

Limestone Coast Landscape Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting information

Location and time

Thursday, 23 October 2025 at 11:04 am

Coorong District Council, 95-101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend

Attendees

LC Landscape Board Members: Penny Schulz (Chair), Jonathan Sobels, Pete Bissell, Robbie Davis (on MS Teams), Tom Linnell, Tracey Strugnell and Mark Bachmann.

Staff: Steve Bourne (General Manager), Liz Perkins till 15:19, Jason Taylor till 15:19, Le-Anne Thomson from 13:18 till 15:19, Mike Stevens till 15:19, Kylie Pethybridge (for item 2 on MS Teams), Alison Boomsma (for item 2 on MS Teams), Robbie Andrew (for item 4.4) and Anya Karsten (minute taker).

Guests: Nil.

Public gallery: Nil.

Apologies: Nil.

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 Opening, welcome and apologies

Meeting opened.

1.2 Acknowledgment of Country

Presenter: Chair Penny Schulz

1.3 Declarations of Interest Register and Standing Interest Register

1.4 Agenda check

Pursuant to section 23(5) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, it was resolved that the following items be determined by the LC Landscape Board in confidence, for the reasons prescribed as per section 7(3) of the *Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020*:

| Item | Prescribed reason |
|---|-------------------|
| 3.1 LC Landscape Board – closed session draft minutes for endorsement (#36, 28 August 2025) | (g) |
| 3.2 Business arising | (g) |
| 3.3 Resolutions without meetings – nil entries | (g) |
| 3.4 Closed session Actions Register | (e)(f) |
| 3.5 LLC WAP | (g) |
| 3.6 Enforcement and Compliance Register | (b)(f) |
| 3.7 Other business | (g) |

Closed session

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Moved into the closed session of the meeting at 11:06 am with staff members S Bourne, L Perkins, J Taylor, M Stevens & A Karsten present.
 2. Moved into the open session of the meeting at 12:49.
- 3.1 LC Landscape Board – closed session draft minutes for endorsement (#36, 28/08/2025)
- 3.2 Business arising
- 3.3 Resolutions out of session (nil)
- 3.4 Closed Session Actions Register
- 3.5 LLC WAP
- 3.6 Enforcement and Compliance Register
- 3.7 Other business

LUNCH BREAK from 12:49 to 13:18

Meeting items

3.1 Public gallery

Nil

4.2 Regional Landscape Plan

Presenter: L Perkins

Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board noted an improved layout and format which includes breakout boxes indicating priorities and regional equity? of projects, and commended staff on the reworked document and graphic design. It was discussed that the document is now easier to read due to its simplified format. The amendments made now better reflect values and biodiversity outcomes for the LC Landscape Board.

The approach to consultation was discussed and it was noted that the team will take the plan back to the groups and organisations that were approached previously. Following the consultation the plan will be again presented to the LC Landscape Board for consideration at its next scheduled meeting on 4 December.

Action:

R Davis to email discussed amendments to A Boomsma and K Pethybridge.

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Approved, with the discussed amendments, the draft of the 2026-31 Regional Landscape Plan for stakeholder and community consultation.
2. Approved the proposed approach for stakeholder, partner and community consultation.

4.3 NHT Update: Cockies and Paddock Trees Projects

Presenter: Jason Taylor and Robbie Andrew

Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board received an update from J Taylor about Stage 2 of the Karst Springs project. External funding from the Shorebirds and Wetland Habitat program has been made available to assist with the project development. The Bat project team held an event “A Night at the Caves” on the 11 October which had over 200 attendees. The Sustainable Ag Facilitator will commence on 2 December. Landscape Officer Declan Spoor is supporting Geoff Kew in his role (Sustainable Landscapes Coordinator) until the Sustainable Landscapes Officer (Soils) is appointed.

Deliverables for the Sustainable Ag Facilitator were discussed to ensure the role’s key outcomes are relevant to the project, following the example of the carbon farming project. The LC Landscape Board enquired of the reportable metrics for the role and was invited to define the key attributes of the role to ensure clarity in the report delivery to the Commonwealth Government.

It was suggested to add the Sustainable Ag Facilitator discussion to the February 2026 meeting agenda.

