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**Minutes of meeting held in Sealanes Centre, Richardson Road**  
Thursday, 27 August 2015

**ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

The Chair welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at 4pm. The Chair asked all those present to introduce themselves.

**ITEM 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES**

**PRESENT:**

Chair	John Finch (JF)
Committee Members:	
Care for Hedland	Melissa Wood (MW)
Town of Port Hedland	Cr George Daccache (GD)
Town of Port Hedland	Brendan Smith (BS)
South Hedland Business Association	Brent Rudler (BR)
Port Hedland Ratepayers Association	Dr. Roger Higgins (RH)
Care for Hedland Volunteer (guest)	Carolyn Bloye (CB)
PPA Staff:	
Director Corporate and Government Affairs	Richard Barrett (RB)
Environment and Heritage Manager	Belinda Parker (BP)
Corporate Affairs	Amy Hill (AH)

**Apologies**

Mal Osborne, Julie Hunt, Gloria Jacobs, Natasha Fry, Michelle Scott, Pip Short, Garry Madson and Alan Mower

**General Business:**

**ITEM 3 RATIFICATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Members ratified previous meeting minutes as a true and accurate account of discussion.

**ITEM 4 RATIFICATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The PHCCC Terms of Reference were accepted and unanimously ratified.

**ITEM 5 OPERATIONS UPDATE**

*General Manager Operations, John Finch*

JF discussed the following topics:

- PPA 2014 / 15 statistics and achievements
- Main Street Jetty upgrade construction update
- Annual maintenance dredging campaign
- Roy Hill commencement of operations update

- VTS Authority recognition for Port of Port Hedland
- PPA safety update including 2014 / 15 statistics and achievements
- Recreational boating safety 2014 / 15 statistics

### **Questions**

**BR** What is the increase in throughput for the Port of Port Hedland as a percentage?

**JF** It equates to a 20 per cent increase.

**BR** What are the tonnage forecasts for the current financial year?

**JF** 480 million tonnes (Mt) for Port of Port Hedland and a total of 650Mt for PPA in the 2014/15 financial year.

**GD** Will the new jetty be open to the public?

**JF** The new jetty will be MSIC restricted with swipe card access only (commercial use only). This will allow for the existing jetty to be primarily for public use.

**BR** What was PPA's rate of return to Government?

**RB** PPA's dividend to the State Government was \$164.46 million.

## **ITEM 6 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE**

*Environment and Heritage Manager, Belinda Parker*

BP discussed the following topics:

- Port of Port Hedland's resource use and recycling achievements
- PPA's Mangrove Rehabilitation Program overview

### **Questions**

**CB** Given the first crop of mangrove seedlings failed, what do you owe to your subsequent success?

**BP** Going back to basics (not overcomplicating the process) by ensuring the seedlings were planted in soil where they came from, not using fresh water, opening up the enclosure to better sunlight, and shifting propagation from cuttings to seeds were all factors we attribute to the success of the subsequent crops of mangrove seedlings.

**RH** Do you know if there is any relationship between mangroves and the lifecycle of sandflies and if so, was this a contributing factor to the success/failure of seedlings?

**BP** That is difficult to answer directly without further investigation, however it is expected there is a relationship between the two, which may have had an impact on the seedlings success. For example, in the crop that failed, the seedlings were kept in an enclosed area that was not exposed to sandflies.

**BR** Will your studies expand to include assessing the impact of port operations on banana prawn populations?

**JF** PPA already monitor the health of a wide range of marine life within the harbour with fish and crab samples previously sent away for tests.

**BP** PPA is also working with the Port Hedland Industries Council to establish a coordinated harbour monitoring program. In relation to the mangrove rehabilitation trial area, several crab burrows are evident which is a positive sign of benthic community health.

## **ITEM 7 COMMUNITY UPDATE**

*Director Corporate and Government Affairs, Richard Barrett*

RB discussed the following topics:

- Recreational boating safety communications campaign
- PPA Community Support Initiative (CSI) Program recent funding recipients
- WA Weekender promotional segment (screening provided to members)

### **Questions**

**BR** Has a budget been confirmed for the 2015/16 CSI Program?

**RB** Budget has not been confirmed yet; meeting with financial team for that purpose in next couple of weeks.

**GD** Will PPA conduct a letter drop as part of the recreational boating safety campaign?

**RB** A letter drop is not being considered as part of the campaign. The aim is to target tackle shops, boat ramps, and other community locations for distributing the safety flyer; in addition to the proposed media advertising (print and radio).

## **ITEM 8 PROJECTS / SPECIAL ISSUES**

*General Manager Operations, John Finch*

JF discussed the following projects and special issues:

- Integrated Marine Operations Centre (IMOC) Project update – release of Expressions of Interest
- Premier's Awards Finalist – PPA's Tidal Model Study
- Successful collaboration for whale carcass removal with Town of Port Hedland

### **Questions**

**BR** Is there a local contractor requirement (regarding the IMOC design and construct contract)?

**RB** Yes and a strong level of industry interest has been received.

**RH** Do you see Port of Port Hedland's staffing needs increasing and if so, how will the new facility cater for that?

**JF** The IMOC has been designed to cater for growth and will be able to cater for future ports and staffing requirements.

**RH** Has the Tidal Model been applied anywhere else?

**JF** No, this is a world first.

**MW** How is the timing of the annual maintenance dredging program determined?

**JF** It is timed to avoid cyclone season. The program is running a little later than normal this year due to the tender for the Hydrographic Survey work due first.

## **ITEM 9 AOB**

### **Questions**

**RH** Has PPA ever given consideration to running a military exercise at the port, especially given the potential threat of terrorist attacks?

**JF** The potential threat of terrorism is considered in the Port's Security Plan and PPA receives regular intelligence from the Office of Transport Security (OTS) in that regard. PPA has hosted combined agency exercises in the past.

**GD** Given the number of recreational boating incidents experienced in the harbour last year, how does PPA propose to manage this given the location of the proposed public marina?

**JF** PPA is supportive of a marina in the right location that does not add additional risk to PPA's operations and public safety. PPA will support the marina with conditions, for example, a separate channel to redirect recreational vessels away from the port channel supported by regular patrols.

**RH** Is the sale of Utah Point still on the Government's agenda?

**JF** Yes it is and the process is still being undertaken with Lead Financial Advisors, led by the Department of Treasury. There is at least a further 12 month process ahead before a sale can take place.

**RH** Has Utah Point been valued yet?

**RB** No, it is too early in the process.

**RH** Have iron ore prices impacted the prospect of a sale?

**JF** Yes, we suspect it has and that is something Treasury are working through. PPA is also under a Ministerial Direction to provide a discount to Utah customers.

**RH** Is it likely Utah Point will make a loss?

**JF** No, PPA still has the responsibility of operating commercially, however profit will be down from the previous year.

**MW** Regarding the recreational boating safety campaign, suggest distributing the safety flyer in crib rooms.

**BS** Advised construction of the south wall is nearing completion.

**Date of next meeting:** late November 2015 (date to be confirmed)

**Close of meeting:** 5:20pm