



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NORTHERN INLAND WEED ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2011 AT THE GLEN INNES SERVICES CLUB, GLEN INNES.

PRESENT

Graham Archibald	Glen Innes Severn Council
David Nixon	Glen Innes Severn Council
Mahri Koch	GLENRAC
Lee Amidy	Gunnedah Shire Council
Philip Blackmore	Industry & Investment NSW
Les Tanner	Inverell Shire Council
Phil Sutton	Inverell Shire Council
Cr Rick Molesworth	Inverell Shire Council
Dennis McMahon	Inverell Shire Council
Peter Scott	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Mike Whitney	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Nikki Whale	Moree Plains Shire Council
Troy Crittle	Namoi CMA
Scott McFarland	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr George Seville	Narrabri Shire Council
Stuart Boyd-Law	National Parks and Wildlife Service
Rob Munro	NE LHPA
James Browning	New England Weeds Authority
Heather Apps	NIWAC
David Lindsay	NW LHPA
Penne Brazel	Tamworth Regional Council
Stephen Geddes	Tamworth Regional Council
Doug Campbell	Upper Hunter Weeds Authority

APOLOGIES

Jonathon Lawson	Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA
Graham Price	Glen Innes Severn Council
Glen Pereira	Gwydir Shire Council
Steve Knellor	Gwydir Shire Council
Doug Steiger	Gwydir Shire Council
Cr Larry Cameron	Inverell Shire Council
Bernie Perkins	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Ian Schwartz	Moree Plains Shire Council
Cr Peter Strang	Moree Plains Shire Council
Helen Carroll	Narrabri Shire Council
Matt Benham	New England Weeds Authority
Josh Biddle	New England Weeds Authority
Rachel Betts	New England Weeds Authority

Wayne Deer	New England Weeds Authority
Cr Maria Woods	New England Weeds Authority
David Merrikin	NRCMA
Ken Pines	National Parks and Wildlife Service
Bec Ballard	Southern New England Landcare
Natasha Soar	Tamworth Regional Council
Ken Reid	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr Tom Peters	Tenterfield Shire Council
Neil Rossington	Tenterfield Shire Council

ITEM 1: WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Philip Blackmore opened the meeting at 10.15am.

Les Tanner introduced Dennis McMahon, Inverell Shire Councils new Training and Compliance Officer, and David Nixon introduced Mahri Koch, from GLENRAC.

PRECIS: Apologies from members unable to attend are listed above.

RESOLVED: That apologies be accepted

Moved: David Nixon **Seconded:** James Browning

CARRIED

ITEM 2: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held 30 November 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record after removing Geoff Michel from the attendance list and adding him to the apologies.

Moved: Les Tanner **Seconded:** David Lindsay

CARRIED

ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

PRECIS: (i) NSW WEED ACTION PLAN

Referred to General Business

PRECIS: (ii) Noxious Weeds Act Review

The Noxious Weeds Act 1993 Statutory Review Issues paper has been circulated to members.

LCAs have been granted an extra month to comment on the review. Submissions must be received by 28 February 2011.

Discussion followed.

It was agreed that Councils send in individual submissions if desired.

NEWA, LPSC, UHPWA and Gunnedah Shire Council indicated that they will be sending in submissions.

PRECIS: (iii) MANAGEMENT OF NOXIOUS WEEDS ON ROADSIDES

At the previous meeting the issue of who was responsible for controlling noxious weeds on roadways was raised as an ongoing issue that has not been resolved satisfactorily. Liverpool Plains Shire Council and Moree Plains Shire Council have repeatedly requested clarification on the matter and have not received a response from the RTA.

Phil Blackmore has consulted the RTA (his brother) with regard to which body is responsible for road side spraying and received the following information from the Roads Act 1993.

Roads Act 1993

Section 7(4) The local council is the roads authority for all public roads in a local government area, with the exception of freeways and any roads vested in another public authority (such as National Parks and State Forests).

A public road is the whole road reserve as shown on Lands department maps, although this is not stated in the Act.

Section 62 (1) The RTA and the road authority may enter into an agreement in relation to a classified road in which some, or all of the road authorities responsibilities in relation to the particular road are taken over by the RTA.

