

*In Attendance***Directors**

Ms Leslie Shirreffs	Chair
Ms Anne Clarke	Director
Prof. Iain Gordon	Director
Mr. Phil Rist	Director
Mr Scott Buchanan	Executive Director

**Observers**

Ms Angela Siggery	Director, Conservation and Biodiversity Programs
Allison Webb	Regional Director. Northern Region
Andrew Millerd	Principal Ranger, Tablelands and Dry Tropics (item 4.6)

**Authority officers**

Dr Paul Chantrill	Principal Project Officer, World Heritage Connections
Ms Lucy Karger	Project Manager, Yellow Crazy Ants
Mrs Rebecca Lagerroth	Manager, World Heritage Connections
Mrs Kate Thomas	Board Secretariat
Ms Ellen Weber	Executive Officer
Mr Tim Wong	Manager, Planning and Conservation
Mrs Deb Parker	Senior Administration Officer, Business Management
Ms Tracy Laird	Administration Officer, Business Management

**1. INTRODUCTION****1.1. Chair's introduction and welcome**

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Atherton region and paid respect to elder's past, present and emerging, and acknowledged all Aboriginal Peoples across the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area on whose land this meeting is being held.

L Shirreffs welcomed the manager of the Planning and Conservation team, Tim Wong to his first Board meeting and also acknowledged Dr Sandra Abell, who joins the Authority as Principal Scientist.

The Chair thanked staff for organising the field trip to the TREAT Nursery and the community meet and greet the previous evening.

**Actions**

- Send letter of thanks to the TREAT team for hosting them at the nursery this morning
- Send letter of thanks to CSIRO Site manager thanking them for use of the facility.

## 1.2. Apologies

Directors J Courtenay and L Talbot were unable to attend. L Talbot provided responses to agenda items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.6.

A Commonwealth Government representative was unable to attend.

## 1.3. Conflict of interest

I Gordon advised he works for James Cook University and acknowledged the Authority has a number of current contracts with the university.

## 2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS ARISING

### 2.1. Endorsement of Board minutes No 103

#### Resolution

The Board **endorsed** the minutes for Board meeting No 103, as amended.

#### Actions:

- R Lagerroth to provide amended text to E Weber for items 4.1 and 4.7

### 2.2. Actions arising

The Board discussed the Actions Arising, as updated, including:

95/2.3 I Gordon advised that JCU and CSIRO are investing funds into the Northern Australia CRC and that he has discussed the need to fund Wet Tropics (terrestrial) projects with their Chair, Sheriden Morris. I Gordon will involve S Buchanan in the conversations as they progress.

100/3.9 Authority staff are working on the next Science in the pub to be held during National Science Week (12-19 August), pending availability of speakers.

#### Resolution

The Board **updated** the actions arising.

#### Actions:

- Send a letter to relevant local councils and the DES Minister, thanking them for participation and support for the campaign relating to the illegal dumping of rubbish on the Gillies Range Road
- Invite Sheriden Morris to attend the next SAC meeting.
- Organise a joint board meeting with Terrain NRM

### **3. REPORTS**

#### **3.1. Chair's report**

The Chair addressed the board. She thanked Authority staff for launching the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at ECO fiesta and acknowledged fellow directors' attendance and active participation at the event.

The Chair (with support of the ED) has held a series of briefings since board #103, including meeting with:

- RDA FNQ&TS Chair and senior staff. David Kempton is the new Chair and this was an opportunity to learn about each organisation's priorities
- Warren Entsch MP, Federal Member for Leichhardt. He invited Authority representatives to Canberra to brief the Joint Standing Committee of the Environment and Energy (22 August) and other meetings will occur whilst visiting parliament.
- Pip Close (CEO) and staff at TTNQ. The Chair provided a presentation to staff at TTNQ, and discussions were had about a number of opportunities to work together including an upcoming German family and invitation to attend the TTNQ Awards.
- Michael Healy MP, Member for Cairns to discuss regional tourism and land tenure issues, as well as yellow crazy ant eradication, and
- Senior officers in the DITID team regarding the Wangetti Trail.

