New CMA Board appointees

Corangamite CMA

Mr Wayne Weaire is a primary producer and irrigator of 20 years, having owned and managed irrigation and dry land farms in the Corangamite, Goulburn and North East Catchments of Victoria since 1984. He is a farmer who seeks for innovative planning and enablement of natural resource and environmental conservation. He has also had years of Senior Executive experience in a government entity and in private health and is a graduate of the Company Director’s Course with Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ms Cathy Phelps has over 14 years’ experience in the leadership and management of agricultural sector research, development and extension programs in the areas of natural resource management and climate risk, both dairy and cross sector. She facilitated the development of numerous partnerships with Victorian CMAs to address common primary industry issues including soil health, climate risk and water quality. Ms Phelps holds a Masters in Sustainable Agriculture and a B.Sc in Agriculture.

Goulburn Broken CMA

Ms Sarah Parker holds a Master of Agriculture and Rural development and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Director’s Course. She has experience in executive and management roles in Agriculture, Extension and Research and Community Development and Education. Ms Parker has been a dairy farm owner since 2004 as a partner in an irrigated dairy farm within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

Mr Michael Harding is Deputy Chair of the Taungurung Land and Waters Corporation and has experience in cultural heritage and natural resource management. He has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course and has served as an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer. He is a small business owner with a Master of Fine Arts degree who is committed to creating opportunities for Koorie people and providing cultural awareness in the community.

Ms Jan Boynton is currently retired from full-time employment. She jointly runs a cattle stud and cereal crop and grain business with her partner. Most recently she was the Acting Chief Executive Officer for Be.Bendigo (Business Council) until 2018. Her professional experience includes executive roles at the Central Goldfields Shire Council, Castlemaine District Community Health, Regional Development Victoria (Loddon Mallee Region), City of Greater Bendigo, Department of Natural Resources and Environment and the North Central Catchment Management Authority. She holds a Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning and a Diploma in the Australian Institute of Company Directors’ course.

West Gippsland CMA

Ms Shelley McGuinness has over 25 years’ experience in the land and water management sector including roles in research, extension and policy. She holds a Bachelor or Agricultural Science (Honours) and is a Sessional Member of Planning Panels Victoria. Previously she was a Director of Coliban Water and a Member of the Australia Institute of Company Directors.

Mr Nicholas Murray has completed the Australian Institute of Company Director’s course (AICD), and holds degrees in Education, Human Resource Management and Management. He has 21 years’
experience as a CEO and board director in the public and private sectors with knowledge and expertise in maritime infrastructure planning and management, as well as forest products production, marketing & sales, education and training.

Ms Elizabeth Clay has operated as a certified organic farmer since 1991, working in the Gippsland region for over 32 years to bring transdisciplinary knowledge in her social, ecological sustainability and agriculture focus on local natural resources and ecosystems. She has recent and relevant industry experience and has contributed to numerous industry advisory committees including the Southern Rural Water Irrigator Advisory Committee and a previous term with West Gippsland CMA. She holds formal qualifications in Applied Science (Systems Agriculture and Rural Development) and consults in ecological production systems. Ms Clay is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

East Gippsland CMA

Ms Merrilyn Woodhouse has over thirty years’ experience in finance and administration in both the public and private sector. She has undertaken a diverse range of roles/activities, including all aspects of finance, administration, and statutory/management reporting. She has many years of agricultural experience, both as a primary producer and as a Federal Government employee undertaking extensive farm surveys. She holds a Bachelor of Business and a Graduate Certificate in Management.

Ms Courtney Mraz is a primary producer with qualifications in agricultural science and agribusiness. She has experience in agriculture, livestock management, agronomy, natural resources management and business management. Ms Mraz has a strong governance background and is experienced in water resource management and stakeholder engagement. Ms Mraz is currently on the board of the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority.

Mr Robin Lowe is a Senior Partner of Crowe Horwath, an integrated financial services provider in Gippsland, who holds an advisory role in strategy, policy development and business planning. He is also a senior accountant. Mr Lowe has a Bachelor of Business and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, as well as holding accreditation as a local government auditor and tax agent. He has had several roles as a board member on national companies and as a member of the Port of Sale Consultative Committee in Wellington Shire.

Glenelg Hopkins CMA

Ms Celia Tucker holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Parks, Recreation and Heritage) and is a member on several committees including the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Community Advisory Group. Her interests lie in improving the environmental and agricultural sectors with a particular focus on land and natural resource management.