The agreements between the RTA and councils in relation to state highways would stipulate just what the RTA was to take over - this is the table drain to table drain issue.

Section 64 The RTA may act as a road authority

This gives the RTA authority to exercise the functions of a road authority in relation to parts of roads it has taken responsibility for.

Crown Lands are generally paper roads but could also be minor roads that provide occupiers access to blocks of land.

Discussion followed.

With regard to Section 62, each LCA has an individual agreement with the RTA, possibly in the archives stating that the RTA is either fully or partly responsible for state highways.

Weeds Act 1993 for Wednesday 9th February at Great Lakes Council, commencing at 9.00am with Geoff Hudson from LGSA attending.

- i) Michael Coleman – Weed Detection and Control on Small Farms reprint now available.
20 to 50 copies \$1.75 per booklet
51 – 250 copies \$1.50 per booklet
251 – 1000 copies \$1.35 per booklet
1001 and more copies \$1.30 per booklet

The booklet was passed around the meeting for further comment.

It was agreed that 5000 copies of the booklet be purchased as part of the NIWAC WAP extension program.

- j) NSW I & I 2011 Weed Officer training program

RESOLVED: That the incoming correspondence be accepted and the outgoing correspondence be endorsed.

Moved: James Browning

Seconded: Troy Crittle

ITEM 5: REPORTS FROM DELEGATES

PRECIS: Council, LHPA, I & I NSW and CMA delegates updated members on their activities and actions for the October – December 2010 quarter.

Reports were presented by:

James Browning	New England Weeds Authority
Nikki Whale	Moree Plains Shire Council
Peter Scott	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Rob Munro	New England LHPA
David Lindsay	North West LHPA
David Nixon	Glen Innes Severn Council
Stephen Geddes	Tamworth Regional Council
Troy Crittle	Namoi CMA
Scott McFarland	Narrabri Shire Council
Lee Amidy	Gunnedah Shire Council
Les Tanner	Inverell Shire Council
Phil Blackmore	Industry and Investment NSW

A written report was received from Gwydir Shire Council.

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed above be received and noted.

Moved: David Nixon

Seconded: Lee Amidy

ITEM 6: GENERAL BUSINESS

PRECIS (i): LEAD ORGANISATION - NIWAC WEED ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Heather Apps updated members on the progress to date on the Weed Action Plan.

Currently the Rapid Response Plan, NIWAC Weed Incursion Plan and High Risk Pathway Management Plan are in development and will be circulated to Weed Officers for comment in the next month.

The proposed date for the next Weed Officer's meeting is Monday 21st February 2011, in Armidale. Agenda items will include a workshop on the regional inspection program, and regional extension program.

It was agreed that Terry Schmitzer facilitate the workshop on the regional inspection plan.

PRECIS (ii): NAMOI CMA FUNDING

Troy Crittle reported that the draft Namoi CMA Catchment Action Plan (CAP) has been circulated throughout the state for comment.

There have been significant changes in the draft CAP, and is linked to the NSW Invasive Species Plan.

Catchment Target Biodiversity 4 "By 2020 there is a reduction in new invasive species and the spread of key emerging invasive plants and animals is limited" has the following actions;

- Identify and classify new invasive plants and animals in the catchment
- Increase the area of private and public land where strategic control measures are implemented to limit the spread of key emerging invasive plants and animals
- Increase the area of land where invasive species are managed to benefit recovery of threatened species, populations and ecological communities.

Troy indicated to members that he has two small buckets of money (\$3118) to run some WONS education programs within the Namoi catchment. The funding could assist with catering, room hire, a localised field day or bus tour.

PRECIS (iii): BORDER RIVERS GWYDIR CMA PROJECT

James Browning reported that the BRG WONS project is on track, with the helicopter returning at the end of the month to treat two core areas.

Bridal Creeper will be targeted in the near future.

ITEM 9: MEETING DATES

Next meeting dates:

Tuesday 5th April 2011 – Location Narrabri.

Tuesday 12th July 2011

Tuesday 11th October 2011

ITEM 10: MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, Philip Blackmore declared the meeting closed.

Time: 12.45pm