

**BOARD OF THE
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS

Minutes of Meeting No 184
17 April 2007 - 5.00 pm
Boardroom, 7/77 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

1.1 MEETING OPENED

The meeting was opened at 4.55 pm by the Chair.

1.2 PRESENT

Dr Paul Vogel (Chair)
Mr Stephen Hains (Deputy Chair)
Ms Megan Dyson (Member)
Mr Mike Elliott (Member)
Mr Andrew Fletcher (Member)
Mr Allan Holmes (Member)
Mr Greg Panigas (Member)
Ms Yvonne Sneddon (Member)

Mr Anton Lugna (Chief Adviser, Board Governance)
Ms Corinne Kelly (Secretary to the Board)

1.3 APOLOGIES

Mr Michael Nagel (Member)

1.4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Following discussion the Board resolved that:

the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2007, subject to the following amendments, be taken as read and confirmed:

- *page 2, agenda item 5(i), first dot point, incomplete sentence to be completed;*
- *pages 2 and 3, agenda item 5(i), "WoG" to be written in full (Whole of Government);*
- *page 5, agenda item 5(ii), Development Assessment Performance, remove "20%" from the resolution.*

Carried

Minutes to be signed by Dr Vogel.

Copies of the Minutes of Meeting No 183 to be sent to the Minister for Environment and Conservation.

Action: Ms C Kelly

3.1 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND FORWARD AGENDA

Risk Management Plan for the EPA

Ms Sneddon advised that she will distribute the amended Risk Management Internal Operating Procedure to Members, out of session.

DA Performance

The Board requested that reference to the 20% as a stretch target be removed from the 'Outstanding Action Items' document.

Mr M Harvey, Director Regulation and Compliance Division, and Dr Nick Manetta (Crown Solicitor's Office) entered the meeting at 5.15 pm.

5. OPERATIONAL ITEMS

This section has been removed pursuant to Board policy and/or legal requirements in relation to confidentiality. Criteria used for determining confidentiality can be viewed at www.epa.sa.gov.au/boardminutes

Dr Manetta left the meeting at 6.05 pm.

5(iii) Regulation and Compliance Division Report

Mr Harvey reported on the Division's performance indicators and strategic plan priorities:

- Landfill Guidelines implementation;
- training sessions for the waste consulting industry, EPA staff, local government and private operators;
- staff visiting regional areas to inspect waste management facilities and holding discussions with councils regarding the new Landfill Guidelines and what it means to them.

Licence reform - develop a licence fee structure that includes a load based licensing component

- agency consultation on the draft Cabinet submission almost complete with meetings held with some key departments;
- Industry Reference Group meeting held on 19 March 2007.

Mr Harvey also outlined issues relating to organisational improvement and other key initiatives:

- IOP for wastewater lagoon construction;
- EPA Service Charter;
- new investigations: Universal Metals Pty Ltd trading as Southern Recycling; and Diesel Fuel Spill, Port Augusta.

Other issues/risks for the Division are:

- Adelaide City Council - compliance with Court Orders pursuant to S104 of the Act;
- ResourceCo - enforcement action;
- Adelaide Resource Recovery - development application appeal heard on 22 March 2007;
- temporary closure of Luturn (Primo), Port Wakefield;
- T&R Murray Bridge and Lobethal - odour, dust and noise complaints;
- drought dredging on the River Murray.

5(iii)(ii) Regulatory Reform and Red Tape Reduction Update

Following discussion the Board resolved to:

note the progress on regulatory reform and red tape reduction within the EPA.

Carried

Mr Harvey left the meeting at 6.15 pm.

Mr A Solomon, A/Director Science and Sustainability Division entered the meeting at 6.20 pm.

5(i) Science and Sustainability Division Report

Mr Solomon reported on the Division's performance indicators and strategic plan priorities:

Clean and Healthy Air:

- Air Monitoring System Review;
- Air Quality Strategic Plan.

Water Quality that meets agreed environmental values:

- environmental values as part of NRM plans;
- impacts of drought on water quality in the Watershed;
- Lake Bonney SE.

Sustainable Land Use:

- Outer Metropolitan Adelaide Region Planning Strategy Watershed Working Group;

- review of Development Application Referral Schedules (RoDARS).

Increase environmentally sustainable behaviour:

- Industry Sustainability Partnerships;
- development referral for greenhouse intensive activities.

Mr Solomon provided information relating to organisational improvement:

- expenditure reductions required under the 2006-07 budget outcome.

