



Rural Water Council (Inc)

AGENDA

MEETING
FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2014
WATER CORPORATION BUILDING
263 FITZGERALD STREET, NORTHAM
COMMENCING 10.00 AM

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Rural Water Council (Inc)

Meeting to be held at the Water Corporation Building, 263 Fitzgerald Street, Northam
Friday 10 October 2014 commencing at 10.00 am

Agenda

1 OPENING & WELCOME

2 ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

The following have confirmed their attendance -

Cr Eileen O'Connell	Shire of Nungarin (President)
Cr Lawrie Short	Shire of Dandaragan (Deputy President)
Mr Matthew Gilfellon	Shire of Dumbleyung
	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Janet Brooks	Shire of Koorda
Cr Ross Chappell	Shire of Lake Grace
Cr Len Armstrong	Shire of Lake Grace
Cr John Flockart	Shire of Merredin
	Shire of Mount Marshall
	Shire of Mukinbudin
	Shire of Narembreen
	Shire of Nungarin
Cr David Smith	Shire of Victoria Plains
	Shire of Westonia
	Shire of York
Mr Norm Smith	
Mr Daniel Nevin	Principal Policy Advisor, Office of the Minister for Water
Mr David Bicknell	Department of Agriculture & Food
Ms Tracy Calvert	Department of Water
Mr Hugh Lavery	Water Corporation
	Wheatbelt NRM
Robert Dew	Executive Officer
Observers	
Cr Graham Brooks	Shire of Koorda

2.2 Apologies

Cr Rod Sheen	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Gina DeLuis	Shire of Narembreen
Cr Mark Crees	Shire of Merredin
Hon Marty Aldridge MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Rick Mazza MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Mia Davies MLA	Member for Central Wheatbelt
Mr Michael Allen	Department of Water

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

5 MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held at Mukinbudin on 4 July 2014 are submitted for confirmation. Copies of these Minutes have been circulated to all members.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the meeting held 4 July 2014 2014, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Other

6 REPORTS

6.1 Water Corporation Report

Presentation of the Water Corporation's report

Recommendation

That the Water Corporation's report be received.

6.2 Department of Water Report

Presentation of the Department of Water's report.

Recommendation

That the Department of Water's report be received.

6.3 Department of Agriculture and Food Report

Presentation of the Department of Agriculture and Food's report (attached).

Recommendation

That the Department of Agriculture and Food's report be received.

6.4 Water Corporation Customer Advisory Council

Report by Cr Lawrie Short (attached).

Recommendation

That the Water Corporation Customer Advisory Council report be received.

6.5 Wheatbelt NRM

Presentation of the Wheatbelt NRM report.

Recommendation

That the Wheatbelt NRM report be received.

6.6 Region Reports**Recommendation****That Region Reports be received.****6.7 Other****7 FINANCE****7.1 Financial Reports**

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period 1 January 2014 to 30 September 2014 attached.

Recommendation**That the financial report for the period 1 January 2014 to 30 September 2014 be received.****7.2 Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts are presented for payment –

<u>Cheque</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Accounts to be Paid</u>			
R W & S Dew		Secretarial Service July 2014 to October 2014	\$330.00
		TOTAL (including GST)	<u>\$330.00</u>

Recommendation**That the accounts as listed above, totalling \$330.00 be passed for payment.****8 BUSINESS****8.1 2015 Meeting Schedule**

At its April 2011 meeting the Group resolved that its meetings be held in March (AGM), July and November (subsequently changed to October) and that meetings be generally held on the first Friday of the month.

In accordance with this decision the meeting schedule proposed for 2015 is –

- Friday 6 March 2015 (AGM) – Northam
- Friday 3 July 2015 – Venue to be determined
- Friday 16 October 2015 – Northam.

Last year the Annual General Meeting was held by teleconference members may care to comment as to whether the 2015 AGM be also held by teleconference.

