

Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee

27th August 2021 9:00am

Via Zoom

MINUTES

I. Welcome and apologies

Andrew MacDonald (Chair) via zoom welcomed members of the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee: Matthew McRae and Adam Broadbent. In attendance Simon Millcock and Paul Chapman.

Andrew welcomed Leanne Burford Legatus Group Admin Officer.

Apologies: Hayden Battle, Riaz Uddin and Garry Easthope.

2. Previous Minutes

Minutes from the meeting on 19th August 2021 were accepted as correct.

Moved: Adam Broadbent Seconded: Matthew McRae CARRIED

3. Matters Arising

3.1 PhD Internships

Meeting noted the report from Paul Chapman and that the reports are published on the Legatus Group Website.

3.2 Proposed CWMS training course

The meeting noted the report and Simon Millcock provided an update following a meeting with LG Professionals and LGA Training where the possibility for trialling this via a micro-credentials program. LGA Training advised that at this stage they were unprepared to progress with a proposal to Dept Innovation and Skills and as such Simon will progress with LGA Training on the script development.

3.2 Remote condition monitoring of CWMS pumps

The meeting noted the report and Matthew McRae advised there had been some initial analyse of data as the project is still in its very early stages. Information that is being received is helping identify opportunities for preventative maintenance; and it provides information that was not available before; trying to extend; finding useful information; but too early to know long-term benefits of the trial.

Adam Broadbent advised he was in a very similar position although their pumps were different to those at Copper Coast due to having to pump uphill. Noted that in future IPACS should be the ones installing and this to be discussed for further projects. The meeting noted the need to identify the variations associated with each site and system.

Paul advised he is supervising students who are looking into modelling around the possible returns.

4. CWMS survey of Legatus Councils

The meeting noted the report and its recommendation to be progressed to the LGA as part of the CWMS reform process.

Motion: That the survey report is circulated to the member councils for any further recommendations and additional comments for consideration by the advisory committee before being sent to the LGA.

Moved: Moved: Adam Broadbent Seconded: Matthew McRae CARRIED

5. LGA CWMS Reform

The meeting discussed the report provided with the agenda on the 2020 discussion paper prepared by Paul Chapman re CWMS reform.

The meeting resolved that further progress be undertaken in collaboration with the LGA for a report to be prepared which compares governance arrangements for CWMS in different Australian jurisdictions which could subsequently by sent to the LGA to help inform their reform process.

6. Joint CWMS Service Arrangements by the Legatus Group

The meeting noted the support provided by the LGA CWMS Committee for the extension of funding to support the contracting of Paul Chapman and the arrangements outlined for topics he will be progressing.

7. National Performance Reporting and potential trials

Naomi Struve (OTR) attended the meeting and discussed the progress of the performance reporting and potential trials and the meeting noted the differences between large operators and small schemes. The initial trials will be voluntary and Naomi would follow up with regards resourcing support for any council who participates in the trial. The meeting noted they will become mandatory.

Naomi outlined the Brown Card training for operational staff which has a focus on work health safety and seeking anyone who may be interested in reviewing this. It will look to be implemented from an interstate program.

8. Business Detecting Problems Workshop

Rhys Moult from Four joined the meeting and outlined the upcoming Legatus Group workshop on 17 September they are facilitating.

9. Other business

9.1 Auditor-General - Report 11 of 2021 - Examination of the Community Wastewater Management Systems Program

Sam Johnson the CEO District Council of Mount Remarkable joined the meeting and discussed an agenda item that the Mt Remarkable Council has for the Legatus meeting on 3 September 2021 that relates to the Auditor-General - Report 11 of 2021 - Examination of the Community Wastewater Management Systems Program. A briefing paper was distributed to the advisory committee prior to the meeting.

The meeting noted the lack of attention that has been given to governance and their observations of the need for change in this sector. This aligned with observations from the 2020 discussion paper provided by Paul Chapman and the decision by the LGA CWMS Committee to look at reform.

The meeting noted their support if the Legatus Group sought to progress further investigation with the LGA on the findings of this report. Following the Legatus Group meeting the committee would reconvene to consider this matter.

The meeting sought to ensure that it was noted the value and support which has been provided to the sector by Michelle Wittholz the LGA CWMS Program Manager.

9.2 Drought Innovation Hub

Simon Millcock to provide report following the meeting being held in Orroroo in September.

9.3 Compost Trial

Paul Chapman provided an update on the progress of a possible compost development in Peterborough.

10. Close and date of next meeting

No date was set for the next meeting.

Meeting closed at 10:30am