Prof. Gerry Quinn holds a Bachelor of Science in Zoology, a PhD in Marine Biology and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. He is a current Chairperson in Marine Biology at Deakin University and has served on several statutory bodies, advisory committees and government public entities. His latest research has focused on the effect of humans on the condition of estuaries and developing models for linking coastal environments to nearby land and catchment processes.

Ms Karrinjeet Singh-Mahil is a dairy farmer and teacher who has a Master of Education degree and a Certificate IV in Governance. She has previously worked in diverse fields such as banking and finance, venue management and sports development across four countries. Ms Singh-Mahil has communication and collaboration skills and is a creative thinker.

Mallee CMA
**Ms Janice Kelly** has 25 years’ experience as a Primary Producer and 35 years’ experience as a Chartered Accountant. She is an experienced Finance and Corporate Services Manager and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. Ms Kelly has provided significant input into organisational strategic plans both as a board member and senior manager.

**Ms Monica Munro** has worked in the water industry (Environmental Services) for eight years and established a family grain marketing company, utilising her extensive knowledge and experience in regulatory compliance and risk management. She was the Assistant Environmental Officer for Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation with responsibility for compliance of environmental legislative and regulatory requirements. She holds a Bachelor of Environmental Science (Catchment Management) and a Diploma in Natural Resource Management.

**North Central CMA**

**Ms Mary Bignell** has qualifications in agricultural science and experience working in natural resource management, emergency management, agribusiness, community development and primary production. She is currently a Director of Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Corporation, with her term expiring 30 September 2019. In 2018 she was appointed to the Barwon South West Waste Resource Recovery Group as a Director for a four-year term. She has completed Cyber Security for Directors, Finance for Directors and the Company Director’s course – all with Australian Institute of Company Directors.

**North East CMA**

**Ms Judith Ahmat** holds a Doctorate of Letters from La Trobe University in 2017 for the contribution made in the Aboriginal community and research. She is a member of several statutory and community boards that actively advocate for improving the lives of Aboriginal people through respectful relationships with Traditional Owners, Aboriginal communities, stakeholders and partners within North East catchment area.

**Dr Jan Mahoney** is a business advisor and company Director with experience from multiple board placements including the Victorian Catchment Management Council and Wimmera Mallee Water Corporation. She holds a Graduate Certificate in International Health and a Graduate Diploma in Business (Agriculture) from Monash University, and has completed the Advanced Company Director’s Diploma with Australian Institute of Company Directors.

**Mr Euan Ferguson** has over 40 years in forestry, fire and emergency management, and is the Director of Redlands Pastoral Pty Ltd. He is the current Chair of the International Liaison Committee of the Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety (University of Melbourne). He has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course and holds a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Forest Science.

**Port Phillip and Westernport CMA**

**Ms Nicola Ward** holds a Master of Social Science degree (Environment and Planning) and an Honours degree in Social Science and Policy. She has completed the Foundations of Directorship Course with the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She brings experience in oversight of strategic water and catchment management matters at a local, regional and state-wide level from positions held of multiple steering/project committees
for Melbourne Water, South East Water and the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA), an Incorporated Association.

**Mr Lawrence Moser** has experience as a small business owner and primary producer of stone fruits and prime lamb. He holds a Graduate Diploma of Land and Sea Country and is an advocate for the rights and equality of Victorian Indigenous People. He has had a lead role in the design and implementation of new initiatives at Corrections Victoria including securing endorsement for policy at the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Forum and negotiating increased program funds for Aboriginal programs through the Commissioner Corrections Victoria.

**Wimmera CMA**

**Ms Angela Enbom** is a commercial beekeeper owner/manager and a sustainable small-scale food-producer. She is a permaculture professional who has developed a sustainable organic integrated plant and animal system. She is an executive on the Central Victorian Apiary Association and provides community bee and sustainable bee practices education to a range of community groups on a regular basis.

**Ms Julie Slater** is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is self-employed in a consulting practice, JLS Consulting specialising in public relations and marketing, strategic planning and community engagement. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Public Relations and is Managing Director and Business Manager of a mixed cropping/livestock farming enterprise located within the Buloke Shire in North-west Victoria. Ms Slater is a current board member of the North Central CMA. Her appointment term expires on 30 September 2019 and she did not seek reappointment.
New Water Corporation Board appointees.

Melbourne Water
No new appointees, all existing members retained.