The Group also resolved that the July meeting be rotated between member local governments; other meetings to be held at Northam. Consideration may be given to a venue for the July 2015 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION**That the 2015 meeting schedule, as listed above, be adopted.**

8.2 Certificate of Appreciation – Mr Ormand Cail

At its November 2011 meeting the Group resolved that a Certificate of Appreciation be presented to Mr Ormand Cail in acknowledgement of his contribution over many years to the Rural Water Council and that he be invited to a meeting for presentation of the Certificate and lunch. I have spoken to Mr Cail on a number of occasions since then but although he is keen to come to a meeting he has, due to other commitments, been unavailable to attend. The meeting may care to consider alternative arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION

For discussion

8.3 Other

9 URGENT BUSINESS (as permitted by the Presiding Member)

10 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the next ordinary meeting and Annual General Meeting of the Rural Water Council be held Friday 6 March 2014 at the Water Corporation Building, Northam.

11 CLOSURE

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
 FOR PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2014 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**

	<u>Actual For Year</u>	<u>Estimate For Year</u>
RECEIPTS		
Membership		
Local Government 12 @ \$150.00	1,800.00	2,250
Individuals 1 @ \$20.00	<u>20.00</u>	40
Interest Earned	10.99	15
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u><u>\$1,830.99</u></u>	<u><u>2,305</u></u>
PAYMENTS		
Meeting Expenses	110.11	150
Postage & Stationery	0.00	50
Secretarial Service	<u>2,505.55</u>	3,500
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u><u>\$2,615.66</u></u>	<u><u>3,700</u></u>
CASH SUMMARY		
Opening Balance	7,010.87	7,011
Plus Receipts	<u>1,830.99</u>	<u>2,305</u>
	8,841.86	9,316
Less Payments	<u>2,615.66</u>	<u>3,700</u>
Closing Balance	<u><u>\$6,226.20</u></u>	<u><u>5,616</u></u>
BANK RECONCILIATION		
Cheque Account Balance (as at 29/8/2014) (Westpac)	6,817.45	
Plus Deposits made but not shown on Statement	<u>0.00</u>	
	6,817.45	
Less Cheques issued but not shown on Statement	<u>591.25</u>	
Balance as per Cash Book	<u><u>\$6,226.20</u></u>	

Notes

- 1) Outstanding membership fees are Shires of Dandaragan, Koorda and Nungarin

Robert Dew
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REPORTS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORD

Water Resources Report – September 2014

Compiled by James Dee
Project Manager, Water Use Efficiency Project
DAFWA Bunbury

The aim of this report is to give an overview of how the seasonal rainfall is affecting water resources across the state.

Regions

Kimberley

Rainfall

The previous wet season has resulted in significant stream flows into the Argyle Dam which has enabled full allocation of water resources.

Water Storage Levels

The current storage levels in the dam in at 100% of storage capacity compared to last year's level of 100%. There is enough water held in storage to supply water for all the activities supported by flows from the Argyle Dam.

Gascoyne

Rainfall

The cumulative rainfall from 1 November 2013 to the 25 September 2014 is at decile 1 levels. The three small river runs in the April May period has helped refresh the superficial aquifers and lifted potential water restrictions. Pumping from Basin A bores is continuing and the scheme water supply is currently set at 80% of entitlements.

Water Resources

The bores drawing from Basin A are currently operating. The capacity of the scheme water supply to deliver enough water on request is being stretched with the main demand period occurring during the day when everyone is drawing from the scheme. Electrification of the northern bore field is progressing and on schedule.

South West Agricultural Region (Geraldton to Esperance)

Overall, the cumulative rainfall to 23 September across this region was significantly higher than the cumulative rainfall pattern for 2010. Heavy opening rains in the April-May period were common to all areas across this region. The rainfall pattern changed with light rainfall over the June - July period and finished with significantly heavier rainfall over the August September period. This has resulted in most on farm storages being full – except for many farms in the Yilgarn - and the later rainfall pattern has deferred the demand for stock water to later than normal.

The projected rainfall for the South West Agricultural Region for October to December ranges from 25 to 50mm over this period for the mid-west region (Perth to Geraldton), from Perth through to Albany the projected rainfall is between 50 and 100mm over this period

These estimates come from the Bureau of Meteorology website data. The DAFWA statistical seasonal forecast information was not available at the time of compiling this report.

Water Resources

Groundwater recharge in the Metropolitan Region and northern areas is likely to be slightly above average due to the higher than average rainfall pattern. The heavier than average rainfall in August significantly improved the groundwater recharge across the whole agricultural region. This is likely to stabilise the water resource situation in the Gingin, Wanneroo and Myalup areas.

