



Summary

Board Meeting - 10 February 2010

- **Welcome** - the Board welcomed new member David Pollock representing the Gascoyne Murchison Group.
- **Election of New Chair** - Discussion was held regarding the applicants for the position of Chair of the NRM Board. A recommendation has been made by the Board and this will be announced soon. The Board officially thanked Nevin Wittber for his efforts over the past months in the role of Acting Chair.
- **Financial Reports** - There will be almost a zero residual balance at the end of the NHT-NAP programs. The final report and analysis will be reported at the next Board meeting . The Board commended the Management team and project deliverers for this outstanding result.
- **CfoC Interim Year Budget** - All but two projects will be completed by mid year.
- **CfoC 2009-2013 Budget Status** - Rangelands NRM WA has an allocation under CfoC of \$3.96 million per year for the next three years. The Board discussed the risks of a single funding source and will be working diligently to investigate other sources of funding to ensure ongoing delivery of NRM outcomes for the rangelands .
- **Chair's Report** – A proposal has been developed and given to Minister Redman by the Regional Leaders Group (RLG) after meeting with the Minister on 30 November 2009. The proposal aims to assist development of a State program for future years which will include more community involvement. Minister Redman committed to providing a response to the Regions on the proposed process and is meeting again with the RLG on 16 February 2010. Minister Redman has committed to meeting quarterly with the RLG.
- **Reference Group Reports**
 - **Pilbara (Mark Piggott)** – Last meeting was held on 12 November 2009. The role of the reference groups was discussed in detail. Pilbara Reference Group suggested a Board Meeting be held in the Pilbara area at some stage. Pilbara Reference Group needs to understand what their goals and targets are so, in fact, they can be a service provider with a consistent approach across the region.
 - **Kimberley (Chris Mitchell)** – No meeting has held since the last Board Meeting.
 - **Gascoyne Murchison (Dave Pollock)** – Small amount of retrospective projects in the area. Newsletter is now progressing to inform the community of Rangelands NRM activities and projects. Direction and clarity required to engage the Gascoyne Murchison Group since the resignation of Chair Mr Jim Caunt. Dave suggested that the groups

celebrate the success of the projects and assess the outcomes – positive or negative. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the projects and ongoing feedback after completion.

- **East Kimberley (Sarah Strutt)** – Group has met twice since the last Board Meeting. Discussions as a group held on future projects. Role of reference groups still pending on document from Board. Request from the group on protocols to sharing minutes back to the Reference groups. Discussion was held and it was decided that a brief overview would be posted on the web and sent to Reference Groups. Due to work commitments of Sarah, Dick Pasfield (Vice Chair) may attend some Board Meetings as proxy during the course of the year.
- **Commonwealth Report (Beth Cameron)** – New Business Plan has now been circulated. The government is currently running information sessions across the country for CfoC Business Plan. Cap for \$1.5 million against most of the targets. The date for the Regional Base Line Expression of Interest closes on 31 March 2010. Expansion of some target areas that have threatened ecological communities; sustainable land farm practices have now been expanded to include Fisheries and Agriculture. Suggestion was made by the Board for community information sessions in areas such as Pt Hedland and Kununurra. This request should be directed through Beth Cameron or her office by Reference Group Chairs.
- **Development of Proposals for new CfoC Business Plan** – Internal discussion has been held regarding opportunities within the CfoC Business Plan. \$80,000 of base allocation remaining for 2010-2011. Three to four potential areas may be suitable for development of proposals for the CfoC funding section. Funding approach in proposals must now be targeted and specific ensuring they concentrate on the key Rangelands strategies already developed with communities.
- **Executive Officer support for Reference Groups** – Current staff members will offer support to the Reference Groups. Fiona Tingle will work with the East and West Kimberley Reference Groups. Luke Wilkinson and Bevan Gray will support Pilbara. Bevan Gray with the Gascoyne Murchison Group. Reference Group chairs will touch base with these staff members to discuss their needs.
- **Strategic Planning** – Plan on a Page tabled for discussion. All previous workshop outputs and proposals have been compiled to pull together our direction for the next two years. This document will guide the teams discussions on what issues need to be addressed. The General Manager will incorporate the Board's feedback and provide the subsequent final draft to Reference Groups for their feedback also.
- **Transforming the Rangelands Conference** – Conservation Council approached Rangelands NRM to partner in developing and hosting a conference in Kalgoorlie sometime between June and September 2010. Four themes at this stage; Law, Policy, Management and Science. Good opportunity for a promoting the value of NRM in the rangelands of WA. The Conference will be discussed in further detail at the next Board meeting when further information will be available.

Nevin Wittber

Deputy Chair