



Board Meeting No. 97

24 August 2016

Minutes

Board directors

Ms Leslie Shirreffs	Chair
Ms Anne Clarke	Director
Mr John Courtenay	Director
Prof Iain Gordon	Director
Mr Phil Rist	Director
Ms Leah Talbot	Director
Mr Scott Buchanan	Executive Director

Official Observers

Ms Siobhán Ahern	A/General Manager, Industry Development Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games
Ms Joanne Nathan	Director Natural Heritage Section, Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division, Department of the Environment and Energy
Mr James Newman	Regional Director, Northern Region, QPWS, Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing
Ms Angie Stringer	Manager, Conservation and Sustainability Policy, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

WTMA officers

Ms Zoe Andolfatto	Project Officer, Aboriginal Partnerships (item 3.1)
Dr Paul Chantrill	Manager, Communities, Partnerships and Presentation
Mr Max Chappell	Manager, Planning and Conservation
Mr Campbell Clarke	Principal Planning Officer (item 3.6)
Mrs Rebecca Lagerroth	Manager, Aboriginal Partnerships (item 3.1, 3.6)
Ms Patricia O’Lughlen	Principal Project Officer (item 3.7)
Mr Eli Taylor	Project officer, Aboriginal Partnerships (item 3.1)
Ms Ellen Weber	Executive Officer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Chair’s welcome

The chair Leslie Shirreffs opened the meeting at 9.02am and acknowledged the Gimuy Walaburra Yidinji and the Yirrganydji Traditional Owners of the Cairns Area.

The chair acknowledged the Rainforest Aboriginal people, and the Elders past, present and future of the Wet Tropics region.

The Chair welcomed recently appointed director, Mr Phil Rist to the meeting. Mr Rist is a highly respected Nywaigi Indigenous leader and brings a great depth of skill and experience to the board.

The Chair welcomed other directors Ms Anne Clarke, Mr John Courtenay, Prof Iain Gordon and Ms Leah Talbot to the meeting.

The Chair was very pleased that there was a full and functioning board to drive the strategic priorities for the Authority.

The Chair welcomed the Commonwealth government representative, Ms Joann Nathan to the meeting, and was very pleased that she was attending for the three days of workshops and meetings. This was a tremendous opportunity for Joann to learn about the Authority's work programs and projects, and for directors to hear about the Commonwealth government commitment to World Heritage management.

The chair welcomed Ms Siobhan Ahern, A/General Manager, Industry Development, Department of Tourism, Major Events and Small Business to the meeting.

The chair welcomed Mr James Newman, Regional Director, QPWS, Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR) to the meeting.

The chair welcomed Ms Angie Stringer, Manager, Cape York World Heritage Project, and thanked her for representing the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP).

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr Nick Weinert, Manager, World Heritage Management and Strategic Programs, DEHP, who was unable to attend and would be represented by Ms Angie Stringer.

Apologies from Mr Jason Jacobi, Executive Director, Regional Operations West QPWS, NPSR who was unable to attend, and would be represented by Mr James Newman.

1.3. Conflict of Interests

No conflicts identified for this meeting.

1.4 Previous Minutes from Meeting No. 96

Resolution

*The board **approved** the minutes for meeting number 96.*

1.5 Actions Arising

The chair referred to the Actions Arising from the previous meeting and updated on issues.

Item 3.1/95 *Rainforest Aboriginal Strategic Engagement options paper.* Scott Buchanan advised that this would be a significant item for discussion at the joint Terrain WTMA board meeting at Mission Beach (25 August 2016). Directors Leah Talbot and Phil Rist have

been engaged in the process to develop the engagement framework and will be invited to speak to this item.

- Item 3.7/95 *Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum*. No date has been set for the 2016 meeting. At this stage the Authority is working on the basis that it will be held directly after the GBR Ministerial Forum.
- Item 4.1/95 *Indigenous research and engagement*. Leslie Shirreffs advised directors that she had the opportunity to discuss Scientific Purposes Permits with the Director General of EPH, Jim Reeves, and in particular, stronger engagement and acknowledgement of Traditional Owners in permitting approvals, including reporting back to them on research outcomes.
- Item 4.1/95 *Henry Ross Lookout*. Scott Buchanan advised that Cairns Regional Council were the lead agency responsible for the signage at the lookout. Department of Main Roads has committed some funds for the signage upgrade.
- Item 2.1/96 *Student Research Grant Scheme*. Scott Buchanan advised that the 2016-17 round of funding will be advertised in November 2016, and that a number of grant recipients will be presenting their research outcomes at the December board meeting.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the actions arising items, as updated.*

Actions

- *Joanne Nathan to work with WTMA and GBR Secretariats regarding dates for 2016 Ministerial Forum meeting.*
- *Ellen Weber to organise student research grant recipients to present at Board meeting No. 98 in December 2016.*

2.0 STANDING REPORTS

2.1 Chair's Report

The Chair provided a verbal report and advised that she had attended a series of meetings with key regional clients and stakeholders to discuss board priorities and issues of mutual interest, including:

- Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, the Hon Curtis Pitt, to discuss economic opportunities for Rainforest Aboriginal People, as well as land tenure resolution process for the Eastern Kuku Yalanji, and yellow crazy ant eradication
- briefing Mayors of Cassowary Coast and Tablelands Regional Council, and CEO of Cairns Regional Council
- various groups in the Central Wet Tropics including the owners of Paronella Park, Mark and Judy Evans, Leonard Andy, Djiru Traditional Owner at Clump Mountain, C4 (Community for Coast and Cassowary Conservation) executives Peter Rowles and Peter Trott, Joe Moro, Chair of the Mareeba District Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, and Ron Turpin and other members of the Wadjanbarra Tablelands Yidinji
- a presentation to FNQROC, a forum, representing the Mayors of CEOs of ten Councils from Ingham to Cooktown and west to Croydon
- Daniel Leipnik, CEO of Cairns Aquarium, who is keen to have WTMA involved in providing interpretive material and content for their displays

- Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, the Hon Dr Steven Miles, when he travelled to Cairns to release a draft discussion paper on climate change adaptation. The Minister then visited the WTMA offices to meet with staff and clients, and
- a phone link up meeting, to participate in the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC) teleconference to discuss common issues as well as the web-based World Heritage guidelines developed by the AWHAC.

The chair thanked:

- directors for taking the time to read the *Queensland Public Service (QPS) Code of Conduct Manual* and completing the training. It is important that all public officials, including members of statutory boards understand their obligations and commit to demonstrating high standards of ethical behaviour and decision-making
- directors for reviewing out of session papers on the Cassowary Awards and Terms of Reference for the Scientific Advisory Committee and the Community Consultative Committee
- Leah Talbot for agreeing to take on the role of Chair of the SAC, and Anne Clarke for taking on the role of Chair of the CCC
- directors and invited participants for their positive participation at *the Creative Resourcing* workshop. This is an important first step to realise a key deliverable under the Board priorities; seeking creative ways to resource the multifaceted management requirements and community expectations for the World Heritage Area
- John Courtenay for agreeing to assist in convening discussions with the tourism/industry sectors in progressing creative resourcing priorities
- Authority staff in the Aboriginal Partnerships programs for organising the two-day *Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training* at Djarragun Wildness Centre (Dulabed Malanbarra Yidinji country), which was wonderful venue and two-day program for Authority staff and participating directors to imbed cultural awareness within the organization
- Communities, partnerships presentation staff involved in creating the Hike 'n Bike display at Cairns Botanic Gardens, and
- staff for their administrative and logistical support.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the Chair's Report.*

Actions

- *Chair to write letter to Minister for Environment and Energy, the Hon Josh Frydenburg MP introducing the Board and role of Authority; confirming commitment to YCA funding and date for next Ministerial Forum*
- *Include review of progress of Board strategic priorities for December Board meeting.*
- *E Weber to liaise with Chair and directors to set Board dates for 2016.*
- *E Weber to send World Heritage Guidelines (web-link) to directors, once finalised by the Department of Environment and Energy.*

2.2 Directors issues

Professor Iain Gordon updated the board on the status of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund (NAIF). He advised that the JCU (Cairns) had received soil that originated from a tramp

(electric) ant quarantine area and that Biosecurity Queensland had been contacted to assist with any necessary actions.