From a variety of different reports, surface water storage on farms is adequate in the northern areas of the agricultural region and improving significantly further south. This is especially true in the high rainfall areas. This is reflected in the water storage levels in the Water Corporation dams across the agricultural region. A more detailed analysis of the Water Corporation dam levels can be found in Table 2. – Water Corporation Dam levels for Western Australia at 23 August 2013 in the Appendix.

Licensed water allocations from the different Water Supply Cooperatives are the same for most of the Cooperatives. The situation in Carnarvon is slightly different, with the three small river runs in early 2014, Basin A allocations have improved. There are still limitations being imposed with the scheme allocation being reduced to 80%.

Water Allocations – Percentage of licence allocation -

Dam	2014/15	2013/14	Status
Ord - Argyle	100%	100%	Same
Carnarvon	80%	50 then 70%	Improved situation
Waroona - Harvey	68%	70%	Same
Collie	100%	100%	Same
Preston	100%	100%	Same

Major Project Updates

Review of NW WA development (land and water) and progress 'map' has been completed and written up for NRM Tipping Point Conference held in Busselton in 2014.

Ord East Kimberley (DAFWA lead resource investigations and risk management for State)

- Weaber-Knox- KAI developing 7400ha approved in 2012, DAFWA is undertaking environmental monitoring and assessment until Dec 2014 (5x RMTRs written; 3x more in prep). DAFWA is assisting KAI with Knox area 6000ha proposal on technical issues to support approvals.
- Mantinea and Ord West bank – Area of 5000 + 1000ha of land suitable for development - DAFWA completed resource risk assessment (RMTR 389 in press)
- Cockatoo sands – New soil type for Kununurra – pressurised irrigation on sands - DAFWA is leading the assessment on 2 areas of 2500 and 6000 ha. Reports are due to be completed in June 2015
- Bonaparte Plains – also sandy Cockatoo soils - DAFWA seeking funds with DoW as part of Water For Food

La Grange (DAFWA led \$5m)

- Assessment of soils along 250km road frontage and 60,000km² aquifer south of Broome. Goal to investigate irrigation potential. Inventory and major soils phases completed. Drilling contract let but access issues slowing current progress. Modelling expected to start in 2015.
- Ends June 2016.

Pilbara Hinterland Agricultural Development Initiative (DAFWA led \$12m) – Establishment of 2 pivots for irrigation research and soil/water assessment of Pilbara region. Ends 2016.

Major project developing plans and partnerships.

Carnarvon – Gascoyne Food Bowl (\$25m DAFWA led).

- Goal to develop 400ha new farmland using 4GL/a that needs to be found/tested/developed and approved. Land areas assessment and under approvals process. Contracts for management, drilling, aquifer testing and earthworks let. Contracts for first stage of power line and pipeline also commenced. First section of power poles has been erected, planned completion by the end of November. Drilling (160 exploration) and production (40?) bores commenced Sept 2014. Ends 2016. Early indications from the investigation look promising.

Capitella (DAFWA led - ends 2014)

- \$600,000 project to look at water resources and land degradation between New Norcia and coastal plain (Reagans Ford). Palaeochannel discovered (7 sites - 200m) and tested; capable of small local supplies. Development to date, Main Roads using bore for Highway upgrade.

Water for Food (2014-2018) \$40m DoW Led

- Tranch-1 – DoW (West Kimberley) – \$15m announced by Minister for Water
- Tranch-2 – State-wide (including Bonaparte, Canning Basin, Carnarvon-East, Midlands, Myalup, Warren-Manjimup) – to be finalised through Cabinet, possibly in October 2014

The Climate Group within DAFWA is in the process of developing a web page that monitors rainfall across the state and calculated cumulative rainfall over the summer period (November to end of March) and over the growing season (April to end of October)

The following link will take you to the live webpage - <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/climate-weather/rainfall-date>

Appendix

Figure 1. Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) 3 month rainfall forecast for the period between October to December 2014

