

MINUTES OF PHCC GENERAL MEETING

Held on Thursday 10 December 2020
at the Marine Operations Centre
107 Breakwater Parade, Mandurah Ocean Marina



The Deputy Chairman (in the Chair) opened the meeting at 9.04 am

Attendance

Present:

Darralyn Ebsary	Deputy Chair (in the Chair)
Marilyn Gray	Treasurer
Bob Pond	Executive Committee (DWER)
Sue Fyfe	Community Member
Andy Gulliver	Community Member
David Prattent	Community Member
Claire Reid	Community Member
Mark Cugley	DBCA
Rob Summers	DPIRD
Andrew Ward	PDC
Cr Eliza Dowling	Local Government Member (Inland) (from 9.18 am)
Suzanne Brown	Water Corporation (Observer)
Nicholas Dufty	DPLH (Observer)

In Attendance:

Jane O'Malley	Chief Executive Officer
Mel Durack	Program Manager Hotham-Williams
Steve Fisher	Program Manager Science & Waterways
Charlie Jones	Community Engagement Coordinator – Wetlands & People
Jesse Rowley	Rivercare Officer
Mike Griffiths	Wetlands Restoration Officer (for presentations only)
Meegan Watts	President of Mandurah Licenced Fishermen's Association (for presentations only)
Leanne Greene	Office Manager & Executive Support (Minutes)

Guests attending to Present:

Jane Townsend	Rivercare Officer, Harvey River Restoration Taskforce
Clara Obregón	PhD Candidate, Murdoch University

Apologies:

Caroline Knight	Chair
Paddi Creevey OAM	Secretary
Howard Mitchell	Community Member
Cr Brad Cardilini	Local Government Member (Coastal)

G.1/12/20 Acknowledgement of Country

The Deputy Chairman (Darralyn Ebsary) opened the meeting at 9.04 am, acknowledging the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and paying her respect to all Elders past and present.

G.2/12/20 Welcome to New Board Member – Nicholas Dufty

The Deputy Chairman (Darralyn Ebsary) welcomed Nicholas Dufty to the meeting, who had been nominated by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage to be the Department's representative on the Board, replacing previous Observer, Scott Haine (acting in an observer capacity).

G.3/12/20 Best Wishes – Paddi Creevey

On behalf of the Board, the Deputy Chairman (Darralyn Ebsary) extended her very best wishes to Paddi Creevey, who was unwell, but vowing to make a full recovery.

G.4/12/20 Declarations of Interest

- Andy Gulliver (Community Member) declared a commercial interest in the development at East Keralup.
- Claire Reid (Community Member) declared a conflict of interest with regard to her employment by South32.

G.5/12/20 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 22 October 2020

Moved: Bob Pond

Seconded: Claire Reid

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22 October 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

G.6/12/20 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Nil.

G.7/12/20 Correspondence

Correspondence was posted weekly on the Members' page of the website, with emails to members to advising that new correspondence had been uploaded. The Correspondence Register was tabled at the meeting.

Moved: Marilyn Gray

Seconded: Andy Gulliver

That Correspondence In and Correspondence Out be accepted.

CARRIED

G.8/12/20 Agency and Member Updates

a) Rob Summers, DPIRD

- **uPtake update:** DPIRD presented results of the 2020 monitoring season to a seminar of technical stakeholders including fertiliser company agronomists, Murdoch and UWA researchers, catchment group members and other members of the Technical Reference Group.
- **HEWA – Healthy Estuaries WA:** Video training and field training has taken place for farmers to able to use a battery powered drill and auger to sample their properties. Sampling is taking place in catchments around the coast and shared equipment is being moved around the properties as well as some final in-field training taking place. All sampling should be completed by mid-January.

b) Mark Cugley, DBCA

- **Entangled adult female dolphin 'River'** in Mandurah estuary: An Incident Management Team (IMT) inclusive of vet colleagues from Perth Zoo is continuing to coordinate the response to 'River', an adult female dolphin that has been entangled in fishing line for six months. The IMT is continuing to be supported by an Incident Response Group (ISG) of key stakeholders that are continuing to provide valuable information and advice.
- During October and November 2020, the DBCA has purchased 300m of soft nylon net and trialled various techniques of deploying this in the shallow areas that 'River' frequents. On-water patrols by both DBCA and volunteers have continued, providing information and photo's on the condition of 'River' and the areas she and her calf frequent. The DBCA is also seeking advice from the US Federal National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) regarding the entanglement, with this advice being considered by the IMT and ISG.
- An operational plan for the disentanglement of 'River', while largely prepared is continuing to be refined with learnings, particularly after the dolphin calf recently disentangled (see next point below).
- An intervention using a net and the techniques that had been trialled to date will occur when the risk of that approach to 'River' and her calf is less than the risk presented by the entanglement at the time. However, if the opportunity presents itself and it is safe to do so, a disentanglement attempt will be made during on-water patrols and relevant equipment remains on the vessels being used at all times in anticipation of this.
- **Entangled dolphin calf 'Jemo'** in Mandurah estuary – On 22 November 2020 another entangled dolphin, a nine-month-old calf 'Jemo' was reported to the DBCA with a severe and immediately life threatening entanglement. The DBCA, with the assistance of volunteers were able to successfully disentangle the calf. The operation took two days (26 and 27 November 2020) to complete with over 24 people, including support from Perth Zoo's veterinary team and a number of dedicated local volunteers. The dolphin sustained some injuries as a result of the entanglement, but the department holds high hopes for the calf's future.
- **Pole mounted cameras around Googerup Lake** – with the support of the Peel Harvey Catchment Council and the Mandurah Volunteer Dolphin Rescue Group four pole mounted cameras are to be installed by DBCA around Googerup Lake to help identify dolphins that may become stranded in this area. The footings for three tilt up poles were installed on 27 November 2020. Poles, control boxes and panels are in the process of being affixed this week (beginning 7 December 2020). The cameras and IT network equipment will then be installed by the 15 December 2020, enabling the cameras to become operational. The best location of the fourth and final pole mounted camera is still being considered as the initial location was unsuitable due Samphire and the risk posed by acid sulphate soils.
- **Fairy Tern breeding on Boundary Island** – the trial of a safe breeding area for Fairy Terns by fencing off a 50m x 130m area on the southern part of the Boundary Island is now in place, after the areas was

fenced by DBCA in November 2020 with the support of volunteers and funding from BirdLife Australia and the WA Fairy Tern Network. DBCA is now monitoring the trial with these stakeholder groups and regularly surveying the island for fox activity. If necessary fox control measures will be increased in the adjacent Creery Wetlands Nature Reserve.

