

**Minutes of meeting held at the Onslow Sports Club
47 Third Avenue, Onslow
Wednesday 22 September 2021**

ITEM 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Chair welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at 4.25pm. The chair commenced the meeting with an introduction of presenters.

ITEM 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES

Present

PPA Staff

Landside Operations Manager (Chair)

Harbour Master Regional Ports

Environment and Heritage Advisor

Director Corporate and Government Affairs

Principal Corporate and Government Affairs Advisor (Guest)

John Giles (JG)

Anurodh Prasad (AP)

David Pozzari (DP)

Deirdra Tindale (DT)

Siobhan Negri (SN)

Apologies

General Manager Terminal Operations

Environment and Heritage Manager

Kim Gebers

Dan Pedersen

ITEM 3 ACTION ITEMS

- Action Item 1: Arrange for BMT to meet with FB when in town for upcoming survey – completed.

Although FB was not completely satisfied with the level of information provided, she confirmed that PPA had delivered on the request and that no further action was required

ITEM 4 MARINE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Harbour Master Regional Ports Anurodh Prasad

AP discussed the following topics:

- **2020-21 Results:** Provided an update on PPA's EOFY results. This included a record-breaking annual throughput of 724.7 million tonnes. In 202-21, the Port of Ashburton welcomed its first commercial vessels to support off-shore oil and gas operations.

- **Safety Update:** PPA achieved a 50 per cent reduction in its LTIFR last Financial Year, ending the year at 0.93.
- **Annual Oil Spill Exercise:** Joint exercise with stakeholders was held on 26 August.
- **Dredging Campaign:** Ran from 13 June to 7 July. Four marine assets were deployed to undertake dredging, with depths to design depth of 13.5 metres. There was no disruption to Chevron operations. Unfortunately, two green turtles were found deceased on the drag head (two separate incidents). This was reported to DAWE and DBCA, and PPA has put mitigation measures in place. This is the only environmental incident that has happened in PPA port dredging in five years. Another maintenance dredging campaign at the Ashburton Cargo Wharf (ACW) is due to commence in February next year. This is the first time it has been undertaken since the ACW was built.
- **Search and Rescue mission:** PPA presented a plaque to the Master and crew of the Svitzer *Seara* pilot vessel, for honouring the first law of the sea by going to the aid of a vessel in distress in Port of Ashburton waters.
- **Artificial reef:** PPA has reassessed its position and have revoked the reservations to the proposed artificial reef as it sits outside of port waters and does not pose a hazard to commercial shipping routes now or into the future. The assessment has also been on the basis that Recfishwest will set up a reef monitoring programme and will keep PPA advised on the monitoring reports,

FB: How long is the dredging campaign expected to last for?

AP: This campaign is expected to run for three weeks.

FB: How much is expected to be dredged?

AP: Approximately 9,000m³ to be removed from the ACW area.

FB: What is the expected impact of the sediment?

AP: The sediment plume will be limited.

FB: Which spoil ground will be used?

AP: Spoil ground Alpha will be used.

FB: How much capacity is left in each Spoil ground?

DP: We calculate this from the hydrological survey undertaken to check the change of depth and volume. Each spoil ground capacity varies because of different depths of water. The survey will also confirm if the sediments have been retained within the boundaries of the spoil grounds.

FB: How far do sediment plumes track?

DP: Historical modelling has indicated that within a one-kilometre radius sediment plumes / turbidity levels will revert to background levels.

ITEM 5 LANDSIDE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Landside Operations Manager John Giles

JG discussed the following topics:

- **General Operations:** The barge “Westsea 98” occupied the Southern Quay for the majority of August. The barge carried “Sinbad and Campbell Asset Removal” project infrastructure, which was demolished on site for removal as scrap metal.
- **Visual display board:** Safety and operational information can now be uploaded remotely onto electronic signage at the main port entry. The background colour has been changed from white to black to reduce the brightness.
- **Biosecurity infrastructure:** Has been installed inside the cargo laydown areas. Formal approval to operate as a Biosecurity approved First Point Of Entry is currently being sought from the Regulator.
- **Ongoing projects:** Development of actual and potential lease areas continues. Areas include MRL lease area, potential operational/equipment storage areas, stevedore lease areas and PPA infrastructure sites and corridors. MRL is planning 30mtpa over a 10-year period via transshipment operations, with a private berth to be built.
- **Strike Resources:** A recent ASX announcement provided details of their proposal to ship Iron Ore from Utah Point and subsequently Port of Ashburton.

KK: Can you change the brightness of the electronic sign at the Port of Ashburton?

JG: Yes, you can.

KK: No further action required.

CK: Does Strike Resources have a preference for which port to export out of?

JG: They have outlined Utah Point in Port Hedland will be Stage One, however they still have some hurdles to get through. There are no agreements with PPA yet.

ITEM 6 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE UPDATE

Environment and Heritage Advisor David Pozzari

DP discussed the following topics:

- **Coastal processes monitoring survey:** Surveys undertaken to calculate volume of sand in each area. In August 2021 the total net accretion in the Sand Extraction Zone since baseline is 242,000m³. This is an exceedance of our littoral sediment transport trigger of 200,000m³ as per our Coastal Processes Monitoring and Management Plan. No other management triggers were exceeded during the survey.
- **Sand bypassing project:** Undertaken when the estimated volume of sediment exceeds 200,000m³. Campaign has commenced this week, with NTC contracted by PPA to undertake this project. Will remove approximately 50,000m³ – 80,000m³ of sand and place it within the Sand Placement Zone to the east of the ACW. This spreads out the sand along a larger area, which minimises the risk of having adverse impacts to the downstream environment. Estimated to take 6-8 weeks.

- **Maintenance dredging:** PPA applied for a new Sea Dumping Permit in 2021, with a proposed duration of five years. The new permit will allow PPA to maintenance dredge up to 1,000,000m³ of sediments within pre-disturbed areas and dispose the sediments at the existing spoil grounds. This is a reduction of 500,000m³ from our current Sea Dumping Permit. PPA will continue to provide an update on this process at this forum and the Ashburton Technical Advisory and Consultative Committee (TACC).
- **Mangrove Mates:** PPA is planning to roll this program out to Onslow Primary School in October/November.

FB: How long does it take to accumulate 200,000m³?

DP: Roughly 40,000 m³ per year accumulates within the Sand Extraction Zone, however, this depends on cyclone events. This is the second time the sand bypassing campaign has been undertaken – so an average of every two years. PPA are also looking at long term solutions to bypass sand, rather than the dig and dump method.

FB: Do you have an update on the feral cats' campaign?

DP: We will provide an update at the next forum as we have just engaged a contractor for our October/November campaign.

FB: Does this include weeds?

DP: No, this is a separate program. However, PPA undertakes a biennial weed survey with a botanists, which was recently completed. The results of the weed survey inform us on how and where to manage weeds on our site. PPA are in the process of engaging a contractor to spray weeds on our site. This should be completed by November.

FB: Does this program include *Cassityha Filliformis*

DP: No, this plant hasn't been identified in our weed survey. The weed survey only identifies listed weeds non-native to the area.

ITEM 7 COMMUNITY UPDATE

Director Corporate & Government Affairs Deirdra Tindale

DT discussed the following topics:

- **Community Support Initiative (CSI):** PPA has recently supported the following through the CSI: Onslow Rodeo \$7,000; Onslow Sports Club \$10,000 for shade sail poles; Telethon Speech and Hearing \$4,500 towards the purchase of an ear screening device.
- **Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey:** PPA conducted its seventh annual Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey in early 2021. Strong scores and positive comments with respect to safety and effective day-to-day management.

Chair thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 5.10pm.

ITEM 8 ACTION ITEMS

Action No.	Action	Who
1	Provide update on vertebrate pest campaign at next CCC meeting	DP