In addition the Chair attended:

- an Advance Cairns breakfast and had an opportunity to listen and chat with David Edwards, Manager, Special projects at DITID. He agreed to attend the next Board meeting to discuss tourism and presentation issues in the Wet Tropics, and opportunities for WTMA engagement
- a Biodiversity and Ecosystems Sector Adaptation Plan workshop, where she stressed the need to include WH as a component and also for the Plan to include practical actions, and not be a 'high-level' strategy, and
- an Indigenous Protected Area's Thinking Beyond Borders conference, including an opportunity to speak at the networking event. The entire conference was an excellent example of community leadership and sharing learnings.

#### **Resolution**

The Board noted the Chair's report.

#### **Actions:**

- Prepare a letter to M Healy MP as a follow up on discussions held with the Chair and ED
- Commence organisations for briefings in Canberra (August) with Warren Entsch office, and
- Organise for David Edwards (DITID) to brief directors at September 2018 Board meeting.

### 3.2. Executive Director's report

S Buchanan addressed the Board and provided an update on relevant HRM issues, including:

- recruitment and selection process for Manager, World Heritage Connections program has been finalised, and Rebecca Lagerroth (who was acting in the position) was the successful candidate. In the YCA program, Kate Thomas was merit selected to the Administration position, in what was a very competitive process.
- Sean McNamara has taken up a manager position within DES (BNE). Eli Taylor is backfilling his role (Senior Planning Officer). Lorraine Briggs A/Principal Planning Officer has also moved to Brisbane and is working from 400G.
- an acknowledgment of Alicia Haines, who is travelling to Brisbane next week to attend the IPAA Young Leaders Awards, where she has been nominated for her contributions and leadership in the workplace.

Other relevant strategic matters of interest to the Board include:

- the Authority was approached by the Skyrail Foundation to collaborate on a research project with QPWS and Terrain. The Authority's investment of \$10K will contribute to a \$40K (not including in-kind) 18-month project to look at Traditional Land and Water Management to Inform Future Practices in the Wet Tropics Region.
- the Authority provided a letter of support to the Australian Tropical Herbarium in support of a (\$1.7M) project through the Ian Potter Foundation for a 5-year research program that seeks to secure the future of Australia's threatened tropical flora, it includes a threat analysis and potential for seed banking. It responds to the 2014 State of the Wet Tropics Report about endemic plants and climate change threats.
- the Authority have been invited to give a presentation to Tourism Australia on Wet Tropics presentation and World Heritage families
- working on the World Heritage Gateway concept as a defining element of the Global Tourism Hub being explored by the Queensland Government (who are currently seeking investor interest).
- seeking ways to assist with the proposed Wangetti Trail. The Queensland Government recently announced \$950,000 for a proponent to complete a design of the trail and for the Yirrganydji people to conduct a cultural assessment. The Authority have requested DITID to involve us early in the process to provide advice on any potential regulatory and environmental hurdles.

- working with DoEE on a new funding bid (2018-23) which remains priority work in progress. As we are in the final year of our 5-year cycle, surplus funds cannot be carried forward, which brings additional challenges when building next year's budget.

S Buchanan thanked the Board for participating in ECOfiesta, which attracted good public relations. He also acknowledged the WTMA team for continuing to produce good outcomes, particularly around the Plan Review, the recent signage review and on-ground YCA treatments.

#### Resolution

The Board **noted** the Executive Director's report.

### 3.3. Director's issues

#### A Clarke

- Was pleased to be able to represent the Board at the K'Gari (Fraser Island) 25 year WH listing celebration. This was also a terrific opportunity to liaise with their advisory committees and senior officers within DES and DoEE.
- Had learned that the Djabugay Rangers were trying to develop a schools engagement program in the Kuranda region, and that this may provide an ideal opportunity for the Authority to build new connections, and to develop a 'rainforest guardians' program, similar to that for the GBR.

