
MINUTES
WTMA BOARD MEETING NO. 81: 10 & 11 MAY 2010

PRESENT:	Assoc. Professor Peter Valentine	Chair
	Dr Elaine Harding	Director
	Ms Allison Halliday	Director (11 May)
	Dr Alastair Birtles	Observer
	Mr Andrew Maclean	Executive Director
	Ms Veronica Blazeley	DEWHA
	Mr Ian Mason	DEWHA
	Ms Karen Jacobson	RET
	Cr Julia Leu	Observer (11 May - afternoon only)
	Mr Peter Ogilvie	QPWS/DERM Observer (10 May)
	Mr Wolf Sievers	QPWS/DERM Observer (10 May)
	Ms Bryony Barnett	Chair CCC (10 May)
	Professor Paul Gadek	Chair SAC

WTMA STAFF: Dr Paul Chantrill
Mr Bruce Jennison
Mr Nigel Hedgcock
Ms Ellen Weber
Ms Tracy Laird

Agenda Item 1.1 Chairperson's Welcome and Introduction

The Chair Peter Valentine opened the meeting at 9.40 am and welcomed Veronica Blazely and Ian Mason (DEWHA), Peter Ogilvie and Wolf Sievers (QPWS/DERM), Karen Jacobson (RET), Bryony Barnett (Chair CCC) and Prof. Paul Gadek (Chair SAC).

The Chair noted that in line with its decision at meeting 80, no separate in-camera meeting is to be scheduled. He advised that in future, directors may, preferably prior to the meeting, request that specific matters be considered in camera and that he would determine attendance at the relevant part of the meeting having regard to the nature of the item. He further advised that he would determine the content and distribution of agenda papers and the minutes based on the nature of the item.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

Agenda Item 1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Allison Halliday and Russell Butler Snr, Board Directors and Jeff Gillies (Tourism Queensland). Wolf Sievers and Peter Ogilvie advised that they would be unable to attend the Board meeting on Tuesday and expressed their apologies.

The Chair noted that Alastair Birtles term as Director has expired and thanked him for agreeing to attend as an observer.

The meeting noted that a quorum had not been achieved and therefore this meeting will record considerations rather than resolutions which would need to be ratified at a later date when the Board is quorate.

Agenda Item 1.3 Previous Minutes Meeting No. 80: 15 & 16 March 2010

The Chair referred to the minutes of the previous meeting and the following amendments were made:

- Paul Gadek asked that paragraph 3 on page 11 reflect the 'Chair of WTMA' rather than 'the Chair' formally resigned from the SAC; and
- remove the word 'draft' on Item 6.5 on page 18, dot point 4.

RESOLUTION:

The Board confirmed the In Camera and Ordinary minutes from Meeting No. 80 as amended.

Agenda Item 1.4 Actions Arising

The Chair referred to the Actions Arising from the previous meeting and the following comments and amendments were made:

- 69/1.7 *Wet Tropics Regional Agreement Workshop* - status of this item should clarify as to the purpose of raising the workshop with DERM and DEWHA
- 75/1.5 - *Indigenous Partnerships* - Veronica Blazely informed the Board that the Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, The Hon. Desley Boyle has requested DEWHA follow up with her office in Cairns on this issue
- 77/5.2 *Offsets* - Bruce Jennison will report on progress at agenda item 3.1
- 80/3.4 *RAAC Review* - this item remains 'in progress'
- 80/3.5 *Scientific Advisory Committee* - re-word the Board endorsed action to clarify that that position statement referred to MTSRF research funding.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the status of Actions Arising from previous Board Resolutions, as updated.

Agenda Item 2.1 Chair's Report

The Chair gave a verbal report to the Board on the following matters:

- He has been provided with a number of briefings on WTQWHA and WTMA matters by the ED, and is more confident in understanding some of the major issues; and
- He attended a joint WTMA and Terrain (Chairs and CEOs) meeting in Cairns on 28 April. The meeting provided an opportunity to express views on the roles and responsibilities of the two organisations in delivering regional conservation, NRM, indigenous and community engagement programs. Further meetings will be planned to progress these issues. Both organisations are committed to working together to maximise positive outcomes for the Wet Tropics region and community.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the Chair's report.