John Courtenay thanked Scott Buchanan and staff for their efforts in re-establishing the statutory committees and also in the planning for the 2016 Cassowary Awards.

Anne Clarke advised that she was a director at Tableland Futures Corporation, which is the peak regional development body for the Atherton Tablelands. Some of their projects and groups sectors intersect with World Heritage matters, and it would be beneficial for the Authority to contact the corporation and introduce them to the Authority and our roles and responsibilities.

Anne Clarke alerted directors to the KUR-World Integrated Eco-Resort proposal at Myola (Mareeba Shire). The Eco-resort includes a 200 bedroom hotel and residential accommodation, education and business facilities, rejuvenation, health and wellbeing services and adventure and recreation amenities.

The site is at the top of the Kuranda Range Road, and whilst previously cleared in part for agriculture, it is habitat for four iconic species (including the Myola frog, the Myola palm and cassowaries). Community members have expressed concern about the increased pressure on the Kuranda Range Road, impact on stream flow and water quality and loss of as ecological connectivity.

The board were advised that a delegate for the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Energy has decided the project is a controlled action under the EPBC Act. An EIS process will be undertaken by the Queensland Government under a bilateral agreement with the Australian Government. The Authority will have the opportunity to provide advice to the Queensland and Australian Government on best practice and standards.

Phil Rist thanked fellow directors and Authority staff for the warm welcome to the organisation. He was honoured to be nominated by the government to take on this leadership role. He would use time over the following days to learn and understand the Authority's priority work programs.

Leah Talbot advised the board that CSIRO had taken a number of staff to the Garma Festival, <http://www.garmafestival.com.au/>, as part of an Indigenous science consortium, but that due to study commitments she was unable to participate.

Leah Talbot advised that she attended the Australian Institute of Geographers annual conference in Adelaide and the 2017 meeting would be held in Brisbane. The Authority might consider how it could participate to promote the learning landscape concept.

Leah Talbot thanked officers at the Authority for opportunity for her and Phil Rist to support the Rainforest Aboriginal Engagement program and commended Scott Buchanan and Rebecca Lagerroth for their leadership.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the directors' issues.*

Actions

- *E Weber to put Code of conduct training on all board directors HRM file for reference.*
- *Authority staff to update board directors on KUR World as required.*
- *Scott Buchanan to follow up on opportunities for the Authority to get involved in NAIF projects (key contact wayne.hall@daf.qld.gov.au)*
- *E Weber to organise for Chair to meet with Tableland Futures Corporation.*
- *Leah Talbot to keep Authority informed on how it can get actively involved in the 2017 Institute of Australian Geographers conference (i.e. presentation of papers, sponsor participation).*

- *Ellen Weber to investigate governance training options for directors.*

2.3 Board observer issues

James Newman advised that QPWS were currently realigning their work programs and reporting units. This would not have any impact on service delivery priorities for the Wet Tropics region, and he would forward the new organisation structure to WTMA when finalised. His team has also been working with WTMA and the DATSIP to prepare a management plan for the Daintree National Park.

James Newman thanked Scott Buchanan for participating at the QPWS North Region Regional Management team meeting at Chillagoe on 26 May. QPWS officers were pleased for the opportunity to meet with the WTMA ED and to learn about the Authority's roles. He advised that NPSR were recruiting a senior officer to oversee a newly established joint management unit within QPWS. This position would be based in Cairns.

Angie Stringer advised that the World Heritage Unit in Brisbane had been given approval to recommence work on the World Heritage nomination for Cape York Peninsula. This would include recruiting to a couple of positions, and these would be based in Cairns. It is expected that the nomination would be completed by October 2017 (tentative list).

Joann Nathan advised participants that since the last board meeting, there had been a Federal election and that Minister Hunt had moved portfolios, and the new Minister for Environment and the Energy was the Hon Josh Frydenburg, MP. The department was keen to see progress in the review of the Wet Tropics Management Plan. Joann Nathan confirmed that the current contract between the Commonwealth department and Authority expired 30 June 2018.

Siobhán Ahern thanked the board for the opportunity to attend the meeting and to provide an update on the department's work program. Siobhan Ahern advised the board that the tourism sector remained an important economic contributor to the Queensland economy. The Premier would be attending a *Connecting to Asia Forum*, which is being held in Cairns (25 August). This is part of the Queensland government commitment to grow a strong visitor economy to drive economic growth and jobs in the tourism sector.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the board observers' issues.*

2.4 Executive Director's Report

Scott Buchanan tabled a written report to the board (**Attachment 2.3 (1)**) and also provided a verbal report and advised that:

- he travelled to Townsville to meet with the Senior Management team at GBRMPA to provide an overview of the Authority and key priorities. Terry Carmichael presented the Wet Tropic World Heritage Family story at a lunch time seminar. The meeting and forum were very successful. A number of directors identified options for further collaboration including indigenous engagement, compliance and planning, reporting and presentation
- the Authority was consortium partner (Terrain NRM lead) in a large scale Water Quality improvement project in the Johnson and Tully catchments
- along with WTMA Chair, he met with the CEO of Cairns Regional Council Peter Tabulo, about Council's contribution to the YCA eradication program, including coordinating activities (like Council maintenance and YCA treatments), and expanding their in-kind contribution which currently involves providing accommodation at Gordonvale.

- he would be attending the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i from 1 September to 10 September, and would be providing a report back to the Director General and directors on his return.

Resolution

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

Actions

- *Directors to advise Scott of program and forums that they think would be of benefit for Scott to participate in <http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/programme>*
- *WTMA to contact CRC regarding Authority's involvement in the Wangetti Trail proposal.*
- *Scott Buchanan to brief Joann Nathan on the World Heritage Family project.*

2.5 Significant correspondence

The following correspondence was tabled:

- 18 July 2016 (letter) from Peter Smith, outgoing Chair of the Conservation Sector Liaison Group(CSLG) regarding dissolving the group
- 13 July 2016 (letter) from Cairns Regional Council to WTMA ED regarding yellow crazy ant collaboration
- 18 August 2016 (email) from Mike D'Arcy (Daintree 4WD tours) congratulating the Authority on the Bloomfield Track Experience Guide e-book
- 19 August 2016 (email) from Queensland Government, through the Office of Women to government boards requesting WTMA board directors participate in a Women on Board initiative survey.

The following Expressions of Interest were tabled:

- 20 August 2016 Healthy Waterways, DEHP. Coordination of Major Integrated Projects for the Wet Tropics and Burdekin regions.

The following media releases were tabled:

- 27 May 2016 - Indigenous leader completes Wet Tropics Management Authority Board
- 30 July 2016 - Recognising the exceptional at the 2016 Cassowary Awards
- 10 August 2016 - "Keep it Wild' eco-art competition prize presentation and display event
- 11 August 2016 - the rise of the cassowary: Science, culture and mythology
- 17 August 2016 - Cassowary Awards: nominations close 31 August 2016
- 22 August 2016 - Aerial baiting for yellow crazy ant
- 22 August 2016 - from rubbish to rewards: local kids flex their creative muscles with Wet Tropics eco-art

Actions

Board to write a letter to Mr Peter Smith, acknowledging the work of the CSLG and reaffirming the Authority's commitment to inclusive community engagement practices.

3.0 STRATEGIC ISSUES

3.1 Strategic Rainforest Aboriginal Engagement

Rebecca Lagerroth addressed the board and updated them on progress of Aboriginal engagement activities. Detailed outcomes will be discussed further with Terrain NRM at the joint Board meeting on the 25 August 2016.

The strategic advice provided by Rainforest Aboriginal people to date has helped to refine activities. During conversations, the following priority activities were identified for the Authority 1) managing Natural and Cultural Heritage, 2) collaborative stewardship practice and 3) sustainable livelihood opportunities. Some examples included:

- helping to raise the profile of Rainforest Aboriginal people, their achievements and connection to the Wet Tropics cultural landscape
- undertake an initial desktop audit of progress against the 163 recommendations in “Which Way Our Cultural Survival”, review the lessons learnt with the interim working group to identify what we need to take forward in the recognition of legal rights, including through the Wet Tropics Management Plan review
- supporting Rainforest Aboriginal people to realise the benefits of the National Heritage Listing of Indigenous Values before a World Heritage nomination is pursued
- brokering assistance to achieve livelihood aspirations at the local level
- working more closely with Land Councils to bring PBCs together to strategically plan for the economic advancement of Rainforest Aboriginal people and their representative organisations, and
- championing a whole of government commitment to more meaningful participation of Rainforest Aboriginal people in the management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage.

