



Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee Draft Minutes

Wednesday 12th August 2020

10.00 – 11.30 am Via zoom

1. Welcome and apologies

Attendance: Chair Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Gary Easthope (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), Adam Broadbent (Light), Matthew McRae (Copper Coast), Paul Chapman and Simon Millcock (Legatus Group).

Apologies: Hayden Battle.

2. Previous Minutes

Draft Minutes from the meeting of the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) on 26th May 2020 **were accepted** as a true reflection of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Proposal for PhD Internship looking at capital expenditure

The proposal for a PhD scholar to undertake research and report on the design criteria which affect capital expenditure in regional CWMS **was welcomed**. Adam said that the Light Council is about to plan and design new Schemes and would like to be involved in the work.

3.2 Cross-Council collaboration and alternative business models for CWMS in regional South Australia

Discussion of this matter was held over to item 5.

3.3 Proposed CWMS training course

The Advisory Committee noted the funding request made to the LGA R&D Fund for resources to progress the course content to the stage where it can be handed to a digital production company. Members of the Advisory Committee who have volunteered to help develop the content repeated their offer.

It was agreed that the Project Officer will contact the LGA CWMS Manager to arrange a meeting via zoom.

3.4 Asset management by remote sensing proposal

Progress on this issue has been confined to providing information to the Legatus Board at its meeting of 14 August to aid in its consideration of providing funding. On-going work to estimate the maintenance costs of CWMS pumps in the Copper Coast Council so as they can determine if they will participate, is beginning to show results which will be shared with members of the Advisory Council as they become available.

The Advisory Committee noted the progress with this item.

3.5 Discussions with LGA Mutual

The Advisory Committee expressed some surprise that LGA Mutual was unable to offer more assistance in accounting for and valuing the risks associated with CWMS and instead offered to pay for a facilitator at a CWMS risk workshop. It was thought that this reflected the general lack of awareness of risks in regional CWMS. A general discussion followed which suggested that change in managing CWMS required a recognition of the problems. This would be an important element in the up-coming Discussion Paper.

It was agreed that

- the Discussion Paper (see item 5) would be sent to the CEOs of each of the Regional LGAs
- Simon would ask the Legatus Board to approach LGA Mutual to encourage it to hold a CWMS Risk Workshop.

4. Recommendations to the Drought Futures Fund

The Advisory Committee discussed the potential conflict between providing recycled water at low or zero price from CWMS and participating in the DFF water efficiency

programs. It was suggested that participation in water efficiency programs by Councils become a criterion for DFF funding.

It was agreed that Simon would raise the issue in the up-coming Legatus Group Workshop on water projects and be guided on a possible funding opportunity to investigate the matter.

5. CWMS Discussion Paper for SAROC

Discussion on this matter again turned to the case for change in CWMS and particularly the question of how to improve their governance. It was noted that evidence of Councils failing to comply with regulation is unavailable because it is confidential. Suggestions moved beyond the considerable amount of anecdotal evidence to include matters such as the prices commonly charged by Councils compared with SA Water and an assessment of how much Council time is spent discussing CWMS.

6. Other business

a. CWMS Conference

The Advisory Committee accepted the offer from the Eyre Peninsular Regional LGA to host the annual Conference which had previously been planned for Kadina.

It was further suggested that Kadina might be the venue for a CWMS Risk Workshop, which might be held by LGA Mutual.

7. Date of next meeting

No date for the next meeting was set.