



**VRFish – VICTORIAN
RECREATIONAL FISHING PEAK BODY
BOARD MEETING SUMMARY
Friday 6 July 2007**

1. MEETING OPEN – Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Minutes of the VRFish Board Meeting held 25 May 2007

BACKGROUND: Draft Minutes of the VRFish Board Meeting were circulated to Members.

OUTCOME: The draft Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

1.3 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

BACKGROUND: Board Members to raise issues arising from previous minutes and review the Action List.

OUTCOME: No business arose from the previous minutes.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman tabled his report.

3. VRFISH OFFICE REPORT

The Executive Officer tabled his report.

4. BUSINESS PLAN

4.1 2007/2012 Strategic Business Plan

BACKGROUND: Following the outcomes of the 4 March 2007 VRFish Strategic Planning Workshop, it was agreed that a draft Business Plan be developed from these outcomes. The 1st draft of the Strategic Business Plan was tabled at the 25 May Board Meeting. The EO has redrafted the Strategic Business Plan following direction from the Board and the 2nd draft was provided to the Board for review.

OUTCOME: The Board endorsed the 2007/2012 Strategic Business Plan.

4.2 2007/2008 Business Plan and Budget

BACKGROUND: Following the finalisation of the 2007/2012 Strategic Business Plan, the annual Business Plan for 2007/08 was drafted focusing on a smaller number of key priorities. A budget has been formed to accompany the 2007/08 Business Plan.

OUTCOME: The Board endorsed the 2007/2008 Business Plan and Budget.

4.3 Key Performance Indicators

BACKGROUND: Staff contracts have now been signed and key performance indicators have been developed. It has been suggested that the staff's key performance indicators should be modified to include and address key tasks identified within the new 2007-2012 Business Plan.

OUTCOME: Corporate KPI's need to be set, GC/BP/FG will develop these out of session and circulate to the Board for consideration. Following which the personal KPI's will be set with the Staff.

4.3.1 Performance Review

BACKGROUND: Key Performance Indicators were established for the VRFish staff during the 2006/07 financial year. A review of the staff's performance is required.

OUTCOME: That the performance reviews be completed by the end of the second week in August 2007.

5. ACCESS & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

5.1 Membership Structure

BACKGROUND: Since the merging of the Access and Infrastructure Committee's, there has been queries as to whether or not this Committee is too large and that they should be separated again and that they join to together on an 'as needs' basis when key issues arise.

OUTCOME: The Board agreed to separate the Access & Infrastructure Committee.

5.2 Boat Ramp Report Update

BACKGROUND: The content has been finalized; a grant application has been submitted to FGCGP for funding. If VRFish is unsuccessful through this program, there is still the opportunity it could be funded through MSV.

OUTCOME: The Chairman has requested a priority list be developed for Victoria's boat ramps, Bob will meet with Marine Safety Victoria when this list is finalized. Also a letter of thanks to be sent to Goulburn Murray Water for their efforts in improving boat ramp facilities at Dartmouth Dam.

6. COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

6.1 Annual Report

BACKGROUND: A draft timeline for the development of the Annual Report was tabled at the Committee's meeting. Slight adjustments were required – see attached updated schedule. Key tasks have been assigned to each of the Committee's Chairs.

OUTCOME: That the appropriate Board Members' submit articles as per the running sheet.

6.1.1 Meeting Records

BACKGROUND: To assist in demonstrating to Government VRFish's contributions to recreational fishing, it is recommended that meeting records be collated.

OUTCOME: Item to be raised at State Council Meeting. Pro-forma to be developed and circulated. This to be provided annually.

6.2 Fishing Lines Magazine

BACKGROUND: The Committee met with John Zammit to discuss the possibility of him producing the next edition of the magazine, and also seeking advertising for the magazine. John is currently evaluating his schedule and will advise whether or not he can take on the task.

OUTCOME: The Board agreed that as long as the Communication Committee keeps to its assigned budget and publishes two editions in the first year.

7. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

7.1 VicFRAB Workshop

BACKGROUND: The VicFRAB held two workshops to identify research priorities for inland and bay & inlet fisheries. VRFish sent three delegates to each workshop.

