



**Lake
Baroon
Catchment
Care
Group**

**Minutes of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group**

Held at 19 Coral Street, Maleny
Thursday, 11th October, 2007

Meeting opened at 7.20pm

Chair: Peter Stevens

PRESENT.

Graham Earle, Jane MacGibbon, Murray Dunstan, Peter Stevens, Dick Newman, Darryl Ebenezer, John Muir, Gillian Pechey.

APOLOGIES:

Jenny Earle, Lin Fairlie, Heather Spring, Paul Gilmour-Walsh, Steve Skull, Sharon and Andrew Harwood

MINUTES 2006 AGM Tabled

Moved by Peter Stevens, Seconded by Gillian Pechey that they be accepted.

CARRIED.

AUDITOR'S REPORT Tabled.

MOTION: Moved by Peter Stevens, seconded by Jane MacGibbon that audited accounts be accepted.

CARRIED.

Appointment of Auditor

Moved by Peter Stevens, seconded by Jane MacGibbon that David Bromet and Associates be appointed Auditor for 2007-2008.

CARRIED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (see Attachment A)

Tabled.

Moved by Peter Stevens, seconded by Darryl Ebenezer that it be accepted.

CARRIED

ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Dick Newman took the Chair. The Positions of the Management Committee were declared vacant. The Nominations received were presented to Dick Newman.

PRESIDENT:

Peter Stevens was nominated by Darryl Ebenezer, seconded by Murray Dunstan. No other nominations.

Peter Stevens accepted the nomination. .

VICE PRESIDENT:

Steve Skull was nominated by Peter Stevens, seconded by Darryl Ebenezer. No other nominations. Steve accepted the nomination.

CARRIED.

SECRETARY:

Gillian Pechey was nominated by Jane MacGibbon, seconded by Peter Stevens. No other nominations. Gillian accepted the nomination.

CARRIED.

TREASURER:

Darryl Ebenezer was nominated by John Muir, seconded by Murray Dunstan. No other nominations. Darryl accepted the nomination.

CARRIED.

The signatories of the cheque account will be changed by removal of Michael Howard to be replaced by Darryl Ebenezer. Moved by Gillian Pechey, seconded by Peter Stevens.

CARRIED.

CATCHMENT OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT (see Attachment B)

Tabled. Moved by Murray, seconded by Peter that the Report be accepted.

CARRIED.

PROJECT OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT (see Attachment C)

Tabled. Moved by Jane, seconded by Peter, that the Report be accepted.

CARRIED.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Confirmed this _____ day of _____ 20

Signature of President

Attachment A: President's Report

LBCCG President's Report 2006-2007

This past year has again been an eventful one for LBCCG for which our group can be proud of the outcomes achieved. There is no doubt that this is a reflection of the quality staff and dedicated volunteers that make up LBCCG.

It would seem that 2007 is when Australia finally woke up to the importance of water in its environment. Continuing large scale drought, a Murray-Darling crisis, record low dam levels and infrastructure changes have focussed attention on this most important asset. In Queensland this has seen the State Government take control of water assets including AquaGen. It is yet to be seen what implications this might have for LBCCG and its future. It is important to note however that AquaGen are very supportive of LBCCG and are making every effort to ensure that we will have a future.

Typically, LBCCG has sought to address its own needs this year by proposing large ideas. Our most progressive step has been to propose and to have approved \$100,000 funding for a large scale on-ground project for 07/08. The rationale behind this initiative is to make LBCCG more proactive in engaging larger landholders and having more control over where in the catchment project funds are directed. The total funding to LBCCG for the past year including AquaGen and outside grants was \$157,000 pa and projected funding committed for the coming year is already at over \$200,000 before further grant applications to outside agencies. I believe the level of funding we have received can be attributed to the confidence with which AquaGen views LBCCG and the outcomes that it achieves. Major works in the past year include the finalisation of the Name that Stream project, assistance and funding to groundwater investigation, rainwater tanks for Maleny State High School and, nearing completion, *Maleny Water: a layman's guide to the greatest natural resource this region has - water*, a booklet produced through NRW's Community Awareness Grant by Sammy Ringer for LBCCG

I would like to draw attention to the work of Murray Dunstan this year in securing permanent offices for the group near Lake Baroon. Murray has been an invaluable link to AquaGen allowing a much closer working relationship and I look forward to LBCCG moving to those offices in the very near future. I would also like to thank Jane MacGibbon for her dedication and hard work and it is satisfying that LBCCG now has two full time staff on which it can draw. I would also like to give special thanks to Gillian Pechey in her role as volunteer secretary, an often overlooked high workload position. My thanks to all other committee members and ordinary members for a great contribution this year.

Sadly, earlier this year saw the passing of Martin Williams who was a great friend and knowledgeable source of information for our area. LBCCG held a successful public tree plant at the Kings Lane weir in his memory which has seen an expanded area planted.

This coming year may be one of the most challenging ever for LBCCG. There will be no certainty of future funding from the new water body, certainly not as we now know it. We now need to develop further alliances for which we are well prepared and positioned. In particular we will need to work more closely with Barung Landcare and develop a professional relationship with BMRG. It will be important not to lose sight of the values for which we stand. We will need to facilitate and manage the largest project LBCCG has ever undertaken and we will need to maximise additional funding that adds additional value to the project and use it as a platform for the future of LBCCG.