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water
No new appointees, all existing members retained.

Goulburn Murray Water
No new appointees, all existing members retained.

City West Water
Ms Sawsan Howard is a Lawyer who holds four tertiary degrees across agricultural science, business and law. She brings multi-industry perspectives in financial services, infrastructure, sustainability and energy. She is the General Manager of Corporate Affairs for Australian Super and Ms Howard is also a non-executive director with the Banksia Foundation and a member of the RMIT MBA Advisory Board.

Ms Freya Marsden is an experienced commercial and government Non-Executive Director (NED) with 17 prior and existing Chair and board and committee roles, where she has utilised her experience in complex organisational environments in regulated sectors. She holds a Master of Commerce degree specialising in Economics and a Bachelor of Agriculture and Resource Economics. Ms Marsden is a recent Graduate in Mastering the Boardroom, through the Australian Institute of Company Director’s course.

Gippsland Water
Ms Katrina Lai has 20 years of experience as a Lawyer, a senior executive in a service utility (Telstra) and a strategy consultant in customer service, strategic planning, asset management and ICT innovation. She is an experienced director of two Victorian boards and has contributed advice to the Victorian Government on a climate change project through feasibility and design phases. Ms Lai is a Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, holds an MBA and a Bachelor of Laws.

Southern Rural Water
Ms Kylie Steel has professional specialisation in environmental science and climate change. As a holder of several postgraduate degrees in environment and scientific fields she is a founder and director of SCB Consult, a niche consultancy specialising in climate change, bushfire science and emergency management. She is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.
Mr Christopher Edwards is a current Westernport Water Corporation Board Director, member of the Audit and Risk Committee and holds current directorships at AIG: United Guarantee Hong Kong (mortgage insurer), The Stroke Foundation and Sandhurst Golf and Holding Pty Ltd. Mr Edwards was also a Director of Bendigo Kangan Institute of TAFE (2014 – 2016). He has held numerous senior accounting roles and audit committee appointments in Australia, the United Kingdom and the Asia Pacific region. Mr Edwards holds a Bachelor of Science (Economics) and is a Certified Practising Accountant, a Certified Information Systems Auditor, and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Westernport Water

Ms Tanya Treloar has experience in utilising mainstream media to motivate and educate audiences to reduce their impact on the environment through her SBS and ABC TV presentations. She has contributed two terms to Sustainability Victoria and is an award-winning science and environmental communicator of 20 years’ experience. She has held several board director positions, has Australian Institute of Company Directors training and has attained a Master of Environment together with a Bachelor of Chemistry.

Mr Leigh Berrell is an experienced director of more than 8 years on commercial and not-for-profit boards. Currently he is the Program Director at Icon Water, Canberra’s water and sanitation utility. He holds an MBA, a Bachelor of Science and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors course. He has achieved recognition as the 2012 Utilities CIO of the Year and as CIO of Yarra Valley Water, he successfully transformed IT by realigning the sourcing strategy with the company culture and reducing IT operating expenses.

Ms Annabelle Roxon is a management consultant with an MBA who advises to government and social purpose organisations on strategy and outcomes management. With over 12 years’ experience as a lawyer she has advised in procurement, sales and marketing, disputes and litigation, and mergers and acquisitions. She holds a Bachelor of Laws and is a non-executive director at Federation Training, and a member of the Audit and Risk Committee.

Yarra Valley Water

Mr Ian Hamm has held multiple director roles in several Victorian government departments, including his appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Humanities) and is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration of Australia (IPAA). Mr Hamm is currently undertaking the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.

South East Water

Ms Louise Asher is a retired Member of Parliament with considerable experience in government operations. Her expertise includes legislation and regulation, public speaking, formulating budgets and policy development gained from her ministerial responsibilities in diverse portfolios such as Innovation, Tourism, Industry, Water and Manufacturing. She holds a Master of Arts qualification in Economics which supports her deep understanding of industry and the importance of collaboration and compromise to achieve successful political and commercial outcomes.

Mr Jason Kambovski holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Laws in addition to his Australian Institute of Company Directors Graduate Diploma. He has over 25 years’ experience in financial services, legal and accounting sectors. Mr Kambovski has been the Director of Water for
Lower Murray Water, Chairperson of the Finance and Audit Committees and is the public sector Director for Westpac, demonstrating strong financial skills and experience.