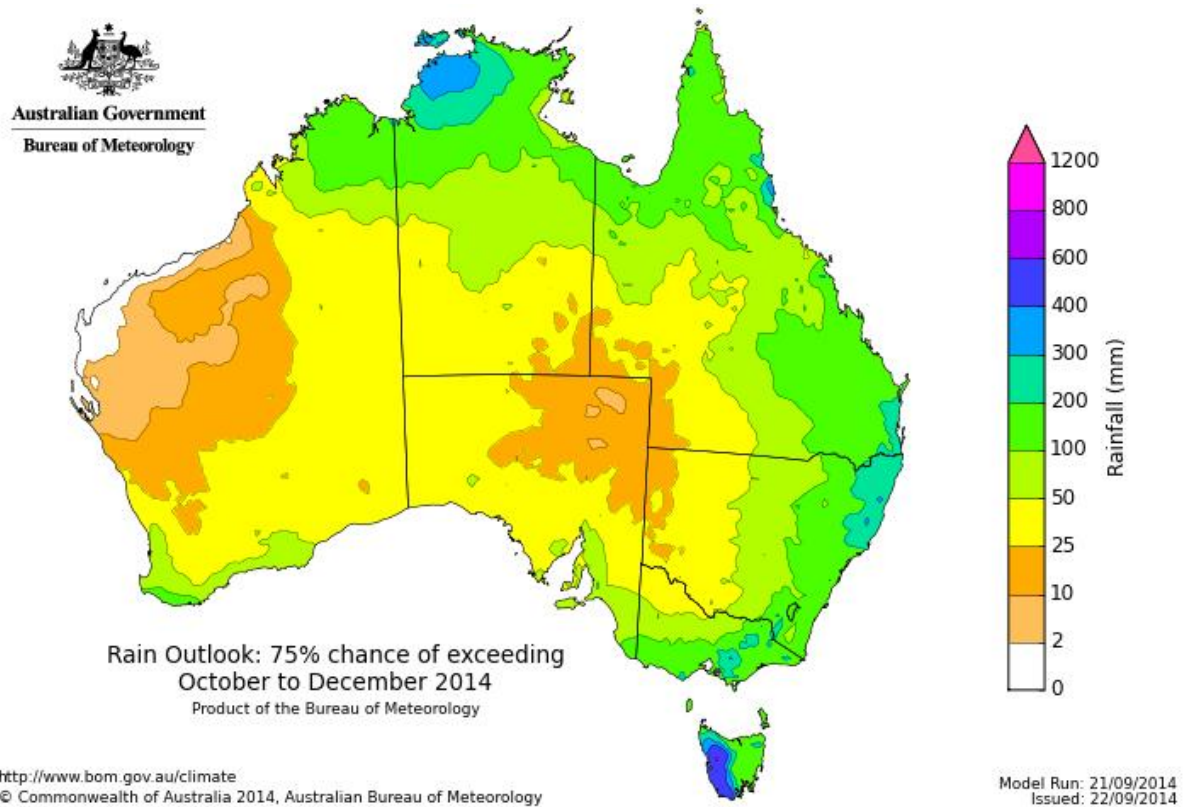


Table 1

Cumulative Rainfall (mm) for Summer (November 2013 to 31 March 2014) and Cumulative Rainfall for the Growing Season (April to 23 September 2014) for the DAFWA Weather Stations