- **Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group** – staff from the Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group and DBCA met in November 2020 to discuss works occurring across the coastal plains across private property, local government and DBCA tenure. It was a good opportunity to discuss priorities being targeted, programs, resourcing, areas of mutual interest to the community and how information could more effectively communicated.

c) **Bob Pond, Executive Committee (DWER))**

- A revised and extended dredging licence has been issued to the City of Mandurah for the **Northern Port Mandurah Entrance Channel**. This work is considered critical due to the shallow channel and the active boat use for the canal Christmas Lights.
- The Premier launched the **Peel Harvey Estuary Protection Plan**. Caroline and Jane attended. No additional funding for this work has been announced at this time.
- The **October streamflow reports** have been released, indicating quite a dire situation across the southwest.
- Michael Kenrick from DWER has pumped out the **Peel Main Drain Swales** to assist in drying the site for summer works.
- We tried to start the pump at **Wilgie Creek** and found it to be blocked. Repairs are expected to be done next week.
- The DWER Phytoplankton ecology unit received results from **tissue sampling of mussels** in the Peel-Harvey that was undertaken to a potentially toxic micro-algae (*Dinophysis acuminata*) being recorded extensively in the system and at quite high numbers. The toxin evaluation return quite high levels in the mussel tissue, reinforcing the advice to not eat wild filter feeding shellfish in the system. The toxin found is known to induce diarrhetic shellfish poisoning. This advice and concern have been relayed to the Nature Conservancy shellfish reef technical team.

d) **Andrew Ward, PDC**

- **Nambeelup Business Park:** Following the recent opening of the Nambeelup Business Park, the PHCC and other interested parties visited the site on 9 December, to be provided an overview of the soil amendment used in the drainage basin. Andrew suggested that it might be worthwhile to develop a case study of the environmental measures undertaken in the Park's development sometime in 2021.
- **Keralup – Tenancy and Access Road:** Work was progressing, with the Department of Communities transitioning land mass to Development WA.
- **Transform Mandurah:** The PDC was playing a small role in this City of Mandurah initiative, via the contribution of funding towards the Waterways Science Infrastructure Program (which was a long term program), and development of a business case for the Transform Mandurah program.

e) **Nicholas Dufty, DPLH, Mandurah (Observer)**

- **Southern Palusplain Strategy:** This had been considered by the WAPC on 24 November and approved with modifications. Of particular interest for the PHCC was that within the Coolup Township, the WAPC required that an area of unallocated land be shown for conservation in the Strategy, and management measures placed on the proposed rural smallholdings development.

Jane advised that the PHCC had been given the opportunity to meet with Andrea Lawson (DPLH) and provide additional input into this strategy. Suggestions for modifications had been put forward, some of which have been incorporated.

- **State Development Assessment Unit:** At the request of Sue Fyfe, Nicholas reported on the streamlined approval process, which saw significant development proposals determined by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC). Concern was expressed by some members (particularly in terms of the proposal for Point Grey), that environmental scrutiny could be diluted. At the request of Bob Pond, the CEO provided an update on Proposed Amendment No 314 (Complex) Point Grey Marina (removing discretion for planning approval of a marina), advising that the Shire of Murray was in the process of considering the submissions that had been received, and it was anticipated that a report would be put before Council for determination in January 2021.

f) **Suzanne Brown, Water Corporation (Observer)**

- **Waterwise Perth Action Plan:** This two year, multi-agency action plan set in place the direction for transitioning Perth to a leading waterwise city by 2030 (including 38 identified actions). Included in the liveability target, was the conversion of four drains or basins each year (8 in total) and the surrounding land into living streams and parkland in partnership with local governments.
<https://www.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-06/Waterwise-perth-action-plan.pdf>.
- **Peel Main Drain (PMD):** The contract for the PMD was awarded on 4 December, with three bids received to carry out the work. Construction work on site is expected to commence by the end of January 2021, with completion date of April 2021.

g) **Sue Fyfe, Community Member**

Sue provided the following community member report:

Scarp /Jarrah Forest area

- Community action- The Dwellingup Discovery Forest Working Group (DDFWG) was formed in June 2020 and is undertaking action following Conservation Council's plan. Four working groups formed: Collecting Evidence, Forming Partnerships, Informing and Contacting and Community Engagement.

What has the DDFWG achieved since forming in June 2020?

- Submissions to the WA Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) June 2020 & Federal EPA (EPBC).
- Developed partnerships with Wilderness Society, WAFA, Jarrahdale Protection Group.
- Weekend workshop with Jarrahdale Protection Group, Wilderness Society and Western Australian Forest Alliance (WAFA) on 15 – 16 August.
- Developed a strategy for Save Dwellingup Discovery Forest Campaign based on the Conservation Council of WA campaign plan.
- Developed a website www.dwellingupdiscoveryforest.org that has information on Alcoa's proposed mining extension including mapping of the affected area.
- Developed a Facebook group *Save Dwellingup Discovery Forest* currently with 860 members. Open to anyone wanting information about the campaign.
- Information booth at the Dwellingup 100 Mountain Bike event 19 September.
- Community information evening at Community Hall October 21 September.

- Attended Alcoa's information evening at new Visitor Trails and Information Centre 23 September.
- Distributed Update#1 to residents by house-to-house letter drop in October 2020.
- Mailed Update #1 & Dwellingup Discovery Forest Map to all State and Federal WA politicians.
- Collected almost 2000 signatures on the petition opposing Alcoa's proposed mining expansion close to Dwellingup. We are continuing to collect signatures.
- Rally and presentation of the petition to Hon Colin Holt, MLC at Parliament House on 10 November.
- Screened "*Cry of the Forest*" Film by Fremantle filmmaker Jane Hammond at Lost Eden Gallery 28 November. Members attended "*Cry of the Forest*" screenings in Fremantle, Perth and Mandurah.
- 30 State and Federal politicians responded to our update #1 letter and DDF Map.
- Liaised with State Conservation Commission, DBCA Science and Research Division, University Professors and other stakeholder groups.
- Built further evidence on the effect of mining on endangered species, local native flora and fauna in the proposed mining area.
- Information sharing at local Dwellingup markets, Lane Poole Reserve and Trails Forum 20 November.
- Members joined Alcoa tour of Huntley mine and Pinjarra refinery on 2 December.
- Thankyou Christmas cards to politicians and supporters December 2020.

h) **Claire Reid, Community Member**

- **Worsley Mine Expansion:** Claire provided a copy of the South32 Worsley Alumina Mine Development Fact Sheet for September 2020, and extended an offer to present to the Board an update on the Worsley Mine Development Project.
- **Biodiversity Partnership:** South32, in collaboration with Alcoa and Newmont Boddington Gold have formed a Biodiversity Partnership intended to pool resources and research efforts in order to improve common biodiversity outcomes.

