

BOARD BULLETIN

A report of matters associated with Southern Rural Water's board meeting by video conference on Wednesday 21 October 2020.

Excellence in rural water management, driving growth and customer productivity in southern Victoria.



Present:

Ms Diane James AM	Chairman
Mr Michael Malouf AM	Deputy Chairman
Ms Naomi Cleary	Director
Mr Christopher Edwards	Director
Ms Peta Maddy	Director
Ms Michelle Murray	Director
Ms Kylie Steel	Director
Mr Cameron FitzGerald	Managing Director

Management:

Mr Stuart Wrigglesworth	Chief Financial Officer & Corporation Secretary
Ms Renae Cooke	Executive Assistant to the Managing Director
Ms Joanna Giannini (for part)	General Manager People Safety and Culture
Mr Craig Parker (for part)	General Manager Service Delivery
Mr. Simon Wilkinson (for part)	General Manager Assets and Environment
Ms. Elisa Hunter (for part)	General Manager Strategy and Performance

Apologies:

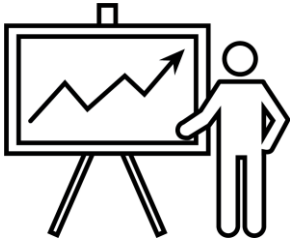
Mr. Angus Hume	Director
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OUR MEETING

The SRW board met via videoconferencing for its October meeting in light of COVID-19 restrictions. Significant issues discussed at the meeting included the approval of the Macalister Irrigation District Phase 2 Modernisation funding deed, the objectives of SRW's Climate Adaptation Plan and the preliminary results of the staff culture survey.



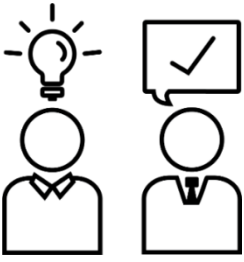
OUR OUTCOMES

Modernisation funding agreement with the State and Federal governments which will allow major works to kick off in winter 2021. The board highlighted the importance of strong customer engagement in the delivery of the project, particularly through the Macalister Customer Consultative Committee.

The board discussed the link between asset modernisation, through projects such as MID Phase 2, and climate change adaptation in approving the objectives set out in SRW's new Climate Adaptation Plan. The objectives are:

1. Addressing outstanding knowledge gaps regarding the impacts of climate change on SRW's operations and quantification of risk.
2. Embedding well-coordinated, evidence-based responses to climate change and incorporating adaptive planning into SRW's decision making.
3. Defining SRW's role in assisting its stakeholders to adapt to climate change.
4. Ensuring that SRW's water resources and built systems are resilient in the context of climate change.
5. Protecting biodiversity and natural ecosystems throughout SRW's areas of operation.

The board's approval highlighted the criticality of building SRW's adaptive capacity and reducing exposure to climate impacts as they unfold.



OUR ASPIRATIONS

Our People

The preliminary results of the 2020 staff culture survey were discussed. The board recognised improvements in key areas of the survey, including staff engagement, while continuing to challenge the executive team to implement a culture shift consistent with the recently launched corporate strategy which highlights the importance of empowering our people to achieve results that enhance customer and community value.

Excellence

The board authorised the recruitment of a permanent part-time Corporation Secretary, separate to the function of the Chief Financial Officer, to be advertised in the coming weeks. This position will support SRW's desire to continually improve corporate governance and coordination of legal and other advice.

Great Partner

The 2021 board schedule was approved with the hope that, COVID-19 permitting, there will be an opportunity to reconnect with customers and key stakeholders across our service area during the year.