Weather Station	Summer Rainfall (mm)	Summer Decile	Growing Season Rainfall (mm)	Growing Season Decile
ALLANOOKA (DAFWA weather station)	10.6	1	417.6	9
PERENJORI (DAFWA weather station)	111.6	5	209.4	8
COOROW (DAFWA weather station)	32.8	1	239	5
WARRADARGE EAST (DAFWA weather station)	11.8	1	376.6	4
JURIEN BAY (DAFWA weather station)	12.8	1	527	9
BINDI BINDI (DAFWA weather station)	19.4	1	247	6
NEW NORCIA (DAFWA weather station)	13.4	1	433.6	9
KOORDA (DAFWA weather station)	42.6	1	195.6	8
EJANDING (DAFWA weather station)	19.4	1	446.2	9
SHACKELTON (DAFWA weather station)	70.4	2	231.2	8
BROOKTON (DAFWA weather station)	21	1	308.6	7
HYDEN (DAFWA weather station)	55.4	1	215.6	5
DRAGON ROCKS (DAFWA weather station)	55.6	1	210	5
WAGIN (DAFWA weather station)	10.2	1	265.6	5
DARKAN (DAFWA weather station)	13.2	1	346.4	7
CASCADE (DAFWA weather station)	146.4	4	229	2
NYABING (DAFWA weather station)	34	1	282	8
COOMALBIDGUP (DAFWA weather station)	83.2	1	240.6	1
TUNNEY (DAFWA weather station)	18.8	1	334.2	6
SCOTT RIVER (DAFWA weather station)	79.8	1	782.2	8
WILYABRUP (DAFWA weather station)	105.6	1	761.2	4
BONNIE ROCK (DAFWA weather station)	106.8	4	165.4	6
EAST BEVERLEY (DAFWA weather station)	68.2	1	334	9
HOLT ROCK (DAFWA weather station)	34.4	1	205.6	7
MERREDIN (DAFWA weather station)	28.6	1	197.4	6
MURESK (DAFWA weather station)	5	1	223.6	2
NEWDEGATE (DAFWA weather station)	50	1	323.8	9
NORTHAM (DAFWA weather station)	10	1	339.6	8
YILGARN (DAFWA weather station)	40.8	1	174.2	4
KUNUNURRA (DAFWA weather station)	1292.2	9	40.6	1
BADGINGARRA (DAFWA weather station)	33.4	1	429.6	8
BINNU (DAFWA weather station)	15	1	228.6	5
ERADU 2 (DAFWA weather station)	22	1	291.8	8
GINGIN WEST (DAFWA weather station)	17.8	1	534.4	7
KALANNIE (DAFWA weather station)	127.8	6	170.4	6
LANCELIN EAST (DAFWA weather station)	22.4	1	509.4	7
MULLEWA (DAFWA weather station)	79.8	3	225.8	8
MOORA (DAFWA weather station)	11.4	1	311.8	7

WONGAN HILLS (DAFWA weather station)	26.4	1	274.4	7
MOUNT BURDETT (DAFWA weather station)	75.2	1	290	5
ESPERANCE (DAFWA weather station)	81	1	378	8
MOUNT HOWICK (DAFWA weather station)	66.6	1	270.6	3
JERRAMUNGUP (DAFWA weather station)	54	1	267.6	8
MANYPEAKS (DAFWA weather station)	72.2	1	228.2	1
RAVENSTHORPE (DAFWA weather station)	65.4	1	257	7
SALMON GUMS (DAFWA weather station)	105.9	3	177.6	5
WELLSTEAD (DAFWA weather station)	60	1	250	1
DONNYBROOK (DAFWA weather station)	61.2	1	580	2
WICKEPIN EAST (DAFWA weather station)	29.6	1	252.8	8
FLOREAT PARK (DAFWA weather station)	27.6	1	558.6	4
KATANNING (DAFWA weather station)	19.4	1	333.4	8
MEDINA (DAFWA weather station)	32.8	1	523.2	3
MYALUP (DAFWA weather station)	31.2	1	771.8	8
PEMBERTON (DAFWA weather station)	187.4	1	1506.7	9
SOUTH PERTH (DAFWA weather station)	27.6	1	602.8	5
VASSE (DAFWA weather station)	53	1	650.4	7
WICKEPIN (DAFWA weather station)	27	1	273.2	6
WANNEROO (DAFWA weather station)	16.8	1	514.4	4
NAREMBEEN (DAFWA weather station)	45	1	219.2	7
WAROONA (DAFWA weather station)	19.2	1	642.7	3
FRANKLAND (DAFWA weather station)	38.6	1	435.4	8
DARDANUP (DAFWA weather station)	36.3	1	705.8	9
HARVEY (DAFWA weather station)	27.2	1	612	2
STYLES TOWER (DAFWA weather station)	27.2	1	612	2
ERANGY SPRINGS (DAFWA weather station)	17	1	307.2	9
BEACON (DAFWA weather station)	38.4	1	196.5	7
POPANYINNING (DAFWA weather station)	24.2	1	354.6	9
CARNARVON 1 (DAFWA weather station)	19	1	73	1
MOUNT BURAMINYA 1 (DAFWA weather station)	251	8	270.6	2
ENEABBA (DAFWA weather station)	16.4	1	369.6	7
LAKE KING (DAFWA weather station)	125.1	4	233.6	9
MORAWA (DAFWA weather station)	43.4	1	215.4	8
QUAELUP (DAFWA weather station)	37.8	1	446.4	9
MINGENEW (DAFWA weather station)	81.6	3	350	7
BURRACOPPIN SOUTH (DAFWA weather station)	53.8	1	183.8	4
SCADDAN (DAFWA weather station)	65.8	1	190.6	5
LATHAM (DAFWA weather station)	188	9	191.4	7
NARROGIN (DAFWA weather station)	23.2	1	390.4	9
MUKINBUDIN (DAFWA weather station)	63.8	1	116.6	1
WESTONIA (DAFWA weather station)	38.2	1	146.6	3
THREE SPRINGS (DAFWA weather station)	44.8	1	308.2	9

