



Agenda Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee

9th May 2023 10.30

Via Microsoft Teams

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Attachments:

1. Letter to SAROC
2. Report to LGA CWMS Management Committee

1. Welcome

Mayor Leon Stephens - Chairman

2. Attendance:

Members: Mayor Leon Stephens, Grant Smith and Gary Easthope.

New member: Glen Sanford from the Adelaide Plains Council has indicated he would like to be a member of the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee

Non-Members: Simon Millcock, Paul Chapman and Tracey Rains (Legatus Group)

Recommendation: That the Legatus Group approves Glen Sanford as a member of the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee.

3. Apologies Nick Berry

4. Conflict of Interest TBA

5. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft Minutes from the previous meeting held on 3 February 2023 were distributed to all members and can be found at <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/DRAFT-Minutes3.2.23CWMS.pdf>

These were provided to the 10 February 2023 Legatus Group meeting.

Recommendation: That the Legatus Group Community Wastewater Management Scheme Advisory Committee minutes of the 3 February 2023 be taken as read and confirmed.

6. Business Arising

6.1 CWMS Annual Conference

Author: Simon Millcock

Following discussions with the LGA CWMS Management Committee this year's conference is now being held on Thursday 8 June 2023 9.30am at the UniSA Enterprise Hub Seminar Room 9 Light Square, Adelaide.

The Conference program outlined below has been confirmed and it only awaits confirmation from a few speakers plus SA Water may also be included. An update at the meeting will be provided. The LGA and Legatus Group are promoting this event.

Conference Program

9.30 – Registration

10.00 - Welcome to UniSA

10.10 Opening of Conference Hon Geoff Brock Minister for Local Government

10.30 Clinton Jury CEO LGA & Mayor Leon Stephens Chair LGA CWMS Management Committee -
The role of LGA and LGA CWMS Management Committee
10.50 Emily Lohmann, Senior Water Infrastructure Officer, Office of the Technical Regulator
National Performance Reporting
11.10 Morning tea
11.25 Maree Wauchope (CEO Barunga West) *Fisherman Bay CWMS project*
11.40
CEO panel discussion *Future roles for councils in CWMS*
Maree Wauchope (CEO Barunga West)
Stephen Rufus (CEO Peterborough) and
Helen Edmonds (Head of Wastewater at Mt Barker)
12.30 Mid Murray Council *on the CWMS-related impact / recovery / learnings from the River Murray
floods*
12.50 Lunch
1.20 David Pluckhahn (Berri-Barmera Council) *Working with private contractors*
1.40 Associate Professor Ke Xing (UniSA) *Expanding CWMS capacity using constructed floating
wetlands Yorke Peninsula Council*
2.00 Workshop session (Simon Millcock, CEO Legatus Group to facilitate)
3.00 Close

Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee notes the CWMS Annual Conference program and encourages attendance.

6.2 On-line, on-demand CWMS training course

Author Paul Chapman

At its last meeting, the Advisory Committee heard from David Eggers, CWMS Manager, who undertook to investigate the delay in finalising the training course. Paul Chapman has written to David Eggers and Tom McKeller and awaits their reply.

Recommendation: that the Advisory Committee notes the report.

6.3 UniSA and Yorke Peninsula CWMS expansion project

Author Simon Millcock

Following the December 2022 LGA CWMS Management Committee decision the Legatus Group CEO continued dialogue with UniSA and Yorke Peninsula Council on opportunities for the “Extending the capacity of regional CWMS using Constructed Floating Wetlands project”.

The Legatus Group following their budget review in February 2023 confirmed an increased allocation of funding and in addition UniSA have secured a further partner SA2050 who are a South Australian technologies company with a focus on environmental, health and safety.

A revised request was provided by UniSA to the LGA CWMS Management Committee seeking support for this research. The LGA CWMS Management Committee has confirmed financial support and an inception meeting is being held on 10 May 2023.

SA2050 have been in discussions with the Copper Coast Council with a proposal for offering a treatment service to their CWMS in Wallaroo and Kadina using their technology.

SA2050 interest is in integrating their ultrafine ozone bubble technology for wastewater treatment with the natural solutions offered by the UniSA floating wetland. UniSA have advised that SA2050 is

happy to be an industry partner and contributing cash for their project and support with materials and equipment.

UniSA advise that there could be a number of IBC tanks at the Ardrossan WWTP site combining both the constructed floating wetland units inside and along with a SA2050's ozone bubble generating unit to test the effects of the two technologies individually as well as combined.

Paul Chapman has outlined that this may add further risk, complications and costs to UniSA's project.

Recommendation: that the Advisory Committee notes the report.

6.4 Regulation of CWMS in Small Regional Councils

Author Paul Chapman

At its last meeting, the Advisory Committee undertook to discuss regulatory issues and, "if it is thought appropriate, to invite comments on the issues raised from the appropriate regulator".

One issue commonly raised in discussions is that there is overlap among the reporting requirements. Previous contact with the regulators has established that they do not consider there to be significant overlap.

Another issue that has been raised by the Advisory Committee relates to the small size and so limited resources of some Councils and hence the greater relative impact of the significant CWMS reporting requirements. Previous discussions have made clear that the regulators have no interest in the identity of the CWMS licence holder responsible for the reporting. If an entity cannot meet the requirements, the regulators' view is that they should not continue to hold the licence.

For discussion

6.5 CWMS Awareness Training for Elected Members

Author Paul Chapman

This matter was discussed at the last meeting but no recommendation was put before the Advisory Committee.

Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee proposes to the LGA CWMS Management Committee that a CWMS Awareness Training module be prepared for Elected Members of Councils.

6.6 LGA CWMS Committee / Role of Legatus Group

Author Simon Millcock

Following the last meeting of the Advisory Group and a report to the Legatus Group 10 February 2023 meeting the Legatus Group CEO provided the attached letters (1) Letter to SAROC Chairperson and (2) Report on the current Joint Arrangements between Legatus Group and LGA.

The Legatus Group CEO attended the 18 April LGA CWMS Managamnet Committee meeting where he spoke to the report. There has yet to be a response on the letter and the report at the time of preparing the agenda and if one arrives prior to the meeting this will be distributed.

Note that the regional workshops have been held which included 2 sessions for the Legatus Group at Balaklava and Port Pirie.

The themes outlined in the December 2022 report to the LGA CWMS Management Committee continue to be consistent and a central point of support for CWMS Councils continues to resonate. These sessions provide a great avenue for the operators to meet and discuss common issues and outline varying approaches. Major themes to emerge from the workshops include:

- Challenges associated with the small scale of operations.
- Difficulties are experienced in filling and maintaining CWMS staff positions due to the unusual skill set required.
- There is a perceived lack of appreciation of CWMS and its challenges by many elected members.
- A number of Councils declared their interest in divesting from CWMS.
- CWMS are complicated and risky assets.
- There are likely to be benefits from the LGA playing a role as a central point of support for CWMS Councils.

Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee notes the correspondence.

7. Other business

7.1 Brainstorming the activities of the Legatus CWMS Advisory Committee

Note: It was agreed to keep this item at foot for all future meetings.

For discussion.

8. Close and next meeting.