The meeting commenced at 9.05am.

ATTENDANCE:
Phil Curran           Chairman
Martin Baird         Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Tony Cappelluti      Department of Fisheries
James Holder         Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Dorothy Lucks        Community
Bob Pond             Coordinator, Peel Waterways Centre
Bruce Tatham         Community
Alan Wright          Department of Environment and Conservation

APOLOGIES:
Leon Brouwer         Regional Manager, Kwinana Peel Region, Department of Water
Cameron Bulstrode    Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)
Marilyn Gray         Community
Adrian Parker        Program Manager, Catchment and Waterways Management, Department of Water
Cr Christine Thompson Shire of Murray
Kim Wilson           Community
Colleen Yates        Peel Development Commission (from 10.05am)

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:
Debbie Colquhoun     Minute Secretary, Department of Water
John Pszczola         Executive Officer, Department of Water
1. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

The Chairman opened the meeting and announced the apologies.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members noted the declaration of private interest and issues at the commencement of the meeting.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Item 15(c) – Fish Ladder
The Chairman advised that Murdoch University has commenced Stage 1 of three stages.

Resolved:
That the minutes of the 21st meeting held on 17 October 2007 were received and adopted.

Moved: Bruce Tatham
Seconded: Dorothy Lucks

(a) Action List

1. Item 1 – Local Government representation
   Ms O’Reilly-Carter was unsuccessful in the recent local government elections and Mr Joynes resigned from Council. The Shire of Waroona and the City of Mandurah to advise new representatives in due course.

2. Item 4 – Peel Harvey and Rivers Vessel Mooring Preliminary Audit 2007
   Refer to item 4.

3. Item 14 – Floatplane Position Statement
   Refer to item 14.

4. Item 15(a) – Documentation
   The Swan River Trust Act and draft Water Quality Improvement Plan have been provided to members.

4. DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE – ‘PEEL HARVEY & RIVERS VESSEL MOORING’ – DISCUSSION PAPER REVIEW

Mr Pond circulated a discussion paper on a recent field inspections carried out on 23 and 26 November 2007 by Council members Messrs Curran and Tatham and Ms Wilson, Department for Planning and Infrastructure officer Mr Pride, together with Department of Water staff Messrs Pond and Pszczola.

Of the sites inspected, the following conclusions were reached:
(a) For permanent moorings, only 2 locations were found to be suitable, adjacent to the Mandurah Quays development and expansion of the mooring area adjacent to the Dawesville boatramp, however both these sites have limited capacity;

(b) For holiday moorings, Waters Edge, South Yunderup, Ravenswood, and adjacent to the Dawesville boatramp;

(c) For destination moorings, Boundary Island, mouth of the Serpentine River, areas in the Harvey Estuary and several locations in the Murray River, with some additional infrastructure require at some locations. Some destination moorings will also probably be required upstream of Ravenswood on the Murray River.

Members discussed the possible future requirement for a launching ramp at South Yunderup.

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

Mr Baird gave an update on the progress of the review of the Peel Region Boating Facilities Study. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure has identified issues such as the capacity of the waterways for increased boat traffic, management of moorings, lack of suitable areas for new facilities, and the need to upgrading some existing facilities. He also reported that the Department has received enquiries for facilities at Point Grey and South Yunderup.

Mr Holder reported that the Department will be conducting surveys of vessel launching during the peak Christmas and Australia Day periods.

6. PEEL REGIONAL PARK – PROGRESS REPORT

Mr Pond reported that the governance framework and a proposal for the establishment and management of the Peel Regional Park is currently with Cabinet.

The meeting adjourned at 10.10am and resumed at 10.20am.

7. PEEL YALGORUP RAMSAR ACTION PRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION

The Chairman welcomed Ms Willmott, the Waterways & Wetlands Project Officer for the Peel Harvey Catchment Council Inc and invited her to address the meeting.

Ms Willmott gave a background to the project and invited discussion and comments on the direction the project should take.

The Chairman thanked Ms Willmott for her attendance and she left the meeting.
8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PEEL WATERWAYS – PROGRESS REPORT

Mr Pond reported that three tenders had been received for the strategic recreation sites project. The tenders will be assessed by Mr Pond (Department of Water), Mr Pride (Department for Planning and Infrastructure) and Ms O’Malley (City of Mandurah).

The State of Play document for the Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment will be launched on 18 December 2007 by Dr Sally Talbot MLC followed by a 3 month consultation period.

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

Mr Curran reported on the last meeting of the Peel Boating Community Group. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure advised that:
- 73,000 recreational skipper’s tickets have been issued
- investigating the potential of installing a sullage outlet at Pelicans
- houseboat operators instructing hirers on their use

The next meeting is on 4 March 2008.

Mr Cappelluti left the meeting at this point.

10. STRATEGIC LANDUSE PLANNING

A report was not given due to Mr Parker’s absence from the meeting.

11. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

The Executive Officer’s report was received.

The pumping trial at Wilgie Creek has commenced.

12. CURRENT DREDGING, DISPOSAL AND RETAINING WALL LICENCES

The spreadsheet detailing all applications for and issued licences was received.
13. GOVERNANCE UPDATE

See previous item number 6.

14. DRAFT FLOATPLANE POSITION STATEMENT

Resolved:
That the Floatplane position statement be adopted.
Moved: Bob Pond
Seconded: Bruce Tatham

15. GENERAL BUSINESS

(a) 2008 Meeting Dates
The meeting dates to 30 June 2008 were noted.

(b) Membership
Members will be receiving letters from the Department of Water asking them to continue until 30 June 2008 while the Department assesses the future of all waterways management authorities following the dissolution of the Water and Rivers Commission on 31 December 2007.

(c) Reporting on Developments to the Council
Mr Parker to comment on keeping the Council advised of any developments which may impact on the waterway between meetings so that the Council is able to provide a comment during the consultation period.

Action:
1. That Mr Parker report on the most appropriate way to advise the Council on developments impacting on the waterways between Council meetings.

(Adrian Parker)

(d) Use of water for fire fighting activities
Ms Lucks queried the use of firefighting helicopters using water from the Goegrup Lakes system and disturbing sensitive breeding areas. Mr Wright advised that this is discussed at bush fires advisory committee meetings and these areas are avoided if at all possible.

(e) Department of Fisheries Research
The Department of Fisheries has funding for 3 years research into the crab stocks in the Peel Harvey Estuary. The Department has commented on the amount of algae in the estuary.
**Action:**

1. That the Department of Fisheries be requested to provide a presentation to the Council on their research project in the Peel Harvey Estuary.

   *(John Pszczola)*

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16. **NEXT MEETING/CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 11.35am.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 20 February 2008** in the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah.

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Chairman