

# Limestone Coast Landscape Board Meeting Minutes

## Meeting information

### Location and time

Thursday, 26 June 2025 at 11:53

District Council of Tatiara Chambers, 43 Woolshed Street, Bordertown

### Attendees

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

Staff: Steve Bourne (General Manager), Liz Perkins, Le-Anne Thomson, Jason Taylor, Mike Stevens, Kylie Pethybridge (for item 3.2), Alison Boomsma (for items 3.2 and 3.3), Edel Stoner (for item 5.7) and Anya Karsten (minute taker).

Guests: Nil.

Public gallery: Nil.

Apologies: Nil.

## 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

T Strugnell declared a Conflict of Interest in items 5.6 "Grassroots grants" and 5.7 "Climate-smart Landscape Grants" due to her employer's involvement in the applications.

M Bachmann declared a Conflict of Interest in item 5.6 "Grassroots Grants" due to Nature Glenelg Trust's involvement in the applications.

P Bissell asked to record that his property runs along the boundary of the ARTC corridor within 2kms distance.

## 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
5.1 LC Landscape Board – closed session draft minutes for endorsement (#34, 30 April 2025)	(g)
5.2 Business arising	(g)
5.3 Resolutions without meetings – nil entries	(g)
5.4 Closed session Actions Register	(e)(f)
5.5 GFAC closed session meeting (#25, 02/06/2025)	(g)
5.6 Grassroots Grants	(g)
5.7 Climate-smart Landscape Grants	(g)
5.8 Permanent waiver of invoice	(b)(g)
5.9 Exemption request	(g)(i)
5.10 Enforcement and Compliance Register	(b)(f)
5.11 Other business	(g)

Limestone Coast Landscape Board discussed current agenda order and proposed an agenda evaluation at the start of the meeting. If possible, closed sessions are preferred at the meeting commencement, followed by in-camera session.

Order of items – closed session held after item 3.3.

## Meeting items

### 3.1 Public gallery

Nil

### 3.2 Business Plan

Presenter: L Perkins and A Boomsma

**Discussion:**

The LC Landscape Board discussed budget allocations and variances, noting that the budget for external projects has changed slightly since the papers were distributed due to confirmation of budget for the external Bird Refugia project. The draft business plan displays a balanced budget position, while 1-2% overspend is likely as per previous discussions.

An increase in foundational costs (CPI, overhead, insurance etc) in recent years was noted. At the same time, our processes for budgeting and monitoring foundational costs has improved and is more transparent. It was noted that the levy carryovers have not been available as they were in the first years of the Board's operation. State management practices were discussed. Improved business planning and project delivery was noted.

**ACTION:**

**LCLB** consider Landscape LPF sulphates project at the 28 August meeting.

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Approved the 2025-26 budget.
2. Approved the 2025-26 Business Plan.

**3.3 2021-2026 Regional Landscape Plan review**

Presenter: A Boomsma and K Pethybridge

**Discussion:**

The LC Landscape Board reflected on past achievements noting increased public recognition and understanding of the business while also noting comments about absence at SE Lucindale Field Days and country shows.

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Noted the progress of the review of the Regional Landscape Plan (2021-2026) and the preliminary findings.
2. Noted the 'Next Steps' planned for review and drafting a new plan.

**Closed session**

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Moved into the closed session of the meeting at 12:45 with staff members S Bourne, L Perkins, J Taylor, M Stevens, L Thomson, A Boomsma, E Stoner and A Karsten present.
2. Moved into the open session of the meeting at 15:16.

5.1 LC Landscape Board – closed session draft minutes for endorsement (#34, 30/04/2025)

5.2 Business arising

5.3 Resolutions without meeting (nil)

5.4 Closed Session actions register

5.5 GFAC closed session (#25, 02/06/2025)

5.6 Grassroots Grants

5.7 Climate-smart Landscape Grants

5.8 Permanent waiver of invoice

5.9 Exemption request

5.10 Enforcement and Compliance Register

5.11 Enforcement and Compliance Register

5.12 Other business

### **3.4 Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan update on amendment process**

Presenter: L Perkins

#### **Discussion:**

The LC Landscape Board discussed the guiding principles, expectation of reciprocity, and intergenerational equity, noting it was captured well.

It was suggested to change order of principles changing no. 12 to no. 2, considering the logistics of the order. Stock and domestic licencing was discussed, noting it will be revisited again in the next 10-year plan review. Every stock and domestic bore will need to be metered and is something that can be introduced then. Required forestry legislation change was discussed; it was emphasised that the environmental assets are in a predicament and doing nothing is not an option.

#### **Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Noted the update on the amendment process to revise the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan.
2. Approved the Chair to sign the response to the Green Triangle Forestry Industries Hub.

### 3.5 Tintinara Coonalpyn Water Allocation Plan review – Stakeholder Advisory Group update

Presenter: L Perkins

#### Discussion:

T Strugnell and J Sobels attended the first meeting where the terms of reference were endorsed. C Burns was commended on her thorough work with the Stakeholder Advisory Group.

#### Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the update on the Stakeholder Advisory Group member appointment process for the review of the Tintinara Coonalpyn Water Allocation Plan.