Directors discussed the history of Aboriginal involvement and participation on their traditional land in the Wet Tropics region, and their aspirations, cultural values, links and obligation to the land and waters of the Wet Tropics.

John Courtenay sought clarity that the Authority ensure that not over promise on deliverables, and give unreal expectations.

Scott Buchanan advised directors that the Authority was being guided through this project and process by the Rainforest interim working group and other key stakeholders.

Rebecca Lagerroth advised that the Authority is in the process of contacting individual PBCs and other Aboriginal organisations in the region to identify priority capacity needs and the most appropriate ways for Terrain and the Authority to collaboratively support them in the future. In addition, the Authority and Terrain are engaging with the broader community to support partnerships with Rainforest Aboriginal people and their organisations in mainstream NRM and World Heritage Area projects where opportunities are presented.

Leah Talbot thanked Rebecca Lagerroth for her excellent work in leading this project, and the respectful and timely manner conducted.

Directors suggested that WTMA officers to organise a ‘learning day’ workshop for directors to gain a better understanding of the context and history of Rainforest Aboriginal involvement in World Heritage (and protected area) management. Some of the issues that could be covered, for example, include Native Title and Indigenous governance, ILUAs, World Heritage Listing, and the roles and responsibilities of the Authority in these processes.

Resolutions

*The board **noted** progress to advance strategic Rainforest Aboriginal engagement in the Wet Tropics region and refinements to strategic activities in the Authority’s draft Strategic Engagement Framework.*

Actions

- *Aboriginal Partnerships team to organise a learning day for directors.*

3.2 Wet Tropics World Heritage Area Partnership Agreement

Scott Buchanan reminded directors that in 2014, the Authority signed a two year Partnership Agreement with QPWS which outlined how the two entities would work together with respect to operational delivery, planning and policy matters relevant to the Wet Tropics Area. The end of year report for 2016 was submitted to the Authority in a timely manner. The Authority was happy with the report.

Since May 2016, WTMA and QPWS officers have been working together to develop a new three-year agreement. New principles have been incorporated into the MoU, which includes additional efforts to elevate Indigenous involvement in all aspects of Wet Tropics WHA planning and management. The MoU, now signed, delivers on one of the Board's priorities.

Ellen Weber (WTMA) and Vanessa Lotsada (QPWS) will work together in September and October 2016 to develop a more streamlined framework that reports on how QPWS delivers on protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the Wet Tropics WHA.

Leslie Shirreffs advised the board that she had an opportunity to meet with the Director General of National Parks, Sport and Recreation Ms Tamara O'Shea, and that she was pleased with the strong and positive working relationship between both organisations, and that signing off of the partnership agreement was a key strategic deliverable for the board.

Resolution

The board:

- **noted** *the end of year (2015-16) milestone report from the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR (QPWS)) for the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area Partnership Agreement, and*
- **noted** *that WTMA and NPSR (QPWS) have entered into a three-year Partnership Agreement (MoU) for 2016-2019.*

3.3 2015-2016 Annual Operating Plan

Scott Buchanan addressed the board and updated them on the progress of the annual operating plan for 2015-16. Key issues included:

- a number of projects that were identified as delayed in December 2015 were able to be brought back on track, with additional staffing. For example, a manager was recruited to the Aboriginal Partnerships program
- projects that experienced significant delays included the Wet Tropics ecological connectivity project and the internal review of policies, procedures and operating guidelines
- salaries expenditure was slightly overspent (c.a. \$80K). This was due to the Authority recruiting to the Aboriginal Partnerships program as well as providing additional staff resources to the Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program
- Only 26% of the training and development budget was spent. In part this can be explained by DEHP funding the workforce capability planning from within the department, and
- The budget for 2015-16 was \$181,000 underspent. This was mostly due to delays in project implementation and staff absences. These funds have been carried over to the 2016-17 budget.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the 2015-16 end of financial year work plan and budget.*

3.4 2016-17 Business Plan

Scott Buchanan briefed the board and advised that the Authority has prepared a business plan and budget for 2016-17. The business plan is framed around the 2013- 18 strategic plan and the Board priorities. Each of the projects listed in the business plan identifies key milestones and activities. The business plan also identifies if the project aligns with one or more of the Board priorities; the strategic plan goals or is carried out due to legislative obligations.

