

**WESTERN ROCK LOBSTER COUNCIL Inc.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Jurien Bay, Jurien Hotel

9:00am Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

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ATTENDANCE: DEXTER DAVIES, STEVE MCLEARY, JOHN COLE, TERRY PARISH, JASON BARRETT, TERRY MOUCHEMORE, DARREN MCTAGGART, NIC SOFOULIS, JOHN NEWBY, ANTHONY PIRROTINA, FEDELE CAMARDA.

GUESTS:

APOLOGIES: JAMES PARATORE, PETER HAMMOND, VICKY KERR.

PROXIES: FEDELE CAMARDA HELD PORXIES FOR JAMES PARATORE AND PETER HAMMOND.

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**1. WELCOME**

The meeting was declared open by the Chairman at 9:00 am.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**2.1 BOARD MEETING 6 MARCH 2010**

The minutes from the meeting on 6 March 2010 was confirmed as true and correct.  
Moved: Darren McTaggart                      Seconded: Steve McLeary                      Carried

**2.2 QUOTA MEETING 7 MAY 2010**

The notes from the report on the Quota meeting on 7 May 2010 were endorsed. Issues raised at meeting: 1. Transferability, 2. Lengthening season – to allow some chance of changing fishing pattern, 3. 50% pots, 4. Five days a week, 5. Weighing and logging catch is of concern to fishers – however it is necessary, 6. Weighing at factory – is that possible, 7. Phoning In – In morning and before returning, 8. Allocation, 9. Cost, 10. Regulate Whites – this has been forgotten, 11. Cash flow issues.

**2.3 QUOTA MEETING 8 MAY 2010**

The notes from the report on the Quota meeting on 8 May 2010 as distributed were endorsed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**4. REPORTS**

#### **4.1 FINANCIAL**

The Financial Report was endorsed. It was also noted that due to funding being limited the working budget is not required until funding for next year is confirmed.

Agreed: John Cole validate payments as per schedule provided.

Agreed: Chairman claim expenses, parking etc.

#### **4.2 CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman's verbal Report was accepted. The board endorsed the report of Jim Penn being sent to WAFIC and the Minister for consideration.

#### **4.3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

The Executive Officer's verbal report was across all agenda items.

Noted: EO going away on leave 19<sup>th</sup> June to 18<sup>th</sup> July. Consider need for assistance to cover workload while away.

### **5. REVIEW OF CURRENT SEASON AND MANAGEMENT PROCESSES.**

Not Discussed.

### **6. UPDATE ON INTERIM PAPER BASED ITQ MANAGEMENT SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR 2010/11.**

Discussion on Working Group Paper.

Cost of Quota is an issue.

ITQ Paper comments. Original estimate \$112 + \$65. Negotiated down to \$112 + \$44.

Check notes from Department of Fisheries. This cost includes \$10 DBIF.

Concerns about hanging out – already raised however requested to raise again (Darren McTaggart).

Weighing – Clearly define characteristics of each designated landing point – and what the expectations are at each one. Define each designated sites 3 meters etc. Tagging procedures for different circumstances.

Is CCTV an option if processors choose to install, will this be accepted as “observable”.

Clarify estimation procedures at remote or difficult points of landing (Why have to count).

Clarify tagging procedure for different circumstances (green provisional – red final).

Support combining B Zone whites & reds Quota, and allow to catch anytime to end August.

Clarify B Zone allocation, does it mean Whites plus Reds equals cumulative to be caught throughout season or is it two quotas?

A Zone

1<sup>st</sup> option for this year – extend A Zone to end August.

2<sup>nd</sup> option if can't be done or too difficult – Could live with closing at 30<sup>th</sup> June. This has significant risk of causing great animosity between A/B zones, unless B Zone closes as well on 30<sup>th</sup> June (Terry Parish).

Discussion on alternative options: If possible, combine B Zone whites & reds – to be caught anytime to the end of August. If the A Zone extension to the end of August fails to eventuate A Zone to only fish from 15<sup>th</sup> March – 30<sup>th</sup> June then if they had not caught allocated whites quota before 15<sup>th</sup> March, be able to come back into B Zone from 1<sup>st</sup> July to end August to catch balance of whites quota. This could create animosity between A & B Zone.

Support for this year:

- 5 days Fishing
- 50% pots
- Support 20 Fathom line to go (reference group previously did not support)

Transferability was considered extremely desirable – meeting felt it was one of the original strong selling points – and it was indicated though it would be limited there would be some(WAFIC principles). Expect (non negotiable) transferability under exceptional circumstances: Death/sickness, Bank foreclosure, Divorce etc.

Discussion on allocation – accept proposed method (Department of Fisheries Research to set a sustainable TACC for each Zone and divide by number of units in each Zone). However need to make sure all scientific information included in process – Harvest Rate workshop had done this.

Discussion on need to consider way forward in future years if new allocation process confirms 30-35% allocation for any Zone as this would prove unviable.

