

Meeting	2019 Annual General Meeting
Date	Tuesday, 12 November 2019
Location	CDU, Kitchener Drive, Darwin Waterfront
Attendees	<p><b>Board</b></p> <p>Chair – Clare Martin, Public Officer – Ray Hall, Finance and Audit Committee Chair – Sally Sullivan; Directors – Bilawara Lee and Jane Munday</p> <p><b>Members</b></p> <p>Centralian Land Management Association - Liz Bird, Fire Stick &amp; Associates - Ben Lewis, Environment Centre NT - Shar Molloy, Mimal Land Management - Dominic Nicholls, Charles Darwin University - Clare Taylor, EcOz Environmental Consulting - David van den Hoek, SLR Consulting - Sarah Smith</p> <p><b>Guests</b></p> <p>Kakadu National Park – Andy Ralph, Lok Landji Family Association P/L - Kez Hall</p> <p>TNRM Staff Chief Executive Officer – Karen May; Executive Assistant – Stephanie Burton (minutes)</p>
Apologies	Rick Fletcher, Kate Peake, Stephen Rogers

**Meeting opened at 4.52pm, Meeting closed at 5.20 pm**

## **Item 1: Welcome, introduction and apologies**

### **1.1 Welcome**

The attendees were welcomed by the Chair, Clare Martin.

### **1.2 Introductions**

The Board Members introduced themselves to the attendees.

### **1.3 Apologies**

The following apologies were received from TNRM Board Members:

- Director – Rick Fletcher
- Director – Kate Peake
- Director – Stephen Rogers

The following apologies were received from TNRM Members and their delegates:

Madonna Wuttke, Landcare NT, Adam Britton, Big Gecko, Jeremy Hemphill, Friends of Fogg Dam

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## **Item 2: Tabling of previous minutes**

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*2018 TNRM Annual General Meeting Minutes accepted*

*Moved by Liz Bird*

*Seconded by Shar Molloy*

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## **Item 3: Adoption of Agenda**

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*Adoption of the 2019 TNRM Annual General Meeting Agenda accepted*

*Unanimously accepted*

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## **Item 4: Reports**

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### **4.1 Chair – Clare Martin**

I reported to you last year that for TNRM the 2017/18 financial years had been one of change and challenge as the Australian Government redesigned the National Landcare Program, – the program that is the source of the majority of TNRM's funding.

It was a tough year but I was pleased to report that although some of our proposed projects had not been finally approved and funded, that TNRM's future was strong and that we had emerged from the program redesign with an enhanced reputation and a more confident financial position.

Well, I can let you know that one year on, our overall position has strengthened: our projects funded for five years; the partnerships required to deliver those projects in place, and our financial position solid.

We're now one year into the five year second phase of the National Landcare Program. TNRM won the tender in the Territory to deliver a major component of NLP2 – the Regional Land Partnerships. We now have a Core Services Agreement with the Australian Government to deliver agreed program outcomes until 2023.

The aim of the Regional Land Partnerships is to 'protect, conserve and provide for the productive use of Australia's water, soil, plants and animals, and the ecosystems in which live and interact – in partnership with government, industry and communities'

The big change for us with this second National Landcare Program is that we move from an organisation that devolved our funds as grants to community organisation to deliver against agreed natural resource management outcomes, to now using our funds to work in partnership with government, industry and the community on a suite of new and exciting projects.

As a Core Service Provider TNRM's role has a number of elements ranging from designing, coordinating, implementing, monitoring and reporting on those new projects; supporting the natural resource management community to participate in the delivery of those projects, to maintaining, monitoring and updating our own NRM Plan.

TNRM has always had a fine reputation in building partnerships across all aspects of the Territory community in order to to achieve our environmental and agricultural ambitions. Our new projects demand an even greater focus on partnerships and that's a challenge we thrive on. So I'd like to thank all our partners in our projects: the Northern Territory government, Land Councils, CDU; ranger groups, pastoralists and farmers, industry bodies, Defence, private businesses and community organisations.

