PEEL INLET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

23rd meeting held on Wednesday, 20 February 2008
at the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah

The meeting commenced at 9.05am.

ATTENDANCE:

Phil Curran Chairman
Tony Cappelluti Department of Fisheries
Cr Paddi Creevey City of Mandurah
Dorothy Lucks Community
Bob Pond Coordinator, Peel Waterways Centre
Cr Laurie Snell Shire of Waroona
Bruce Tatham Community
Kim Wilson Community
Colleen Yates Peel Development Commission (from 10.05am)

APOLOGIES:

Martin Baird Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Cr Morris Bessant Shire of Murray
Cameron Bulstrode Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)
Marilyn Gray Community
James Holder Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Adrian Parker Program Manager, Catchment and Waterways Management, Department of Water
Alan Wright Department of Environment and Conservation

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:

Leon Brouwer Regional Manager, Kwinana Peel Region, Department of Water
Debbie Colquhoun Minute Secretary, Department of Water
Brett Dunn Senior Natural Resource Management Officer, Department of Water
Kelly Faulkner Program Manager, Drainage, NRM and Waterways, Department of Water
John Pszczola Executive Officer, Department of Water

OBSERVER:

Amanda Willmott Waterways and Wetlands Officer, Peel Harvey Catchment Council (Inc)
1. **WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW**

The Chairman opened the meeting and announced the apologies. He welcomed new members, Cr Laurie Snell representing the Shire of Waroona, and Mayor Paddi Creevey representing the City of Mandurah. He also announced that Cr Morris Bessant had replaced Cr Christine Thompson as the representative for the Shire of Murray, and introduced Kelly Faulkner, Program Manager for Drainage, NRM and Waterways, and Brett Dunn who is deputising for Adrian Parker.

**Action:**
1. That a letter be sent to Cr Christine Thompson acknowledging her contribution to the Council.
   *(John Pszczola)*

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND CONTACT WITH A LOBBYST**

The Chairman advised that the Department of Premier and Cabinet has requested that Committee members also declare contact with a lobbyist, in addition to declaring any conflicts of interest. The definition of a lobbyist is a person or organisation speaking on behalf of someone else.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Item 7 – Peel Yalgorup RAMSAER action presentation and consultation**

It was agreed that Ms Willmott can attend future meetings of the Council as an observer.

**Resolved:**
That the minutes of the 22nd meeting held on 12 December 2007 were received and adopted.

*Moved: Bob Pond  
Seconded: Dorothy Lucks*

(a) **Action List**

1. **Item 15(c) – Reporting on Developments to the Council**
   Deferred to item 14(b).

2. **Item 15(e) – Department of Fisheries Research**
   A presentation on the 3 year crab stock research project will be provided at the April meeting.
4. GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Mr Brouwer advised the latest development in the proposed Governance and Cabinet Submission for the proposed establishment of the Peel Regional Park and the Water Quality Improvement Council.

5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PEEL WATERWAYS – PROGRESS REPORT

Mr Pond advised that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday, 22 February 2008.

He then provided progress report on the following items:
- Strategic recreation sites
- Economic evaluation of the estuary
- Murray River Action Plan – weir to scarp
- Fish survey at Pinjarra weir
- Cultural mapping
- Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment
- Strategies
- Preparation of a funding package for future bi-lateral negotiations

**Action:**
2. A progress report on the strategies in the Economic Development and Recreation Management Plan for the Peel Waterways be provided to the April meeting.

_(Bob Pond)_

6. REVIEW PEEL REGION BOATING FACILITIES STUDY 1996 – PROGRESS REPORT

Deferred to the next meeting.

7. DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE - PEEL BOATING COMMUNITY GROUP

The next meeting will be held on 4 March 2008. Item to be raised at that meeting to be provided to Mr Curran.

8. PEEL REGIONAL PARK – PROGRESS REPORT

The Chairman reported on his conversation with Mr Pride from the Department for Planning and Infrastructure that the next meeting of the Peel Regional Park Plan Community Consultative Committee will not now be held in February but May.
The community members expressed their bitter disappointment at the lack of progress in this matter and agreed to write to the Minister for Water Resources seeking his assistance in having this matter brought to the attention of the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure. It is noted that since the dissolution of the Water and Rivers Commission and its Board, the Council now comes under the direct jurisdiction of the Minister for Water Resources. Mr Curran will also raise this matter with the Department for Planning and Infrastructure in his capacity as Chairman of the Peel Regional Park Plan Community Consultative Committee.

**Resolved:**

*That:*

1. the community members write to the Minister for Water Resources advising him of their bitter disappointment in the lack of progress in this matter and requesting that he advise the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure of this delay in progressing a Government commitment; and
2. the Chairman to also raise this matter through the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

*Moved: Kim Wilson  
Seconded: Dorothy Lucks*

**Action:**

3. Write to the Minister for Water Resources expressing disappointment in the progress of this matter.
4. Mr Curran to raise this matter with the Mandurah office of the Department for Planning and Infrastructure.

*(John Pszczola)*

The meeting adjourned at 10.05am and resumed at 10.20am.

9. **PEEL RECREATION AREAS MASTER PLAN**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Michael Taylforth and Ms Sharee Price from Land Insights, which is the successful tenderer for the contract, and invited them to address the meeting.

Mr Taylforth advised that they have undertaken some preliminary site assessments on the ground and by air. They will be meeting with relevant Government Departments, local authorities, and land owners, gathering baseline data, preparing detailed audits at each site, and reviewing all available information. It is anticipated that the draft plans will be available in the next couple of months.

The Chairman thanked Mr Taylforth and Ms Price for their presentation and they left the meeting.
10. STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING

Mr Dunn provided an update on the following items:

- The public comment period closes on 14 March 2008 for the Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment State of Play, with workshops being provided for key stakeholders and the general public.
- Public consultation for the Southern Metro and Peel Region Planning Framework is due to commence in mid 2008.
- Murray Drainage Water Management Plan will be released in June 2008. The workshop informing key agencies and developers of its progress was very well received.

Discussion ensued on climate change, floodplain mapping, and the cumulative effects of major flooding events. The studies undertaken by the Federal Government and the Insurance Council in this regard should be considered. Ms Yates advised that the Peel Development Commission is trying to put the Peel Region forward as a case study with the new Office of Climate Change in WA.

- A proposal for rezoning in North Yunderup was recently not supported by the Western Australian Planning Commission until further progress has been made on the Water Quality Improvement Plan, Murray District Water Management Plan, and the Southern Metropolitan and Peel Region Urban Growth Management Strategy.
- Austin Cove Stage 2 – consideration of the proposal to include a 16ha artificial lake.

11. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

- The cause of a fish kill event at Coodanup in February could not be determined.
- The front end loader will be deployed the week commencing 18 February 2008 to clean up the weed on the beaches at Coodanup and Cox Bay.
- The Snipe weed harvester has been sold to the Shire of Murray.
- The commercial and refuelling jetties at the Peninsula Hotel will be removed by the City of Mandurah.
- An application has been received from the City of Mandurah for the installation of a boardwalk to extend from the Stagedoor Restaurant to the Peninsula Hotel.

12. CURRENT DREDGING, DISPOSAL AND RETAINING WALL LICENCES

(a) Dawesville Channel and Peel Inlet – Sand Bypassing

A licence has been issued for 3 years for sand bypassing at the Dawesville Channel.
The Department has referred the application for a licence for sand bypassing at
the Peel Inlet ocean entrance to the Department of Environment and Conservation
as the proposal is to dispose of the sand at the town beach, which area is outside
the jurisdiction of the Department of Water under the Waterways Conservation
Act.

(b) South Yunderup Channel Dredging
The licence was issued in December 2007. The work will commence in April
2008 for 5 weeks.

(c) Brighton One Apartments - Dewatering
The work was completed last week. The Department will introduce a format for
issuing compliance notices in future.

13. LONG TERM DREDGING MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PEEL HARVEY
SYSTEM

Mr Pszczola reported that the Department for Planning and Infrastructure has appointed a
consultant to prepare a long term dredging management plan for the Peel Harvey to
include dredging guidelines, disposal sites, maintenance dredging requirements. As part
of the project, the consultant has taken samples at the existing sites for analysis.

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

(a) Media
The latest issue of the Coast and Country magazine features articles on the
Mandurah train, Crabfest and thrombolites.

(b) Reporting on Major Developments to the Council
It was agreed that Mr Parker would consult with the Chairman regarding any
significant developments that are likely to have an impact on the waterways
before providing the information to the rest of the Council for comment.

(c) Attendance
A reminder to be sent to Departmental representatives to send a representative if
they are unable to attend a meeting.

(d) Scum
Advice was received of a small “cappuccino” scum appearing in the Murray
River recently.

15. NEXT MEETING/CLOSE

The meeting closed at 11.35am.
The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 16 April 2008** in the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah.

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Chairman