

WAFIC Board Communique No.6 – 30 June, 2015



The June meeting of WAFIC's Board addressed a number of issues critical to the future of our organisation.

- The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding advice from Fisheries Minister Ken Baston that detailed the final terms of reference for the upcoming review of the Ministerial Policy Guideline (MPG) 21. MPG 21 deals with the funding model that finances WAFIC's operations. I was pleased to note that most of the changes requested by industry to the draft ToR governing the review were incorporated into the final document and the Board, which the Board accepted, and I was also pleased to note Mr Baston's advice that he had appointed Peter Neville to carry out the review.
- In a separate but somewhat related issue, the Board agreed to a new funding model proposed for the Western Rock Lobster Council. WAFIC has presented this proposal to the WRLC which, if accepted, will see the amount of the WRLC's funding from WAFIC almost double over the next five years. The WRLC is considering the proposal and will respond in due course.
- The Board approved office renovations and improvements that will see an additional meeting room and extra office space to cater for the demands of sector bodies and other industry stakeholders currently sharing WAFIC's Fremantle offices.
- The Board also made adjustments to the timing of Board meetings for the remainder of this year. Due to conflicting demands on the times of some directors, the remaining meetings in 2015 will be held on Mondays rather than Tuesdays and the relevant dates are: 24 August, 19 October and 14 December.
- Staff continue to work towards a substantial upgrade of WAFIC's IT capability, stakeholder database and website and I anticipate that this work will go some way to improving the public profile of WA's seafood industry and boosting public support for our industry.
- Finally, I remind you all again that the State Seafood Awards are coming up in August. Planning for the event is well progressed and the judging process for the various award categories is underway. I urge you to visit the WAFIC website and secure tickets for what promises to be a memorable evening.

Yours sincerely,

Arno Verboon  
Chair

