

ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06

Nogoa River Flood Plain Board

Board Profile

Principal Office: 65 Egerton Street, Emerald. 4720
PO Box 21, Emerald. 4720

Area: Parts of the Shires of Emerald, Peak Downs & Broadsound subject to flood inundation from the Nogoa River or Theresa Creek or their tributaries and as designated as part of the Nogoa River Flood Plain in the map held by the Nogoa River Flood Plain Board which shows the boundaries of the flood plain.

Board Banker: The Rock Building Society, Emerald

Auditor: Auditor-General of Queensland

History

The Nogoa River Flood Plain Board was created as a joint Local Government for the purpose of flood plain management in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

The first Management Committee to oversee the formation of the Board was held on 10 July 1995. The inaugural meeting of the Board was held on 14 October 1996, where it was resolved to make a Nogoa River Flood plain Board "Local Law (Levee Banks) No. 1 of 1996". This Local Law was approved in the Government Gazette 24 October 1997. The initial composition of the Board was by two (2) members each from Emerald and Peak Downs Shire Councils.

The Local Government (Areas) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 1999 amended the original Local Law to change the composition of the Board to one (1) member from Broadsound Shire Council and two (2) members each from Emerald Shire Council and Peak Downs Shire Council.

STRUCTURE

Organisation

Board Members

2 members Emerald Shire Council (ESC) :	(1 being President)
2 members Peak Downs Shire Council (PDSC) :	(1 being Vice President)
1 member Broadsound Shire Council (BSC) :	(CEO)

Administration

Chief Executive Officer : Board Engineer

Membership

President	Cr. Jim Dendle (ESC)
Vice President	Cr. Laurie Walker (PDSC)
Members	Cr. Colin Brunker (ESC)
	Cr. David Brimblecombe (PDSC)
	Mr. Gordon Webley (CEO – BSC)
CEO	Mr. Bryan Ottone (ESC)
Board Engineer	Mr. Kevin Bickhoff (ESC)

Functions

The functions of the Board is to ensure that level banks

- are permitted only after application for a permit, advertising, consideration and determination of the application and any lawful objections to the application.
- are constructed and maintained in a manner consistent with the application and conditions of approval; and
- generally do not impede, restrict, reduce or divert over land waterflow so as to injure or damage property or land which would be otherwise unaffected or to affect natural drainage.

Flood Plain Area

“Nogoa River Flood Plain” – parts of the areas of the Shires of Emerald, Peak Downs and Broadsound subject to flood inundation from the Nogoa River or Theresa Creek or their tributaries and as designated as part of the Nogoa River Flood Plain in the map held by the Nogoa River Flood Plain Board showing the boundaries of the flood plain.

Funding

The Board can levy precepts and the cost of the operations must be paid in the following proportions:

- (i) Broadsound Shire Council – Nil
- (ii) Emerald Shire Council – 71%
- (iii) Peak Downs Shire Council – 29%

Resources

Mr. Bryan Ottone is the CEO : appointed on 26 June 2001.

Mr. Kevin Bickhoff is the Board Engineer and was appointed at the Board’s inaugural meeting.

EFFECT OF BOARD FUNCTIONS ON MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Certain applications made to the Board will be advertised for public comment prior to a decision being made by the Board.

POLICY FORMULATION

The development of Local Laws and subordinate Local Laws includes public submissions.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE KINDS OF DOCUMENTS HELD BY THE BOARD

- Local Government Act 1993
- Books of Account (Electronic Form)
- Minute Book
- Correspondence files
- Annual Reports and Financial Statements
- Engineering Reports
- Auditor's Reports
- Insurance Register
- Local Law (Levee Banks) No. 1
- Subordinate Local Law (Levee Banks) No. 1
- Map of the Flood Plain Board Area

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The past year was a very quiet one for the Board.

One concern, due to changes in State Government structures, is the future of the flood plain modelling service which has in the past been provided by the Department of Natural Resources & Mines. This matter is being pursued as an application for funding for the development of a model was not approved. Talks have been held with the officer who used the model and every indication is that a model will be developed for the suitable use of this Board.

Another concern is the EIS application of Ensham for extensive coal mining requirements which could have impacts on the floodplain. This matter will be monitored and appropriate meetings requested so that the Board fully understands any possible impacts, so that it can comment on the EIS study when released.

Until a flood rain event occurs, it is very difficult to test the adequacy and effectiveness of some of the structures approved by the Board.

I wish to thank my fellow members and officers for their commitment to the functioning of this Board.

Cr. Jim Dendle – Chairman

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The activities of the Board were very minimal for the past year. The area is still suffering from a prolonged drought although a little rain was received during the year.

The finances of the Board are in a sound position.

I wish to thank the Board Members and Engineer with particular thanks to the Finance Manager and Finance Officer of Emerald Shire Council who coordinate the financial operations for the Chief Executive Officer.

It would be great to see good rain, not only for the benefit of the rural area but also to test some of the dams, ring tanks and other structures that have been constructed through the approval of this Board.

Bryan Ottone – Chief Executive Officer

MEMBERS' MEETING ATTENDANCE & REMUNERATION
For the Year Ended 30th June 2006

Member's Name	Meetings	Meeting Allowance	Meeting Mileage	Total Remuneration
Cr. D. Brimblecombe	2	202.00	131.04	333.04
Cr. C. Bruncker	2	202.00		202.00
Cr. J. Dendle	2	202.00		202.00
Cr. L. Walker	2	202.00	156.00	358.00
Mr. G. Webley	-	-		-

Members Remuneration 2004/08

The Members Remuneration Policy was advertised in the "CQ News" in accordance with Statutory Requirements. No submissions were received.

Cr. Bruncker moved and Cr. Walker seconded 'That pursuant to the provisions of Section 237-240 & 465 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Nogoa River Flood Plain Board adopts the following basis of remuneration for Councillors to take effect from 27th August 2004 for the 2004/08 term of the Board:

- Travelling in own vehicle to be compensated at the rate of \$0.78 per kilometre for attendance at Board meetings.
- Meeting fees are to be paid for Board meetings and attendance at other authorised events on the basis of:
 - \$293 for over 6 hours
 - \$220 for 4 to 6 hours
 - \$146 for 2 to 4 hours
 - \$101 for up to 2 hours
- The calculation of these fees and charges is based on principles of fairness and equity, having regard to the loss of regular income by being on business and comparable fees and charges throughout other Local Governments in Queensland.'

BOARD ENGINEER'S REPORT

Strategy/Process for Permit Renewal

- Awareness must be maintained, particularly with the NRM process that is currently underway. Legislative change has to be monitored to complement the current permits as well as future applications.
- Consideration is being given to take flood plain management to the Integrated Planning Act for control.
- Presently environmental legislation has not been incorporated into this Board's local law.
- The most practical method of achieving permit renewal procedures would be to perform a review of permits at the nominal half way point at 5 years. This would

mean that all permits would be reviewed between now and 2008, when the first permits are due for renewal and the process becomes incremental and not reliant on someone remembering or being a hasty response.

- Having a floodplain model developed for the future use of the Board is a priority that is being pursued.

Kevin Bickhoff – Engineer

STATUTORY INFORMATION

Changes to Tenders

No tenders called.

Short Listing : Expressions of Interest

No tenders invited.

List of Registers

- (1) Register of interest of each Councillor held by the respective Chief Executive Officer's at the office of the Emerald and Peak Downs member Councils.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Board does not have any employees.