BINDOON (DAFWA weather station)	14.2	1	482.6	5
CANNA EAST (DAFWA weather station)	30.2	1	218	7
GUTHA WEST (DAFWA weather station)	35	1	226	7
MARRADONG (DAFWA weather station)	16.2	1	469	5
CORDERING (DAFWA weather station)	28.4	1	462.4	7
CAPEL (DAFWA weather station)	62.4	1	726.4	9
DENMARK (DAFWA weather station)	91.8	1	492.8	1
DININNUP (DAFWA weather station)	13.2	1	497.4	9
FOURACRES (DAFWA weather station)	84.2	1	844.2	8
JARRAHDAL (DAFWA weather station)	77.8	1	1193.6	9
KARRIDALE (DAFWA weather station)	91.4	1	891.4	9
NEWLANDS (DAFWA weather station)	75.6	1	894.4	9
MANJIMUP HRS (DAFWA weather station)	80	1	721	7
MCALINDEN (DAFWA weather station)	37	1	829.4	9
MARGARET RIVER (DAFWA weather station)	94.6	1	960.4	9
MAYANUP SOUTH (DAFWA weather station)	46.6	1	489.8	9
MILYEANNUP (DAFWA weather station)	90	1	787.2	8
NANNUP (DAFWA weather station)	74	1	715.4	8
NORTHCLIFFE (DAFWA weather station)	116.2	1	1011	8
ONGERUP NORTH (DAFWA weather station)	31.2	1	285.2	8
PINJARRA (DAFWA weather station)	27.4	1	711.8	8
ROSA BROOK (DAFWA weather station)	97	1	875	8
STIRLINGS NORTH (DAFWA weather station)	22.4	1	271	8
DUMBLEYUNG (DAFWA weather station)	17.6	1	253.8	7
STIRLINGS SOUTH (DAFWA weather station)	94	1	281.4	6
CONDINGUP (DAFWA weather station)	75.8	1	347.6	7
MECKERING NORTH (DAFWA weather station)	15.6	1	263	9
MAGENTA (DAFWA weather station)	45.2	1	275.4	9
GAIRDNER (DAFWA weather station)	61.2	1	265.2	2
MOUNT BARKER (DAFWA weather station)	74.4	1	401.2	4
YUNA (DAFWA weather station)	7	1	219.8	5
KELLERBERRIN (DAFWA weather station)	16	1	240.4	8
WATHEROO (DAFWA weather station)	28.6	1	273	6
YANMAH (DAFWA weather station)	49.2	1	784	6
KONDININ (DAFWA weather station)	124	5	248.4	8
CHAPMAN (DAFWA weather station)	37.6	1	348	7
TRAYNING WEST (DAFWA weather station)	38.4	1	192.8	5
ROLLING GREEN (DAFWA weather station)	38.4	1	192.8	5
MITCHELL PLATEAU (DAFWA weather station)	38.4	1	192.8	5
KARIJINI (DAFWA weather station)	38.4	1	192.8	5
CORRIGIN (DAFWA weather station)	46.8	1	286.8	8

Table 2
 Water Storage Levels Percentage 2013 and 2014 (Source: Water Corporation)