#### P Rist

- Represented Giringun at the annual Native Title Conference in Broome.
- Advised that Giringun are working with their member groups to host a 3-4 day summit late 2019. The past decade have seen changes to the Native Title landscape and it is important to take time to reflect together, nurture relationships and plan a long term vision for the future.

#### I Gordon

- Attended the *Developing Northern Australia Conference* which was held in the Northern Territory. It was apparent that the Wet Tropics is not considered a priority bioregion. Major themes focused on community infrastructure and agriculture, with limited mention of tourism.
- Advised that negotiations have commenced for the next round of NESP funding, at that this is an ideal time to meet with Commonwealth department officers to ensure Wet Tropics and World Heritage are provided with better funding than previous rounds.

#### Resolution

The Board **noted** the Director Issues.

#### Actions

- Coordinate suitable date for a joint meeting with GBRMPA, post recruitment of their new CEO/Chair. Agenda items to include opportunities for collaboration (for example education – *vis* reef and rainforest guardian programs, research and climate change)
- Organise joint WTMA/Terrain board meeting for late 2018 or early 2019.

- S Buchanan to meet with Australian Government officers regarding the next NESP funding (note that A Siggery advised that the World Heritage BNE team have been in preliminary discussions with DoEE about how World Heritage research priorities can be progressed through the program).

### 3.4. Queensland and Commonwealth Department reports

#### A Webb

- Provided directors with an update on QPWS work program including capital works, visitor management, indigenous engagement and NRM (fire, pests) activities.
- Good progress on capital works at Tully Falls, Josephine Falls, Ninney Rise and Walsh's pyramid.
- QPWS 5-year business strategy is 99% completed.

#### A Siggery

- Provided a report on some of the projects underway in the BNE World Heritage and broader CSS unit. She acknowledged the efforts of the WTMA CCC (and also DTMR and Tableland local council, among others) in progressing illegal dumping on the Gillies Highway as a priority issue. DES have developed an illegal dumping (radio, poster and on-line) campaign that will be launched in August/September 2018
- Advised that DES have contracted National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF, based at Griffith University, Gold Coast) to progress a climate adaptation plan, with WH as one of the focal points. All QLD WH Chairs (and SAC Chairs) will be engaged in the conversations.
- Thanked WTMA for sharing in the cultural knowledge sharing at the 25-year World Heritage celebration at K'Gari.
- Advised directors that the WH BNE team are working with WTMA officers to progress Board appointments 2018-21.
- Advised that DES have signed an MOU with Queensland Museum and we are now officially partnering on a number of promotional and education projects including a *Rainforests of QLD* book.

#### Resolution

The Board **noted** the Queensland Government reports.  
There were no reports from the Commonwealth.

#### Actions

- Organise briefing for Department of Environment and Energy officers and update them on relevant board issues.

### 3.5. CCC report to the Board

A Clarke addressed the Board and provided a report back from the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting held on 7 June 2018. She advised that a number of topics were discussed including illegal dumping on the Gillies Highway, WH signage audit, the WTMA community engagement strategy and 30 year anniversary celebrations. Some main points (details provided in minutes) include:

- P Chantrill provided an overview of the Wet Tropics WH signage project undertaken with support of an Aurora (intern) student. The CCC suggested Authority staff check out TAS National Parks Apps, that are 'intelligent' and suggest activities that can be done in the area visited, based on geography.
- P O'Lughlen updated members on the Community Engagement Strategy, and updated WH brochure. Members suggested the brochure would be a useful product to insert into conference delegate packages around the Wet Tropics region
- Members were pleased with progress around the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, and to see a number of their suggestions in the program. Other new ideas include JCU (Science at the bar); BioBlitz, Walks and Talks (use tour guides to do this) and connecting schools with tree planting.
- The WTMA Plan Review team addressed the CCC and members were keen to be engaged in the consultation process.

#### Resolution

The Board **noted** the CCC Chair's briefing on the meeting held on 7 June 2018.

#### Actions

- Organise a joint CCC and SAC meeting to workshop the Plan Review with members.
- Organise for CCC to be provided with update on anti-litter advertising (posters and radio) campaign.
- Look at ways to insert refreshed WH brochure into delegate conference bags (Cairns and Townsville Convention Centre).