Attachment B: Catchment Officer's Annual Report

REPORT NO. **111007.17.MD**

DATE: **11th OCTOBER 2007**

TO: **LBCCG**

FROM: **CATCHMENT SUPERVISOR**

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL REPORT**

During the 2006-2007 financial year, Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group experienced the most significant changes to its business operations since its inception in 1993. The Group worked with Natural Solutions Environmental Consultancy to develop a business case for a 'Large Scale Rehabilitation Project' in the catchment. Using this comprehensive document, they successfully lobbied the AquaGen Board to increase their project budget by 285% to \$100,000. The group was also successful in lobbying the AquaGen Board to increase their administration funding in order to employ the Lake Baroon Project Officer full-time.

The 2006-2007 financial year also saw the beginning of conversion works at the groups proposed new office on North Maleny Road. Upon completion in late November, the converted detached house will contain three separate offices, a foyer, reception, display room and meeting room. The grounds surrounding the building may potentially provide many and varied project opportunities relating to catchment management for Lake Baroon. LBCCG is currently in negotiations with AquaGen to secure a lease on the premises.

In June 2007 the final draft of the Lake Baroon Catchment Implementation Plan was put out for comment. The production of which resulted from the need to align two strategies: the BMRG natural resource management plan for the Burnett Mary region, Country to Coast, *A Healthy Sustainable Future*; and the Lake Baroon Catchment Management Strategy produced in 1997 by AquaGen and the Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group. The plan contains 39 specific management strategies set to specific deliverable timeframes and linked to implementation partners such as community groups, all levels of government and industry. In addition, the plan prioritises geographical areas within the Lake Baroon Catchment for protection and remedial works.

The Group also secured a number of additional grants for important water related projects within the catchment in the 2007-2006 financial year. The most notable of these was the Maleny High School Project, where a federally funded grant will allow the school to store over 95,000L of rainwater for use in an amenities block. Using this water storage system and a number of water saving devices the school (which is one of the largest water users in Maleny) stands to save at least a third of its reticulated water consumption.

While the past financial year has arguably been the most successful for LBCCG since its beginnings, a number of unprecedented changes have taken place in Queensland; the SE Queensland water reforms and forced council amalgamations. These reforms undoubtable pose the greatest challenges to the future operations of LBCCG. In fact, the majority of the Group's efforts over the past couple of months have been devoted to securing existing funding relationships and developing new

partnerships with important stakeholders that will secure LBCCG interests into the future. The group will be forced to adapt to the pending changes faced by every stakeholder in the water industry in south east Queensland. LBCCG can only embrace this challenge by seeking out the opportunities that the changes will bring.

Murray Dunstan

Catchment Supervisor

Attachment C: Project Officer's Annual Report

PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT, LBCCG AGM 11 October, 2007

Introduction

I have now been with LBCCG for just over a year and during that time, we have made great strides in streamlining our financial and data storage systems (see below), have been successful in securing several grants from federal and state sources and have also been successful in persuading AquaGen to increase our annual funding to \$100,000 to allow us to undertake large scale projects (see below).

When I started at LBCCG I was working three days a week; this quickly increased to four and at the beginning of the new financial year, increased further to five days a week, with two of those days dedicated to BMRG work and helping Murray.

Project Update for 2006-07

During the past financial year, LBCCG initiated 10 new projects, paying a total of \$17, 474.

The projects included:

- 2,300 seedlings planted;
- 65m of fencing along creeks and dams
- Large areas of weeds cleared.

Planting is still ongoing for most of the projects due to a late start last year (projects did not start until late in 2006).

Only one project included LBCCG contributions of more than \$3000 – this was for maintenance of Willow Lane (Council land).

One project included the development of Landholder Property Management Kits, while another supported research into the biocontrol of mistflower.

LBCCG projects from 2003-04 onwards are distributed throughout the different catchments as shown below:

Financial Year	Catchment			
	Obi Obi	Bridge	Walker	Falls
2003-04	9	6	0	0
2004-05	11	4	1	0
2005-06	12	2	1	0
2006-07	7	0	1	0
Totals	39	12	3	0

Continued monitoring is also being carried out of a total of 40 projects, consisting of:

- 2006-07 projects: 10;
- 2005-06 projects: 15;
- 2004-05 projects: 13 and
- pre-2004-05 projects: 2.

Potential Projects for 2007-08

LBCCG developed a business case for a large scale rehabilitation project. This business case was produced in conjunction with Natural Solutions Environmental Consultants. The AquaGen Board provided a project budget of \$100,000

Large Scale Project:

See notes in General Meeting report.

Small Projects

With the change of focus to the funding of one large scale project during the 2007-08 year, we have only funded one smaller project – on Peter Stevens' land. If we are successful in securing state and federal funding for the large scale project, we may take another look at possibly funding some small projects. Several landholders have expressed their interest already.

Financial Update:

Balance of S1 account at end of Sep 06: \$108,305.82 Note that we no longer have an S2 account (see Treasurer's report), however we have placed \$50,000 in a term deposit account. Total funds available: \$158,305.82.

The balance is summarised below:

1. \$7931.89 unpresented cheques;
2. \$80,188.06 allocated to projects including approximately \$4500 from finished projects (mostly contingency or replant money but includes several large projects which were never finished (Kapetanic and Andersons)).
3. This leaves \$73,300 for administration/wages/super/GST (includes income from interest).

Administration/Other:

- We now have two new banners for use at shows etc.
- Steve Swayne and Garry Claridge are developing a website for us. I am providing text and photos for it.
- Moving date to new office will be mid November. Murray has done a fantastic job coordinating the clean-up of the site, builders, plumbers, sparkies, concreters etc and also buying furniture and fittings for us for the new office. We owe him our thanks for the wonderful work he has done.

Jane MacGibbon
Project Officer