

FPA BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

20 September 2019

Forest Practices Code Review

It was noted that a number of submissions on the content of the draft Code amendments were received by the cut-off date. The submissions will now be reviewed and further advice provided to the Board by the CFPO.

Finance

The monthly financial report was presented. The Board reviewed and endorsed the Board Finance Committee's terms of reference. The Finance Committee reviewed the FPA's draft three-year budget along with the Business Manager and the Board noted that a functional analysis of the budget is to be undertaken.

Risk and Audit

The Board Risk and Audit Committee reviewed the FPA's draft 2018/19 Financial Statements, noting the Tasmanian Audit Office had advised there were no material issues and the Statements were substantially accurate. The Statements were endorsed by the Board.

Compliance

The Board made provisional determinations from their review of investigations into a number of matters around alleged clearing of trees without a forest practices plan, and clearance and conversion of a threatened native vegetation community.

Private Timber Reserves (PTRs)

The Board agreed to recommend to Her Excellency the Governor, the part revocation of two PTRs covering 27 ha.

Communications and Engagement Strategy

The Board was briefed on progress with the development of the FPA's Communications and Engagement Strategy.

Forest Practices Advisory Council

The Board considered the draft minutes from the meeting of the Forest Practices Advisory Council held on 15 August 2019.

Changes to the Forest Practices Act

The amended Forest Practices Act 1985 will be proclaimed to commence on 7th October 2019.

Forest Practices Officer – Adrian Bennett

Adrian Bennett was appointed as a Forest Practices Officer.

Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum

The Board considered advice on future management considerations for this recently EPBC listed critically endangered forest and woodland community

Vegetation Management Agreements

The Board reviewed a list of Vegetation Management Agreements.

Bid for ARC Centre for Future Forest value

The Director of the ARC Centre for Forest Value, Associate Professor Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra, gave a presentation on the development of a bid for funding a new "ARC Training Centre for Future Forest Value".

Guidelines - implementation of the Permanent Native Forest Estate Policy

The Board reviewed guidelines to be issued by the Chief Forest Practices Officer to Forest Practices Officers, to clarify the FPA's implementation of the Permanent Native Forest Estate Policy. The Guidelines will be subject to further consideration.

Meeting between Minister for Resources and the Chair and CFPO

The Chair updated members on discussion and outcomes from a meeting with the Minister for Resources, Hon Guy Barnett.

Next Meeting

The next FPA Board meeting is scheduled for Friday 18 October 2019.