



Board Meeting (BM) in Brief held 25 March 2020
Key Discussion Items

COVID-19 Impacts

- COVID-19 Coronavirus. All staff have been notified of the appropriate hygiene measures that need to be taken and the need to keep watch regarding the monitoring and updates around the coronavirus outbreak. All staff have been made aware that they may be requested to work from home for 14 days or longer, but we are awaiting government direction. We will support all staff during this “waiting period” as we do not know the severity of the impacts on our project delivery outcomes for the near or long term future.

Species Protection and Ecosystem Protection Program

- Reef Trust co-ordinated a Traditional Owner “Species protection and ecosystem protection program design workshop” in Cairns in February. BMRG was the only NRM Group funded to attend and BMRG organised Gidarjil and Butchulla groups’ attendance. The Australian Government Reef Trust workshop organisers were very appreciative of the collaborative ways our regional NRM and Traditional Owner groups led the way with ideas for projects and the sharing of our current project collaboration. BMRG remains committed to our Traditional Owner groups within our region to include them in projects and assist as a stakeholder to develop their own Traditional Owner programs.

Gouritz Biosphere Reserve South Africa

- BMRG hosted their first 3 week staff secondment from Gouritz Biosphere Reserve South Africa. Luami Zondagh an ecologist with Gouritz Biosphere arrived early February and was immediately accepted as a colleague by all staff. She made the most of her time with us and went out with staff to see projects, attend/help with workshops, meet Traditional Owners and assist in the office.

Department of Environment – Government name change

- There has been a change in name for the Australia Government Department of Environment. The new name is the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment (AWE) as of February 1 2020.

Finance Report

Finance Report prepared by Chris Shay, Viden Group was presented to and endorsed by the Board.



BMRG Members

BMRG currently has 158 financial members and the following new/renewed memberships were approved by the Board:

- Cedric Mellor
- David Cusack
- Helena Warnecke
- Malcolm Topp
- Matthew Griffiths
- Meghan Wehl
- Suzanne Turner (Miriam Vale Rural Science & Landcare Society Inc.)

Next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday 27 May 2020.

