

Wet Tropics Management Authority Board Meeting Minutes

No 90: 20-21 August 2012

Wet Tropics Board	Assoc. Prof Peter Valentine	Chair
Directors	Dr Alastair Birtles	Director
	Dr Ro Hill	Director (Tuesday)
	Ms Leah Talbot	Director
	Cnr Julia Leu	Director
	Mr Andrew Maclean	Executive Director
Departmental Observers	Mr Paul Martyn	Deputy Director General, DTESB (Monday)
	Mr Andrew Miller	A/Regional Manager, DNPRSR
	Mr Ross MacLeod	Director, Partnership and World Heritage, DEHP
	Ian Mason ³	Assistant Director, SEWPac
Committee Chairs	Prof Steve Williams	Chair, Scientific Advisory Committee
	Ms Bryony Barnett	D/Chair, Community Consultative Committee (Monday)
Board guests	Mr Buzz Symonds ¹	Director Cape York Tenure Resolution, Cape York Unit
	Mr Bruce Lawson ¹	Principal Project Officer, Cape York Unit
	Mr James Enage ²	CEO of the Kokoda Track Authority
	Mr Peter Vincent ²	CEO PNG Tourism Promotion Authority
WTMA staff	Mr Max Chappell	Manager, Planning and Conservation
	Dr Paul Chantrill	Manager, Communities and Partnerships
	Mr Nigel Hedgcock	Team Leader, Communities and Partnerships
	Mr Bruce Jennison	Principal Project Officer, Planning and Conservation
	Mr Campbell Clarke	Principal Project Officer, Planning and Conservation
	Ms Ellen Weber	Board Secretariat, Business Management

¹ attended for Agenda item 6.2

² attended Monday 12 noon to 2pm

³ attended by telephone link up for agenda items 7.2 and 7.4

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Chairperson's Welcome and Introduction (Monday 9.15am to 9.17am)

The Chair Peter Valentine opened the meeting at 9.15am and acknowledged the Traditional Owners, the Gimuy Yidinji and the Yirriganydji people of the Cairns area.

The Chair acknowledged the 18 Rainforest Aboriginal Groups of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

The Chair welcomed Directors Dr Alastair Birtles, Cnr Julia Leu and Ms Leah Talbot to the meeting.

The Chair welcomed Mr Andrew Millerd, A/Regional Manager QPWS Wet Tropic Region from the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sports and Racing (DNPRSR) to the meeting.

The Chair welcomed Mr Ross MacLeod, Director, Partnership and World Heritage, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection to the meeting.

The Chair welcomed Mr Paul Martyn, Deputy Director General, Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games to the meeting.

The Chair welcomed Prof Steve Williams, Chair Scientific Advisory Committee to the meeting.

The Chair advised Ms Bryony Barnett would attend from 10am on Monday to present the CCC report.

1.2 Apologies (Monday 9.15am to 9.20am)

Ms Jane Ambrose and Mr Ian Mason from the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities advised the Authority that they are not able to attend the meeting. They advised that they would endeavour to send a representative to every second meeting in future, and would be pleased to participate at every other meeting via teleconference. They have advised that they will be available via teleconference for agenda items 7.2 *Strategic Plan* and 7.4 *2012/13 Strategic Plan*.

Helen Cox from DRET advised that due to critical work commitments that she was unable to attend.

Dr Ernie Grant was invited to participate at the meeting as an observer but was unable to attend.

1.3 Previous Minutes (Monday 9.20am to 9.22am)

Resolution

The Board confirmed the Ordinary minutes from Meeting No. 89.

1.4 Actions Arising (Monday 9.22am to 11.15am)

The Chair referred to the Actions Arising from the previous meeting.

Resolution

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

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

1.5 Community Consultative Committee nominations for new Chair and members **IN-CAMERA** (Monday 4pm to 4.20pm)

Paul Chantrill addressed the Board.