### 3.6 Tatiara Water Allocation Plan update

Presenter: L Perkins

#### Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board discussed that the Tatiara Water Allocation Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) recommenced with a meeting on 25 June attended by R Davis and T Strugnell. It was noted that SAG is awaiting the post audit report from the science team. The terms of reference were accepted, while the adaptive management framework was drafted but not endorsed.

#### Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the update on the process to amend the Tatiara Water Allocation Plan.

### 3.7 Border Groundwater Agreement South Australia Report

Presenter: L Perkins

#### Discussion:

#### ACTION:

L Perkins to email the Victorian Border Groundwater Agreement Report, released 26 June 2025.

#### Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the Thirty-ninth Annual Report from the State of South Australia to the Border Groundwaters Agreement Review Committee, provided to the LC Landscape Board by the Department for Environment and Water.

### 3.8 Regional Drought Resilience Plan update

Presenter: J Taylor

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Noted the status of implementation of the Limestone Coast Regional Drought Resilience Plan.

**3.9 Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) projects update**

Presenter: J Taylor

**Discussion:**

A good turnout for the Karst Springs community day was noted.

The Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator project was discussed, noting its focus is to support general work of the LC Landscape Board. The community reach could be increased if the Landscape Board performed a facilitator role. The importance of helping rural people to access funds for the important work was noted. The project's goals align with the expected outcomes set by the Commonwealth.

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Noted the status of the current Natural Heritage Trust projects being delivered by the LC Landscape Board as the Regional Delivery Partner from now until June 2028.

**3.10 – 2024-25 Quarter 3 performance reporting**

Presenter: L Perkins

**Discussion:**

The LC Landscape Board noted some yellow 'traffic lights' around budgets. The reporting is transparent about overspent budgets.

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Approved the attached Q3 project reports.

**Standing items**

**4.1 Draft minutes of LC Landscape Board meeting 34 held 30 April 2025**

**Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Approved the minutes of the Limestone Coast Landscape Board meeting no. 34, held on 30 April 2025.

**4.2 Business arising**

It was noted that L Thomson emailed an updated skills matrix to the LC Landscape Board.

### 4.3 Resolutions without meeting

The LC Landscape Board noted two out of session resolutions.

#### DEW Service Level Agreement Annual Agreed Pricing Review 2025-26

1. Approved for the Chair to electronically sign the DEW & LC Landscape Board Service Level Agreement Annual Agreed Pricing Review 2025-26.

#### Return of working capital mechanism

1. Approved for DEW to transfer the working capital mechanism of \$2.078m from the LC Landscape Board to the Landscape Administration Fund.

### 4.4 Governance Finance and Audit Committee (GFAC) meeting #25, 2 June 2025

Presenter: GFAC Chair, R Davis

#### Discussion:

The LC Landscape Board received an update on delayed distribution of MyWater invoices which resulted in delayed payments. The forecast result is a water levy revenue deficit of \$500k at year-end, with an overall budget surplus due to the timing of NHT payments and delivery.

#### Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Noted the Governance, Finance and Audit Committee met on 2 June 2025.
2. Noted the Financial Report for the quarter ending 31 March. (Appendix 4)
3. Approved the instruments of delegation. (Appendix 4).
4. Approved the Chair to electronically sign each instrument of delegation on behalf of the LC Landscape Board.
5. Noted that the instruments of delegation will be reviewed on an annual basis.
6. Approved the Legislative Compliance Register 2024-25. (Appendix 4).
7. Noted the Legislative Compliance Register 2024-25 will be provided to the Audit Office SA to support the legislated annual LC Landscape Board audit.
8. Adopted the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment's Fraud and Corruption Control Policy issued 17 April 2025 (Appendix 4).
9. Noted the review of the Fraud and Corruption Control Procedure.
10. Noted the Audit and Risk committee briefing update. (Appendix 4).

11. Noted the LC Landscape Board Chair has acknowledged and signed the terms of the audit engagement. (Appendix 4).
12. Noted the Work Health and Safety Report for the third quarter of the financial year 2024-25. (Appendix 4)
13. Noted the Committee approved the minutes of the Governance, Finance and Audit Committee meeting 24 held on 3 February as discussed at the Limestone Coast Landscape Board meeting on 27 February 2025.

#### **Board contracts report**

Nil.

#### **4.5 Presiding Member's report**

Noted.

#### **4.6 General Manager's report**

Noted.

#### **4.7 LC Landscape Board members' reports**

Nil discussed.

#### **4.8 Correspondence register**

##### **Resolution – LC Landscape Board:**

1. Accepted the correspondence for the period 24 April 2025 to 18 June 2025.

#### **4.9 Forward plan and actions register**

Noted.

#### **4.10 Other business**

Nil.



## Meeting closure

### 6.1 Approval for the General Manager to action decisions from the closed session of meeting 35

#### Resolution – LC Landscape Board:

1. Delegated authority to the General Manager to communicate closed session items and resolutions from meeting no. 35 to the relevant staff as necessary and appropriate.

### Meeting closed at 16:52

Minutes of the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, meeting no. 35, 26 June 2025 – confirmed as a true and correct record:

**Confirmed:**



Penny Schulz, Presiding Member

Date: 28 August 2025