### 3.6. Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) report to the Board

#### 3.7.

I Gordon provided an update on the outcomes of the previous SAC meeting held in May. The two major issues being progressed by the committee are the (upcoming) climate adaptation workshop and the research protocols for Indigenous Engagement (discussed at agenda item 4.6).

The climate workshop has been set for 5 July. Invitations are being sent, noting the Board's direction to ensure cross-sectoral interests are represented. This will be the first of two or three workshops to develop a climate adaptation plan which guide strategic direction of the Authority and key partners for the next decade.

## Resolution

The Board **noted** the Scientific Advisory Committee Chair's verbal briefing on May 2018 meeting.

## Actions

- Send directors a copy of the Climate Adaptation Plan discussion paper.
- Send directors copy of outcomes of the climate adaptation workshop.

### 3.8. Correspondence report

#### Incoming correspondence

19 March 2018. Michael Healy. Thank you for invitation to Cassowary Award

4 May 2018. Minister Enoch. Regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ranger programs in the Wet Tropics

4 June 2018. Gimuy Gallery. Letter of appreciation for WTMA collaboration at ECOfiesta

15 June 2018. Director, Cape York Tenure Resolution Program, DATSIP regarding Eastern Kuku Yalanji national parks conversion

#### Publications

26 March 2018. Australian CaneGrower – article on yellow crazy ant (p 20 - 21).

19-20 June 2018. Thinking Beyond Borders. IPA and Economic development Conference

April-May 2018. TREAT newsletter

#### Directive

08/17 Public Service Commissions. *Temporary Employment Directive*  
*Media*

5 June 2018. Local team 'writing the rule book' with pest on path to eradication

#### Outgoing correspondence

#### Media

14 March 2018. Community crucial to securing yellow crazy ant funding

9 April 2018. Cane Growers enlisted in fight against yellow crazy ants

24 May 2018. Future forests: 300 trees to give away at Cairns ECO fiesta

4 June 2018. Authority targets yellow crazy ants

## Resolution

The Board **noted** the correspondence report.



## **4. STRATEGIC ISSUES**

### **4.1. Update on the Review of the Regional Agreement**

R Lagerroth addressed the Board and provided an update on the review of the regional agreement, including the role of the Traditional Owner Leadership Group (TOLG) as a strategic think tank to progress the overall refresh. The TOLG are committed to being partners in the Regional Agreement.

P Rist advised that it is important for the members to see reciprocal commitment from State agencies. Directors agreed it was important to brief State and Commonwealth Ministers on a regular basis.

#### **Resolution**

The Board **noted** the Traditional Owner Leadership Group's (TOLG) advice and the Authority's role in refreshing the Wet Tropics of Queensland Regional Agreement.

#### **Actions**

- Write letters to State and Commonwealth Ministerial Forum members with an update on the Regional Agreement, and seeking commitment for future work.

### **4.2. Wet Tropics Plan Review**

T Wong briefed the Board on a number of issues including: the amended Office of QLD Parliamentary Counsel (OQPC) drafting instructions, the draft schedule of fees; a draft offsets policy and draft translocation of fish policy.

At Board No 103, directors approved the 77-page draft instruction document. Since that time, there have been further amendments to the drafting instructions to go to the OQPC. The amendments are summarised at Attachment 4.2 (1). The Board were asked to consider and approve these amendments to enable the Authority to prepare final drafting instructions to OQPC.

T Wong referred Directors to the translocation of fish policy guideline (Attachment 4.2 (4)). The policy was first tabled at a Board meeting in 2014. Since that time it has been refreshed to reflect changes in various legislation (NCA and Fisheries Act QLD). The guideline has support from the Department of Fisheries, and there is still additional consultation regarding cooperation on the issuing of the permits.

T Wong briefed directors on Attachment 4.2(2) Schedule of Fees for Assessment Service, T Wong worked through the methodologies that could be included in the draft amended plan. This issue still requires additional consultation with commonwealth and state agencies to test support, pending direction from the Board on preferred option. Directors were comfortable with the approach and agreed that Authority should retain revenue for any assessment of activities.

