
**Minutes of meeting held at the Integrated Marine Operations Centre,
The Esplanade, Port Hedland
Wednesday 17 November 2021**

ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Chair welcomed all present. Discussion commenced with Acknowledgment of Country. Chair advised Agenda has been updated.

ITEM 2 ACTION ITEMS - NIL

ITEM 3 SAFETY PERFORMANCE

General Manager Terminal Operations, Kim Gebers

- **Port Statistics:** Record breaking 724.7 million tonnes throughput for 20/21 Financial Year. The Port of Port Hedland achieved 546.1 million tonnes.
- **Safety Update:** PPA achieved a 50% reduction in its LTIFR last Financial Year, ending the year at 0.94, and facilitated 16,113 safe vessel movements across all ports.

ITEM 4 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE

Environment and Heritage Manager, Derek Walker

- **PPA Mangrove Mates Program:** Mangrove Mates Program took place in 2020 with 350 students attending across 8 schools.
- **Environment Approvals:** PPA discussed the importance of the Environment during Dredging. Other approval under assessment is the DWER Utah Licence Amendment.
- **Environmental Bulletins:** Two Environmental Bulletins were released in November 2021. 'What is that Slick?' and 'Tree Sparrows in Port Hedland'. Copies to be provided to attendees with the minutes of the meeting (**ACTION 1**).

Discussion:

Question whether any vegetation in the Spoilbank area, apart from mangroves, could be planted to capture sand, provide shelter during storms, and produce shade.

PPA advised that vegetation could be destroyed in the event of a cyclone. Vegetation that is currently in that area is doing quite well.

ITEM 5 COMMUNITY UPDATE

Director Corporate and Government Affairs, Deirdra Tindale

- **Community Support Initiative:** PPA has recently contributed nearly \$90,000 to a number of different organisations through our CSI. PPA also contributed to the mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics across the Pilbara.
- **Port Hedland 125 year celebrations:** PPA and HMI were involved in several events including time capsule burial, colouring-in competition and pop-up display.

MARINE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Harbour Master - Port Hedland, Heathcliff Pimento

- **Port Statistics:** Throughput figures were discussed for the months of June to October.
- **Marine Incidents:** 49 Marine events occurred between 1 June and 31 October 2021. PPA assisted with a rescue of a yachtsman on 6 September 2021 traveling from

Indonesia to Darwin. PPA took the lead in facilitating the safe disembarkation and transfer of the two yachtsmen to Perth.

Query about the change in fuel used and whether this has contributed to engine events. PPA confirmed that no incident was linked to the fuel change over.

- **Marine Cadetship Update:** Port Hedland's first Marine Cadet expected to complete final qualification in February 2022. Second Marine Cadet currently on deployment on a tanker.
- **Port Operations:** PPA has discussed 2021/22 cyclone season outlook with the Bureau of Meteorology and Weather Zone. All cyclone preparedness has been completed.

Discussion about COVID-19 impacts on the port:

Discussion about the disembarkation of seafarers into Port Hedland – PPA confirmed the process and procedures followed (i.e. WAPOL approval is received prior to any crew disembarkation, including medical cases). WAPOL meet seafarers at the jetty or airport, ensuring all PPE requirements and directions are being followed. There have been no (zero) confirmed COVID-19 cases at the Port of Port Hedland this year. Any seafarer displaying COVID-like symptoms is treated as a COVID-19 risk.

'COVID-19 requirements for vessels calling at the Port of Port Hedland' is available on the Pilbara Ports Authority [website](#). Link will be circulated to CCC members (**ACTION 2**).

Concern raised regarding the lack of access to local dental assistance by seafarers in the last two years.

The Seafarers' Centre advised that they will soon be releasing a plan for crew who need to come off a vessel for dental care.

Exposed worker directions and Government mandated requirements regarding vaccinations. PPA confirmed that staff and contractors are working through and complying with these requirements.

Query about PPA experiencing any employment issues related to the mandates. PPA confirmed that only a very small number of employees have raised an issue with the mandate.

Query whether PPA was being affected by border restrictions. PPA confirmed that it does not have a FIFO work model but rather regionally based roles.

ITEM 7 PROJECTS / SPECIAL ISSUES

- **Port Hedland Voluntary Buy-Back Scheme (PHVBS) (as at 5 November 2021):**
 - Highlight: 118 properties have sold or are in the process of selling to HMI. There was a suggestion that these properties are owned by industry. PPA clarified that industry (and therefore industry-owned properties) is not eligible to participate in the PHBS. Rather, these properties are privately owned.
- **Maritime Precinct Development:** Discussion regarding the Pilbara Training College concept and the new Port Hedland Seafarers' Centre – pleasing amount of interest has been received.

Discussion about the Pilbara Training College:

Input is welcome from the community, and any feedback will be provided to the working group that has been established.

Query whether there has been any planning or consideration given to relocating the Training College from Tasmania to Port Hedland. PPA confirmed that there had been a lot of consideration given to providing different opportunities for training.

- **Spoilbank Marina:** Timelapse of the Spoilbank Marine progress from June 2021 – September 2021 presented to the Committee. Key milestones and upcoming works were discussed with the committee.
 - A number of marine species were stranded when water was drained from the basin. Species were captured and relocated by the Environment Team.
 - This month, the Commonwealth approved PPA's Sea Dumping Permit for Spoilbank Marina. This is publicly available on the PPA website.

Discussion about the landside components, specifically consideration for facilities for kids and families. PPA confirmed there is budget committed for the foreshore redevelopment.

Query about Volunteer Marine Rescue's request for dredging to be completed at the Richardson Street boat ramp to allow them to deploy one of their larger vessels. PPA advised this was a question for the Town of Port Hedland, whom PPA understands is working through options.

- **Lumsden Point:** The first vessel successfully arrived at Lumsden Point on 26 October 2021. Update provided on FMG's Module Offloading Facility (MOF) which will see two to three vessels arriving per month.

CCC member raised a concern over the lack of media coverage of this project which they felt could have been better celebrated. PPA suggested it could be the topic of presentation at an upcoming PHIC Community Industry Forum to broaden knowledge.

ITEM 8 OTHER BUSINESS

Chair opened discussion for members and attendees to raise any questions or make comment.

- **Call for committee nominations – early 2022:** PPA to call for committee nomination forms for 2022 CCC in January 2022. PPA encouraged committee members to speak with community members who may also be interested in nominating.
- Question about whether there had been any further development on the BMX track. PPA advised that it understood the TOPH was supportive and that they would be having direct communication with the relevant CCC member.

Chair closed meeting at 5:45pm.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Provide copies of Enviro bulletins to CCC members	DW
2. Provide link to COVID-19 resources page on PPA website	DT