ACTION: Jane to make arrangements for South32 to present to the Board an update on the Worsley Mine Development Project.

i) **Andy Gulliver, Community Member**

Andy referred to the presentation made by Alcoa at the Board meeting on 22 October, and information that he had sourced regarding Alcoa's bauxite mining in the jarrah forest. He emphasised the importance of examining the accumulative influence of mining on the hydrology of the forest. Claire Reid advised the meeting that there was an obligation for mining companies to consider the overall hydrology effect of operations.

The CEO (Jane O'Malley) reported on her work in reviewing the NRM Strategy, and the alarming nature of the increase of area covered by mining tenements since 2014.

j) **Cr Eliza Dowling, Local Government Member (Inland)**

- **Upper Catchment Water Levels:** The harvest in the upper catchment was in full swing. It has been a dry year, and unfortunately the rain that had fell in October has not had the impact needed. The dams

are very empty, and people are already carting water for stock. It remains a serious concern if a fire was to happen, where the water would be sourced from

- **Shire of Cuballing Reconciliation Action Plan:** This was the first for the Shire, and Eliza expressed the hope of engaging Thelma Crook's assistance in bringing parties together.
- **Presentation at Equestrian Centre:** Eliza thanked Mel Durack and her team for their visit to the Equestrian Centre. This is a venue that attracts visitors from across the state, and consideration was currently being given by the Shire as to whether there could be some kind of education focus on vegetation at the centre.

k) **Darralyn Ebsary, Deputy Chairman**

- **CCWA AGM and Member Gathering:** Darralyn reported on her attendance at the CCWA AGM and Member Gathering held on 21 November. Unfortunately, a presentation from one a guest speaker had left much to be desired in respect to their negative comments about NRM Regions! Darralyn would be taking steps to raise this with the CCWA.
- **Numbat Dig Workshop:** Darralyn reported that she had attended the Numbat Dig workshop with Mel Durack, which had taken place on 13 November.
- **Upper Catchment Water Levels:** This was going to be a huge issue in the upper catchment, as there was not a full dam. Late rain had ruined hay, but resulted in no run-off.

G.9/12/20 **Presentation: 'Marron, more than a Meal' Program – Jane Townsend, Harvey River Restoration Taskforce (HRRT)**

The Deputy Chairman (Darralyn Ebsary) welcomed to the meeting Jane Townsend, Rivercare Officer with the HRRT.

During Jane's presentation she highlighted:

- The collaborative catchment scale approach that has been adopted.
- The focus areas and long-term goals of the Program.
- Indicators and promoters of catchment health, being community connection (including the ecological, economic and social/cultural benefits waterways and wetlands provide to the community), and practice change (ie management options, water allocation planning, limiting the expansion of high water consumption agricultural industries and irrigation efficiencies/eco-labelling).

G.10/12/20 **Presentation: The social-ecological dimensions of a small-scale crab fishery in Western Australia - Clara Obregón, PhD Candidate Murdoch University**

The Deputy Chairman (Darralyn Ebsary) welcomed to the meeting Clara Obregón, PhD Candidate at Murdoch University.

Research focussed on south-western Australia (Swan-Canning Estuary, Peel-Harvey Estuary and Leschenault Estuary), with findings highlighting:

- Beliefs and attitudes of recreational fishers towards management (stock enhancement).
- Concerns and solutions supported by both recreational fishing and commercial fishing sectors.
- Network analysis to understand information flow with regard to the Peel-Harvey fishery (showing the high influence of the PHCC in this capacity).
- Fisher perceptions of change (size and abundance) through shifting baseline syndrome.

G.11/12/20 Confirmation of 2021 Board Meeting Dates

Moved: Bob Pond

Seconded: Claire Reid

That it be noted that PHCC Board Meetings will be held on the following dates in 2021:

- **Thursday 18 February 2021 (General and Strategic Meeting)**
- **Thursday 15 April 2021**
- **Thursday 17 June 2021**
- **Thursday 19 August 2021**
- **Thursday 21 October 2021 (General and AGM)**
- **Thursday 9 December 2021 (followed by End of Year event)**

CARRIED

G.12/12/20 Request for Leave of Absence – Howard Mitchell

The Chief Executive Officer advised that Howard (Mitch) Mitchell was requesting a Leave of Absence, covering the period December 2020 to February 2021 (although Mitch had indicated that he was hoping to be in attendance at the Strategic meeting on 18 February 2021).

Moved: Sue Fyfe

Seconded: Marilyn Gray

That Leave of Absence be granted to Howard Mitchell for the period December 2020 to February 2021.

CARRIED

G.13/12/20 Treasurer's Report

Marilyn spoke to her report as provided with the Agenda, and accompanying financial statements for the period ending 30 November 2020. During her report, Marilyn highlighted:

- The tabling of the Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 27 July 2020 (confirmed by Committee) and the Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 30 November 2020 (unconfirmed).
- The presentation of the 2020-2021 PHCC Organisational budget for endorsement.
- Changes made to Finance templates and forms.

Moved: Bob Pond

Seconded: Eliza Dowling

1. **That the following recommendations to the Credit Card Facility, be endorsed and overview of implementation be delegated to the Finance and Audit Committee:**
 - **The Credit Card Facility limit to remain unchanged at \$15,000.**
 - **Sharon Meredith, Community Engagement Coordinator Wetlands & People, to be removed as a Cardholder due to her resignation from the Organisation.**
 - **Charlotte (Charlie) Jones, Community Engagement Coordinator Wetlands & Peoples, to be added as a Cardholder with a monthly limit of \$1,000.**
 - **Christine Townsend, Farmers for Fauna Coordinator – Hotham Williams, to be added as a Cardholder with a monthly limit of \$1,000.**

- Patricia Sutton to remain as a Cardholder in her new role as Finance Support Officer. It was previously intended that her card would be revoked.
- 2. That the Board endorse the 2020-2021 PHCC Organisation Budget as presented.
- 3. That the Financial reports for the period ending 30 November 2020, and the Treasurer's Report (as set out in the Attachment) be endorsed as presented).
- 4. That the Board endorse recommended modifications to the Delegations of Authority, to reflect new ATO reporting authorities, as listed below, and overview of implementation be delegated to the Finance and Audit Committee:
 - Australian Government/Australian Business Register/Australian Taxation Office: Treasurer and Manager Finance and Payroll.
 - myGovID & Relationship Authorisation Manager (RAM) Representatives:
 - Principal Authority: Treasurer
 - Machine Credential Administrator: Treasurer and Manager Finance and Payroll
 - Authorised User: Manager, Finance and Payroll
 - Authorised User: Finance Officer
 - Machine Credential Authorised User (ATO Single Touch Payroll): Payroll Provider.