Discussion on Validity of industry wide vote on ITQ. Same process and mailing list as used for all elections and votes for WRLC. Department of Fisheries official mailing list.

300 votes returned out of 600.

50% in favour of ITQ

33% in favour of Input

11% undecided

6% invalid

Fremantle meeting 16<sup>th</sup> March (Bowling Club) 128 registered MFL's and there was overwhelming support in favour of moving to ITQ's this season.

The Council reaffirms its Position on implementing interim ITQ management system for 2010/11 season. After considering the views of the two Industry update meetings held in Hillarys and Geraldton on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of May respectively, and other views from the PFA's, the Council decided unanimously to confirm its policy position reached on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2009: "To move to an ITQ management system as soon as possible", as the Department of Fisheries have now said this can be done for the 2010/11 season the board supports this position.

## **7. PLANNING FOR DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ITQ MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR 2011/12 SEASON ONWARDS.**

Not Discussed – will be discussed at next meeting.

- 8. MSC – ALL PAPERWORK RE: COSTS AND NEED FOR DECISION TO RECERTIFY HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED WELL PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**

The Board supported the continuation of MSC and seeking re-certification of the Western Rocklobster Industry. Support seeking expressions of interest for MSC certifier.

- 9. RESEARCH PROJECT – DEEPWATER TEMPORARY CLOSURE ON 30’ SOUTH LINE – REQUIRED FOR EPBC AND MSC.**

All paperwork and maps had been distributed.

WRLC position: One and a half nautical miles North and South of the line, it was accepted that this project was a requirement of maintaining MSC Certification. Therefore would emphasize the area had to be as small as possible and still achieve this. It was noted there was very little of this good bank in the southern half of B Zone.

- 10. DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES COST OF MANAGEMENT- GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO CHARGE 6.5% OF GVP INSTEAD OF COST RECOVERY.**

Action agreed on:

Letter to WAFIC supporting Option 2 of Department of Fisheries funding working group and WAFIC Stand.

WRLC Position: Cost recovery + % Access Fee (Option2) – Co management – to ensure effective & efficient delivery of service at lowest price. No cross subsidisation.

Request assistance from George Kailis and Brett McCallum to construct this letter. However if Department of Fisheries and Minister make unilateral decision to move to 6.5% or other GVP model not related to costs and access rights then WRLC will endeavor to ensure the most efficient and effective and equitable delivery of management as possible.

- 11. PROPOSED SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT (SLA) WITH WAFIC TO PROVIDE FISHERY MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION PREVIOUSLY DONE BY RLIAC.**

Discussion – Outcome of this depends on funding arrangements yet to be determined by the Minister.

- 12. UPDATE ON FUNDING FOR WRLC THROUGH WAFIC. FINANCE REPORT.**

Discussion Depends on funding model. WRLC position: \$170 K for representation (2008 funding) plus \$xxx for SLA as discussed above.

Support: Investigating funding to deliver TAFE Fishery Management Program. John Cole believes this could include “ITQ management”; it doesn’t at the moment.

Support: WRLC form a R&D subcommittee – replace RLIAC R&D committee.

- 13. UPDATE ON FRDC & CRC RESEARCH PROJECTS.  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS NOW PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI) ON ALL OF THESE PROJECTS .**

1. CRC – Pot Design Project

2. FRDC – Economic efficiency – Review of input controls – Completed
3. FRDC – Employment Web Page – Finalising
4. FRDC – Rocklobster Congress 2009 – Finalising
5. FRDC – Relevance of Deepwater Puerulus(Post Puerulus) Pilot – Finalising
6. WAFIC IDU – RSM Bird Cameron – Economic Data Collection – Finalising
7. FRDC – Kondinin Group – Biofuel as an alternative – Finalising

Support for R & D application to continue post puerulus project – make annual. Have working reference group (Nic Sofoulis).

**14. RSM BIRD CAMERON REPORT**

This was a project to update economic data collected by RSM Bird Cameron previously. Report was accepted and payment authorized.

**15. OFFICE LEASE**

WAFIC have cancelled lease on Kyria House from 30 June 2010. Option one is to try and stay at Kyria House and option two to try and move to Waterman's. Long term goal is to be in same office as WAFIC.

Moved: John Newby Seconded: Jason Barrett Carried

**16. INDUSTRY CONGRESS – INDUSTRY MEETINGS.**

It was decided the best option of consultation would be a Coastal Tour, to be arranged sometime in October, not a Congress.

**17. DATE FOR AGM.**

See attached information. It was decided the 1<sup>st</sup> option for the AGM was 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup> option was the 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

**18. DISCUSSION – EO'S PERFORMANCE**

**(This section, point 18, will be an addendum to the minutes and not for distribution outside the WRLC Board)**

**19. NEXT MEETING DATE & CLOSE**

Meeting closed at 4:30pm and the next Board meeting will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June at Hillarys.