LOWER LAKES AND COORONG INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JUNE 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Lower Lakes and Coorong Infrastructure Committee held at the Cheese Factory Meningie, on Tuesday 12th June 2012, commencing at 7:30pm.

Present  N Shillabeer Chairman, C Mason, Mayor R Strother, Cr. A Dawes, M Ousley, H Ousley, Cr S Bland, T Hill, Dr M Kerrigan

Apologies  Sam Dodd, G Hera-Singh

1. Welcome
Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. Confirmation of minutes 23rd February 2012
Moved Mayor Strother, Sec. C Mason, that the minutes from the meeting held on 23rd February 2012 be adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising
It was confirmed that a copy of the finished version of Council/LL&CIC’s response to The Draft Basin Plan was sent to all committee members.

4. Chairperson’s report
• Chairman presented a Paper from Lachlan Sutherland (DENR) explaining the recent funding and partnership agreement signed off on by the State Government for the Ngarrenjeri.
  It was felt by some committee members that Lachlan’s Paper failed to adequately explain exactly what the Ngarrenjeri Partnerships Project funding agreement really meant and how the $4.8 mil would be spent.
• The Chairman informed the committee of the pending amalgamation of DFW and DENR
• Chairman advised that Commonwealth funding had been approved for Phase 2 in the Narrows. This is simply the removal of high spots in the 300 metre zone south of the original Bund sight to comply with DTEI’s depth requirement in the channel.

5. The Revised Basin Plan
Salinity target of 1000ec maximum for Lake Alexandrina had been added to the Plan. Chairman indicated that this was a great achievement by the communities of the Lakes Region.
Most of revised plan was unchanged from the Draft Plan and it will now be up to the Ministerial Council to critique before handing it to Minister Burke.

6. Future of the LL&CIC.
The Chairman tabled his letter of retirement from the position of Chair and from the committee, thanking the committee for their input over the last 6 years.
The committee extended a vote of thanks to Neil for his work over the 6 year period.
The future of the committee was discussed and it was Moved: Harry Ousley Seconded: Tracy Hill, that the LL&CIC be placed into recess and be reviewed annually or on request.

CARRIED
Andrew Dawes reported that the fighting Fund has a balance of $15,364.18 and remains in the Bank A/C of the Progress Association.

It was further acknowledged that there is an outstanding LL&CIC meeting minute for the use of up to $5000 for the funding of Banners, providing the Banners meet with the original criteria of the Fighting Fund. It was agreed that should remain.

8. Other committee business.

The committee extended a vote of thanks to Lesley Fischer for her tireless work in promoting the Lake Albert/Meningie/Narrung region State and Nationwide.

Mayor Strother indicated he would be speaking to Local Government Representatives in Echuca enlightening them on the Lower Lakes situation. He will also be in Canberra next week meeting with politicians and pushing for action regarding the Narrung Narrows and the South East Drainage Scheme.

C. Mason talked about the Environmental Works and Measures Feasibility Program being conducted by the NRM and how locals should get behind prioritising projects for our region especially the Narrung Narrows.

Tracy Hill was commended on the work she and the Southern Fishers Association had done when she informed the committee that there will no longer be a new Marine Sanctuary established in the Coorong.

A. Dawes suggested the committee support the installation of signage in the car park adjacent to the Pt Malcolm lighthouse depicting the history of the Narrung Bund.

It was moved C Mason Sec M Kerrigan: that a letter be written to DENR requesting suitable signage be erected in the car park adjacent to the Pt Malcolm lighthouse, depicting the history of the Narrung Bund installed through the millennium drought.

9. Recommendations to Council

Moved H Ousley, Sec. T Hill that The LL&CIC be placed in recess and its status be reviewed annually or on request. CARRIED

Moved C Mason Sec M Kerrigan: that a letter be written to DENR requesting suitable signage be erected in the car park adjacent to the Pt Malcolm lighthouse, depicting the history of the Narrung Bund installed through the millennium drought. CARRIED

10. Next meeting

Due to the committee’s proposed recess no further meeting was planned.

11. Meeting Closure

Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and extended his thanks to the Council for their support of the committee.

Closure 9.40pm