I'd also like to recognise our members. If you check out our membership list in the annual report, you'll see just how diverse that membership is. We value your input, your support and especially your attendance here today and for this week of workshops, conference and the awards dinner. I know you will find it all stimulating and good for networking. And of course, fun.

Another positive aspect for TNRM over the last financial year has been our public face. Our website has been rebuilt, and our mainstream media and social media presence is growing. I encourage you all to like our Facebook page. It's where the best stories from around the Territory appear, whether it's what we're doing or what our members are doing: – from soil conservation workshops to whale shark spotting on Groote. TNRM Tweets are also worth following. In fact, between our tweets and Facebook over the last year we reached more than 200,000 people.

As members you can be confident that our TNRM board is providing strong governance for our organisation. My thanks to our current board – Kate Peake, Ray Hall, Bilawara Lee, Rick Fletcher Jane Munday, Steve Rogers and Sally Sullivan.

We farewelled two long-term board members this year: Steve Morton and Brooke Rankmore. I thank both of them for their years of contribution and commitment.

Jane Munday joined us and with her expertise in marketing and communications, it's been great addition to our board.

Sadly, this is the last couple of months on our board for Sally Sullivan and we're all going to miss her quiet wisdom, her pastoral expertise and her eagle eye with the financial reports.

Finally, a very big thanks to Karen and the team: Ann, Alan, Kelly, Susanne, Jacob, Grant, Anisha, Raj and Stephanie. It's their hard work, commitment and creativity that underpins the success of Territory Natural Resource Management.

#### **4.2 Chief Executive Officer – Karen May**

TNRM has transitioned with this year's role out of phase two of Australian Government National Landcare Program (NLP2), and the introduction of Regional Land Partnerships as the main funding stream for NRM regions.

In July 2018, after a competitive tender process, TNRM was selected as the Australian Governments' preferred provider of Regional Land partnership services in the NT, and over the past twelve months has received work orders to deliver six projects contributing to National Landcare Program investment priorities and objectives.

NLP2 is focused on delivering projects through partnerships, and for TNRM this has always been a priority of the way we work. The new funding model provides even greater opportunities for TNRM to build and strengthen relationships and engage with community organisations, industry, and business, as we work to deliver strategic projects that contribute to Australian Government priorities and the aspirations of the NT community expressed in the NT NRM plan.

As well as partnering with NT businesses and organisations to develop and deliver projects, TNRM has worked throughout the year adjusting internal processes and structures to maximise capacity of our organisation, and maintain efficient and effective business systems.

A large amount of time this year was invested in the planning and development of projects, building solid foundations for the projects we will undertake over the next four years. An overview of the Regional Land

partnerships program in the NT and a snapshot of the years' achievements are featured in the 2018-2019 Annual Report. None of the achievements captured in the report would be possible without the efforts and commitment of our project partners or the hard work of the TNRM team. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to TNRM's growth and successful project delivery over the past year.

#### **4.3 Finance and Audit Committee Chair – Sally Sullivan**

It gives me great pleasure to present to you, our TNRM members, my third and final report as Finance and Audit Committee Chair.

##### **Audits**

As per Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission and NT Associations Act requirements, TNRM engages independent auditors to review the organisation's financial records on an annual basis. The annual TNRM audit was completed with KPMG over several months to October 2019 and the TNRM Special Purpose Financial Report for Territory Natural Resource Management Inc. 2018-2019 and notes to financial statements are included in the TNRM Annual Report. A copy of the auditor's report is available on request to members. The TNRM accounts fulfilled the auditors' expectations as well as meeting Australian government reporting and audit requirements.

Audits require significant time and dedication from staff, so many thanks and congratulations to all staff involved. Special mentions to Ann Palmer and Rajiv Chaudhary for their hard work in maintaining TNRM's financial and reporting systems and to Karen for her oversight.

