



PEEL REGIONAL
LEADERS FORUM

Peel Regional Leaders Forum (Inc)
59th General Meeting held at Shire of Murray
Thursday 23 November 2023

MINUTES

Cr Mike Walmsley (Chair) welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 12.43pm.

1. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND CONFIRMATION OF PROXIES

Attendance:

Cr Mike Walmsley	President, Shire of Waroona (Chair) (Proxy)
Mayor Rhys Williams	Mayor, City of Mandurah (Deputy Chair) (Proxy) online
Cr David Bolt	President, Shire of Murray (Proxy)
Cr Garry Ventris	President, Shire of Boddington online
Cr Tricia Duggin	Deputy President, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale (Proxy)
Casey Mihovilovich	CEO, City of Mandurah (Treasurer)
Dean Unsworth	CEO, Shire of Murray (Secretary)
Jane O'Malley	CEO, Peel-Harvey Catchment Council (Proxy)
John Erren	Chair, Regional Development Australia Peel (Proxy)
Kathleen Johnson	Deputy Chair, Peel Community Development Group (Proxy)
John Lambrecht	Director, Regional Development Australia Peel
Julie Burton	CEO, Shire of Boddington (Proxy)
Mark Goodlet	CEO, Shire of Waroona
Paul Martin	CEO, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
Andrew Ward	CEO, Peel Development Commission (Observer)
Anika Serer	Executive Director

Apologies:

Nicci Lambert	Chair, Peel Community Development Group
Caroline Knight	Chair, Peel-Harvey Catchment Council
Cr Rob Coales	President, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
David Doepel	Chair, Peel Development Commission (Observer)

**2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES / BUSINESS ARISING –
24 August 2023 [Appendix 1]**

Motion:

Moved: Julie Burton
Seconded: Jane O'Malley

**That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 August 2023 be confirmed.
Carried Unanimously**

3. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2024

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director
Date of Report: 7 November 2023

Background:

The following schedule is proposed for the General Meetings and Annual General Meeting in 2024. WALGA has advised that these dates align with the proposed WALGA Peel Zone meetings (to be held at 2pm on the same day):

Date	Time	Host Council
Thursday 22 February 2024	10am	Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
Thursday 18 April 2024	10am	Shire of Waroona
Thursday 20 June 2024	10am	Shire of Boddington
Thursday 22 August 2024	10am	City of Mandurah
Thursday 21 November 2024	10am	Shire of Murray * AGM & General Meeting

Discussion:

- Mayor Rhys Williams suggested that the WALGA Zone meetings could potentially be held earlier in the day (eg 9am) with PRLF meetings commencing directly after (10.30am) to create more efficiency and free up half a day for those attending both. To be discussed at the WALGA meeting following and further information provided.
- Jane O'Malley noted that the proposed schedule clashes with the PHCC's board meetings, and may need to be revised.

Motion:

Moved: Cr Tricia Duggin
Seconded: John Erren

**That PRLF approves the proposed meeting schedule and host locations for 2024.
Carried Unanimously**

4. PEEL REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY INITIATIVE – UPDATE

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director
Date of Report: 14 November 2023

Background:

The report for the Peel Regional Water Supply Initiative was endorsed at the General Meeting held on 13 April 2023. At the meeting it was agreed to further develop the Executive Summary into an advocacy document, by identifying the looming demand driven gaps for each local government area. This would enable short term issues to be prioritised, and supported by high level assessment of their impact (environmental, economic, community values).

Urbaqua was engaged to undertake this work, with Marsden Jacobs Associates (MJA) developing the economic assessment. The issues outlined in the technical report have been summarised and developed into a short snapshot by each LGA outlining:

1. The issues – when/where/quantitative
2. The benefits of solving the issues
3. The cost/impact of not solving the issues (ie do nothing)

The snapshots have been reviewed by DWER, DPIRD and each LGA, with feedback incorporated into the final documents presented for endorsement. The snapshots will be a helpful tool for members to present their situation to a broad audience, and provide an overview of the executive summary and full technical report.