Agenda Item 2.2 Directors' issues – verbal reports

The Chair invited Board Directors to provide comments or advice as they wished advising that this is to be a standard agenda item in future.

Elaine Harding

- advised that she is assisting Dr. Paul Chantrill in the selection and interview panel process to find a temporary Team Leader for the Community Engagement project; and
- recently attended a DERM/DEEDI/Sustainable TNQ *Business Sustainability Symposium* and met other Corporate Tower tenants (from Millar Harris Lawyers) who are very interested in finding ways to improve the building's energy efficiency.

Alastair Birtles

- provided the Board with an update on the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC). He attended an Executive meeting on March 18 in Sydney. The participants prepared an agenda for the full AWHAC meeting set for 20 April 2010. AWHAC committee members have agreed to establish three

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

working groups for the 17 Australian WH properties. These groups will address 1) threats to WH properties (including climate change and pests), 2) presentation and 3) communication and tourism (including branding); and

- advised the Board that he had resigned as Chair of the AWHAC climate change sub-committee due to the restructure of the working groups.

Several observers took this Agenda item as an opportunity to update the Board, as follows:

Karen Jacobson

- commented on the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism's (RET) new Tourism Strategy which was released in December 2009. The intent of the strategy is for future work to be delivered through nine (9) new working groups. Each of the working groups has a range of membership that includes a range of federal agencies, States and Territories and industry members. The working groups report directly to the Tourism Minister Council (TMC) and the Australian Standing Committee Tourism (ASCOT). More information on the National Long-Term Tourism Strategy and the nine Working Groups is available at www.ret.gov.au/tourism.

Peter Ogilvie

- advised the Board that DERM and QPWS were currently inviting public comment on the proposed extension to the Fraser Island WHA; and
- advised the Board that a review of World Heritage advisory committees (and executive officers), which excluded the WTQWHA from its terms of reference, was initiated by Minister Garrett late last year. No advice has been received from Minister Garrett as to the results of that review.

Wolf Sievers

- advised the Board the State Government were seeking expressions of interest from private investors to establish low-impact ecotourism accommodation in or adjacent to seven national parks throughout Queensland including a site near Wallaman Falls and Ninny Rise at Mission Beach; and
- QPWS were upgrading the Kuku Yalanji (board) walk at Mossman Gorge and that some of the construction works will occur during peak tourism season.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the Directors' and Observers' reports.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

Agenda Item 2.3 Executive Director's report

The Authority's Executive Director, Andrew Maclean presented his report as previously circulated and provided further updates on MTSRF funding:

- the Commonwealth Government recently announced that future research investment for biodiversity would be delivered through the National Environmental Research Program (NERP), which replaces the CERF program. A number of research hubs are to be established to examine emerging biodiversity issues, including in terrestrial and marine ecosystems, across Northern Australia, and the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait. Expressions of interest are currently being sought by DEHWA from Australian research institutions to apply for competitive grants funding up to four years under the NERP
- a separate EoI process is being run for administration of the GBR Hub. It is expected that the RRRC will submit a tender to administer this program: and
- WTMA's future role at the RRRC, as well as our participation in the continued delivery of rainforest research through a new research hub will need to be resolved in the near future.

Elaine Harding enquired about the status of the Cassowary Summit communiqué. She was advised that the Cassowary Recovery Team had recently met and that Dr. David Westcott from CSIRO was seeking to establish a scientific sub-committee to progress population monitoring research priorities. It is anticipated that WTMA would be represented on this group.

Directors noted that advice on cassowaries, Mission Beach development, Lemuroid Possums and Kuranda Range Road, previously treated as standing items under the Executive Director's report had not been reported under the new reporting framework at this meeting. Andrew Maclean advised that this was an oversight and undertook to incorporate these matters in future reports.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- ***noted the Executive Director's report***
- ***encouraged the Executive Director to pursue participation in research hubs with the objective of ensuring a continued focus on wet tropics research needs in line with stated WTMA priorities and an active role for WTMA in the design and delivery of research projects***

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

- *thanked and congratulated WTMA staff on their substantial efforts in leading the preparation of CfOC project proposals; and*
- *thanked our partners and collaborators in investing their time and effort in developing the bids.*

Agenda Item 2.4 Community Consultative Committee

The Chair of the CCC, Bryony Barnett, presented the CCC minutes. She advised of the following points of interest and concern:

- as part of the draft community engagement strategy development, members spent a significant component of their last meeting reflecting on the current role of the committee and how their skills, competencies and interests could assist the Authority in the future. Members were asked to fill in a questionnaire prior to this meeting that was also used to help guide the discussion. The collated comments were tabled for Board consideration; and
- extended an invitation to the Directors to attend future CCC meetings.