Resolution

The Board:

- *endorsed the list at Attachment 1.5 (1) as members of the CCC, and*
- *invited the Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples Alliance (RAPA) to nominate an indigenous (male) representative for the CCC.*

2.0 REPORTS

2.1 Chair's Report (Monday 9.25am to 9.40am)

The Chair provided verbal report to the Board on a number of issues including:

- that he had an opportunity to brief a number of Queensland State Members of Parliament including Mr Michael Trout MP (Barron River), Mr Gavin King MP (Cairns) and the Hon Andrew Cripps MP (Hinchinbrook)
- that he had a meeting with the Hon Warren Entsch MP, Federal Member for Leichhardt and discussed the Authority's work programs and priorities
- that he had a productive meeting with Queensland Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, the Hon Andrew Powell MP and discussed the Authority's work programs and priorities
- that he was on the steering committee for the ACIUCN World Heritage Symposium (held in Cairns 9-10 August 2012). He thanked Andrew Maclean for his leadership in organising the event
- that he was interviewed by ABC News, ABC PM radio and other media outlets regarding biosecurity threats, including myrtle rust, to the values of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area http://www.wettropics.gov.au/site/user-assets/docs/pvmyrtlerustwtma_media_release-final.pdf
- that he had an opportunity to meet with RAPA representatives and at that meeting reiterated the Authority's strong commitment to ensuring effective engagement of Aboriginal people in the management of the Wet Tropics Landscape, and
- that he met with Ms Melissa George (Member, GBRMPA) and discussed opportunities to forge stronger links between the Wet Tropics and GBRMPA.

Resolution

The Board noted the Chair's report.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

2.2 Directors' issues – verbal reports (Monday 9.40am to 10.07am and 11.15am to 11.25am)

The Chair invited Board Directors and departmental representatives to provide comments or advice.

Alastair Birtles

- congratulated the Authority on co-hosting (with ACIUCN) a very successful World Heritage symposium in Cairns
- that he was pleased to attend an AWHAC meeting on 8 August 2012. The Chair of AWHAC, Prof Richard Mackay was invited to present a paper at the World Heritage Symposium on 'Setting best practice standards for Heritage management'. It was an opportunity to highlight the critical role of the AWHAC to provide advice on cross-cutting matters relating to World Heritage Area conservation and management and Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention, and
- that he would be travelling to Cairns and surrounds with his JCU graduate students to a number of Wet Tropics WHA sites in the next month of so as part of his 'Managing Tourism in Protected Areas' course.

Leah Talbot

- attended a Queensland Traditional Owner Network (QTON) meeting on 13 July 2012 and thanked the Authority for supporting her attendance at the meeting. Minutes from the meeting are available for those interested.

The Chair invited Board Departmental Representatives to provide comments or advice.

Paul Martyn

- DestinationQ forum was held in Cairns on the 25-26 June 2012 with over 300 delegates attending. There were more than 350 actions identified and an early task is to structure, further prioritise and resource the next steps, and
- the Queensland government are preparing a new Ecotourism Plan and he encouraged the Authority to be an active participant.

Ross MacLeod

- that he was very pleased to participate at the recent World Heritage Symposium, and
- the Fraser Island Advisory Committees would be pleased to invite the Executive Director to one of their (combined advisory) meetings in the near future to discuss issues of common interest.

Resolution

The Board noted the Directors' and Observers' reports.

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

2.3 Executive Director's report (Monday 10.08am to 10.35am)

The Authority's Executive Director, Andrew Maclean addressed the Board and provided the following updates:

- staff in the community engagement team worked very hard to get the new website launched. Work will continue over the next six months to develop more content and functionalities, and
- that he was very pleased the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities presented a keynote address at the World Heritage Symposium. Speech notes can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/burke/2012/sp20120809.html>

Resolution

The Board:

- *thanked the Executive Director for his report, and*
- *congratulated Authority staff on their recent successful achievements including the launch of the Wet Tropics National Landscape; the new website and logo; and contributions in assisting the organisation of the ACIUCN World Heritage Symposium.*

2.4 QPWS Wet Tropics Quarterly Activity Update (Monday 10.36am to 11,05am)

A/Regional Manager Andrew Millerd presented the Wet Tropics QPWS Activity Report (Jan to March 2012) to the Board.

Resolution

The Board noted the QPWS Wet Tropics Regional Manager's report.

2.5 Community Consultative Committee (Monday to 11.35am to 11.45am)

Bryony Barnett presented the CCC report to the Board and provided the following additional comments:

- CCC member were keen to provide input into the policy briefs and reminded the Board that the previous CCC prepared a 'Roads Discussion Paper' that may provide useful background for the tourism brief
- the CCC were pleased to be given an opportunity to workshop the 2011/12 State of Wet Tropics Report with Assoc Professor Leah Scherl, and
- that Penny Scott (Terrain NRM) had resigned from the CCC.

Resolution

The Board noted the CCC minutes for 17 August 2012.

2.6 Scientific Advisory Committee (Monday 11.45 to 12.05pm)

Professor Steve Williams addressed the Board. He advised that Jon Day from GBRMPA participated at the August SAC meeting and gave a presentation on World Heritage and Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). The SAC discussed the implication for the recent World Heritage Commission's advice on the protection and management of the Great Barrier Reef and the potential implications for the protection and management of the Wet Tropics of Queensland.

Resolution

The Board noted that the SAC minutes for 2 August 2012.

3.0 WORLD HERITAGE PROTECTION

3.1 Situation and Issues Report – Protection (Monday 4.20pm to 5.00pm)

Max Chappell briefed the Board and provided an update on the status on the Ella Bay Integrated Resort proposed development.

Resolution

The Board noted the situation report relating to 'protection' issues associated with the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

4.0 WORLD HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION

4.1 Situation and Issues Report – Conservation and Rehabilitation (Monday 2.15pm to 2.30pm)

Max Chappell addressed the Board and advised them that the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility and CSIRO recognised the CFOC funded *Making Connections* project as their Community Champion 2012. Dr Luke Shoo and nature refuge owner Dave Hudson attended the National Adaptation Conference in Melbourne and accepted the award on behalf of project partners.

Resolution

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

4.2 Rezoning of a section of Powerlink's Ingham to Tully electricity transmission line corridor and rezoning of the old Wujal Wujal dump site (Monday 2.30pm to 3.00pm)

Max Chappell and Bruce Jennison addressed the Board.

Resolution

The Board:

- *Approved a rezoning process to amend the Wet Tropics zoning from zone B to zone C to allow for the construction of the remaining Sunday Creek section of the new Powerlink 275KV electricity transmission line between Ingham and Tully within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.*
- *Approved a rezoning process amend the Wet Tropics zoning from zone B to Zone C to allow for potential housing and community infrastructure development on the old dump site at the Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Community (Lot 2 on SP171837) within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.*
- *Noted that the procedure for amending a zoning map under section 8 of the Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998 requires public notification and Governor in Council approval as specified in sections 44 to 47 of the Wet Tropics Protection and Management Act 1993.*

5.0 WORLD HERITAGE PRESENTATION

5.1 Situation and Issues Report – World Heritage Presentation (Monday 12.20pm to 12.55pm)

Paul Chantrill addressed the meeting and provided updates on relevant issues including:

- The Wet Tropics National Landscape was launched on 8 August 2012 by the Hon Tony Burke MP Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities the presence of invited guests, Commonwealth officials and Wet Tropics Steering Committee members. The launch generated positive media coverage <http://www.australia.com/campaigns/nationallandscapes/wettropics.htm> , and
- The Australian World Heritage Gateway study report and prospectus was completed on schedule by 30 June 2012.

Resolution

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

6.0 ROLE IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

6.1 Situation and Issues Report – Role in the Life of the Community (Tuesday 11.20am to 11.40pm)

Paul Chantrill addressed the Board and provided an update on branding, the new website and communication products.

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.

6.2 Joint management (Tuesday 10.15am to 11am)

Buzz Symonds and Bruce Lawson gave a presentation on Joint Management experience on Cape York Peninsula provided at **Attachment 6.2 (1)**.

Resolution

The Board thanked Buzz Symonds and Bruce Lawson from the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, for their presentation on the joint management of national parks in the Cape York Peninsula region.

7.0 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

7.1 WTMA policy briefings (Monday 1.35pm to 2.15pm)

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board and advised that the Authority proposes to develop a series of policy briefs to assist the State and Commonwealth governments in decision making relevant to topical issues relevant to the wet tropics and world heritage issues. The briefs are intended to address issues already on the Australian and Queensland government policy agenda to ensure that they are current and relevant.

Paul Chantrill tabled the draft Wet Tropics Tourism Policy brief and requested feedback and direction. He advised that the brief would continue to be developed in consultation with key stakeholders.

Paul Martyn advised he would be pleased to provide additional strategic comment and advice to the Authority on the brief to ensure linkages with other Queensland government tourism initiatives.

Resolution

The Board noted the attached policy brief at Attachment 7.1 (1) on tourism as a basis for further consultation with the Authority’s committees and relevant stakeholders.

7.2 Wet Tropics Management Authority Strategic Plan (Tuesday 11.40 to 1pm)

Andrew Maclean addressed the meeting and provided an update on the development of the strategic plan.

Resolution

The Board endorsed the draft strategic plan at Attachment 7.2(1) as a basis for further development

7.3 2011/12 Annual work plan and budget review (Monday 3.25pm to 4.00pm)

Andrew Maclean addressed the meeting and provided an update on the end of financial year work plan and budget.

Resolution

The Board noted the 2011/2012 end of financial year work plan and budget.

7.4 2012/13 Annual workplan and budget

Andrew Maclean addressed the Board on the 2012/13 work plan and budget. Reporting and monitoring on the workplan will be based on the key objectives, products and services 2013-18 Strategic plan.

Resolution

The Board:

- *approved the annual workplan and budget for 2012/13, and*
- *approved submission of the 2012/13 budget to Ministerial Council.*

7.5 QPWS Partnership Agreement priorities for 2012/13 (Monday 3pm to 3.25pm)

Andrew Maclean addressed the meeting.

Resolution

The Board noted the key deliverables at Attachment 7.5 (1) as a basis for the 2012/13 Partnership Agreement between the Wet Tropics Management Authority (DEHP) and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (DNPRSR).

7.6 WTMA Board meeting dates 2012/13 (Monday 1.40pm to 2.00pm)

Andrew Maclean addressed the meeting.

Resolution

The Board agreed on dates and locations for meetings to be held in 2013 as per Attachment 7.6 (1).

7.7 Other business

7.7.1 Kokoda Track Authority

The Chair thanked Mr James Enage, CEO Kokoda Track Authority and Mr Peter Vincent CEO PNG Tourism Promotion Authority for their time and looked forward to further discussions on opportunities to establish a twinning arrangement between the two Authorities to support staff training and development.

Meeting closed at 3.10 pm Tuesday 21 August 2012

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

Board meeting No. 90: 21-22 August 2012

Title	First	Surname	Town/District	WH neighbour landholder	Categories nominated	CCC before	Comments
Nominated Chair (1)							
Ms	Rhonda	Sorensen	Malanda		Rural Commerce	no	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Former Councillor at Tablelands Regional Council ▪ Excellent understanding of rural communities and issues. ▪ Roles have included Malanda Business Retention and Expansion, president/director of the Malanda Monsoon Festival, and foundation president of the Tablelands Business Women's Network ▪ Previously a Ministerial Regional Community Forum member advising state government on regional community issues. ▪ Active player on National Landscapes Steering Committee and Malanda Visitor Centre RDA application
Nominated Members (3)							
Ms	Maree	Grenville	Cairns Daintree		Youth Conservation Local government	no	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cairns Regional Council Sustainability Officer, strong links with the Daintree ▪ Links to GBRMPA, Sustainable TNQ, FNQROC, Earth smart Science Schools, TTNQ, Tropical green building network, JCU, CAFNEC, WWF etc ▪ Great understanding of regional issues
Mr	Ross	Rogers	Malanda Tablelands	yes	Tourism Conservation Commerce Education	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tour guide ▪ Cattle breeder ▪ Member of Cairns Chamber of Commerce, AgForce, Savanna Guides, Malanda landcare and many others ▪ Supported by AESOP Business volunteers and AgForce
Ms	Ellie	Bock	Mena Creek	yes	Conservation	no	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Co-owner at Regional Advisory & Innovation Network (RAIN) Pty Ltd

Date:

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Board meeting No. 90: 21-22 August 2012

Title	First	Surname	Town/District	WH neighbour landholder	Categories nominated	CCC before	Comments
					Indigenous		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Previous president, Cairns and Far North Environment Centre ▪ Great understanding of Indigenous issues - linked into Girringun and IPA ▪ Done international community development

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

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Attachment 7.6 (1)

Dates and locations for 2013 meetings are as follows:

Scheduled Dates	Location	Category
11-12 March 2013	Cairns	Board 92 - General
27-28 May 2013	Innisfail	Board 93 - General
19-20 Aug 2013	Cairns	Board 94 - General
11-12 Nov 2013	Cairns	Board 95 - General

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Chair, Wet Tropics Management Authority

Date:

Board meeting No. 90: 21-22 August 2012