

## PEEL INLET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

12<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2006  
at the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah

The meeting commenced at 9.05am.

### ATTENDANCE:

John Hughes	Chairman
Phil Curran	Community
Marilyn Gray	Community
Cr Christine Thompson	Shire of Murray
Kim Wilson	Community
Colleen Yates	Peel Development Commission
Bob Pond	Coordinator, Peel Waterways Centre

### APOLOGIES:

Martin Baird	Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Morris Bessant	Community
Leon Brouwer	A/Manager, NRM & Waterways, Department of Environment
Cameron Bulstrode	Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)
Tony Cappelluti	Department of Fisheries
Cr Brian Joynes	City of Mandurah
Murray Love	Department of Conservation and Land Management – from 9.20am
Dorothy Lucks	Community
Cr Zita O'Reilly-Carter	Shire of Waroona – from 10am
John Pszczola	Executive Officer, Department of Environment
Bruce Tatham	Meeting Chairman

### EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:

Debbie Colquhoun	Minute Secretary, Department of Environment
Adrian Parker	A/Program Manager, Catchment and Waterways Management

## 1. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

The Chairman opened the meeting and announced the apologies. The meeting was held in Committee due to a lack of a quorum.

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*The minutes of the eleventh meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2006 were received, subject to the following clarification:*

*(a) page 6, item 9(b). The third paragraph refers to the Eastport development.*

### (a) Action List

#### (i) Minute No. 2(a)(i) Action List

Mr Pond reported that Department together with the Shire of Murray, City of Mandurah and Department for Planning and Infrastructure are contributing to bring Lee Sullivan from Southern Cross University to review the existing dredging operations in the Region.

#### (ii) Action Item No. 1 – Draft Mandurah Foreshore Focus 2020

The letter to the City of Mandurah has been sent.

#### (iii) Action Item No. 2 – Review Peel Region Boating Facilities Study 1996

A copy of a powerpoint presentation and summary on trailer boat growth predictions including estimates to the year 2025 was circulated for members' information until released by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

The Council would like to hear from the Department's representative at the June meeting on the capacity of the waterways to cope with the predicted increase in boat launching in the Peel Region from 865 currently to 1,741 within a period of 2 hours by 2025.

Mr Curran brought members' attention to the item in WA's Recreational Skipper's Ticket Workbook which states that a powerboat may not be driven at over 8 knots in any water less than 3 metres deep, which would include the whole of the Peel Harvey Estuary. However, this is currently not being policed under the WA Marine Act and Navigable Waters Regulations. This matter to be addressed at the June meeting.

#### **Action:**

1. Request the Department for Planning and Infrastructure to comment on the capacity of the Peel waterways to cope with the predicted increase in boat launching in the future at the June meeting. *(DPI)*
2. Discuss the need to police speeding vessels on the Peel Harvey Estuary at the June meeting. *(John Pszczola)*

(iv) **Action Item No. 3 – Strategic Recreation Sites**

Mr Pond reported on a conversation with Mr Free from the City of Mandurah. The City of Mandurah is unable to progress the review this financial year.

As the priority sites under consideration are within the Shire of Murray, Mr Pond will ascertain whether the Shire of Murray is able to progress this matter or consider other options.

Mrs Gray joined the meeting at this point.

### 3. STRATEGIC LANDUSE PLANNING

(a) ***Shire of Waroona Local Planning Strategy***

Mr Parker advised that the Department will be providing comments on the Local Planning Strategy for the Shire of Waroona to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure by the end of April 2006.

(b) ***Shire of Murray Local Planning Strategy***

Regarding the Local Planning Strategy for the Shire of Murray, he advised that the Department would be suggesting that the Department for Planning and Infrastructure defer its consideration of the Strategy until the Southern Metro Structure Plan is in place. He did, however, comment that the Strategy currently has limited environmental information and that the outcomes from the Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment could be included in the Strategy.

A copy of the comments can be provided to members.

(c) ***Nambeelup Industrial Area***

A survey of the land has revealed areas of vegetation of regional significance. A number of environmental factors are contributing to limit the feasibility for developing the land into an industrial area. A written response was provided to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

(d) ***Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment***

A peer review is being undertaken until 1 May 2006 on the State of Play document. It is anticipated that community consultation will be undertaken in June 2006. It is also proposed to provide a briefing to the Shire of Murray and Shire of Waroona. An invitation will be extended to the City of Mandurah even though the study area is not within their boundary.

#### 4. CURRENT DREDGING, DISPOSAL AND RETAINING WALL LICENCES

(a) **Mariner's Cove Stage 6CA Disposal**

Ongoing. No problems.

(b) **Southport Stage 5 Disposal**

Ongoing problems with turbidity. An information brochure on the turbidity associated with the construction of the Southport canal was distributed to local residents by the developer as one of the conditions for continuing the construction. The Department is currently reviewing an interim review and operating strategy for the remainder of the project. It is proposed that disposal operations be conducted at night to coincide with an outgoing tide to minimise any turbidity moving towards the estuary.

(c) **The Palladio, Mandurah Ocean Marina Disposal**

Small disposal licence.

(d) **City of Mandurah Stingray Point Retaining Wall**

New revetment wall proposed around the old Peninsula Hotel site. There are no acid sulfate soil issues at this site.