Directors discussed the gap analysis and options for implementing offsets in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. Directors were advised an options paper (three options) was prepared based on direction and guidance from a number of sources, including Commonwealth and State officers, existing frameworks, legislation and policies. This would become a guideline under the Plan.

## Resolution

The Board

- **endorsed** the summary of proposed significant additional amendments and corrections listed in Attachment 4.2(1) *Summary Additional Amendment/Corrections Plan OQPC Instructions*
- **approved** the proposed additional amendments (option 3- weighed fee option) concerning the inclusion of fees for services as in Attachment 4.4(2) *Draft Schedule of Fees*.
- **endorsed** recommendation (Option 2) in Attachment 4.4(3) *Gap analysis and options for implementing offsets in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area*, noting where there is a residual impact on World Heritage value, the section 62 guideline will apply.
- **endorsed** the recommendation in Attachment 4.4(4) *Translocation of Fish Section 62 Guideline*

## Actions

- Commence discussions with relevant state agencies (through the interdepartmental committee) about proposal to introduce weighted fees, noting this approach is not intended to target low level permitting activities.

### 4.3. Implementation of Presentation Strategy

P Chantrill addressed the Board updating them on current work being undertaken on a signage review, which has a number of intended outcomes, including opening up opportunities to work with our partners to develop consistent branding across the region.

P Chantrill advised that Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ) has been holding destination workshops around branding, drive tourism and Aboriginal tourism in Cairns. The Authority has been working with the tourism body to roll these workshops out to different localities throughout the Wet Tropics.

Authority staff have met with Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) regarding the tour guide program. QTIC are interested in having this program as a benchmark and something they can roll out across Queensland. QTIC are undertaking broader consultation with stakeholders to develop a broader training and development plan, this will have a focus on Aboriginal people in general.

As David Edwards (DITID) is attending the next Board meeting the Chair advised Directors would like to see a one page vision of what the Authority are trying to do and what is needed to implement this. The Authority need investment in a tourism destination and product development strategy.

## Resolution

The Board **noted** the key activities that have been progressed since the last Board meeting.

## Actions

- P Chantrill to prepare for presentation at the next Board meeting a one-page tourism destination and (digital) product development strategy document outlining the vision of what the Authority is trying to achieve and how it can be implemented.
- Seek opportunities for capital bids (with other government agencies for signage projects
- Invite David Edwards (DITID) to attend the next board meeting to discuss tourism destination products.

### 4.4. Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program (YCAEP)

L Karger addressed the Board and tabled pre and post treatment YCA maps at Bentley Park and Sawmill Pocket, which indicates significant reduction in ant numbers in the infestation areas. Recent surveys have not picked up ants in the hill areas of Bentley Park (160ha), so the team have identified a transition stage between active treatment and post treatment validation (PTV).

In this transition stage over a 12month period surveys will occur 6 months apart in a 5x5m grid to see if remnant populations are in the area. If a detection occurs spot treatment will be undertaken. This week a small site was found, so spot treatment will occur. This tells the program the decision made was worthwhile.

Lucy provided an update on current communication, and community engagement which ranges from product development to preparing management plans with extractive industries as well as pest plans with the Cairns Regional Council.

Directors were briefed on the funding strategy developed with the Reference Committee, and advised of the need for a well-planned, sustained and coordinated approach.

Directors were advised of the recent new outbreak of YCA in northern NSW. Some genetic work was being undertaken to determine relationships with other outbreak areas.

L Karger advised that she was invited to present at the Society for Conservation Biology 5<sup>th</sup> Oceania Congress in New Zealand, which would be a great opportunity to network with other experts.

## Resolution

The Board **noted** the progress of the Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program (YCAEP).

## Actions

- YCA research team to follow up on (genetic) results from the recent NSW YCA outbreak, once they have been analysed.

- Circulate final funding and communication strategy to directors. This should identify opportunities to brief relevant Ministers (for example at community cabinets).
- Send finalised project activity calendar to directors, once finalised.