CARRIED

G.14/12/20 Chief Executive Officer's Report (including Program Managers' reports)

Jane spoke to her report (accompanied by a supporting slide presentation), providing updates on the team, new funding applications, projects, strategic issues and other highlights.

Moved: Rob Summers

Seconded: Eliza Dowling

That the CEO Report as set out in the Attachment be endorsed as presented.

CARRIED

G.15/12/20 Chairman's Report

Moved: Marilyn Gray

Seconded: David Prattent

That the Chairman's Report as set out in the Attachment be endorsed as presented.

CARRIED

G.16/12/20 Confirmation of next meeting date

The next meeting of the PHCC is scheduled for Thursday 18 February 2021, with the proposed venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 11.39 am

Chairman:

Date:18.2.2021.....

Summary of actions from meeting held on Thursday 10 December 2020:

Minute No.	DETAILS	RESP.	ACTION
G.8/12/20(h)	Worsley Mine Expansion: Jane to make arrangements for South32 to present to the Board an update on the Worsley Mine Development Project.	Jane O'Malley	
G.13/12/20	Treasurer's Report: That overview of implementing changes to the Credit Card Facility be delegated to the Finance and Audit Committee	Karen Henderson	
G.13/12/20	Treasurer's Report: The overview of implementing changes to the Delegations of Authority to reflect new ATO reporting authorities, be delegated to the Finance and Audit Committee.	Karen Henderson	

Summary of actions from meeting held on Thursday 22 October 2020:

Minute No.	DETAILS	RESP.	ACTION
G.5/10/20	Correspondence: Marilyn Gray to provide Jane with details of the correspondence highlighted, so that this can be looked into and rectified (if necessary).	Leanne Greene	COMPLETE: Missing information provided to Board Members via email 2/12/2020
G.5/10/20c	Keralup Feral Pig Management: Jane to put Adrian in contact with Heather Channon (National Feral Pig Management Coordinator) and Jonelle Cleland (Executive Officer at the Peel-Harvey Biosecurity Group), so they could discuss the feral pig management plans for Keralup, and the actions that are being taken in this area.	Jane O'Malley	COMPLETE: Jane emailed information to Adrian Parker 1/12/2020
G.5/10/20e	Wetlands Weekender: Jane to pass on to the team the thanks of the Board for delivering the Wetlands Weekender Mini Festival.	Jane O'Malley	COMPLETE
G.5/10/20f	Agriculture and Environment School Program: Jane to organise for Andy Gulliver to meet with herself and Charlie Jones to discuss the PHCC's role in the potential expansion of the agriculture and environment school program.	Jane O'Malley	In progress: Email sent to Andy Gulliver 1/12/2020 regarding availability in New Year.

G.5/10/20f	Agriculture and Environment School Program: That the potential source of funding for Agriculture programs be raised and considered at the Agriculture Steering Committee.	Jane O'Malley	In progress: Information has been emailed to Paula Pownall for inclusion in the agenda for the next Agriculture Steering Committee
G.5/10/20g	Upper Catchment Water Levels: The Land Conservation and Sustainable Agriculture team and the Agriculture Steering Committee to emphasise the priority of the low water levels in the upper catchment, identify the PHCC's role and guide how we can improve our advocacy of this issue on a wider stage.	Paula Pownall	In progress: Information has been emailed to Paula Pownall for inclusion in the agenda for the next Agriculture Steering Committee
G.8/10/20	Winjan Rangers - Agricultural Employment Opportunities: Jane to put Thelma in touch with Andy Gulliver to discuss the agricultural employment opportunities that may align with the Winjan Ranger team.	Leanne Greene	In progress: Thelma has phoned and discussed the options with the Ranger program and with the broader community. Meeting to be held in early 2021 to discuss further before potentially meeting with other stakeholders (such as IMS, PDC and the local communities)
G.9/10/20	Alcoa Presentation: Board Members were requested to send through details of any questions they would like to present to Alcoa, along with specific areas of interest that they may wish the tour to include, which will assist in guiding the design of the tour.	Board Members	In progress: Reminder email issued to Board Members 4 December asking for details to be emailed to Leanne Greene by no later than 31 January 2021.

Summary of actions from meeting held on Thursday 20 August 2020:

Minute No.	DETAILS	RESP.	ACTION
G.6/8/20 a)	Jane to share Rob Summers' publications as appropriate.	Jane O'Malley	Jane to seek clarification from Rob Summers on audience to be targeted.
G.6/8/20 e)	CEO to look into having an appropriate state government representative present to the December 2020 Board meeting on the proposed streamlining of approvals	Jane O'Malley	In progress: Jane is arranging a meeting with Gail McGowan.

G.7/9/20	Arrangements to be made for Benson Todd to present again to the Board, focussing on the fire science program and the impacts on biodiversity and various species.	Jane O'Malley	In progress for 2021
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Summary of outstanding actions from meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2020:

Minute No.	DETAILS	RESP.	ACTION
G.6/6/20 b)	Mark Cugley to provide Board Members with a copy of the Recreational Master Plan for Yalgorup National Park	Mark Cugley	Update - DBCA staff met with PHCC on 31 August to discuss draft. It is unlikely that the Plan will go out for public comment now, which was going to occur at the request of the City of Mandurah. Rather the Recreational Master Plan will be finalised and further stakeholder engagement with public consultation will occur as recommendations are considered and progressed. It is expected that the PHCC will be provided with final copy before the end of 2020.
G.6/6/20 b)	PHCC to write to the DPIRD Director General providing him with information on the PHCC COVID-19 Economic Stimulus proposal and putting forward items for consideration	Jane O'Malley	COMPLETE Guidance has been sought by Jane regarding this issue and given that we are delivering Green Jobs via DWER, no further action is required.
G.9/6/20	David Prattent be appointed as a bank signatory.	Karen Henderson	COMPLETE: Bank confirmation received 11/11/2020 that Amanda Willmott removed and David Prattent added to accounts.

We acknowledge the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to all Elders past and present

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Meeting to be held on 10 December 2020

Have you noticed anything different as you read the November Financial Statements being presented to the Board for endorsement? Pat and Karen have transformed many of the old and tired looking Finance and Payroll forms over the past few months and the way we present the Financial Statements have now had a make-over too - very swish and classy with the corporate format and colours!! I have shared a little presentation "A Fresh Start in 2020" given to the F&A Committee Members showing snippets of new forms, so please take a moment to view.

