

**Minutes of meeting held at the Welcome Lotteries House, Karratha**  
Thursday 27 February 2020

**ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

Chair welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at 4:07pm. Discussion commenced with members advised agenda Item 6 would not be presented due to unforeseen circumstances. Chair encouraged any questions relating to Item 6 be recorded with a written response to follow. Chair proceeded with introductions of new and existing members.

**ITEM 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES**

**Present:**

Chair:

Director Human Resources

Damien Miles (DM)

Committee Members:

RDA Pilbara

Ngarluma & Yindjibarndi Foundation

Karratha Community Association

Community member

Dampier Community Association

Australian Marine Services

Community Member

Community Member

Dampier Seafarers Centre

King Bay Fishing Club

Anita Watts (AW)

Bruce Jorgensen (BJ)

Stuart Otto (SO)

Shaun Burgess (SB)

Ken Mulvaney (KM)

Graham Evans (GE)

Heather O'Keeffe (HO)

Joel O'Brien (JO)

Frank Nicol (FN)

Kathy Wilkinson (KW)

PPA Staff:

Harbour Master (Port of Dampier)

Acting Environment and Heritage Manager

Community Relations Advisor

Vikas Bangia (VB)

Dan Pedersen (DP)

Tegan Read (TR)

**Apologies:**

City of Karratha

Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

KDCCI

RDA Pilbara

General Manager Engineering & Infrastructure

Peter Long (PL)

Carly Blackney (CB)

Tanya Dodd (TD)

Diane Pentz (DPe)

Charles Kretzmann (CK)

**ITEM 3 RATIFICATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Committee members ratified previous meeting minutes as a true and accurate account of discussion. Chair proceeded with agenda items.

**ITEM 4 ACTION ITEMS**

- **Dampier Seafarers Centre – 2018 Statistics**  
Committee consensus to close outstanding action item.

## ITEM 5 OPERATIONS UPDATE

Harbour Master (Port of Dampier) Vikas Bangia

VB discussed the following topics:

- **Safety update:** PPA's 12 month rolling LTIFR is currently at 1.33 against the 2019/20 target of 1.54. PPA's commitment to robust safety procedures for all staff, contractors, service providers and visitors was reiterated and commended.
- **Port of Dampier year-to-date (YTD) statistics:** No real change evident in YTD shipping statistics in comparison to the same period last year. Iron ore was up one per cent with LNG down seven per cent. Imports increased 13 per cent, largely due to project preparation works and increased Rio Tinto imports. Overall a total increase in one per cent throughput at the Port of Dampier.
- **Severe Tropical Cyclone Damien:** Extensive preparation is required for a multi-terminal port the size of Dampier. All precautions were taken based on advice by the Bureau of Meteorology. Stage alerts commenced 96 hours ahead of coast crossing:
  - Stage 1 (Monitor) February 4: Harbour Master closely monitored weather forecasts for potential impact on the port. Daily directives were issued to keep port users informed. These directives continued throughout the cyclone until the port resumed normal operations.
  - Stage 2 (Prepare) February 5: Once implemented, extensive communications between terminal operators, port users and pilots commenced to discuss operational plans, sailing drafts and tidal requirements. Plans were then evaluated against possible response scenarios.
  - Stage 3 (Clear Port) February 6: Direction provided to clear port in a staged and sequential manner. Anchorages cleared: February 6, 1700hrs; Terminals (Rio Tinto, Dampier Salt, King Bay Supply Base, Toll Dampier Supply Base, PPA) cleared: February 6, 1800hrs; Terminal (Woodside) cleared: February 7, 0300; Port cleared: February 7, 0400hrs.
  - Stage 4 (Shut Down) February 7: No vessels or personnel remained on site. Dampier and Ashburton VTS unmanned from February 7, 1200hrs with Harbour Master continuing to monitor conditions.
  - Stage 5 (Re-open) February 9: Once deemed safe to reopen, staff began assessments of port infrastructure, channels and navigational aids. A staged reopening of the port commenced based on the assessment.
- **Post Tropical Cyclone Damien:** A significant amount of work is required to reopen the port safely while under commercial pressure. The integrity of infrastructure and navigation aids across the port remains PPA's priority. WA Anchorages opened February 9, 1600hrs with Inner Anchorages opened February 10, 1800hrs. Port of Dampier was closed for a total of 90 hours (port closure 1200hrs, February 7 – port reopened 0600hrs, February 11). The response from terminals was commended with the entire operation considered a success.
- **Impact of Tropical Cyclone Damien:** Thirteen Navigation Buoys received damage with an additional four out of position following initial survey. Pilot boats unable to run until repositioned. A total of fourteen vessels reported to have broken away from moorings with eight in State waters and six in Port waters. Of this six, four were recreational vessels and two domestic commercial vessels. To date, three of the vessels in Port waters have been recovered with the recovery of remaining vessels dependent on salvage team logistics and the tides. Work has been undertaken to

remove all diesel from the remaining vessels and can report there have been no ruptured fuel tanks.