Storage	Region	2013 Percent full	2014 Percent full	Current Storage (ML)	Rating
Argyle (ORD)	North West	69.4	91.6	9,858,610	Significantly Improved
Harding	Pilbara	90.4	89.8	57,320	Same
Bootenal Storage Complex	Mid West	76	72	19	Same
Canning	Metropolitan	40.6	34.9	31,530	Lower
Churchman Brook	Metropolitan	67	53	1,190	Lower
Mundaring	Metropolitan	49.2	40.1	25,510	Lower
North Dandalup	Metropolitan	32	52.1	31,650	Significantly Improved
Serpentine	Metropolitan	31.2	34.4	4,370	Same
Serpentine Pipehead	Metropolitan	83.7	77.6	2,040	Lower
South Dandalup	Metropolitan	14	19.3	26,610	Improved - but very low
Stirling - Metro Supply	Metropolitan	74.2	67.2	38,600	Significantly Improved
Victoria	Metropolitan	51.6	46.2	4,370	Slightly Lower
Wungong	Metropolitan	41.2	42.2	25,230	Slightly higher
Drakes Brook	South West	100.7	98.1	2,250	Slightly lower
Glen Mervyn	South West	100	100.0	2,070	Same
Harris	South West	58.6	57.5	41,380	Same
Harvey	South West	93.6	97.7	55,120	Improved
Logue Brook	South West	30.5	39.8	9,680	Improved
Manjimup	South West	53.3	54.6	860	Improved
Stirling	South West	79.2	71.8	38,600	Lower
Ten Mile Brook	South West	100	73.2	1,240	Significantly lower
Waroona	South West	60.8	65.1	9,880	Improved
Wellington	South West	100	100	184,430	Same
Bolganup	Great Southern	97.3	97.3	218	Same
Borden	Great Southern	100	93.3	10	Lower
Brookton	Great Southern	20.6	13.2	20	Lower – low levels
Cranbrook	Great Southern	75	75	70	Same
Dumbleyung	Great Southern				
Frankland	Great Southern	96.6	96.9	30	Same
Gnowangerup	Great Southern	85	75	60	Lower
Hyden	Great Southern	97.9	97.9	46	Same
Jerramungup	Great Southern	78.3	78.3	60	Same
Kojonup	Great Southern	0.0	0.0	19	Very low
Kondinin	Great Southern	80.5	82.9	30	Same
Kukerin	Great Southern	97.2	100	40	Improved
Lake Grace	Great Southern	98.2	98.2	50	Same
Munglinup	Great Southern	95	65	10	Lower
Newdegate	Great Southern	66	87.7	40	Improved
Nyabing	Great Southern	96.6	93.1	30	Slightly lower
Ongerup	Great Southern	80.8	66	20	Lower
Pingrup	Great Southern	100.0	100.0	27	Same
Quickup	Great Southern	105	57.4	570	Significantly Lower
Ravensthorpe	Great Southern	26.5	22	20	Lower
Rocky Gully	Great Southern	100.0	100.0	50	Same
Tambellup	Great Southern	71.1	75.6	30	Improved
Varley	Great Southern	100	100	11	Same

WATER CORPORATION CUSTOMER ADVISORY COUNCIL

(a) Customer Advisory Council & Board Meeting held 21-22 July 2014

Location: Settlers House York.

Time:

21st Meeting 5.00pm-7.00pm, including regional Local Government Presidents and the Minister for Water Hon Mia Davies MLA.

22nd Meeting between Board and CAC commenced at 7.30am.

Purpose: The Board comprising of Chair and eight members, from various allied Professions, Water Corporation General Manager, Administration Officer and Nelson Riley (CAC Chair), to familiarise themselves with the needs, difficulties and aspirations for water service in the Rural Water Council Region.

Key Discussion Points: The meeting on the 21st was relaxed allowing members to get to know the Board and their expertise from hydrography to civil engineering in a multi-discipline field.