The Finance and Audit Steering Committee met on Monday 30th November and as Chair of the Committee, I present the Confirmed Minutes of the previous meeting (27th July) and the Unconfirmed Minutes to the Board. Two actions arising from this meeting require endorsement from the Board:

- **Credit Card Facility** bi-annual review was carried out with the following recommendations.
 - The Credit Card Facility limit to remain unchanged at \$15,000.
 - Sharon Meredith, Community Engagement Coordinator Wetlands & People, to be removed as a Cardholder due to her resignation from the Organisation.
 - Charlotte (Charlie) Jones, Community Engagement Coordinator Wetlands & Peoples, to be added as a Cardholder with a monthly limit of \$1,000.
 - Christine Townsend, Farmers for Fauna Coordinator – Hotham Williams, to be added as a Cardholder with a monthly limit of \$1,000.
 - Patricia Sutton to remain as a Cardholder in her new role as Finance Support Officer. It was previously intended that her card would be revoked.
- **2020-2021 Budget** - The PHCC Organisation Budget has been reviewed by the Finance & Audit Committee and I present the Budget for your consideration and endorsement. Every effort and all considerations to employment and COVID-19 implications have been made to ensure that the Budget meets the demand and requirements of the Organisation this financial year.

Recommendation:

- ***That the above recommendations to the Credit Card Facility, as listed above, be endorsed.***
- ***That the Board endorse the 2020-2021 PHCC Organisation Budget.***

Karen has made significant progress on the new MYOB Standard Chart of Accounts and has started to transition with new project ID codes setup and structure. Staff will be provided training as the new system is rolled out and Karen will provide a brief overview at the April 2021 Board Meeting. F19-20 data will need to be entered into the new data-file to enable a comparison of financials be made as part of the Organisation Audit. There is an awful lot of work to be done to fully implement the new system and we have been kindly offered some financial templates for transitioning from the "old" set of Account Numbers to the new.

David Prattent has been added to the ANZ Bank Signatory Register and is now set up for Internet Banking. He will be provided training by myself and Karen prior to commencing Online Banking in the new year. Thank you David for taking on this new role and the Bank Signatories welcome you aboard!

With the ANZ's Sholl Street Branch closing in November, our Business Manager is now located in Melbourne and communication is completed on-line. Any face-to-face banking needs will be done at the Mandurah Forum Branch.

The City of Mandurah's new Payroll System is now fully operating with relatively little impact on PHCC. Permissions for their system to report Single Touch Payroll to the ATO, and some of the Payroll Reports are different, but sufficient information is being provided for PHCC records. Karen is working closely with Jacqui (Payroll) and Jarred (Finance) to ensure that PHCC receives the necessary payroll records required for Auditing purposes.

On a sad note, we have learned that our Senior Auditor, Maria Cavallo of AMD, was involved in a serious car accident about 3 weeks ago and was hospitalised with serious injuries. We have contacted their Office to find out Maria's well-being and she is doing fine. Jane, on behalf of the Board and Staff, has arranged for a Get Well card to be sent to Maria sending our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

Finance Update from Karen for Period 1 October – 30 November 2020

Tax Invoices Issued		\$	Comment
1	Inv 808: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$245,206.14	9830: Ramsar Wetlands Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
2	Inv 809: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$45,320.00	9840: Banksia Woodlands Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
3	Inv 810: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$86,876.36	9850: Numbat Neighbourhood: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
4	Inv 811: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$41,855.00	9860: Greening Farms: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
5	Inv 812: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$26,857.60	9865: Black Cockatoos: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
6	Inv 814: The Nature Conservancy	\$1,306.25	1000: PHCC Support Accommodation T Kearing
7	Inv 815: Dept of Primary Industry & Regional Development (State NRM)	\$55,000.00	New Project: NRM and Landcare Core Business Investment - Project ID: CBIP2004
8	Inv 816: Shire of Murray	\$5,500.00	7870: F20-21 annual contribution towards Pinjarra Massacre Site
9	Inv 817: Eventbrite	\$1,824.21	9830: Ramsar Wetland Weekender Boat Cruise Sales
10	Inv 818: Eventbrite	400.33	9830: Ramsar Wetland Weekender Movie Night Sales
11	Inv 819: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$90,643.30	9800: Core Services Year 3, Pmt 2 Sep –Oct 2020
	Total	\$600,789.19	
Income Received		\$	Comment
1	Inv 808: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$245,206.14	9830: Ramsar Wetlands Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
2	Inv 809: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$45,320.00	9840: Banksia Woodlands Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
3	Inv 810: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$86,876.36	9850: Numbat Neighbourhood: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
4	Inv 811: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$41,855.00	9860: Greening Farms: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
5	Inv 812: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$26,857.60	9865: Black Cockatoos: Year 3, Q1 Jul-Sep 2020
6	Inv 814: The Nature Conservancy	\$1,306.25	1000: PHCC Support Accommodation T Kearing

7	Inv 806: Shire of Waroona	2,750.00	3600: Lake Clifton LFW Stewardship
8	Inv 815: Dept of Primary Industry & Regional Development (State NRM)	\$55,000.00	New Project: NRM and Landcare Core Business Investment - Project ID: CBIP2004
9	Inv 816: Shire of Murray	\$5,500.00	7870: F20-21 annual contribution towards Pinjarra Massacre Site
10	Inv 817: Eventbrite	\$1,824.21	9830: Ramsar Wetland Weekender Boat Cruise Sales
11	Inv 818: Eventbrite	400.33	9830: Ramsar Wetland Weekender Movie Night Sales
12	Inv 819: Dept Agriculture, Water & Environment	\$90,643.30	9800: Core Services Year 3, Pmt 2 Sep –Oct 2020
13	Interest	313.39	October and November interest ANZ Online Saver Accounts
14	COVID19 CashFlow Boost	\$12,500.00	4th payment of 4 payments - F20-21 COVID19 Cashflow Boost held in ATO Integrated Client Account
15	Merchandise Sales - Cash	\$102.50	Merchandise Sales – October – November 2020
16	Merchandise Sales – Square	\$572.86	Merchandise Sales – Wetland Weekends (Square Device)
17	Merchandise Sales (Web Sales)	12.56	Merchandise sales for November 2020
	Total	\$617,040.50	