Elaine Harding congratulated Bryony Barnett on her presentation and pointed out that it was helpful in her role as the Chair of the CSLG to know the questions that the CCC used for its workshop to enable discussions for the next CSLG meeting.

Directors commented that it was very useful for the Authority's committees and groups to reflect on their time spent on the committees and that the Board would make final recommendations regarding future committee structures and operational guidelines in the broader context of the Authority's community engagement strategy.

The Chair advised he will endeavour to attend the next CCC meeting.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- *noted the CCC minutes for the 30 April 2010*
- *noted the CCC undertook a workshop to provide input for a review of the CCC structure and invited continuing input of the CCC into the review*
- *requested that a briefing paper on the Wet Tropics Water Resources Plan be presented at the August Board meeting; and*
- *requested that a profile of CCC members be compiled for the August Board Meeting.*

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

The Board thanked Bryony Barnett for her report.

Agenda Item 2.5 Rainforest Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Allison Halliday addressed the Board on the RAAC recommendations tabled at the meeting. Allison made the following additional comments:

- the RAAC had prepared letters to Terrain NRM , JCU and the Christensen Foundation requesting the resources of the cultural heritage mapping project (CHMP) and copies of the CHMP project documentation including the Intellectual Property kit guidelines to be forwarded to WTMA
- a fire workshop was being held on Cape York Peninsula in the near future and reminded the Board of the importance of fire in managing traditional country; and
- clarified that Joann Schmider was nominated as the (female) non-elder and Ernie Raymont the (male) elder proxies to AHWIN.

The Board noted that the RAAC currently had no Chair and requested that suitable nominations be sought for Board endorsement at the next meeting or OOS if necessary.

The Board recognised the need to be provided with timely input from the Authority's committees and were concerned about the tight timelines to prepare minutes and advice in view of the current practice of scheduling advisory committee meetings in the fortnight leading up to Board meetings. The Board requested that all future advisory and liaison group meetings should be scheduled to ensure the groups' advice and any accompanying analysis is incorporated into the Board agenda.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- ***noted that the RAAC met on 4-5 May 2010 (Attachment 2.5(1))***
- ***noted Recommendation 1 and 2***
- ***noted Recommendation 3 and requested the WTMA ED convey the concerns and requests of RAAC to DERM***
- ***noted Recommendation 4 and requested the ED report back to the RAAC on the status of the report from the 2008 Fire Workshop***
- ***noted Recommendation 5 and requested the ED to convey the concerns and requests of RAAC to DERM and seek DERM's response to this recommendation***

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

- *noted Recommendations 6 a,b and c and considered them in the context of overall Rainforest Aboriginal peoples engagement in WTWHA management as provided in Board paper 6.2*
- *noted Recommendation 7*
- *supported the Recommendation 8 nomination of Allison Halliday and Troy Wyles-Whelan to the AWHIN and Ernie Raymont and Joann Schmider as proxies*
- *subject to budgetary constraints, supported funding the attendance of Joann Schmider and Ernie Raymont as additional representatives to the AWHIN as per Recommendation 9*
- *supported the Authority to endorse Allison Halliday's application for the AWHIN representative to the AWHAC as per Recommendation 10*
- *noted Recommendation 11 and encouraged the RAAC Chair to advise Terrain NRM of its concern*
- *noted Recommendation 12 and encouraged the ED to convey the RAAC nominations to Terrain*
- *noted Recommendation 13 and considered the request in the context of the current RAAC review*
- *endorsed the Authority to expedite the implementation of agreed processes for providing recommendations on nominees for the Aboriginal Board Directors as per Recommendation 14; and*
- *noted Recommendation 15 and thanked the RAAC for its support.*

Agenda Item 2.6 Scientific Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee Prof. Paul Gadek addressed the Board and made the following comments:

- the next SAC meeting is scheduled for 4 June; and
- a discussion paper is currently being prepared for the next SAC meeting that outlines draft terms of reference for a review of the SAC Operational Guidelines. The SAC Chair would be pleased to receive board feedback and comment on the discussion paper.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

The Chair thanked the SAC for their contributions in supporting regional research funding.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- ***noted the SAC meeting will be held on 4 June 2010; and***
- ***welcomed the SAC discussion on the review of the SAC and Operational Guidelines and endorsed Attachment A into the draft terms of reference undertaking the review as amended.***

Agenda Item 3.1 Situation and Issues Report - Protection

Bruce Jennison addressed the meeting and gave updates on the following:

- the Authority is working with Envirofund to enable offsets negotiated by the Authority to be reserved for delivering WTMA work programs.
- Cairns Regional Council (CRC) has produced a draft Environmental Plan for the CREB track and the Authority will be discussing the draft with CRC next week
- Cairns Regional Council (CRC) is undertaking a planning study for the Bloomfield Track, the Chair noted the Board has requested a regional approach to the study
- the Authority issued a permit to the Cassowary Coast Regional Council (CCRC) to reinstate the Cardstone Road by constructing a retaining wall adjacent to the Tully River. The CCRC did not contact the Authority in the first instance to undertake the work and it has been necessary for the Authority to remind Council of their obligation to obtain permits for operations of this nature. The Authority has written to the CCRC CEO requesting a review of their procedures
- the Department of Defence is considering an increase in the level of training at their facilities in North Queensland and is currently discussing this with the relevant stakeholders; and
- Satori (Ella Bay developer), has recently prepared extensive surveys, plans and maps for the area that includes designs and details for cassowary gates and fencing and has indicated interest in hosting the Board on an inspection of the site.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- ***noted the situation report relating to ‘protection’ issues associated with the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area; and***

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

- *requested that the Authority prepare a Board paper on the Ella Bay development for the August Board Meeting.*

Agenda Item 3.2 Wet Tropics Management Plan

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board in Max Chappell's absence.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- *adopted recommendations 1 to 6 below:*
 - (1) *noted that amendment provisions to phase out mining may not be included in the final Amendment Plan due to consideration of legislative principles*
 - (2) *endorsed the withdrawal of the drafting instruction to OQPC for inclusion of restricted activity area provisions within the final Amendment Plan*
 - (3) *endorsed disposal of an undesirable plant and translocation of a crustacean or fish as additional activities not regarded as having a minor and inconsequential impact to the final Amendment Plan*
 - (4) *endorsed:*
 - (a) *amendment of the drafting instructions such that a permit is required for landing an aircraft where the aircraft is being flown for commercial purposes; and*
 - (b) *endorsed 'landing an aircraft for commercial purposes' as an activity to which M&I does not apply*
 - (5) *endorsed an amendment providing for the Authority to require preparation of a supplementary EIA to the final Amendment Plan*
 - (6) *endorsed the inclusion of transitional provisions in the final Wet Tropics Amendment Plan 2010 that provide for consideration of any permit applications received prior to adoption of the amendment plan under the previous plan; and*
- *endorsed the format for the report at Attachment 3.2(1) to Ministerial Council on submissions made in relation to the Draft Wet Tropics Amendment Plan 2009.*

Agenda Item 3.3 Recent Developments in the Queensland Planning System

John Lane, Integrated Planning, DERM addressed the Board via telephone link with a PowerPoint presentation which was tabled at the meeting.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

The Board requested copies of the presentation to be provided to them.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the presentation and advice provided by the Director, Integrated Planning, Department of Environment and Resource Management

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Agenda Item 4.1 Situation and Issues Report – Conservation and Rehabilitation

Bruce Jennison addressed the Board and made the following comments:

- the Queensland Electricity Supply Industry (QESI) has produced a Code of Practice for the maintenance of their electricity infrastructure; and
- the RRRC, DTMR, JCU are launching a *Best Practice Guidelines for Planning, Design and Management Rainforest Roads in Queensland* at the MTRSF conference in May. A number of WTMA staff provided comment on the draft guidelines.

The Board encouraged the Authority to seek opportunities to promote the best practice benchmarks set for WH infrastructure design and management.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the situation relating to ‘conservation and rehabilitation’ issues associated with the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Agenda Item 4.2 Conservation Sector Liaison Group

Elaine Harding addressed the Board and made the following comments.