Directors noted that the budget has not factored in additional funding committed to the yellow crazy ant program as this money has not yet been released from the state or commonwealth.

The Authority will monitor and report on the implementation of the business plan to the board on six-monthly basis, and provide a full report at the end of the 2016-17 financial year.

Resolution

The board:

- **Approved** the 2016-17 business plan and budget for 2016-17, and
- **Approved** submission of the 2016-17 budget to the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum for approval.

3.5 2015- 16 Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report

At board meeting #96 it was agreed that the theme for the 2015/16 State of Wet Tropics Report would be 'Ancient, endemic, rare and threatened vertebrates of the Wet Tropics', given the emerging declining trend of Wet Tropics endemic species and the fact that this was also an adverse finding in the 2014 IUCN Wet Tropics Outlook Report. Some key issues emerging in the draft report include:

- the high global significance of the Area, which includes a rich vertebrate fauna of exceptional conservation and scientific value
- data collected over more than two decades that indicate a disturbing decline of many vertebrate populations in the Wet Tropics, including species endemic to the Area
- the need to maintain and improve regional-scale, long -term environmental monitoring programs in order to track the status and trends of biodiversity
- the urgent need to investigate and develop adaptive management measures to build the resilience of these threatened species.

Directors suggested that it might be useful to mention the power of social media (such as crowd funding) as an innovative way to source funding to help protect threatened species recovery plans.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the status of the Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report.*

Actions

- *E Weber to send Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report to directors for comment, noting the tight timelines for production.*

3.6 A framework for the review of Wet Tropics Management Plan

Campbell Clarke provided background on the plan review and some of the changes the Authority will be proposing, and how the current plan helps to protect the World Heritage Area; how effective the plan has been to date; why the Authority is currently reviewing the plan; and the scope of the plan review.

Some amendments the Authority is proposing includes revising the zoning scheme; updating zone Ds for developed visitor facilities; updating road classes and use of management roads; updating lists of undesirable plants and animals; and recognising Rainforest Aboriginal people's role in management of the Area.

Campbell Clarke advised that with respect to Aboriginal cultural interests, legal advice has been received that the Act does not provide a head of power for protection of cultural heritage (only natural heritage of the Area). However, the Act does allow agreements with Aboriginal people particularly concerned with the Area.

Directors were keen for the amended plan to better acknowledge the role of Rainforest Aboriginal people in managing the natural values of the Area.

Max Chappell provided an overview of the framework for the review of the plan. Directors requested that the Plan review timelines be adjusted so that it was finalised with enough time for it to be used as a platform for renegotiating the funding agreement post June 2018.

Resolution

The board:

- **noted** the framework, steps and estimated timelines for the review of the Wet Tropics Management Plan, and
- **noted** the factors which may impact on estimated timelines

Actions

- Max Chappell to amend timelines in the plan review framework such that the final amendments are completed by June 2018 (to meet anticipated Ministerial Forum meeting during June 2018); and the the formal approval phase is completed by December 2018.
- WTMA Chair and ED to meet with counter parts of key agencies as part of the risk management strategy.

3.7 Cassowary Awards Update

Patricia O'Loughlen addressed the board and provided an update on the planning for the Cassowary Awards, which has been steady, and also well received to date. At this point in time 19 nominations have been submitted, and it was expected by closing date at least another 10 would be received. The Authority has approached three venues about hosting the Cassowary Awards, and staff are following up on facilities, activities, accessibility and costs.

Some corporate and industry sponsorship has already been received including \$550 from Stanwell and \$500 from Skyrail.