- **Recreational Vessel Safety:** Timely safety reminder to recreational vessel owners following recent incident in channel. Following loss of power, a recreational vessel required tug boat assistance to avoid potential collision.

**Questions and comments:**

**KW:** Does Pilbara Ports Authority have to pay for the remaining clean-up?

**VB:** No, the pollutant is required to pay for the recovery not the PPA. However, the insurers will be required to pay for those who have issued a letter of abandonment.

## ITEM 7 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE

*Acting Environment and Heritage Manager, Dan Pedersen*

DP discussed the following topics:

- **State-Wide Array Surveillance Program (SWASP):** SWASP, developed in partnership by WA Ports and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), has received international recognition in the British Ecological Society's Journal of Applied Ecology. The article, co-authored by PPA Director Environment & Heritage and PPA Environment & Heritage Manager, looks at the collaborative program highlighting the environmental stewardship displayed by government and industry.
- **Site Visit – DPIRD:** The Port of Dampier recently hosted a site visit from local DPIRD Biosecurity Officer (Invasive Species). Future monitoring of terminals has been earmarked within the Port of Dampier, specifically invasive ants and bees.
- **Recent Sighting:** Reminder to community members to report any suspected foreign species following recent sightings of tree sparrows. Tree sparrows are prohibited declared pests in Western Australia under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2017*. Any sightings are to be reported to DPIRD.
- **Technical Advisory and Consultative Committee (TACC):** Members were provided an update of outcomes following the November 2019 TACC meeting. Informed PPA received Long Term Sea Dumping Permit for maintenance dredging. This is the first maintenance dredging permit held by PPA for the Port of Dampier. An overview of dredging operations completed under this permit (9-13 August) was provided.
- **Environmental Fact Sheets:** A reminder, PPA have developed several environmental fact sheets to cover topics relevant across port sites. They are valuable for download via the PPA website.

**Questions and comments:**

**GE:** Have you been monitoring the vessels around the sand? I ask based on the vessel that went down a while back and the turning of the sand that was required every few months.

**VB:** It would be a different scenario if we were dealing with heavy fuel oil.

**DP:** What we know to date is we don't have a release from a fuel tank as yet. If there was a release from a fuel tank that would trigger requirements around monitoring and recovery.

## ITEM 8 COMMUNITY UPDATE

*Community Relations Advisor, Tegan Read*  
TR discussed the following topics:

- **City of Karratha – 2020/21 funding partnership:** Discussions are underway between PPA and the City of Karratha to continue funding partnership for 2020/21. In 2019/20 PPA provided funding for events such as Red Earth Arts Festival, Cossack Art Awards and NAIDOC Community Events.
- **Community Support Initiative (CSI):** PPA has recently supported the following through the CSI, West Pilbara Port Welfare Association: \$4,000 contribution to Seafarers Christmas hampers; Telethon Speech and Hearing: \$5,000 towards a dedicated Pilbara region vehicle; Karratha Community House: \$1,664 for requested resources and equipment; Dampier Community Association: \$1,500 for continued support of the Dampier Art Awards.
- **Community ICT Asset Donation:** PPA is in the final stages of donating more than 120 laptops and desktop computers to community groups in our three port regions. The equipment was made available due to recent IT upgrades across the PPA Perth and Pilbara offices. All CCC nominated organisations were contacted and as a result will be receiving any items requested. Of the total 13 recipient organisations 5 are Dampier/Karratha based.
- **2020 Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey:** Interviews for PPA's Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey 2020 commenced in late January and wrapped up this month – you may have been contacted. The survey aims to understand stakeholder views on the operations and services we provide. Survey results will be presented to PPA's Executive and Board next month. The Board and Executive take the results of the survey seriously. Once the survey is complete, an action plan is formulated to address any gaps or issues identified. This year's survey results will help formulate action items for 2020. Survey findings will also be presented to CCC members at the next meeting.

## **ITEM 9 AOB**

The Chair highlighted a recent Australian Financial Review article with reference to PPA CEO's comments on development projects. The DCW expansion and temporary biosecurity infrastructure plans were of interest. Chair opened discussion for members and attendees to raise any questions or make comment.

VB provided an update on the West Pilbara Port Welfare Association Christmas hampers, following interest from multiple CCC members. VB thanked volunteers and organisations for making the initiative such a success. KW advised members that KBFC plan to commemorate the 150-year anniversary of Whalers Bay later in the year. More details will be shared when available. AW discussed Infrastructure Australia's updated Infrastructure Priority List, with the inclusion of increased port capacity in Port Hedland. VB provided an update on PPA's strict biosecurity process following a COVID-19 related inquiry from JO. PPA are continuing to work closely with State and Commonwealth Governments agencies to ensure quarantine arrangements are applied at our ports.

Chair thanked all in attendance and closed the meeting at 5:18pm.

## **ITEM 10 ACTION ITEMS**

**PORT OF DAMPIER  
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION  
COMMITTEE**



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Action No.	Action	Who
Nil		

DRAFT