Other issues/risks for the Division are:

- the Environment Performance Agreement for the Northern Expressway;
- World Fire and Police Games - Torrens Lake Water Quality Management;
- ethanol blended fuels;
- Penola Pulp Mill.

Development Assessment (DA) Performance

A statistical report on DA performance, and graphs on DA performance trends, average assessment days and performance against an 80% target were tabled for information.

Mr Solomon left the meeting at 6.36 pm.

Mr J O'Daly, Director Corporate and Business Division entered the meeting at 6.36 pm.

5(ii) Corporate and Business Division Report

Mr O'Daly reported on the Division's performance indicators and strategic plan priorities:

Provide IT services to achieve EPA and Whole of Government strategic objectives

- GENI - issues with response generation in the GENI DA module; commencing LFS and PC replacement program update.

Provide HRM services to achieve EPA and Whole of Government strategic objectives:

- project plans endorsed for Strategic HR Plan and other strategic HR projects;
- Leadership Development Course underway with three modules completed;
- continuing a QA process on FTE data to ensure integrity of FTE and vacancy reports.

Maximise safety and wellbeing of staff:

- sixteen OHS&W policies have been completed and endorsed by Executive;
- draft policy developed and training sessions held on dealing with aggressive people and people who threaten self harm;
- OHS&W Action Plan reviewed with 24 items completed, 8 items progressing and 4 items to be commenced.

Provide financial and administrative services to achieve EPA and Whole of Government strategic objectives:

- budget bilateral submissions were deemed ineligible by DTF as no savings were proposed;
- internal budget strategy planning process due to commence end of April.

Maximise effective governance arrangements:

- GIS strategy for the EPA - successful tenderer is Corporate GIS Consultants - due to commence work on 23 April 2007;
- review of asset policies and processes - skill shortage in the market place.

Mr O'Daly provided information relating to organisational improvement:

- EPA accommodation: DTEI has sought expressions of interest from the market. Wherever the EPA is located, there is likely to be budget pressure due to the increase in market rents.

Another issue for the Division is:

- Shared Services data collection - most of the QA on data is complete.

Mr O'Daly left the meeting at 6.44 pm.

Mr T Circelli, Director Policy, Planning and Communications Division entered the meeting at 6.40 pm.

5(iv) Policy, Planning and Communications Division Report

Mr Circelli provided a report on the Division's performance indicators and strategic plan priorities:

- Site Contamination Bill;
- Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy;
- Environment Protection (Noise) Policy;
- Container Deposit legislation.

Mr Circelli reported on issues relating to organisational improvement:

- EPA risk management;
- strategic planning;
- Targetted Communications Plan;

- EPA Power Point presentation;
- Local Government Communication Strategy Review.

Other issues/initiatives/risks for the Division are:

- Roundtable 2006, 9 May 2007, breakfast session - "Growing Prosperity: Regulation Fostering Innovation - building a competitive edge";
- State of the Environment Report 2008.

A media report was tabled for information.

5(iv)(i) 2008 SoE Executive Steering Committee establishment

Following discussion the Board resolved to:

- (i) *establish the SoE Executive Steering Committee as a Section 17 subcommittee of the Board;*
- (ii) *endorse the Chair of the EPA Board as Chair of the SoE Executive Steering Committee;*
- (iii) *endorse Ms Megan Dyson as Deputy Chair of the SoE Executive Steering Committee and in her absence Ms Katherine Wells.*

Carried

Mr Circelli left the meeting at 6.50 pm.

4. STRATEGIC ITEMS

4(i) Chair's Report

The Chair provided a verbal report on the following issues:

(a) *Board Strategic Planning - 20 April 2007*

Following discussion the Board resolved to defer the Strategic Planning meeting, to enable a full complement of members to attend as well as a further review of the agenda papers.

As a result, the Wingfield Precinct site visit will now be deferred to the morning of 19 June 2007, and the Strategic Planning meeting will now take place on 15 May 2007, commencing 8.00 am, with a short Board meeting to follow.

(b) Penola Pulp Mill

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(d) *Mr Mike Elliott's final Board Meeting*

The Chair extended the Board's appreciation to Mr Mike Elliott for his contribution, intellect and passion during his 4 years as a Board Member.

4(iii) Members' Reports

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. MATTERS PREVIOUSLY DEALT WITH OUT OF SESSION

None.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

9. CLOSE

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.00 pm.

10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Board's Strategic Planning Meeting, commencing at 8.00 am on Tuesday, 15 May 2007 at the Medina Grand, Flinders Street, with a Board meeting to follow from 5.00pm to 6.00pm.

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Dr Paul Vogel
CHAIR

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Ms Corinne Kelly
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD