



Chief Executive Officer's Report

July 2019

Emma Bradbury
ceo@mda.asn.au

1. Appointments

Date	Event/meeting	Location
20/06/2019	Steve Whan – National Irrigators Council	Canberra
20/06/2019	Jackie Sherman – University of Canberra	Canberra
27/06/2019	Campaspe Shire – Governance	Echuca
28/06/2019	Region 6 Ordinary Meeting CEO Update	Zoom Video
28/06/2019	Region 4 AGM CEO report	Zoom Video
01/07/2019	Strategic Advisory Committee	Zoom Video
01/07/2019	Project Development discussion Katrina Tehan – Tender Right	Echuca
02/07/2019	MDA/MDBA MOU Signing	Shepparton
03/07/2019	Department of Infrastructure NSW – Stakeholder Consultation	Zoom Video
04/07/2019	MDBA Peaks Briefing (Full day)	Zoom Video
12/07/2019	EMFM Radio Interview	Echuca
12/07/2019	Region 8 Ordinary Meeting CEO Update	Zoom Video
16/07/2019	CSIRO – National Conference discussion	Zoom Video
16/07/2019	National Conference committee meeting	Zoom Video
17/07/2019	Information Session 19-20 Murray Flows	Deniliquin
18/07/2019	GBCMA Long term Intervention Monitoring project	Shepparton
19/07/2019	Independent Panel for the Assessment of Social and Economic Conditions in the MDB	Zoom Video
19/07/2019	Meeting with the Hon Minister Sussan Ley	Albury
24/07/2019	National Conference Committee meeting	Zoom Video
24/07/2019	Meet and Greet new CEO Mr Ray Burton Campaspe Shire Council	Echuca
26/07/2019	Region 6 Executive Meeting	Zoom Video
26/07/2019	GMID Resilience Project Meeting – Claire Flanagan-Smith	Zoom Video

2. Engagements

- 2.1 Steve Whan – National Irrigators Council
- 2.2 Jackie Sherman – University of Canberra
- 2.3 MDBA and MDA – MOU Signing
- 2.4 19-20 Murray Flows
- 2.4 GBCMA Long term Intervention Monitoring Project
- 2.5 Hon Minister Sussan Ley
- 2.7 Ray Burton – CEO – Campaspe Shire
- 2.8 Claire Flanagan – Smith GMID Resilience Project Meeting

3. End of Financial Year audit

The end of financial year audit is on track with all data submitted to the auditor mid-July. This is the first year we have undertaken the audit entirely via remote making strong use of the efficiencies of the digital record keeping systems of Xero. Early results are very positive, with final finance statements and letter of audit expected by early August.

4. National Conference

National Conference draft program has been launched, with invitations sent to begin the attendance and registration campaign. This is an incredibly strong program under the theme of Regeneration for a healthy Basin, with a subtheme of local government's role in harnessing the challenges and opportunities intensifying Australia's agricultural productivity – sustainably! Several key note speakers have yet to be locked in. These are expected to be complete by 25 August.

5. MDA Governance Framework

The good governance of the MDA is key to maintaining its credibility, authority and performance. It is equally true that the governance arrangements that enable uniquely local and regional perspectives to be identified and explored while maintaining authority of both the member councils and the National body with integrity and authenticity is equally challenging.

Work has commenced on the development of a governance framework for the MDA. The draft will be released to the board in the coming weeks for comment and consultation with the regions.

6. MDBA/MDA MOU

The MDA and the Murray Darling Basin Authority have strengthened their relationship with the signing of a renewed Memorandum of Understanding in Shepparton.

MDBA A/Chair Joanna Hewitt and CEO Phillip Glyde met with MDA National President David Thurley and CEO, this MOU heralds a new era in collaboration and information exchange between the authority and communities.

7. Membership Drive

93 Councils were provided with quotations and resource packs for their consideration to join the MDA

96 Councils including Individual members were issued with their 2019/2020 invoices for membership

The Membership drive is resulting in good engagement with all Regions.

8. Projects

MDA Basin Communities Leadership Program

Exchange of documentation between the department and the MDA was finalised 25/07/2019. Signing of the contracts and commencement of the project is anticipated for the first week in August.

Municipal and Community Engagement Program

Connecting Catchments & Communities Moira – Mildura

The second CCC event is due to be held in Euston on Tuesday 30th July.



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Chief Executive Officer