**Lower Murray Water**

**Mr Maxwell Folie** is an experienced international general manager with a depth of business experience managing risk and improvement drivers in large global complex commercial businesses. He is recognised as one of the leading internal audit practitioners in Australia through membership of the Chief Auditors Executives Council who are members of the top 30 ASX companies. He holds a Diploma of Business (Accounting) 1976, a Graduate Diploma in Internal Auditing and he is an audit committee member on Mildura Rural City Council.

**Mr Gregory Baker** has a strong commercial management experience in major contract negotiations and strategic planning experience with a technical and engineering background. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Chemistry), and a Bachelor of Commerce and Management. Working largely in the private sector for ASX listed companies, Mr Baker has achieved commercial outcomes in contract negotiations of the value of $1.3b.

**Dr Svetla Petkova** has over 10 years senior executive experience in the water sector which includes preparing pricing submissions as a General Manager on Central Gippsland Water Corporation and on audit and risk committees. Together with local government experience Dr Petkova has experience in managing large assets. She holds an MBA in Leadership and Innovation, a Master of Law, and a Master of Science and Engineering.

**Barwon Water**

**Ms Corrina Eccles** has 22 years of employment experience in Aboriginal organisations and community engagement, advocacy for cultural values, support and connection. She has contributed to various advisory and committee groups including representation on the Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative board. She has undertaken board governance training and brings Aboriginal culture elements, perspective and values relating to water.

**Goulburn Valley Water**

**Mr Matthew Burns** holds a Graduate Certificate in Financial Services, several specialisations in the finance sector and brings a strong background in finance, audit and risk, and advocacy consultation skills. As a Traditional Owner from Taungurung he has deep knowledge of the water sector through his associations with CMAs and other Water Corporation boards. He currently holds a Board position with the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations and sits on the Governance sub-committee.

**Ms Jenny Wilson** has tertiary qualifications in Applied Science, Sustainability, Environmental Science and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. She developed the Murray Dairy Strategic Plan (2016-2020) and has delivered multiple state-wide farm planning programs including an Environmental Management System to provide a systematic approach to environmental and quality assurance management on private land.
East Gippsland Water

**Ms Therese Tierney** is an experienced chief executive officer (CEO), board member and chair. While mainly working in the health industry she has operated at CEO/executive level in local government and has been appointed to a number of ministerial and advisory roles. As a recently retired CEO of Bairnsdale Health she instituted the creation of a Good Governance Framework and the associated strategies such as a risk management framework, workforce strategies and reporting dashboards. Ms Tierney is a past director of East Gippsland Water.

**Ms Michelle McLean** is an experienced non-executive board director and business advisor. Ms McLean is Deputy Chairperson of the Country Fire Authority (CFA), a volunteer and community-based fire and emergency services organisation, and she also chairs the CFA Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. From 1995 to 2018 Ms McLean was an Executive/Partner of Cornwall Stodart (Lawyers). Ms McLean holds a Bachelor of Commerce and she has a Graduate Diploma of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course.

**Mr Ian Gibson** is a long-term resident of Gippsland and has extensive networks in the public sector, community organisations, business, academia and sporting bodies. He holds qualifications as a Master of Public Policy and Management and in Economics and Arts. He also has public sector board experience which includes the State Electricity Commission of Victoria, Coal Corporation, West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and the Latrobe Regional Hospital.

Central Highlands Water

**Mr Mark McKenzie** has a family farming background and has been engaged in water issues management and policy development for over eight years. He has been a member of several Victorian Government water policy advisory bodies and his consultancy business provides strategic advice for the water and rural sectors. He holds a Diploma of Applied Science in Agriculture and has served as a past Chief Executive Officer for the Victorian Wine Industry Association and the Murray Valley Winegrowers.

North East Water

**Ms Victoria Schmidt** holds a Bachelor of Science and has completed Governance Foundations for Board Directors with Australian Institute of Company Directors. She has eight years board director experience and she is currently a board director on a multi-purpose public health service where she has responsibility for financial sustainability, corporate risk and governance, strategic planning, improved quality of care and chief executive officer performance and accountability.

**Ms Angela Verde** is a current Director at Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE and the current Chairperson of the Remuneration Sub-Committee. In the corporate sector she has managed research projects in the not-for-profit sector and facilitated corporate funding to implement priority actions in the health sector. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science and Graduate Diploma of Business Management.
Mr Christopher Mirams was recently appointed as Chairperson of Sheep Producers Australia, has 30 years’ experience in farm management, and has served in senior governance roles in a range of organisations including Meat and Livestock Australia, MLA Donor Company and Integrity Systems Company. He has Australian Institute of Company Directors membership and governance strength, together with leadership and organisational development skills. He holds a Diploma of Financial Markets.

