



Northern Inland Weed Advisory Committee
Glen Innes District Services Club – Thursday May 10th, 2007

1.0 Meeting commenced at 10.04 am:

1.1 Present: Cr Maria Woods (Chair), Lee Amidy (GSC), Peter Scott (LPSC), Cr George Sevil, Andrew Croft (NSC), Paul Welchman (Secretary, NSC), Paul Berdar (ARLPB), Gaven Young (MRLPB), Greg Lumber (TRLPB), David Nixon (GISC), Les Tanner (NWW), Phil Blackmore (DPI), Tina Hatfield (NEWA) Tom Newby (SF), Peter Resch and David Bubb (TRC), Neil Rossington (TSC), Andrew Schweitzer and Frances Pike (CMA), Doug Campbell (UHWA), Bronwyn Witts (RPC), Stephen Johnston (DPI), Reece Luxton (CV), Cr Steve Hicks (GISC).

Apologies: Ken Pine (NPWS), Mick Kane (MPS), Sue Williams (NSC), Natasha Soar (TRC), Tim Cone (UHWA), David Lindsay (NLPD).

1.2 Confirmation of the Minutes from the previous meeting

Motion: That the Minutes of the General Meeting in Walcha on February 15th, 2007 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Les Tanner Seconded: David Budd CARRIED

1.3 Introduction of Guests

- Cr Steve Hicks – Glen Innes Shire Council
Welcomed the members and Guests to Glen Innes.
- Stephen Johnston DPI
- Frances Pike – Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA

1.4 Business arising and action sheet from last meeting

None from last meeting

1.5 Correspondence – incoming and outgoing.

- NSW Farmers Association - Access to water during drought and Council obligations, seeking advice on situation and will get back.
- Shires Association – felt that requirement to control weeds by Council continues during drought.
- RTA – Policy for noxious weeds control along roadsides (no reply on this issue received)

2.0 Phil Blackmore's Report

- Quadbikes – RTA had refused to conditionally register these vehicles. Be alert that this could be a problem.

- Extranet being developed by DPI to organise documents used to prepare grants. This will result in documents being accessed on the Internet site being removed. Extranet should be in place in the next couple of months.
- Nominations for the NSW DPI BUERCKNER & STEPHENSON WEEDS OFFICERS AWARD now due. Please put nominations up. Conference NSW at Wollongong now open, Early bird pricing.
- Chair to write to Councils to seek expressions of interest to host 15th State Weeds Conference.

3.0 Weed risk Presentation

DPI – Stephen Johnston

- Weed risk presentation
- Draft guide to NSW component May 2007 – distributed
- Note when using the draft that additional questions have been added to NSW model. The feasibility calculation score has not yet been recalibrated to cater for this change. It is impossible to answer these questions until the recalibration is up and running..

Namoi CMA – Francis Pike

- Update on Riparian Vine Weed Project \$230 000 for vine weed project \$250 000 weeding and replanting in 5 local government areas. Approval / Non-approval imminent.

4.0 Individual LCAs and RLPBs

Liverpool Plains asked Phil Blackmore to explain his views on the importance, credibility or otherwise, of Regional Bodies.

Tamworth & Gunnedah asked about the current contributions to NIWAC needs to be more equitably allocated. Maria and Bronwyn to do some figures and get back to us. NEWA has received a few comments regarding the NIWAC website being out of date. This will be looked into and updated.

Namoi CMA

- Have \$70 000 unallocated to December 2007 for which proposals can be submitted. Suggested request \$18 000 to run, Mother of Millions, Green Cestrum and Aquatic weeds. Clare & Andrew from Namoi CMA to liaise on this project.
- National Lippia Working Group
- \$105 000 to develop PMP (Property Management Plan)
- Seeking additional funding for Farmers Manual for Lippia.

Regional Planning Coordinator Update

- Funding applications received and submitted by due date
- Reporting 2006-2007 due 30 September 2007
- Will be working on regional strategy
- Normal working hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 9.00am – 3.00pm
- Resolved – Grant applications for weeds plans adopted. (previous meeting)
- Regional coordinator PD now includes secretary, on retirement of current secretary the Regional Planning Coordinator will take up this role.

5.0 General Business

- NWAC – Maria Woods provided an update on funding process time table. Timeline is for Local Government to have decision in spring with funding proposal on Ministers desk by 30th August 2007.
- Regional Weeds Strategy Update – NIWAC to be broken up into two regions, New England & Tablelands
- Changes in Local Control Authorities Funds for Regional Coordinator, Coordinator to prepare and send out different payment strategies for members to consider. If no alternative found and adopted default will result.
- Ag-Quip – members to consider ideas for display and send them to Lee at Gunnedah.

Thanks to Andrew for taking the minutes and Carlie Evans for typing them up.

Meeting closed at 2.44 pm

Next Meeting Thursday 9th August 2007 in Quirindi.