A 'Cockies Create Communities and Paddock Trees' projects presentation was provided by R Andrew. The LC Landscape Board noted the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (RTBC) feeding habitat reduction. It was noted that RTBC prefer aged hollows (150 years). The reduced numbers of paddock trees due to aging and clearance impact the population of RTBC.

Action:

J Taylor to include SAF item to 4 December LC Landscape Board meeting for discussion.

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the status of the Limestone Coast 2023-2028 Natural Heritage Trust program being delivered by the LC Landscape Board as the Regional Delivery Partner.
2. Received a presentation on the delivery of the Cockies Create Communities: South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo project.

4.4 Quarterly Project Reports

Presenter: L Perkins

Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board commended staff on the quality of the project reports submitted, noting the traffic lights are helpful for understanding of the projects' progress.

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Approved the attached Q4 project reports.

4.5 NRM Knowledge Conference

Presenter: L Thomson

Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board received an update from L Thomson on behalf of Dr P Schulz and J Taylor, noting that the conference provided a great networking opportunity allowing an understanding of national projects. It was noted that AI received particular attention and was also discussed.

Additional topics discussed were the policies, opportunities and importance of staff training (eg mentoring and leadership capability programs) across all Landscape Boards.

It was noted that the levy system is different in every state.

J Taylor presented the Karst springs project which received many questions and considerable interest throughout the conference and provided a great opportunity for networking. The LC region was well represented, and its projects helped elevate the region's profile.

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the key themes from the 9th National NRM Knowledge Conference.

Standing items

5.1 Draft minutes of LC Landscape Board meeting 36 held 28 August 2025

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Approved the minutes of the Limestone Coast Landscape Board meeting no. 36, held on 28 August 2025.

5.2 Business arising

It was noted that the LC Landscape Board Members attended the opening of the Lake Hawdon North regulator on 24 September 2025.

The LC Landscape Board Water Workshop will be held 11-12 December 2025.

5.3 Resolutions without meeting

Nil.

5.4 Board contracts report

Nil.

5.5 Presiding Member's report

Noted.

5.6 General Manager's report

Noted.

5.7 LC Landscape Board members' reports

Verbal reports were received.

P Bissell

Raised the SEWCDB and LCLB joint meeting, regulator access tracks in the middle of the floodplains and further design specific questions. It was noted that a letter from Ben Taylor was received and will be addressed.

T Strugnell delivered a drought report. Her involvement from the drought's commencement was noted.

The Regional Management Team left the meeting at 15:19.

The LC Landscape Board discussed changes in climate conditions including decreased rain and increased wind which have altered the microclimate and landscape's evapotranspiration, preventing run-off

It was noted that PIRSA is delivering drought packages and that the LC Landscape Board's efforts in pest animals control, such as the feral deer program and assisting with rabbit population reduction are helping to reduce the impact on the landscape.

T Linnell accepted the invitation from the Limestone Coast Youth Environment Council to attend the Screening of the "Future Council" next Thursday, 30 October at the Oatmill Cinema.

R Davis advised of her attendance of the Water Expo "Water in our landscapes" on 25 November 2025.

5.8 Correspondence register

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Accepted the correspondence for the period from 22 August 2025 to 16 October 2025.

5.9 Forward plan and actions register

December events were noted:

Site visits and dinner with the Native Vegetation Council – 2 December

Staff Day – 3 December

Water Workshop 11-12 December

It was suggested to seek Minister Hood's availability during the Native Vegetation Council's visit and dinner or create an opportunity in 2026.

Additional items for the Forward Planner:

Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator presentation in February 2026

National soil monitoring program presentation in April 2026.

Noted.

5.10 Other business

Nil.

Meeting closure

6.1 Approval for the General Manager to action decisions from the closed session of meeting 37

Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Delegated authority to the General Manager to communicate closed session items and resolutions from meeting no. 37 to the relevant staff as necessary and appropriate.

Meeting closed at 15:35

Minutes of the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, meeting no. 37, 23 October 2025 – confirmed as a true and correct record:

Confirmed: 

Penny Schulz, Presiding Member

Date: 4 December 2025