South Gippsland Water
Dr Nicholas Fleming has a PhD in Engineering and has consulted across water, infrastructure, natural resources, mining, energy and defence sectors in Australia, New Zealand, south-east Asia, the UK and Americas. He holds affiliation with Australian Institute of Company Directors where he has completed the international Company Director’s Course, and achieved academic, project and industry awards over his career, including the AWA (Victoria) High Commendation in Project Innovation Category for the Sustainability Demystified Program for Goulburn Valley Water, 2011.

Ms Nicola Hepenstall is a highly skilled strategist with extensive experience in C-suite leadership roles, holding Executive Director and Non-executive Director positions spanning marketing services, research, education and member organisations. With over 25 years’ experience in evidence-based consulting she brings extensive knowledge of communications and marketing practice, Ms Ryan holds a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Director’s Course.

Ms Jennifer Ryan has more than 20 years’ experience in the water and civil infrastructure industry. She has held senior positions delivering multi-million-dollar Capital Works programs throughout Victoria and ACT. She holds a Master of Business Administration, a Bachelor of Civil Engineering and Computing and has completed the Foundations of Directorship: Governance for Directors through Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Wannon Water
Dr Susan Brumby holds a Master of Health Management, and a PhD in Sustainable Regional Communities. She is the Founding Director of the National Centre for Farmer Health and has 15 years of farming land management knowledge and experience. Focused on improving the health, wellbeing and safety of farmers, farm workers and their families across Australia, Dr Brumby led the implementation of five key strategies which includes inventive and award-winning service delivery models, farmer research, education and training.

Dr Adrian Panow is currently the Director of Deakin Energy for the delivery of innovative solutions to the challenges of sustainable energy supply. He is an experienced energy, resources and Agrifood Technology executive with international private and public sector expertise in business and technology development, sustainability, stakeholder engagement, joint ventures, commercialisation and program leadership. He holds an Australian Institute of Company Directors Diploma and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Biochemistry.

Coliban Water
Ms Melanie McCarthy has over 20 years professional experience in the resources industry, 10 years as a farmer and eight years as a board director. She also has Australian Institute of Company Directors board governance qualifications. Ms McCarthy is currently the General Manager of Australia’s only Antimony-Gold mine (Mandalay Resources Costerfield Operations) bringing her
educational achievements as a Master of Engineering Science (Industry Management) to the role in addition to her success in being selected as winner of the 2018 Exceptional Woman in Australian Resources Award.

**Prof Gary Jones** is an experienced water sector director and chief executive officer with a previous international career in water science and research. He has a Bachelor of Science and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. He has held several directorships on the boards of public companies including membership of Governance, Audit and Finance, Recruitment and Remuneration, and Business Risk Committees. Prof Jones brings extensive experience in budget and financial management, human resources, strategic planning, risk assessment and in organisational leadership and governance.

**Mr Mario D’Elia** was a Senior Partner of Price Waterhouse Cooper’s (PwC) National Infrastructure Advisory team and advised on infrastructure projects under various government procurement models involving the private sector. He has extensive experience in advising governments on the development and implementation of major capital projects, including transport, water (desalination) and social infrastructure. He is a Certified Practising Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Business Studies.

**Western Water**

**Ms Judith Holt** has had 25 years’ experience in senior management and executive positions in local government and on the Coliban Water senior management team. She holds a Bachelor of Business, a Graduate Diploma of Applied Corporate Governance and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Director’s Course. She is currently the Executive Manager Organisational Capability where she has responsibilities for risk, people and culture, governance and business improvement.

**Mr Leslie McLean** has 20 years of management and leadership experience in the Victorian health and water sectors, focusing on strong financial performance, strategic risk management, stewardship and results-driven business solutions. Among his board directorships, he is a past President and Director of the Victorian Institute of Water Administration Inc. and holds a Bachelor of Accounting and a Fellow of CPA Australia.

**Ms Lisa McDonald** is currently Chair of the Governance Committee at Lower Murray Water Authority. As Managing Director of a consultancy company, she provides comprehensive strategic business and community engagement strategies, including the coordination of high-level communications and performance evaluation of the Government’s transport industry reforms. She holds various qualifications in communication and negotiation and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Director’s Course.