Next Steps:

1. The high-res pdf of snapshots, executive summary and technical report will be provided to all members;
2. A small print (proposed 50 of each snapshot, 100 of executive summary) will be printed for distribution;
3. All reports will be published on the Peel Alliance website;
4. Requests to Hon Simone McGurk MLA, Hon Reece Whitby MLA, and Hon Don Punch MLA to formally present and brief on the findings;
5. Incorporation of snapshots and executive summary into federal and state election advocacy

Funding Overview:

A budget of \$125,000 was allocated to the initial initiative, this stage has now been completed at a total cost of \$122,382, with \$2,548 underspend and \$10,000 contingency remaining.

Peel Development Commission and Peel Alliance agreed to commit \$5,000 each to the further development of the Executive Summary as outlined above, providing an overall budget of \$12,548 for this work. The proposal from MJA was \$2,000 higher than budgeted but most competitive and will be allocated to the \$10,000 contingency. A small allocation (\$500-\$1,000) is also expected to be required for printing of the final documents.

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 2: PRWSI Local Government Snapshots

Discussion:

The Executive Director provided an overview of progress since the last meeting, including the development of snapshots for each LGA. The snapshots note that there are short-term measures available, particularly regarding the use of groundwater, which could smooth the gap between supply and demand for approximately five years, but long-term solutions that are climate independent are required.

Short term measures include:

1. Increases in local efficiencies
2. Ground water trades and transfers

Requesting the Minister to provide capacity and resourcing to DWER to actively progress measures outlined in the policy 'Management of unused licensed water entitlements' in areas where water resources are near/fully allocated would enable under-used water allocations to be identified and reallocated where appropriate.

In March 2023, seven LGA's in the Gngangara groundwater area received a total of \$4 million over four years to support reducing their groundwater use. Projects include upgrading irrigation systems, redevelopment of parks to include waterwise principles, ecozoning, investigating alternative water supply to offset groundwater allocations. A similar request on behalf of the Peel LGA's would enable initiatives that are specific to needs/opportunities to be delivered and increase efficiencies.

Medium to longer term, the need to identify and implement climate independent water sources will be required within five years across most of the region. The departments and agencies that have participated in the development of the Peel Regional Water Supply Initiative to date will be requested to prioritise this and identify solutions collaboratively.

Motion:

Moved: Paul Martin

Seconded: John Erren

That PRLF endorses the Peel Regional Water Supply Initiative Snapshots and next steps.

Carried Unanimously

5. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director

Date of Report: 10 November 2023

Background:

The purpose of the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Manual is to establish and maintain an effective health and safety management system at the workplace of Peel Regional Leaders Forum Inc trading as Peel Alliance (*referred to as PRLF*). PRLF is committed to implementing a structured approach to WHS.

The WHS Manual will assist PRLF in meeting its obligations in accordance with Western Australia's Work Health and Safety Act (WA) 2020 and Work Health and Safety Regulations (WA) 2022.

The WHS Manual applies to all PRLF/Peel Alliance workers and other persons at risk from work carried out at Peel Alliance.

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 3: PRLF/Peel Alliance WHS Management System

Motion:

Moved: Cr David Bolt

Seconded: Cr Tricia Duggin

That PRLF approves the proposed Work Health and Safety Management System as attached.

Carried Unanimously

6. PEEL TRAILS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director

Date of Report: 15 November 2023

Background:

The following documentation is provided in relation to recent Peel Trails Meetings:

Peel Trails Committee: Minutes 12 October 2023

Peel Trails Technical Group: Minutes 28 September 2023

The Committee would like to thank and acknowledge former Councillor Michelle Rich who chaired the Committee from its inception in 2020, and also the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale who have provided secretariat and administration support during that time.

The Chair position is now vacant, and in accordance with the Terms of Reference an appointment may be made by Peel Alliance. Historically the Committee has met bi-monthly, either online or at the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's administration (and recently alternative host locations) with administration support provided by the representative organisation.

The Peel Trails Technical Group also meets bi-monthly prior to the Committee meeting, with an update and recommendations provided by its Chair, Kelvin Barr (Shire of Murray).

