



Board Communiqué

Alinytjara Wilurara NRM Board

The Alinytjara Wilurara NRM Board met for the 8th time last week, in Marla. This location was chosen as it was agreed to link the board meeting to a Traditional Owners workshop.

Key issues on the Board agenda were:

a) Establishment of Advisory Committees to the Board

- It was agreed at a previous meeting to progress the structure of advisory committees and a meeting was held in Ceduna with decision makers from Yalata and Maralinga Lands to finalise this matter.
- A structure and content for the advisory committee has now been agreed. The advisory committee has the following members: Thomas Sandimal, Mabel Queama, Margaret May, Hilary Williams, Brendon Queama, Greg Day, Keith Peters and one other nomination is required. It was agreed to approach Pia Richter to be the Independent Chair.
- A letter has been sent to APY Executive to request they also consider setting up an advisory committee and this structure was further discussed with Traditional Owners on the 15th March. Several structures were discussed and will be further refined in the near future.

b) Working Together document

Previously the AW Board sent a suggested cooperative framework to APY Executive to encourage working together. The Board was given an update that the APY Executive have discussed the document and will be responding to the Board in the near future.

c) Board Membership.

Four Board Members term on the Board expires on the 1st July 2007. An Act of Parliament has been passed to allow Minister Gago to extend the terms to July 2008 with the Members agreement. The Presiding Member was tasked with talking to the four Board members to ascertain if they wished to continue. The Board was informed that three will continue and one will be replaced.

d) Timing of the development of Comprehensive Plan.

- The Board is tasked with development of a comprehensive plan for the AW Region. Originally the staff indicated we would aim to complete the draft in September 2007 but the Board has now agreed to extend this by one year to September 2008.
- This reflected the need to obtain many maps and data sets to develop the State of the Region report as a factual baseline of resource status for the plan.
- It also reflects the need for a consultancy to develop the Monitoring Framework for the region.
- Also the Board is mindful of the added time to properly consult with all communities throughout the lands.

The Board meeting conducted with a Traditional Owners workshop attended by representatives from Mimili, Indulkana, Black Hill, Anilalya Homeland, Fregon, Oak Valley, Watinuma, Irinitata Homeland, Kenmore Park, Watarru, Ernabella / Pukatja, Umuwa, Mulga Bore, Plenty Bore, Cap Well, Amata, Coober Pedy, Sandy Bore, Pipalyatjara and Walalkara.

This meeting was called to consult on the plan and investment strategy and also to have the communities discuss with the Board NRM issues and working relationships.

There was much discussion about appropriate consultation structures - these will be refined over the next few weeks then sent back for checking. It may then be necessary to hold another meeting to go through projects in detail.

Regards,

Lorraine Rosenberg
General Manager

21/03/07