The 22nd allowed a direct presentation for Board consideration of the following points;

- Initial statistics of region with population of 74,000 people, 200 towns, 10,000 businesses with 6% growth and Gross Product in 2013 of \$6.4Bn reaching \$73Bn by 2050 (Vide State Planning Strategy 2050) with population expectation of 180,000 people;
- Horticulture growth in Coastal Wheatbelt Shires;
- Necessity to supply constant supply now the \$300M Mundaring Treatment Plant is operating;
- Better management required to cover the experience of 100 water pipeline bursts per year, with better management and emplacement of regular Tanks along the lines to ensure supply during such events. It was acknowledged that the management practice of "run to fail" was economically viable in some minds but given the growth in agriculture production and economic Importance to the Nation a better maintenance plan was essential;
- It was noted with the increased land tillage and reduced stock numbers meant more water was absorbed in the paddocks, with limited hard trodden stock tracks able to increase runoff not being as prolific;
- The need for non-potable waters for firefighting and spraying was emphasised,
- As due to previous comments it was not as common in farm dams as in the past;
- Department of Water reparation of rock catchment dams and roofed dams was acknowledged as assisting farmers;
- The issue of infill sewage requirements was raised, particularly in coastal Shires and many smaller Inland towns;
- A discussion was also undertaken where some towns (Shires) have installed their own sewage systems and treatment plants, which have been managed by the Water Corporation for a number of years. Unfortunately the systems often required upgrades and or renewal with the Water Corporation putting the cost back on Shires. This was pointed out as being irrational as the Water Corporation having taken over the Infrastructure management should have raised sufficient funds to undertake these, as they do with their other assets.

Outcomes: A good hearing was received on 22 July. The Board was going to undertake a meeting with community and interested parties in Cunderdin, hopefully involving some readers.

Suggested Actions for Local Government consideration: Your Local Water Corporation Manager is there to assist. General Manager Bennie Smith (United States of America University Graduate) is proactive in improving work efficiency and effectiveness of operations in the Region.

Delegate: Lawrie Short

28 July 2014.

(b) **Customer Advisory Council Meeting held 17 September 2014**

Purpose: Update on projects. With Riley Nelson on leave, Ben Jarvis (previous resident of Lake Grace) Environmentalist acted as Chair for the day. The Meeting commenced at the revised time of 4.00pm with 12 Councillors and 4 staff in attendance.

Key Discussion Points: Being that there were a couple of specific items to be dealt with the presenters commenced straight away;

1. Kevin Guppy presented an informative discussion on the just completed Beenyup Groundwater Replenishment Program (GWR) with an annual capacity of 1.5 Gigalitres; the project was so successful that an Alliance between Water Corporation, Theiss and CHT Recharge has been formed to go ahead with a larger project 15 Gigalitres per year project. It will be known KEP (Noongar for water) Recharge Alliance this is thought to be about one third of the production from a Desalination Plant per year.
 - To ensure success the project has to win stakeholder and public endorsement, clear accountability with a sustainable aquifer outcome;
 - A Kangaroo proof fence to be established;
 - Project total cost estimated to be \$114m, with 80% recovery from treated water, with a 180 Bn Litre flow in per day at Beenyup, being as a result of a complex civil project including reverse osmosis. Recharge 200m down to Leederville Aquifer and 754m down to Perth Yarragadee. Design started July'14, Decommission Trial September '14, pump start June'15 with Recharge commencing November "16.
2. Steven Mackenzie presented an informative process for the Major Framework Review – Rural Areas which primarily dealt with the issue of major projects such as mine sites that required considerable extension to the main Infrastructure already in place, where it could be probable that the project may not succeed thus leaving a stranded asset. This has led to larger charges for headworks due to the necessity to ensure cost recovery;
 - Under the Water Services Act Water Corporation have powers to enter into special agreements with major consumers where there is a perceived risk of stranded assets, which does not have the same level of risk in the metropolitan area;
 - This was brought to bear after the surge of major projects in the Pilbara in the 1970s. With some 108 special agreements, 58 of which are for mining using more than 49 kL per day, with the rest spread throughout the state on standard agreements;
 - An example of these charges is in Kalgoorlie (552.3 km from Perth) where the mining supply of 49 Kl per day attracts \$18,282 per day, being the charge for the additional infrastructure required without a charge for the actual water (standard Water Corporation Practice);
 - Customers can nominate period from 10-15years that the service may be required and Government is committed to not having advantages over Private business to "*promote allocative efficiency- the best allocation of economic resources amongst competing needs*"

There will be follow up with issues paper presented for public comment in October 2014.

Delegate: Lawrie Short

21 September 2014.

Disclaimer: The comments contained herein are my own appreciation of what has been said and could be amended in further material made public.