It has been noted that the delivery of the projects identified in the \$8 million Federal election grant will be the main priority of the local governments and DBCA for the Peel region until the end of 2026. This will include several meetings a year arranged by Peel Development Commission for all proponents, to coordinate governance arrangements and update on progress. Peel Alliance and Shire of Murray are invited to have observer status at these meetings, and therefore to avoid duplication of discussion and resources it is recommended that the Trails Committee and Trails Technical Group suspend its current formal arrangements for meetings in the interim.

To ensure the overarching Strategy is still progressed, including issues such as Off-Road Vehicles and future planning, it is suggested that:

- a) If required, a request to provide a short update as 'general business' in the governance meetings, or a meeting time arranged immediately before/after chaired by the Peel Alliance Executive Director with specific agenda;
- b) An annual review of progress against the Strategy recommendations (as recently carried out) arranged by the Executive Director and presented to Peel Alliance. This will also include advice on when formal Committee meetings may be required to be reinstated;
- c) The Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee has recently been reconvened and regular updates/presentations will be requested for general meetings;
- d) Any urgent items or opportunities may be directed to the Executive Director with a request for a meeting to be arranged (or action as required).

Consultation with the Chair of the Technical Trails Group and other key stakeholders has received support for the proposal, particularly freeing up resources that will be focused on the delivery of funded projects by the end of 2026.

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 4: Peel Trails Committee Minutes

Appendix 5: Peel Trails Technical Group Minutes

Motion:

Moved: Cr David Bolt

Seconded: John Erren

That PRLF:

- 1. Notes the recent minutes provided by the Peel Trails Committee and Peel Trails Technical Group;**
- 2. Acknowledges and thanks former Chair Michelle Rich for the Committee, and Chair Kelvin Barr for the Technical Group, for their time and efforts;**

- 3. Agrees to suspend the formal meeting arrangements for the Peel Trails Committee and Peel Trails Technical Group until further notice, noting the alternative arrangements recommended in the report.**

Carried Unanimously

7. FINANCE REPORT

The Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 October 2023 was received [Appendix 6]

8. MINING AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES POLICY POSITION STATEMENT

Author and Title: Anika Serer
Date of Report: 15 November 2023

Background:

An update will be provided on the progress of seeking proposals in relation to the Policy Position Statement activity plan, and other related activity.

Discussion:

1. The Executive Director will review the wording in support of the Beyond 2024 document to mitigate any inaccuracies if response from author is not forthcoming.
2. Members expressed their desire to progress the media release and communications plan prior to the end of the year, noting significant activities are expected in the coming month that could seek to be influenced.
3. The Executive Director will follow up with the suggested strategic communications consultant and provide an update by the end of the following week; so that an alternative approach can be developed if required.

9. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS REPORT [Appendix 7]

The Outstanding Actions Report was received.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

PCDG: Regional Development Australia Peel (RDA), in partnership with the Peel Community Development Group and supported by the Peel Development Commission, has engaged the team at Hatch to undertake research to map the current Community and Community Health Sectors Across the Peel region.

The objectives of this project are to identify current and emerging gaps in community and community health service delivery across the region and to support the community and community health sectors advocate more effectively for the funding they need to provide effective services to their clients. A survey will be sent out shortly to organisations in the Community and Health sectors to inform the mapping project.

Shire of Murray: The Australind train completed its last run on the weekend, and will be retired to the Pinjarra Heritage Train Precinct. The route will be out of action for two years, and then a new train will be launched.

The Australian Government's decision to withdraw \$200m funding for the Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation was noted, along with the further announcement by Minister Saffioti that

the State Government confirmed it will proceed with its delivery. Also noted was the Australian Government's advice that future projects will be funded on a 50/50 basis (previously 80/20).

Shire of Waroona: Coast SWaP (South West and Peel Coastal Management Group) recently held its AGM and is seeking to rebuild and activate its activities.

The Commonwealth Government is likely to consider the declaration of an offshore renewable energy area in the Peel/SW region of Western Australia. This will include a consultation period which is expected to be around nine weeks; it is recommended that Peel Alliance consider its joint position and response before the consultation period opens to ensure it can submit within the allocated time.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The 60th General Meeting of the Peel Regional Leaders Forum is proposed to be held at the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale on Thursday 22nd February 2024 commencing at 10am.

Meeting closed at 2.15pm