##### **Finances**

By the end of the financial year ending 30 June 2019, TNRM had completely transitioned to a new funding model under the National Landcare Program and had become the Core Service provider for the delivery of the Commonwealth's Regional Land Partnerships program (RLP) in the NT. Previously funding was received as a reciprocal grant to deliver Australian Government Natural Resource Management priorities. Now TNRM enters into Service Agreements and receives Work Orders to undertake projects and then invoices the Australian Government on completion of contracted works. TNRM has received work orders to undertake 5 projects for 4-5 years each and one project for one year. TNRM has also been successful in attracting some grants. A breakup of TNRM's sources of revenue can be found in the table on page 38 of the Annual Report.

The 2018-19 financial overview, special purpose financial report and independent audit report are presented from page 37 in the 2018-19 TNRM Annual Report. TNRM showed a surplus of \$1,513,851 in the 2018-19 financial year, as shown in the audited statements compared with \$153,157 in the previous financial year. This spectacular surplus is unfortunately largely explained as being the result of project activities conducted, changes to the treatment of service income and changes in accounting practices. A bit of the surplus is, however, testament to the competence of TNRM's financial management team and their ability to adapt to a completely up-ended funding environment.

The TNRM Public Trust Fund received a donation of \$1500 Inpex Operation Australian PL for long neck turtle research in the Finnis catchment.

The Finance and Audit Committee and the board are confident TNRM's accounts are in good order and the organisation is well on the way to successfully completing projects and operating under the new funding regime. We are all too aware of TNRM's heavy reliance on Commonwealth funding and continue to investigate means of diversifying income. That said, TNRM is still well-positioned to continue to attract Commonwealth funding and deliver NRM outcomes going forward.

Thank you to the hard-working staff of TNRM who work to deliver TNRM outcomes on the ground and again, thanks to Ann, Raj and Karen for your diligence and responsiveness to board and Finance and Audit Committee requests for the various permutations of financial reports required give us confidence in our oversight of TNRM finances.

Thanks also to fellow members of the Finance and Audit Committee, Kate Peake, Clare Martin and Rick Fletcher.

As my term on the board expires in January, I would also like to say I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the board, to grow as a board member and I am honoured to have been part of the dynamic, adaptable, over-achieving organisation that is TNRM.

***Chair Report, Chief Executive Officer Report and Finance and Audit Committee Chair Report accepted***

*Moved by Dominic Nicholls*

*Seconded by Ben Lewis*

#### **Item 5: 2018-19 TNRM Annual Report (including 2018-19 financial reports)**

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*2018-19 TNRM Annual Report (including 17-18 financial reports) accepted*

*Moved by Liz Bird*

*Seconded by David van den Hoek*

#### **Item 6: Election of Directors to board positions**

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##### **Deputy Chair**

Kate Peake nominated to hold the Deputy Chair position. No other nominees.

*Unanimously accepted*

##### **Finance and Audit Committee Chair**

Kate Peake expressed her interest in taking the position of Finance and Audit Committee Chair

No other nominees.

*Moved by Chair – Clare Martin*

*Seconded by Director – Sally Sullivan*

##### **Public Officer**

Ray Hall confirmed his interest in holding the Public Officer position. No other nominees

*Moved by Chair – Clare Martin*

*Seconded by Director – Bilawara Lee*

#### **Item 7: Election of Members to Director Selection Panel**

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##### **Member Representation – Pastoral Sector**

Liz Bird, Centralian Land Management Association, expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Liz Bird confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Pastoral sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

**Member Representation – Indigenous sector**

Domenic Nicholls, Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation, expressed his interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Dominic Nicholls confirmed his interest for Member Representation – Indigenous sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

**Member Representation – Conservation sector**

Shar Molloy, Environment Centre NT, expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Shar Molloy confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Conservation sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

**Item 8: Other Business**

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No other business put forward.