PEEL INLET MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

24th meeting held on Wednesday, 16 April 2008
at the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah

The meeting commenced at 9.05am.

ATTENDANCE:

Phil Curran                Chairman
Cr Morris Bessant          Shire of Murray
Cr Paddi Creevey          City of Mandurah
Dorothy Lucks              Community
Bob Pond                   Coordinator, Peel Waterways Centre
Dale Sanderson             Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)
Cr Laurie Snell            Shire of Waroona
Bruce Tatham               Community
Richard Williams           Department of Environment and Conservation
Kim Wilson                 Community

APOLOGIES:

Martin Baird               Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Tony Cappelluti            Department of Fisheries
Marilyn Gray               Community
James Holder               Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Maritime)
Colleen Yates              Peel Development Commission
Cameron Bulstrode          Department for Planning and Infrastructure (Planning)

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:

Debbie Colquhoun           Minute Secretary, Department of Water
Kelly Faulkner             Program Manager, Drainage, NRM and Waterways,
                            Department of Water
John Pszczola              Executive Officer, Department of Water

1. WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

The Chairman opened the meeting and announced the apologies. He welcomed Dr Richard Williams from the Department of Environment and Conservation, and Mr Dale Sanderson proxy for Mr Bulstrode.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND CONTACT WITH A LOBBYIST**

   Noted.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

   **Resolved:**
   
   That the minutes of the 23rd meeting held on 20 February 2008 were received and adopted, subject to the correct spelling of the word “Ramsar” on page 2.

   **Moved: Bob Pond**
   **Seconded: Paddy Creevey**

Ms Lucks joined the meeting at this point.

(a) **Action List**

1. **Item 3(a) 2. – Department of Fisheries Research**

   Presentations on the crab stock research project and heavy metal survey will be undertaken at the June meeting.

Cr Bessant joined the meeting at this point.

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

(a) **List of Strategies**

Mr Pond circulated the list of strategies grouped as follows:

- Strategies implemented or set aside
- Strategies underway, or associated with current projects
- Strategies reliant on establishment of Peel Regional Park
- Strategies associated with recreational studies
- Strategies reliant on boating facilities study review
- Strategies pertaining to education and information programs

The Implementation Committee is currently reviewing and re prioritising the list.

Discussion ensued on the establishment of the Economic Development and Recreation Management Plan Implementation Committee, the number of sullage pump-out facilities in the Region, no legislation for installing holding tanks on vessels, the need for support to the various lead agencies, adequate resourcing and funding, and the establishment of timelines for completion of the outstanding strategies.
Members were requested to provide any comment on the strategies to Mr Pond within the next 2 weeks.

**Action:**
1. Members to provide comments on the list of strategies to Mr Pond by 2 May 2008. *(Bob Pond)*

2. **Economic Valuation of the Peel Waterways**

Mr Pond circulated the report from the consultants on the economic valuation of the Peel Waterways. The report is to be treated as confidential at this stage.

A comparison of these results with those from 10-20 years ago was discussed.

Mr Bessant left the meeting at this point.

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

Deferred to the next meeting.

6. **DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE - PEEL BOATING COMMUNITY GROUP**

Mr Curran reported on the items raised at the recent meeting, including:
- Boats tying up to washboards
- Clean up Australia Day – rubbish around overnight stay areas
- Education program
- Skippers ticket – 82,000 issued in the Region (87,000 boats registered)
- Boat ramp restrictions (refer restrictions in East Fremantle)
- Mandurah boating guide – Ramsar information to be included, if not already provided
- Assisting with fish kill event on Australia Day weekend

Discussion ensued on boat stacking.

The next meeting will be held on 4 June 2008. Members requesting items to be raised at that meeting to be provided to Mr Curran.
7. **PEEL REGIONAL PARK – PROGRESS REPORT**

Mr Sanderson advised that he was unable to provide a progress report other than that Mr Pride continues to work on the Plan as resources permit.

The Chairman reported that the Community Consultative Committee meeting scheduled for 4 April 2008 had been cancelled. He advised he had withheld the letter to the Minister for Water Resources (as resolved at the last meeting) as he felt that it would carry more weight if it came from the whole Committee rather than just the community members. He has a meeting with the Hon. David Templeman on 29 April 2008 to discuss this matter.

Members again expressed their frustration at the lack of progress in this matter and discussed the best approach to expedite the preparation of the Plan.

**Resolved:**
To write to the new Director General of the Department of Water congratulating him on his appointment and seeking an urgent meeting to apprise him of the serious issue regarding the lack of action on the Peel Regional Park Plan.

**Moved: Paddy Creevey**
**Seconded: Bruce Tatham**

Dr Williams and Mr Sanderson abstained from voting.

---

**Action:**
2. Write to the Director General of the Department of Water seeking an urgent meeting on this issue.

*(John Pszczola)*

---

The meeting adjourned at 10.15am and resumed at 10.25am.

8. **LONG TERM DREDGING MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PEEL-HARVEY SYSTEM**

The Chairman welcomed Ms Kellie Holloway and Dr Bruce Hegge from Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd and invited them to address the meeting.

Ms Holloway highlighted the key dredge sites, reviewed water and sediment surveys, previous dredging licences issued, acid sulfate soil testing at each site, and the various dredging and disposal options.

The analysis of the results of the dredging of the Yunderup Channel is completed in late July 2008 will help guide the principles for the long term dredging management plan...
which will incorporate streamlining the licensing process and methods, timing, monitoring and disposal of the dredge spoil.

Items discussed included the Ramsar and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 24 hour logging.

A copy of the presentation is available for circulation to members.

The Chairman thanked Ms Halloway and Dr Bruce Hegge for their presentation and they left the meeting at this point.

9. STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNING

Mr Parker provided an update on the following items:

- Southern Metro and Peel Region Planning Framework is currently being revised and will then be released for public comment.
- Eastern Estuary Environmental Assessment State of Play. 36 submissions were received. It is anticipated that the document will be finalised by the end of June 2008.

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Further information was provided on:

- ‘Red tide’ currently entering the Peel Waterways
- DPI seeking amendment to the legislation regarding moorings
- Suspect fish kills
- Disseminating water quality information to the public

Mr Brouwer joined the meeting at this point.

11. CURRENT DREDGING, DISPOSAL AND RETAINING WALL LICENCES

(a) South Yunderup Channel Dredging
The work will commence on 28 April 2008, using marine disposal.

The use of Boodalan Island as a dredge disposal site was discussed.

(b) Dawesville Channel Sand Bypassing
A detailed management plan is in place and the licence has been issued. The work has not yet commenced.
12. GOVERNANCE UPDATE

Mr Brouwer gave an update on the progress of the proposed Governance model which is currently with Cabinet and the budget process.

Future options will be considered for extending the membership of the Council beyond 30 June 2008 if a decision on the Governance model is not forthcoming in the near future.

The Minister for Water Resources has requested a meeting with the Minister for Peel on this issue.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

(a) Indigenous Representation on the Council

The Chairman and Mr Pond will be meeting with Mr Clarrie Walley to discuss future representation of the indigenous community on the Council.

14. NEXT MEETING/CLOSE

The meeting closed at 11.45am.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18 June 2008 in the Peel Waterways Centre, Mandurah.

……………………………………………………
Chairman