

Executive Outcomes Report: September 2015

The Executive Group met in September

September 2015	October 2015
<i>Cr Naji Peter Najjar, GRCCC Chair Cr Peter Scaysbrook, GRCCC Vice Chair Cr Andrew Tsounis – GRCCC Treasurer Svetlana Kotevska GRCCC Program Manager Lisa Smith, GRCCC Administration Officer Alison Hanlon – host Council Manager, HCC</i>	<i>The Executive did not meet in October 2015, as there was no quorum. However, the Finance & Administration Cluster met on the same day and was supported by the GRCCC Chairperson Cr Naji Peter Najjar who was in attendance.</i>

Matters progressed:

Local Council Environmental Issues

Local environmental issues relevant to Hurstville City Council including on ground projects and grants were discussed with the Executive Group.

Finance and administration matters

- The GRCCC August 2015 monthly financial statements was reviewed & discussed.
- Three quotes were considered for the replacement of the Riverkeeper ute. At its meeting of the 27th August, 2015, the Committee approved its replacement to the value of \$40,000, which would be funded from the GRCCC asset renewal reserves. It was agreed to purchase a Holden Colorado ute as recommended by the host Councils Fleet Manager.
- Two quotations were received for security services at the Riverkeeper Centre. The Executive agreed to engage the company Ultimate Security (also currently servicing the host Council) as they provided a cheaper service and local call outs. The Riverkeeper Centre will now have a new alarm and back to base monitoring for a period of three years funded from the existing Riverkeeper materials budget.
- The Draft 2014/15 Annual Report, supporting Executive Summary and the Annual Financial Statements were presented to and reviewed by the Executive. The Financial Statements of the GRCCC for 2014/2015 were endorsed by the Executive and will be externally audited.
- Options for the use of the GRCCC Accumulated Surplus reserve were considered. The Executive agreed that these options be presented to a Finance and Administration Cluster meeting to be held mid October and members council staff would be given the opportunity to make suggestions for the use of the reserve.
- All performance reviews for GRCCC staff were completed in September 2015.
- The River Health Coordinator David Reid has satisfied all his probationary period requirements.

Bush regeneration contract to deliver GS LLS grant

- Three companies submitted quotations for a catchment wide bush regeneration project. The assessment panel reviewed the quotations and a report to GRCCC Councillors recommended the National Trust be selected as the preferred contractor. GRCCC Councillors approved the engagement of the National Trust and contracts were signed on the 30 September, 2015. On ground works are due to commence in mid October and the unsuccessful companies were notified.

Annual General Meeting

- The AGM will start with a tour of the Carss Park environmentally friendly seawall at 5pm, followed by dinner at 6pm and the official Meeting at 7pm.
- Voting of nominated councillors will take place during 6pm to 7pm with the GRCCC elected Councillors announced at the AGM. The Program Manager will provide all required documentation to Councillors including the background document to Councillors. The GRCCC sent a letter to all Member Council General Managers requesting that the nominations of Councillors for GRCCC be those with a genuine environmental interest.

Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)

- The EPA has established a NSW Container Deposit Scheme – Environmental Protection Working Group and the GRCCC representative is the Riverkeeper, Tony Wales.

Federal Senate Inquiry into ‘The Threat of Marine Plastic Pollution in Australia’

- The GRCCC provided in principle support, data and a letter on the Riverkeeper Program and rubbish collection results and costs, to the Boomerang Alliance, an environmental organisation, for a Submission to the Federal Senate Inquiry into the threat of marine plastic pollution in Australia. The GRCCC drafted its own submission and sought the Riverkeeper Clusters endorsement prior to making its submission to the Senate Inquiry.

NSW Department of Fair Trading Seminar –Incorporated Associations Workshop

- The Program Manager will attend a meeting with NSW Fair Trading to keep abreast of any changes to the regulation of Incorporated Associations and the Act.

OEH – Our Place Program

- The Program Manager has been invited to a meeting by OEH to hear about their program relates to sustainability and CALD communities. The Program Manager will attend to determine any potential partnerships and linkages with the OEH on this program.

Fox Control – RCC Regional Grant

- Rockdale City Council (RCC) has received funding from Sydney Coastal Councils Group http://www.sydneycostalcouncils.com.au/salty_communities for an Integrated fox control program to co-ordinate a regional approach to fox management involving 14 Councils from Sydney Harbour through to Sutherland including 5 GRCCC member Councils. GRCCC has met with RCC and will support this grant project by encouraging Aboriginal engagement and working with its stakeholder network to secure workshop facilitators that can provide a workshop to the Aboriginal Community to identify fox scats, dens and fox control measures.

Foreshore access and crown lands sales

- The Executive Group requested the GRCCC Program Manager gauge whether Member Councils were affected by the sale of crown lands in their LGAs and the impact this may have on restricting foreshore access.

Letters to new General Managers at Sutherland Shire and Campbelltown City Councils

- The Program Manager wrote to the new General Managers at Sutherland and Campbelltown offering to provide them with a briefing session to outline the GRCCCs programs and achievements.

RMS and GRCCC - Joint Safety Message Proposal

- The Program Manager emailed RMS regarding the GRCCC's previous support for a boat and jet ski safety campaign and suggesting a joint effort/media release to continue to encourage safety messages for the Georges River. To support this proposal, the Program Manager provided details of the Georges River CZMP, for which the RMS provided a letter of support, the previous boat and jet ski safety proposal, and a link to a recent media article about a jet ski accident.