#### 5. CITY OF MANDURAH PROPOSED PORT MANDURAH ENTRANCE CHANNEL AGITATION DREDGING

A revised management plan has been received. The timing of the trial will coincide with an outgoing tide to minimise impacts on the Entrance Channel. A conditional licence has been issued which expires on 30 June 2006.

#### 6. SHIRE OF MURRAY PROPOSED SOUTH YUNDERUP CHANNEL DREDGING

The Department has provided comment on the draft scoping document. An application has not yet been received from the Shire of Murray. Mrs Thompson will follow up this matter.

**Action:**

3. Ascertain the progress of the application for a dredging licence from the Shire of Murray. (*Mrs Thompson*)

#### 7. RESERVE 38749 SOUTH YUNDERUP

The Chairman brought to members attention a proposal for a canal through Reserve 38749 which is land that will be part of the Peel Regional Park.

Mr Parker advised that he was seeking advice from the Department for Planning and Infrastructure as to the need for a request by Satterleys for an option to lease to undertake an environmental feasibility study for the proposal to construct a channel from the Murray Lakes/Austin Bay development.

Mrs Thompson advised that the option to lease application is being considered by the Shire of Murray this month as the Shire would need to accept the option to lease as it is Crown land vested with the Water Corporation for flood mitigation. There is also a conservation category wetland on the reserve.

## 8. PEEL REGIONAL PARK

There was no new information to relay regarding the Peel Regional Park.

## 9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PEEL WATERWAYS

Mr Pond reported that a meeting is being arranged with Mr Templeman and that the appropriate paperwork is being prepared to seek approval from the Minister for the Environment for Sally Talbot MLA to assume the Chair of this Committee.

### (a) Murray River Action Plan

The work is continuing with more baffle boards being installed. Weed control for the previous year's planting will be undertaken following approval by the Shire of Murray.

### (b) Strategic Recreation Sites

Mr Free will be arranging a meeting between himself, Mr Selby and Mr Pond to discuss the best way to progress this matter.

#### **Action:**

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| 4. Meeting to be arranged by Mr Free to progress the strategic recreation sites project. ( <i>Mr Pond – to follow up</i> ) |
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### (c) Aquatic Habitat Survey

Mr Pond will try to organise a briefing by Murdoch University on their project.

### (d) Reef Ball

Mr Pond reported that the Port Mandurah Canal Residents Association may be willing to submit the application for a commercial reef ball project. It was noted that the Fish Stocking Society is nervous with such a large scale proposal.

(e) **Peel Waterways Centre**

Mr Pond is currently preparing a 3 year strategic and business plan for the Centre. The plan will propose setting aside seed funding and funding for other projects under the Ec and Rec Plan.

Members are welcome to attend discussions on the draft plan. The Chairman expressed an interest in attending these meetings.

(f) **Peel Development Commission Projects**

Ms Yates reported on the 3 recommendations from the Plan which the Peel Development Commission are progressing:

(i) **Peel Waterways Institute**

The steering committee will shortly be considering the final site selection plan and the proposed regional master plan for the Institute.

(ii) **Indigenous Tourism for Economic Development**

The South West Land and Sea Council has approved the project. Mr Guilfoyle will be meeting with Mr Walley to progress the project.

(iii) **Identify Saleable Products from Weed Harvesting**

A briefing on the project will be provided to the Minister for Peel and new Minister for Science and Technology.

## 10. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT WATERWAYS INITIATIVES – OVERVIEW AND PROGRESS OF CURRENT PROJECTS

Mrs Longstaff circulated information on the background to the Peel Waterways Centre and a summary of the waterways projects to date.

She also circulated a flyer for the second in the lecture series which will focus on the Peel Waterways Foreshore Protection and Rehabilitation Program. A number of monthly evening lectures are being planned on a range of topics, including indigenous culture, RAMSAR/biodiversity, native vegetation – cleaning and the legislation etc.

The Centre can host presentations and workshops to disseminate information on activities in the Region.

A brochure and website are currently being developed.

## 11. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Executive Officer's report was received.

**12. ACID SULFATE SOILS AND PEEL HARVEY ESTUARY LONG TERM DREDGING WORKING GROUP**

Mr Pond reported on a recent meeting of this group. Mr Sullivan will be in the area in May to evaluate the dredging operations in the Region, and review the results of existing dredging operations. His consultancy is being funded by the Department of Environment, the City of Mandurah and Shire of Murray.

**13. OTHER BUSINESS**

**(a) Membership**

The Chairman expressed his disappointment that a number of community members and representatives from Government Departments are not attending the meetings resulting in a lack of a quorum on occasions. He briefed members on discussions he has had with Mr Bessant and Mrs Lucks.

Discussion ensued on amending the voting rights to community members only, Government Department representatives are not sending a proxy if they cannot attend, the future structure of the Council, and recent discussions on Governance which may include making the Council a statutory authority.

It was agreed to assess the structure of the Council at the June meeting when there may be more information on the proposed Governance issue.

**Action:**

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| 5. Review membership structure at the June 2006 meeting. ( <i>Mr Pszczola</i> ) |
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**(b) Recreational Net Fishing**

Discussion ensued on the recent changes to the recreational net fishing rules and that there is still some confusion as to whether they had yet been adopted in the Peel Region.

**14. NEXT MEETING/CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 10:45am.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 21 June 2006** in the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah.

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Chairman