#### **4.5. Work plan for 30-year Anniversary**

R Lagerroth addressed the Board and provided an update on the calendar of events organised for the 30-year celebrations. Some of the activities include Science Week educational activities; Science in the Pub; regional bio-blitz and a legacy event in Nov/Dec 2018. The CCC have been heavily engaged in developing the program.

A number of 30 year anniversary branded products have been developed (directors were provided with a package of those produced to date. These will be used for upcoming events.

A media pack is being created, if community organisations request to partner with the Authority and the Authority can't have a physical presence material can be provided to the organisation and they can use the 30-year anniversary branding so there is some form of presence. CCC members have said they would volunteer if needed.

The communications plan is also included in the Board papers and is focused around the ECOfiesta, further planning work will be undertaken. Key messages and calls to actions are focused on input from the last CCC meeting.

#### **Resolution**

The Board **noted** the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary calendar of events and communications plan.

#### **4.6. Researcher protocols**

Draft researcher protocols were tabled. These were developed by the SAC with input from various WTMA committees including the I-AM, and guided by protocols that already exist for CYPAL Parks. The Chair indicated that in previous discussions with DES DG, he has also indicated support for the initiative.

The Chair reminded directors that this has been a priority strategic deliverable for some time. Researcher protocols are identified as an action in the Regional Agreement, and this may be one way to show department support and investment in practical and meaningful engagement with RAP.

The Chair advised she discussed this protocol with fellow director L Talbot, and that she is comfortable for the Board to approve the document as an interim step so the way in which research is conducted more formally recognises Traditional Custodianship.

Andrew Millerd reminded directors of the difference between CYP and Wet Tropics park management. Across CYP there is legislation that requires an Indigenous Management Agreement, flowing from that is the Indigenous Service Agreement that sets-up arrangements to deal with a host of issues, including research permits. There is no equivalent to this in the Wet Tropics currently.

There is capacity to build in anything new over time, however there may be difficulties in applying Cape York agreements to the Wet Tropics.

However, QPWS understands the government is currently reviewing processes/protocols and permits that are low risk that could be dealt with in a more standard way.

The Chair stated that the Wet Tropics Regional Agreement, which was signed by Commonwealth and State Ministers, predates CYPAL and it includes a similar protocol. At MINFO the State and Commonwealth Environment Ministers encouraged the Regional Agreement be refreshed, refined and implemented with other government agencies to progress. The Authority are only advocating for this on behalf of Rainforest Aboriginal people of the Wet Tropics, but acknowledges this is an issue throughout the State.

T Wong advised he also asked the Board to note the Authority will be working with universities to insert this protocol into ethics approval processes and make sure researchers are adhering to the protocol.

### **Resolution**

The Board

- **noted** the progress of the Scientific Research Permitting Protocol
- **thanked** the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Indigenous Advisory Members (I-AM) for their input
- **endorsed** the protocol with a 12-month review to measure effectiveness
- **requested** the Authority progress implementation of the protocol with the department, seeking support for implementation

### **Actions**

- S Buchanan to write to the Traditional Owner Leadership Group 1) advising them of the process being undertaken and 2) request they consider the protocols a component of the Regional Agreement refresh, and 3) advise the Protocol will be reviewed to measure effectiveness in 12-months.
- Circulate protocol to SAC members for their information, again noting review clause.

## **4.7. Risk appetite Statement**

The Board discussed the draft risk appetite statement. They agreed that this will be a useful reference document for corporate governance.

### **Resolution**

The Board **noted** and **approved** the risk appetite statement.

## **4.8. Finance systems, auditing and reporting**

D Parker addressed the Board and provided Directors with an overview of the financial and accountability systems the Authority has in place.

WTMA officers are Queensland public servants and are legally obliged to follow Queensland Government systems, policies, procedures and record keeping processes.

All new staff are required to complete a comprehensive induction which includes code of conduct, fraud and corruption training. Some training is refreshed annually.