- Max Chappell gave a presentation to the CSLG on the conservation strategy
- Members were keen to keep the strategy alive and were considering opportunities for their group to assist
- Michelle Wood from DERM gave a presentation on the Wet Tropics draft Water Resources Plan; and
- a new member, Mr Patrick Pearlman, representing the Environmental Defenders Office (EDONQ) attended his first CSLG meeting. He is replacing Mr Adam Millar.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- *noted the CSLG minutes for the 23 April 2010*
- *noted the concern expressed on future funding for rainforest research; and*
- *requested that the Authority prepare a report on the implementation of the WTMA conservation strategy for the August Board meeting.*

Agenda Item 5.1 Situation and Issues Report – World Heritage Presentation

Paul Chantrill addressed the Board and made the following comments:

- work towards the development of a National Landscapes bid was progressing very well and the Authority was working with its partners in developing an expression of interest with the intent of preparing a full bid in August
- the Authority was distressed to learn that the Malanda Visitor Centre burnt down four weeks ago. Authority staff are assisting with restocking the Centre and the Executive Director has been in contact with the Mayor of the Tablelands Regional Council offering support; and
- the TILG is scheduled to meet on June 30 and they will discuss the design and development of tourism accreditation and progressing the gateway concept which may require the establishment of a taskforce.

Karen Jacobson offered to provide advice and guidance to Authority staff in progressing these important tourism issues.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the situation report relating to ‘presentation’ issues associated with the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Agenda Item 6.1 Situation and Issues Report – ‘Role in the Life of the Community’

Paul Chantrill addressed the Board and made the following comment:

- Cassowary Awards will be held in early November and the Authority is reviewing the current level of resources dedicated to this event. The Authority was mindful that the event provided an excellent opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge people that contribute to our World Heritage Area.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

The Board supported a re-thinking of the Cassowary Awards event that had regard for responsible provision of alcohol, a need to reduce costs balanced with a need to continue to publicly applaud community and individual efforts in WHA management and protection.

Nigel Hedgcock addressed the Board and provided additional comment and advice regarding ILUAs as follows:

- in 2004 Cabinet raised concerns about the exercise of certain native title rights when negotiating consent determinations over protected areas. These included camping, hunting and gathering, use of firearms and take of rare and threatened species. Consent determinations since have typically included agreement by the native title holders to regulate the exercise of these rights in associated Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs). Native title holders also agree to access and use the WTWHA in accordance with the Wet Tropics Act and Plan. These ILUAs also contain an expiry clause based on 1) a regulation giving effect to a management plan under the NCA; 2) after a specific date (usually 5 years from registration of the ILUA) or 3) no determination of native title

The first affected national park is Barron Gorge NP which has an expiry date of 31 December 2010 unless DERM is able to reach agreement with the Djabugay native title holders on a management plan.. Following this date, native title rights and interests will no longer be restricted in the national park. Other ILUAs will likely reach the same outcome in coming years and current ILUA negotiations are contemplating similar terms.

Should the ILUA expire, the Wet Tropics Act and Plan will continue to apply in full. What is unknown is how the extant native title rights and interests as recognised by the continuing determination will intersect with this legislation.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the situation and issues report relating to 'role in the life of the community' issues associated with the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Agenda Item 6.2 WTMA's Approach to Indigenous Community Partnerships

Nigel Hedgcock addressed the Board concerning the issues discussion paper, *WTMA's approach to Indigenous Community Partnerships* included in the agenda. Nigel acknowledged input from a number of WTMA officers for contributing to the paper. The Board made a number of comments and observations including:

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

- the Chair welcomed the issues paper which allows the Authority to explore the complex issues at hand. He is cognisant of the fact that any decision on WTMA indigenous work programs for 2010-2013 would require additional thinking
- the Board were very impressed by the paper and recommended that it be delivered at a conference or submitted to a journal for publication
- Alastair Birtles was pleased that the discussion paper gave regard to the fact that effective engagement of Rainforest Aboriginal People requires a whole of government approach. This is a very important paragraph and should be engraved on the minds of everyone involved in this exercise
- Elaine Harding commented that she felt overwhelmed by the complex issues addressed in the paper and felt it was more urgent than ever for the Authority to clarify its role in delivering indigenous partnership programs. She would like to see how Aboriginal People can get active in management and contributing to their wellbeing and capacity building
- Allison Halliday commented that Rainforest Aboriginal people see the Authority and Terrain as main organisations driving the implementation of the Regional Agreement and the Wet Tropics NRM Bama Plan
- the Board were mindful of the Authority's resources and were reminded that a number of larger government agencies and departments have responsibilities for delivering Indigenous programs that contribute to Aboriginal People's wellbeing.
- the Board noted that it was critical for WTMA to have positive relationships with QPWS and DERM for successful delivery of World Heritage objectives as they affect Rainforest Aboriginal People
- the Board observed that previous successful Indigenous Partnership projects that demonstrated results included developing the Wet Tropic Regional Agreement, leading the Kuku Yalanji ILUA and more recently establishing an Indigenous Tourism Alliance and industry in North Queensland. These projects are focussed on delivering outcomes and are aligned with the Authority's Strategic Plan
- the Board supported the Authority to use the paper to inform a further workshop within WTMA that focussed on developing activities that demonstrated results and measurable work program outcomes; and
- WTMA Board and Observers were invited to supply further written comments to Nigel Hedgcock on the paper.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the matters raised in the attached Issues Paper for consideration, discussion and approval of future directions regarding WTMA's role and priorities for working with Rainforest Aboriginal people and requested further advice at future meetings..

Agenda Item 7.1 Budget Status and Business Plan Report

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board.

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the attached budget and business plan reports.

Agenda Item 7.2 WTMA 2010/11 – 2012/13 Business Plan

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board and made the following comments:

- may need to amend in Part A to reflect additional major initiatives arising from Indigenous Partnership discussions; and
- was interested in receiving feedback from the Board on key deliverables (Part B).

Peter Valentine was pleased with the level of detail provided in the Business Plan.

Alastair Birtles commented that he was expecting the document to have a slightly more strategic approach that articulated how it was going to grow the business.

Peter Valentine and Alastair Birtles requested additional budget details be included for years 2011-2013 noting that these needed to be flexible and should also identify where there would be a need for additional funds.

The Board requested that timed key deliverables be prepared for each objective and strategy and that an additional column be included that identified funds and FTEs required.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- *noted progress with the three year WTMA business plan and provided further comment and advice to facilitate its completion; and*

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

- *requested that the Authority add an additional Part D into Attachment 7.2(1) that identifies potential funding opportunities for investment into WTMA projects and new initiatives.*

Agenda Item 7.3 WTMA/QPWS Partnership Agreement

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board.

RESOLUTION:

The Board warmly welcomed the attached draft partnership agreement between WTMA and QPWS Wet Tropics Region for 2010/11.

Agenda Item 7.4 Protocol for communication between Directors and Board observers and authority staff

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board. The Board requested a number of amendments to emphasise positive behaviours expected by WTMA staff, rather than prohibitions.

RESOLUTION:

The Board approved as Authority policy the protocol for communication between Directors and Board observers and authority staff, as amended.

Agenda Item 7.5 Special Assignment Allocations

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board.

It was decided to allocate Board Directors 8 days each year, rather than 7.

RESOLUTION:

The Board approved the schedule of special assignment work for Directors at attachment 7.5(1), as amended.

Agenda Item 7.6 Board Meeting Procedures

It was decided to delay consideration of this Agenda Item to the August Board Meeting.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated:

RESOLUTION:

The Board noted the attachment Wet Tropics Management Authority Board Meeting Procedures (Attachment 7.6(1)) and agreed to provide comment on any further amendments in advance of consideration at the August Board meeting.

Agenda Item 7.7 Wet Tropics Representative to AWHAC

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board.

RESOLUTION:

The Board:

- *noted the provisions for appointment of AWHAC members by the Environment Protection and Heritage Council*
- *delegated to the chairperson responsibility for nomination of a WTMA director to represent the Wet Tropics on the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee and*
- *thanked Dr Alastair Birtles for his strong contribution towards the successful establishment of the AWHAC over the past 12 months.*

Agenda Item 7.8 Future meeting date.

Andrew Maclean reminded the Board that the next meeting would be held in Townville 9-10 August 2010.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair

Dated: