominations in relevant categories of the 2013 Banksia Awards (closing 26 July).	Jane O'Malley	Complete

Summary of actions from meeting of 20 June 2013

There were no actions arising from this meeting.