D Parker provided information on HRM and finance delegations; the role of Queensland Shared Services (QSS) in providing direction and support; (external and independent) audit systems in place for funds received; accounts payable and receivable, including timely payments for all vendors; internal spot checks; the role of the QLD audit office in incoming/outgoing grants; and auditing documents/grants.

The Chair thanked D Parker for her presentation. It provides confidence to Directors when considering current and future budgets.

### **Resolution**

The Board **noted** the finance systems, auditing and reporting presentation.

#### **4.9. Annual work plan and budget update**

S Buchanan briefed the Board on the progress on the annual work plan and budget. As at 31 May 2018, the total budget of the Authority is currently underspent. This is largely as a result of significant underspend in the two YCA budgets. The Commonwealth funding (base) for the Authority for World Heritage Management is on track and likely to be close to fully expended on June 30 2018.

S Buchanan acknowledged the WTMA team for their hard work over the past months and noted the following achievements:

- Hosting another successful Cassowary Awards in March 2018
- Providing grant funding to 11 post graduate students from four Australian universities to undertake research to benefit WH management
- Tabling of the 2016/17 Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report in Australian and Queensland Parliaments
- Some good progress in the World Heritage Family project with animation with the final product finalised by July 2018.

Directors asked about using WH family content on 'YouTube' and other social platforms. T Wong advised that one of the conditions of the contract is that the Authority is not able to receive commercial gain for the product.

### **Resolution**

The Board **noted** the work plan and budget progress report.

#### 4.10. Approval of budget for 2018/19 (IN CAMERA)

This item was discussed in camera.

##### Resolution

The Board

- **provided advice** to the Authority on priority projects to deliver for 2018/19,
- **endorsed** the 2018-19 budget, and
- **noted** the Authority will report on progress of implementation of the work plan and budget at the September 2018 Board meeting.

#### 4.11. Strategic Planning workshop

On Day 1 of the Board meeting, a strategic planning session was held for directors, WTMA managers and board observers (from 9am to 3pm). There were a number of topics discussed in depth, including:

1. A self-assessment and review of key deliverables in the 2015-18 board priorities (Attachment 4.11 (1))
2. An exploration and scan of external issues and opportunities the Authority needs to be cognisant of, in the short and medium term (i.e. over a five and 10 year period).
3. A presentation on external stakeholder feedback, based on a short email survey sent to key stakeholders
4. A discussion on the role of the Authority – project delivery, strategic planning now, and in the future.
5. Aligning expectations of major funding sponsors (the State and Commonwealth Government) with the needs for the Wet Tropics Community and our regional partners
6. Defining strategic goals for the future, and mapping issues to goals
7. A discussion about the 2018-23 funding agreement with the Commonwealth, the current review of the Wet Tropics Management Plan (WTMP), and the opportunity to align Part A of the 10 year strategy framework for the WTMP (Attachment 4.11 (2)) to the five year business strategy required by the Commonwealth Government
8. Providing strategic direction on the outcomes, purpose and effect and strategies on Part A of the WTMP.

##### Resolution

The Board

- **requested** an (end of year 3) update on the 2015-18 priorities at the Dec 2018 Board meeting
- **provided guidance** and **approved** the framework for Part A Wet Tropics Management Plan, and
- **noted** that Part A of the Wet Tropics Management Plan would form the basis of the 5-year business Strategy required by the Commonwealth Government as part of the 2018-23 funding (project) agreement.

##### Actions

- Provide a (end of year 3) review on the implementation of board strategy priorities for the November 2018 meeting
- Send survey highlights to those participants that requested additional information (Survey Monkey questionnaire)
- Organise briefing with DoEE officers to update on Board recommendations

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

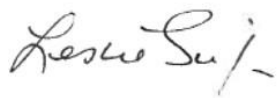
### **5.1. Approval of Board communique 104**

The Executive officer advised that the communique will be finalised on 25 June and circulated by for comment so that it can be distributed to stakeholders.

#### **Resolution**

The Board approved the communique pending director review out of session.

The meeting closed at 4.23pm



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Ms Leslie Shirreff PSM  
Chair

Date 08/08/2018