OUTCOME: It was agreed that VRFish's research and development priorities should be larger strategic issues and that outside organisations/agencies should identify projects to achieve the strategic issues.

7.2 Other Activity

8. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

8.1 Fish Relocation and Recovery Protocol

BACKGROUND: A Meeting was held between Fisheries Victoria and Members of the Water Resources Committee regarding the update/review of the Protocol in September 2006. It was agreed that Fisheries Victoria would revise the Protocol and submit a draft to VRFish to review. Recent conversations with Fisheries Victoria, has established that the Protocol has been passed onto Ben Bowman to draft.

OUTCOME: EO to identify a timeframe with Fisheries Victoria to meet.

8.2 Other Activity

A letter has been sent to Fisheries Victoria regarding the drought recovery contingency plans. No response has been received yet. EO to follow up.

Many of the pipelines to be developed could have an impact on recreational fisheries; many water reserves will be lost. VRFish will focus on maintaining the environmental conditions of the waterways. It was agreed that VRFish write to Minister Thwaites requesting to be involved in the development of the State Water plan, including North East Pipeline and the Desalination Plant.

9. STRATEGY

9.1 Victoria's Fisheries Stakeholder Engagement Arrangements

BACKGROUND: The Department of Primary Industries will be hosting a forum to consider an agreed model for the representation of Victoria's recreational fishing interests.

OUTCOME: To be discussed further at State Council Meeting

9.2 Native Title Angler Representation

BACKGROUND: VRFish has been informed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding native title is anticipated to be tabled at the State Council Meeting; this needs further consideration by the Board.

OUTCOME: To be discussed further at State Council Meeting

9.3 MDBC Community Stakeholder Taskforce

BACKGROUND: The Murray Darling Basin Commission has a Native Fish Strategy Community Stakeholder Taskforce, of which Victoria is not a part of.

OUTCOME: The Board agreed to write to the CEO of the MDBC and request a position on this taskforce committee.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 Meeting Summaries

BACKGROUND: State Council Members have been requesting that a summary of Board Meeting Minutes be provided for their information. A draft version is provided for the Board's consideration.

OUTCOME: That the Board accepts the format of the draft provided and also agrees that the summary be available on the VRFish website.

11.2 Recfish Australia Board Elections

BACKGROUND: Nominations for the Recfish Australia Board close on 21 August 2007. The election will take place at the 21 September AGM. VRFish (a full member) is entitled to one vote.

OUTCOME: The EO will be attending the AGM.

11.3 2008 Recfish Australia Conference

BACKGROUND: During the 2007 Recfish Australia Conference it was recommended that Melbourne host the 2008 Conference.

OUTCOME: Request additional information from Recfish Australia about what the Conference entails, e.g. how many participants, what is required to be provided by VRFish. A decision cannot be made until this information is known.

11.4 Annual General Meeting – Preparation & Timeline Procedure

BACKGROUND: The Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for 13 October 2007 at the Williamstown Anglers Club. A preparation and timeline procedure has been developed to meet appropriate deadlines.

OUTCOME: Need to confirm who the voting delegates are for the Annual General Meeting. Timeline Confirmed.

11.5 Member Nominations

BACKGROUND: No applications to consider

11.6 Meeting Start Times

BACKGROUND: There is inconsistency of start times for Board Meetings.

OUTCOME: 10.00am confirmed.

11.7 Uniforms

BACKGROUND: To assist in the identification of VRFish Members and Staff it was suggested that a uniform be adopted/created.

OUTCOME: Item to be discussed at the State Council Meeting.

11.8 CVFFC Trout Survey

BACKGROUND: The Council of Victorian Fly Fishing Clubs conducted a survey of fly fishers to assess the Victorian Trout Fishery.

OUTCOME: The Board noted this information, it was agreed that this information is to be used during the CONS Meeting process. It was noted that on waters that VRFish is unsure what will occur due to impacts of climate change – waters should be stocked with mixed species and nature will then decide which water should be stocked with which species.

The Meeting closed at 5.00pm
