

# Berri Barmera Local Action Planning Committee

## MINUTES

11<sup>th</sup> February 2003

Meeting Opened at 7:30

### 1. Welcome & Apologies

**Present:** Paul Stribley, Craig Jones, Phil Reddy, Phil Tornow, Max Kubenk, Bob Clark, Josie Nelsson, Ed Cottam, Richard Swinstead, Tony Whateley, Karlene Maywald

**Apologies:** Barry Porter, Barry Mudge, Lloyd Wright

### 2. GUEST SPEAKER – KARLENE MAYWALD

Phil welcomed Karlene to the meeting.

River Murray Act has not been introduced to parliament yet as it is still out for consultation. It is to be a piece of overarching legislation that will give the Minister for Environment greater responsibility and the power of veto regarding development along the River Murray. The Local Government Association has concerns as to what their roles will be once the Act comes into being.

**ACTION:** Give copies of Act to all committee members.

Karlene mentioned that there is a concern that no one really knows how the Act will work on the ground.

**Integrated Natural Resource Management:** The second round of consultation has been completed and the INRM process is now in the dark. INRM boards will replace catchment boards, soil boards etc. There is currently debate as to what the roles of the department and the INRM boards will be. Karlene expressed the view that Project Officers should be employed by the INRM board, not the Department as by being employed by the Department they are not answerable to and able to represent the community. No new information has come out of the Department since the Karoonda and associated meetings in November. Concern that the INRM group is being run by the department.

**Select Committee Report:** John Hill is currently following up on recommendations. There is to be a forum held for all MP's on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. Phil Reddy has been invited and is attending.

Karlene expressed major concern about the number of NAP funded Project Officers currently being employed by the Department, and how this ties in with community representation on projects. She suggested that the LAP write a letter to the Minister regarding the future funding of LAP officers and where does the employment of these Project Officers within the Department fit in with the community. Paul to discuss this issue with other LAP officers.

Regional INRM coordinators have been appointed (around X-mas). Karlene feels that the INRM process is being pre-empted as to how it will work before the legislation has even gone through parliament. She is also concerned about the distribution of NAP funding, and asked if all NAP funding is on project officers in government departments, who is doing the on-ground works? She believes that Peter Hoey, Rob Freeman and Dennis Mutton need to be questioned about this. Karlene expressed that the original objective of NAP funding was to provide funding for the community to undertake on-ground works relating to salinity and water quality. She asked where has the first round of NAP money gone, as there is no evidence of projects on the ground. The NRM secretariat should be able to provide this information.

Karlene also posed the questions:

What are the INRM priorities for the second round?

What communities have benefited from NAP so far?

Where is the INRM process going and where does the community fit in to this process?

Phil thanked Karlene for her time and suggested that she had raised some very interesting questions that need answering. Max suggested that it would be good to have Karlene come along every six months or so to provide updates.

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION: The minutes of the January 2003 meeting be accepted.

Moved: Craig Jones

Seconded: Richard Swinstead

CARRIED

### 4. Business Arising

Paul mentioned that he was still following up on the insurance issue, and that is affecting similar community groups nation wide.

### 5. CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION: The correspondence is accepted.

Moved: Max Kubenk

Seconded: Craig Jones

CARRIED

### 6. FINANCIAL REPORT

There was no financial report submitted due to there being no major change since the last meeting.

### 7. MEMBERS REPORTS

Ed Cottam – contacted by Garry Von Bertouch to see if he could submit a tender for the Spectacle Lakes project. This request was forwarded on to Paul who agreed. Determined that approval to clear native vegetation for the rock quarry and trees on the other side of the caseway is not required.

Bob Clark – Nil

Tony Whateley – Nil

Richard Swinstead – works at Overland Corner have commended. Having a meeting at the structure tomorrow to discuss progress.

Phil Tornow – ongoing concern with the smell emanating from the Loveday Basin. Field and Game committee feel some of the responsibility as they are drying their wetlands at the moment.

Craig Jones – Nil

Max Kubenk – Prue Tucker is holding a wetland monitoring workshop on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. Ross Stockdale wants to arrange a meeting regarding the stormwater basin at Martins Bend.

Phil Reddy – Had a look at the Overland Corner site with Paul and Phil Tornow. Decided to build the structure five culverts wide to facilitate flow. Prue Tucker has concerns with the height off the ground of the structure, which need to be addressed.

## 8. DRAINAGE DISPOSAL REPORT

Paul mentioned that GHD have finalised the Drainage Disposal Report, and their estimate of diverting drainage water back to Berri Basin is \$2.5M. This is considerably cheaper than the \$7.5M proposed by Ken Smith in 1999. The main basis for this is GHD's proposal to utilise existing infrastructure, where as Ken Smith proposed new infrastructure. Paul will put copy of report on website once it is available in PDF format.

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Paul mentioned that he is receiving a good response to the revegetation mailout. Need to select a couple of committee members to form this years revegetation committee.

MOTION: Craig Jones and Phil Reddy to be the LAP committee representatives

Moved: Ed Cottam

Seconded: Tony Whateley CARRIED

Meeting Closed 9:20

Next Meeting to be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>, commencing at 5:30pm. Guest speaker will be Lisa Stribley, who will provide a presentation on the role of the Salinity Response Team.