	Expenditure	\$	Comment
1	No of Payment Runs – 7	\$759,182.87	Batches 07 - 13
2	Visa Card expenditure	\$10,154.00	October & November 2020
3	Petty Cash	\$173.10	October & November 2020
4	Cheques – Petty Cash	\$220.95	Petty Cash Recoup 001996
	Total	\$769,730.92	
	New Projects/Agreements	\$	Comment
1	State NRM (DPIRD)	\$100,000.00	NRM and Landcare Core Business Investment - Project ID: CBIP2004
	Closed Projects/Agreements		Comment
1	NIL		
	Employment		
1	Payroll Reimbursement	\$331,496.01	Salary & Superannuation October & November 2020
	Total	\$331,496.01	
	Other		
1	Reconciled Employment Budget v Actuals for F2019-2020 as at 30 June 2020. Carried forward residual employment funds to F2020-2021 Employment Budget		

2	Worked with the CEG Officers with Electronic Purchase Orders. Provided training to Pat - enter new Supplier details into MYOB in preparation of forthcoming Tax Invoices.
3	Assisted HRRTs Jane Townsend with financial assistance – Payroll and Project budgets; Set up of Chart of Accounts for new MYOB.
4	ACNC: The 2020 Annual Information Statistic Report was endorsed by the Board and submitted via the ACNC portal on 22 nd October 2020.
5	Electronic Purchase Orders: Jane approved the use of an electronic Purchase Order for the CEG Grants awarded through the RLP projects. Templates have been created for the 4 Projects according to number of Milestone Payments and whether the Grant Recipient is Registered for GST or not. Training and procedure were provided to the relevant Project Staff so that POs and signed Agreements can be forwarded to the Landholders. We are starting to receive Tax Invoices, and these will be paid before Christmas pending approvals.
6	Employment – Q1 employment journal transfers were completed in October for the RLP Projects. Q2 or six-monthly employment journals will be finalised at the end of December for all Projects.
7	Assisted Steve Fisher and Jo Garvey to wind up the Alcoa Foundation project “Connecting Corridors and Communities - Restoring Serpentine River” by 18 th December. Final reporting is not required to be submitted until March 2021.

Balance of Bank Accounts as at 30 November 2020:

	Bank Account Type	Account Number	\$
1	ANZ Commercial Credit Card	4564 80xx xxxx 3072	-\$3,724.06
2	ANZ Transaction Account	016 745 4638 83443	\$13.56
3	ANZ Project Cheque Account	016 745 4942 31182	\$129,671.84
4	ANZ Corporate Online Saver	016 745 5272 85292	\$77,661.75
5	ANZ Project Online Saver	016 745 5272 85559	\$3,718,894.75
6	ANZ Business Term Deposit	016 746 910829176	\$1,523,896.38
7	Westpac Term Deposit	036 134 239580	\$664,257.73
	Total		\$6,110,671.95

Equity as at 30 November 2020:

	Description	\$
1	Assets	\$6,184,481
2	Liabilities	\$4,839,872
3	Equity	\$1,344,609

And finally, I would like to thank all staff for their conscientious efforts in retaining such high standards during this pandemic year. With the constraints that we have had to endure as the World grapples with the Coronavirus, we at PHCC, have shown that we are resilient and can adapt to new working environments put before us to allow us to carry on as "business as usual". Congratulations, and take a well-earned rest over the Christmas break and come back fresh to a prosperous and exciting 2021.

Marilyn Gray
Treasurer



~ Australian Wildlife Conservancy ~

CEO REPORT

General Meeting to be held on 10 December 2020

We continue our business in accordance with the State's COVID-19 Coronavirus WA Roadmap, with a minimum of disruption. We have the following protocols in place:

- We are open to visitors;
- We are enabling community groups to utilise the Shed for events/meetings, where they demonstrate they can meet social distancing numbers and abide by our hygiene requirements;
- Use of the shed for events and meetings now requires the scanning of the Government's COVID URL "contact register for businesses and venues";
- More of the team are back working in their respective offices, we are continuing to encourage staff to work where they are most productive, whilst being careful to manage socialising and engagement with the team (to minimise isolation issues). In this respect we are conscious of the mental health stresses that distancing and working from home may have and are, in some cases, bringing team members back into the office on a more regular basis;
- We have held and scheduled more social events for the team to ensure we get to interact and socialise since there is less face to face contact across the whole team;
- Community events and activities are being delivered and scheduled for future;
- We will continue with our good habit of attending meetings via zoom where practical, noting the significant time savings from reduced travel. COVID has helped to 'give permission' for more effective online engagement within and outside the team;
- We continue to mandate that team members cannot come to work or engage with team members or community, if they have any symptoms. They are required to show a covid clearance from their doctor before they are allowed to return to the workplace (or use work vehicles or engage with the team);
- Our leave forms have been modified so that people have to advise if they intent to travel interstate and overseas, and acknowledge that they must abide by WA travel and isolation restrictions and that any isolation from return travel will have to be at in their own time (if they cannot productively work from home and meet isolation requirements).

Staff – Movements, Professional Development and more

- **Farewells and Recruitment** – **Gene Turner** will finish on 23 December and we are actively looking for a suitable replacement in the short and longer term. **Charlie Jones** commenced full time on 27 October and has hit the ground running. **Sharon Meredith** finished on 5 November (with a cracking send off).
- **Kim Wilson** has commenced a 3 week, trial return to work program, working from home 2 hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are hoping this goes well and can be increased in the new year. Kim is so diligent with her rehab and is very much looking forward to being back with the team as soon as she can.
- **Organisational Structure Review** – Our structure review is progressing with input from the team, particularly those most impacted. We have greater certainty over some outstanding funding and the team have been great in being actively involved with this process, providing good insight and recommendations (still more conversations to come). Some modifications to the Science and Waterways team are in place. The financial implications will be provided to the Board in the new year.
- **Pay Structure Review** – We will outsource a review of our pay structure to ensure that we are maintaining appropriate remuneration to the team, measured against peers. A review undertaken in 2012 and we aspire to this new review before the end of June 2021 so that any adjustments can commence where appropriate, in the next financial year.

- **Staff Contracts Review** – Our contracts were reviewed against statutory requirements and internal policies ~2013. We will review these again to ensure that we are meeting all obligations and being fair and reasonable to staff, while managing the PHCC business. We are confident that existing contract structures are adequate and so we will continue to use this until this process is complete. The review will also help to clarify a few 'grey' areas to ensure the objectives of the clauses are clear to all.
- **Long Service Leave** – After a preliminary review it is clear we need to outsource some queries around how our long service leave is calculated. We will endeavor to have this advice in place early in 2021. Several staff are eligible for full or pro-rata long service leave. We will need to manage this carefully to enable people their entitlements with the least impact on project delivery.
- **Waroona Landcare Centre** – we are continuing to support a collaborative approach across PHCC, HRRT, PHBG and Coolup LCDL/Waroona Landcare around the lease arrangements for the Waroona Landcare Centre. The Shire of Waroona has put in an expression of interest for the building, for it to be used for Agriculture and Environmental uses by the groups listed above. This will take some effort and PHCC may look to contribute some funding and officer time towards the process, which is likely to include a funding application to e.g. Lotterywest for e.g. a fitout and move (should it all fall into place as planned).

New Funding Applications / Business Contracts (see also Program Manager Reports)

a) State NRM \$224,727 – State NRM Community Grants (large) - Successful

We have secured funding for the Executive Officer for the Feral Cat Working Group. Funding will enable:

- Supporting the Working Group through administration and research support activities
- Website development and maintenance (website via additional funding application)
- Indigenous consultation, knowledge sharing and improving cross-organisation collaboration
- 2021/22 WA Feral Cat Symposium

We will be advertising for this position as soon as we can.

b) South 32 – 5 year partnership program

- We are hoping to have an announcement on the success of this partnership proposal in the near future (refer Hotham-Williams Report).

c) Green Jobs - \$250,000 (to June 30, 2021) – secured and delivery commenced (with Ministerial visit)

- PHCC opted to separate the delivery of this project from a proposed combined \$500,000 contract between SWCC and PHCC. We have received confirmation of funding via a letter, ahead of a formal contract, to enable us to go to quote and engage our subcontractor because of the tight timeframes to commence the seed collection component of the project;
- PHCC's project plan has been accepted by DWER, the Minister for Environment (Stephen Dawson) is coming for a media opportunity on 9 December;
- We have advised IMS that they have been successful in their quote to help us deliver this project and they have commenced recruitment of participants (people who will be trained and employed through program). A series of workshops will be held as soon as possible so that others interested in being involved can get more information and then apply to be involved. A formal contract will be provided to IMS as soon as possible (hopefully by 11 December), once we have relevant clauses from DWER to finalise the contract.
- Interested participants can email GreenJobs@peel-harvey.org.au so they can be informed of when information workshops are being held.

d) Healthy Estuaries - \$900,000 (over 4 years)

We have received the draft contract to deliver the following:

- People, partnerships and project delivery (~1 day / week - \$10k p.a.)
- Sustainable Ag (soil testing etc.) (~2 days / week - \$ ____)
- Water & Landscape (streamlining and fencing waterways) (~2 days / week & \$95k p.a. on-ground)
- Science & Management (science forum) – co delivery of 1 forum p.a. (\$0)

Projects (Refer also Program Manager Reports)

Please refer to the Program Manager reports that provide a summary of project status, highlights etc. Our thanks to the project team, but also the support team enabling the project delivery.

1. National Landcare Program – Core Services

- a. **Review of NRM Strategy** – is progressing well. We have received updated stats, are working on mapping, have finalized structure for the web based Strategy and have held a successful Agriculture workshop to assist to determine priorities. The structure will be presented to the Board at the February meeting for input and guidance.
- b. **Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator** – Please refer Land Conservation & Ag PM Report.
- c. **Communications** – We are meeting all obligations for communications. In summary:
 - **Wattle and Quoll**
 - 464 Subscribers up by 54
 - Latest edition (Birak 2020) sent out 3rd December
 - 41% open rate (after 24 hours)
 - Article on Lake Pollard: Where have all the Swan gone? received most views
 - **Facebook:**
 - 2,032 followers up by 55
 - Average 1 post per day
 - Average 613 people reached per day
 - Highest post reach 7,031 *'it takes around 150 years for a hollow to form that is suitable for Black Cockatoos to nest in'*
 - **Twitter**
 - 507 followers up by 2
 - **Instagram**
 - 484 followers up by 16
 - **Project Newsletters prepared and distributed**
 - Landcare Matters H-W x 2
 - Landcare Matters Lake Clifton x 1
 - All available here: <https://peel-harvey.org.au/newsletters/>
 - **Articles**
 - Peel Magazine Spring/Summer 2020 – PHCC/Newmont Partnership *Delivering on Community Goals*

d. **Noongar Participation – Thelma Crook**

Procurement / Employment / Skills and Capability building - We continue to progress well in this area. Thelma continues to work with our contractors for methods to best engage our noongar community in on-ground works and provide practical skills and experience. We have commenced modifying procurement processes, quote selections and reporting to embed a more concerted approach across the organisations. We are hosting another Wirra-hub at the Shed in December with PDC and IMS.

Noongar Procurement Strategy – This is nearly complete and will be a component of our revised NRM Strategy and updated Noongar Participation Plan, with agreement from our identified communities (Binjareb and Wilmen), who we have MOU's with.

Winjan Ranger Team – Thelma continues to actively support the Team and is working with our operations team to employ the Rangers to assist in delivering on-ground works (minimum 30 days p.a.). This is a great achievement for our community and PHCC's role in securing the team is being recognized.

2. Regional Estuaries Initiative

Peel Main Drain

W/Corp are progressing the construction of the Weir (finalizing design, commenced tender process and have purchased penstock). Their current timeframe shows construction being complete ~April 2021. It is proposed that unspent funds will be quarantined to finalise the project, including modifications to the swales to accommodate the change in weir design and to enable trials and monitoring for a further ~5 years. Unless COVID travel restrictions change Peter Muirden is now able to travel to WA for the construction phase (the weir and our changes to the swales to accommodate the new weir design).

Strategic Issues (refer also to Chair's report detailing strategic meetings)

1. SAPPR and PHEMC Update – Suspension of SAPPR:

No updates. We are actively advocating for the recommendations of the SAPPR to be implemented, regardless of the SAPPR not being in place, particularly around data collection and utilization, legislative changes and on-ground works. We have sought a meeting with Gail McGowan (DG for DPLH) to discuss and will play a more active role in this space early in 2021, particularly to discuss the recommendations of the review panel with appropriate government representatives.

2. Estuary Protection Plan and Revised Peel-Harvey WQIP (Water Quality Improvement Plan):

The Peel-Harvey Estuary Protection Plan (PHEPP) will be launched in Mandurah on Wednesday 16 December with PHCC representatives attending. We are also anticipating the launch of the new WQIP to follow. The PHEPP was an election commitment and the release of both documents will be important catalysts for further and larger discussions about the collective actions and collaboration that will be needed if we genuinely want to reverse the declining health of our rivers and Estuary. Please see Chairs report re ARC Linkage results being presented to the Peel Alliance.

3. Environmental Water Provisions

Members of the operations team met on 2 November with Jane Townsend (HRRT) and Alex Gardner (UWA) to discuss EWP's within the Peel-Harvey. This may become our most important issue in the future and we are working to pull together accurate information to assist in a further meeting with

DWER representatives to clarify the current status, how EWP's are being considered and implemented in our patch, and what requirements may be required as our climate continues to dry and our streamflows reduce. This is a wicked problem, particularly given the global impacts on our climate and the competing needs for water.

4. Meetings/advocacy etc (refer also to Chair's report):

Please refer Chairs report. Additional meetings include:

- **Andrew Hastie** (and David Birch) – 25 November – re Commonwealth budget implications for Canning (Peel-Harvey portions) and advocacy for future Regional Landcare Partnership;
- **John Lambert (Regional Development Australia – Peel)** – 30 November - re Commonwealth budget implications and opportunities for the Peel-Harvey. RDA have a change with a focus on Sustainable Natural Resources. John has encouraged us to consider infrastructure WA as a funding source, once their 20 year strategy has been released (we are considering this for implementation of the designs for our river concept. We will invite John to be involved in our Environmental Water Provisions meeting with DWER so that RDA can understand the implications and advocate for us in Canberra, and
- **Zak Kirkup** (Liberal Leader) – scheduled for Tuesday 15 December
- **Peel Alliance** (refer Chairs report) – includes presentation of ARC Linkage results

5. Other highlights and project updates

1. **Point Grey Channel** – The scheme amendment consultation closed on 30 October and PHCC put in a submission utilising the new information gained through our collaborative impact assessment modelling work with UWA (Matt Hipsey) (refer correspondence out). Over 650 submissions were received and it is anticipated that the Shire of Murray will consider this at their January meeting.
2. **NRM WA CEO** – meetings were held on 6 November and 4 December. The State NRM Conference bid by Perth NRM was successful but with their CEO leaving they withdrew their application. Rangelands NRM quickly revised the application on behalf of all Regions but the selection panel have determined that it will go back out to an EOI in 2021, with the conference pushed back to 2022. The National Knowledge Conference will be held in Margaret River in 2021 and PHCC will play a supporting role. NACC is taking the lead with Drought Hub. Rangelands is leading a framework to enable large scale philanthropic funding for the 7 regions for landscape scale projects. SouthCoast NRM are leading the Branding and Election asks, with support from PHCC and with John Carlson and Sue Middleton engaged in this space. We had a presentation from DPIRD (Kerry House) in respect to their emerging Carbon Farming and Land Restoration program.
3. **UWA Research** – PHCC have been selected and are continuing in the process to support UWA research (Craig Edmunds) into what makes a successful not for profit. The case study will be available in 2021.
4. **Demystifying Carbon** – some of the team sat in on Rangelands NRM Demystifying carbon webinar which was a very good overview but a lot of information packed into 1 hour.
5. **Soil Amendment at the Peel Business Park** – PHCC met with Eclipse Soils, Development WA (previously Landcorp), PDC, DPIRD and guests (including Peter Hick) on 9 December to view the Phosphorus Retentive filter media that has been utilised in the drainage basin at the Peel Business Park. This is showing good results and we will continue to advocate for high PRI mediums to be utilised in priority areas. This will be another good case study for wider use and embedding an environment where soil amendments are more easily accessible and ultimately that this becomes a 'business as usual' not an exception.

- 6. PHCC Events** – Events and activities are getting back up and running, please keep an eye on the events agenda to make sure you don't miss out. The team will be more actively inviting Members, particularly of their relevant steering committees to events and activities, to ensure they have the opportunity to be involved in these (for interest and learning opportunities).

7. Work Health Safety

There are no significant issues to report. Refer to Land Conservation and Ag Report for details. Jane, Steve and Mel attended WHS training for senior managers on 9 November. This accredited training showed that PHCC are doing a good job in this space and there were no alarm bells about gaps or inaccurate actions. It helped to clarify some of our queries in respect to safety reps and safety committees and was a good refresher for all. We will continue to keep progressing actions in this space.

8. Operational Issues

Please keep following our Facebook and Twitter accounts for project information, events and more. A huge thank you to the team who are doing a great job.

Office closure will be from COB Wednesday 23 December to Tuesday 5th January. Staff may choose to work over this time, as per usual but the office will not be open!

It has been a very unusual year and I am proud at how the team have responded to the global pandemic, delivered their projects, been inspiring and amazing with our community. I am thankful for the support the Board continue to provide at a variety of levels. The team are looking forward to a well deserved break over the festive season before we come back for what will absolutely be an amazing 2021!

Jane O'Malley
Chief Executive Officer

We acknowledge the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to all Elders past and present

CHAIRMAN REPORT

General Meeting to be held on 10 December 2020

Welcome to Birak, the season of the young. A time of fledglings and reptiles shedding their skin. A season represented by the colour red, symbolic of heat, sun and fire. A time traditionally used to burn country in mosaic patterns.

Meetings and Events

It's been a reasonably quiet couple of months, the regular meeting with David Templeman and Robin Clarke was cancelled.

Jane met with Andrew Hastie (I was an apology) to talk budget and request that Andrew advocate strongly for funding for PHCC beyond 2023.

On the 26 November, Fiona Valesini and Matt Hipsey presented the ACR Linkage results to the Peel Alliance. The Alliance demonstrated a real interest in the presentation with many questions from members. Overwhelmingly the response from the group was one of shock as the dire state of the estuary hit home. I'm confident this knowledge will lead to greater respect and collaboration in the region as we work together strategically as Alliance partners.

Fiona Valesini also presented on The Nature Conservancy's Restoring the Peel-Harvey Estuary Project-Valuing Nature. Dr Richard Campbell The Nature Conservancy's Oceans Project Coordinator for the Peel Region was also in attendance.

The Peel Alliance 2021 State Election Funding Commitment Requests document has now been finalised and we have requested the following;

- The Science of Restoring our Estuary, requesting \$2.085 million
- Peel Waterways Research Infrastructure Project, requesting \$2.077 million
- Aboriginal Ranger Program, requesting \$1.84 million
- Rescuing the Lake Clifton Thrombolites, requesting \$500 00

A copy of the document can be found at <https://peelalliance.org.au/2021-state-election-funding-commitment-requests/>

The State Government has recently released its plan for a climate-resilient community and low-carbon future which if the opportunity presents may be worthy of a read and consideration given that we will have our next Strategic Directions meeting early next year.

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/western-australian-climate-policy>

It's been a challenging year across community but thanks to the dedication of staff, PHCC has gone from strength to strength and I thank staff for their professionalism.

Thank you to the board for your support and commitment and I look forward to working with you next year.

Best wishes for a much-deserved Christmas break!

Caroline Knight
Chairman