Resolution

*The board **noted** the Cassowary Awards update on communication activities, planning and organisation of Awards.*

Action

- *Scott Buchanan to approach QPWS to see if they would be amenable to sponsoring an award at the event.*

3.8 Joint Terrain NRM WTMA Board meeting

Leslie Shirreffs and Scott Buchanan briefed the board on the joint meeting to be held the next day, which would include a site visit and formal meeting to discuss improved ways to work together in the Wet Tropics bioregion. It will be an opportunity to discuss strategic areas of common activity and interest, including support for Rainforest Aboriginal aspirations, pest management, threatened species recovery and integrated landscape management.

It is hoped that both boards will agree to Terrain NRM and the Wet Tropics Management Authority negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding which will formalise and strengthen the collaborative partnership between the two organisations.

Resolution

*The Board **agreed** on the key messages and issues that need to be considered at the joint Terrain NRM and WTMA board meeting held 25 August 2016.*

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Creative resourcing workshop – actions and outcomes

The Chair thanked directors for their contributions to the creative resourcing workshop. It was a hugely successful day and well facilitated by Michelle Walker. The outcomes of the workshop will be packaged by Michelle Walker and forwarded to the Authority. This will include key ideas to progress.

Actions

- *Send a letter to all external participants thanking them for their participation.*
- *Organise for Chair and ED to meet with those unable to attend at a future date*
- *Send final package from Michelle Walker to directors.*
- *Follow up on key ideas to progress and present to directors at next board meeting, if not before hand.*
- *Set aside at least two hours at the December board meeting to synthesise and prioritise resourcing ideas*

4.2 Wet Tropics Board communique

Resolution

*The Board **approved** the communiqué for distribution at **Attachment 4.2 (1)***

Actions

- *E Weber to put final communique on WTMA website.*

Actions Arising – WTMA Board

Agenda item	Board resolution	Action	Officer	Status
2.1/95 Director and observers issues	The board noted director's issues	The Authority will draft an item for a Rainforest Aboriginal people newsletter around the engagement report	Lagerroth	In progress
2.3/95 Executive Director's Report	The board noted the Executive Director's report	The board recommended a Daintree field trip for a future board meeting	Weber	In progress
3.7/95 Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum June 2016 Agenda	The board approved the agenda for the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum.	The board will be required to approve final agenda papers out of session in March.	Buchanan	In progress. Date to be confirmed.
4.1/95 Issues and actions resulting from Board field trip 11 February 2016		Director Iain Gordon to review JCU policy with respect to Indigenous engagement in research activities conducted on country and then discuss this with the SAC once a new SAC is established.	Gordon	Pending establishment of new SAC.
		The Authority to continue to collaborate with local member Craig Crawford and DTMR regarding upgrading of Henry Ross Lookout and appropriate World Heritage and cultural heritage interpretation, including the idea of a Rainforest Aboriginal country directional dial.	Buchanan	In progress.
2.1/96 Directors issues		WTMA to organise a meeting with Wuchopperen Health Services (Ltd), to coincide with a future Chair's visit. Leah Talbot to attend if available.	Weber	For action
		Iain Gordon to keep the board updated on outcomes and implementation the JCU Research workshops, and any opportunities for SAC involvement.	Gordon	In progress
		WTMA to seek opportunities to be involved in the northern Australia CRC, particularly with progressing tourism and or research agendas.	Buchanan	For action
3.1/96 Terms of	Noted the proposed	WTMA to advertise vacancies for CCC and SAC in regional	Chappell	In progress.

Agenda item	Board resolution	Action	Officer	Status
Reference for Wet Tropics Committees and Options for Appointment	timelines for progressing of SAC and CCC appointment, with the view to their first meetings to be held between the August and December 2016 meeting.	newspapers.	O'Loghlen	
3.4/96 WTMA support for Wet Tropics Visitor Centres	Noted the strategic direction for support of World Heritage visitor centres and key visitor attractions recognising that financial constraints may limit some components.	WTMA to develop a strategic framework for Wet Tropics presentation including investment into Visitor Information Centres, digital collateral and interpretation for the November meeting.	Chantrill	In progress. Present strategic framework at November meeting
4.2/96 Other business		Follow up on Hillary Whitehouse offer to help prepare a 'learning plan' for the Wet Tropics	O'Loghlen	In progress
1.5/97 Actions arising		Joann Nathan to work with WTMA and GBR Secretariats regarding dates for 2016 Ministerial Forum meeting.	Weber	In progress.
		Organise student research grant recipients to present at Board meeting No. 98 in December 2016.	Weber	For action
2.1/97 Chairs Report		Write letter to Minister for Environment and Energy, the Hon Josh Frydenburg MP introducing the Board and role of Authority; confirming commitment to YCA funding and date for next Ministerial Forum	Shirreffs Weber	Completed
		Include review of progress of Board strategic priorities for December Board meeting.	Buchanan	For action
		Liaise with Chair and directors to set Board dates for 2016.	Weber	In progress
		World Heritage Guidelines (web-link) to directors, once finalised	Weber	For action, pending

Agenda item	Board resolution	Action	Officer	Status
		by the Department of Environment and Energy.		DoE completing guidelines
2.2/97 Directors issues		Code of conduct training on all board directors HRM file for reference.	Weber	Completed
		Authority staff to update board directors on KUR World as required.	Chappell	For action
		Follow up on opportunities for the Authority to get involved in NAIF projects (key contact wayne.hall@daf.qld.gov.au)	Buchanan	For action
		Organise for Chair to meet with Tableland Futures Corporation.	Weber	For action
		Keep Authority informed on how it can get actively involved in the 2017 Institute of Australian Geographers conference (i.e. presentation of papers, sponsor participation).	Talbot	For action
		Investigate governance training options for directors.	Weber	For action
2.4/97 Executive Director's report		Directors to advise Scott of program and forums that they think would be of benefit for Scott to participate in http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/programme	WTMA directors	For action
		WTMA to contact CRC regarding Authority's involvement in the Wangetti Trail proposal.	Chappell	For action
		Scott Buchanan to brief Joann Nathan on the World Heritage Family project.	Buchanan	For action
2.5/97 Significant correspondence		Board to write a letter to Mr Peter Smith, acknowledging the work of the CSLG and reaffirming the Authority's commitment to inclusive community engagement practices.	WTMA directors	completed
3.1/97 Strategic Rainforest Aboriginal		Aboriginal Partnerships team to organise a learning day for directors.	Laggeroth	For action

Agenda item	Board resolution	Action	Officer	Status
Engagement				
3.4/97 2016-17 Business Plan	Approved submission of the 2016-17 budget to the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum for approval.		Buchanan	For action
3.5/97 2015- 16 Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report	The board noted the status of the Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report.	Weber to send Annual Report and State of Wet Tropics Report to directors for comment, noting the tight timelines for production.	Weber	In prpogress
3.6 /97 A framework for the review of Wet Tropics Management Plan	noted the framework, steps and estimated timelines for the review of the Wet Tropics Management Plan, and	Max Chappell to amend timelines in the plan review framework such that the final amendments are completed by June 2018 (to meet anticipated Ministerial Forum meeting during June 2018); and the the formal approval phase is completed by December 2018.	Chappell	For action
	Noted the factors which may impact on estimated timelines for the project	Organise meetings with counter parts of key agencies as part of the risk management strategy.	Buchanan Shirreffs	For action, pending project implementation
3.7/97 Cassowary Awards	The board noted the Cassowary Awards update on communication activities, planning and organisation of Awards.			For action
3.8/97 Joint Terrain NRM WTMA Board meeting	The Board agreed on the key messages and issues that need to be considered at the joint Terrain NRM and WTMA board meeting held 25 August 2016.	Send a letter to participants thanking them for their participation (Chair sign off) Distribute final communique and put website	Weber Weber Weber	For action Completed completed

Agenda item	Board resolution	Action	Officer	Status
4.1/97 Creative resourcing workshop – actions and outcomes		Send a letter to all external participants thanking them for their participation.	Weber	For action
		Organise for Chair and ED to meet with those unable to attend at a future date	Weber	For action
		Send final package from Michelle Walker to directors.	Weber	For action
		Follow up on key ideas to progress and present to directors at next board meeting	Weber	For action
4.2/97 Wet Tropics Board communique		Distribute final communique and put website	Weber	Completed