



WALGA

Great Southern Zone

MINUTES

of an ordinary meeting
(2 voting delegates per council)

held on

Friday 29 June 2018

Venue
Civic Rooms
City of Albany Administration Centre
102 North Road
Albany

8

1. OPEN: 1.04pm

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Cr Keith House
Annabel Paulley

Zone President
Zone Executive Officer

City of Albany
Broomehill / Tambellup
Cranbrook
Denmark
Gnowangerup
Jerramungup
Katanning
Kent
Kojonup
Plantagenet
Woodanilling

Mayor Dennis Wellington, Cr Anthony Moir and CEO Andrew Sharpe
Cr Scott Thompson, Cr Kelly Holzkecht and CEO Keith Williams
Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton and CEO Peter Northover
Cr Ceinwen Gearon, Cr Janine Phillips and CEO Bill Parker
Cr Lex Martin and CEO Shelley Pike
Cr Rob Lester, Cr Andrew Price and CEO Martin Cuthbert
Cr Liz Guidera, Cr John Goodheart and CEO Julian Murphy
Cr Alan Smith and CEO Peter Bentley
Cr Ronnie Fleay, Cr Jill Mathwin and Acting CEO Anthony Middleton
Cr Chris Pavlovich and Cr Bevan Lang
Cr Russel Thomson, Cr Dale Douglas and CEO Belinda Knight

Total of 20 and out of a possible 22 voting delegates in attendance.

Guests

Melissa Pexton, Manager Emergency Management, WALGA
Rob Dickie, Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd
Jonathan Seth, CEO, Local Government Insurance Services (LGIS)
Bruce Manning, CEO, Great Southern Development Commission
Cr Jon Oldfield, Shire of Plantagenet
Cr Ned Radford and Cr John Benn, Shire of Kojonup
Cr Jan Lewis and Cr Peter Caron, Shire of Denmark
Pam Hull and Kay O'Neill, Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Cr Tim Brown, Shire of Woodanilling

Apologies

Minister for Transport, Rita Saffioti
Minister for Primary Industries & Regional Development, Alannah MacTiernan
Peter Watson, Member for Albany
Cr Lynne Craigie, President, WALGA
Cr Mark Paganoni, Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Wayne Green, District Superintendent, Dept of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES)
Cr Scott Crosby Shire of Kent
Cr Philip Horrocks, Shire of Cranbrook
Rob Stewart, CEO, Shire of Plantagenet
Belinda Knight, CEO, Shire of Woodanilling

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Cr Ronnie Fleay declared an interest in WALGA State Council Agenda items 5.2 and 5.3 due to her being a member of the WA Planning Commission.

REMINDER: All delegates present at a Zone meeting shall vote, as per Zone Standing Order 28.1

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

4.1 Rob Dickie, Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd

- New CEO Jimmie Wilson is focussing on reducing supply chain costs as much as possible due to competition in international grain markets from Black Sea countries. Large amount of internal redundancies at CBH.
- Shaping the Network for the Future – new general manager of planning. Focus on the most cost-effective way to build new sites or extend existing sites. Currently 200 receival sites but will reduce to 100 sites over the next 5 years.
- Crop tonnages are increasing. Increasing number of growers delivering larger tonnages. Sites need to be able to cope with larger tonnages through planning and design.
- Shipping profile is changing and need to get larger tonnages to port more quickly. Hoping to move more tonnes on rail.

Q&A Session

Question: Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton - Was it wrong not to build Mirambeena on the rail line?

Answer: Rob Dickie – Unsure about what planning went into Mirambeena? CBH's preference is to connect Mirambeena to rail.

4.2 Jonathan Seth, CEO, Local Government Insurance Services (LGIS)

- Convention coming up soon.
- Safety makes up about half of LGIS business. Refreshed Three Steps to Safety programme recently.
- Prevention and mitigation.
- Surplus profits are distributed back to members. \$2.2 million surplus to be delivered back next year.
- Local Governments encouraged to look at the LGIS annual report.
- Business Continuity Planning.
- Bushfire and Cyber cover.

No questions were raised.

5. MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY ZONE MEETING – 2 March 2018

MOVED Cr Ronnie Fleay

SECONDED Mayor Dennis Wellington

That the minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Great Southern Zone of the WALGA held on Friday 2 March 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

CARRIED 20-0

5.1.2 MINUTES OF THE WALGA STATE COUNCIL MEETING – 7 March 2018

MOVED Mayor Dennis Wellington

SECONDED Cr Scott Thompson

That the Minutes of meeting of the State Council of WALGA held on 7 March 2018 be received.

CARRIED 20-0

5.1.3 MINUTES OF THE WALGA STATE COUNCIL MEETING – 4 May 2018

MOVED Cr Russel Thomson

SECONDED Mayor Dennis Wellington

That the Minutes of meeting of the State Council of WALGA held on 4 May 2018 be received.

CARRIED 20-0

5.2 Business Arising

No issues from 2 March meeting for Status Report from WALGA to the Zone.

5.2.1 Funding for Human Services

Letter dated 6 February 2018 from Health Minister Roger Cook about changes to Home and Community Care services due to take effect from 1 July 2018.

Also, councils were asked to respond to a WA Country Health Service online stakeholder engagement survey before 11 May 2018.

No new issues raised.

5.2.2 Frequency and impact of power outages in the Great Southern – Shire of Denmark

No further update at this time.

5.2.3 Local Government Act Review

Refer to presentation by Director General Duncan Ord and Q&A session.

No additional details raised by Duncan Ord.

5.2.4 Target Issues for the Zone in 2018

Top priority for the Zone is 'Roads' – Minister for Transport, Rita Saffioti, to be invited to attend Zone meeting in 2018.

- Regional Development Trust decides on Royalties for Regions (R4R funding). Chairman of Regional Development Trust Tim Shanahun to be invited to a meeting. Zone to stress the importance of small amounts of funding to assist Local Governments to upgrade their existing facilities. They cannot do it without R4R assistance.

ACTION: Councils to respond to questions in Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy.

5.2.5 Regional Subsidiaries Bill

No further update at this time.

5.2.6 Reinstatement of percentage funding allocation relating to vehicle licensing concession

Letters received from Minister for Transport Rita Saffioti dated 7 August 2017 and from Minister's Chief of Staff Amy Lomas dated 14 October 2017 answering various questions put by the Zone.

Update: Ongoing agreement still being negotiated.

5.2.7 WANDRRA funding

Refer to letter dated 19 February 2018 from the WA Office of Emergency Management about proposed changes to the National Disaster Relief Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

No new issues raised.

5.2.8 Review of Emergency Services Legislation

Update by Melissa Pexton: State Government has not made a formal announcement on review.

120 Local Governments participated in the review. Commissioner of DFES and Minister indicate that there will be further announcements of funding. Further meetings will be taking place.

5.2.9 Funding of Bin-to-Port Roads in the Great Southern

Minister for Transport unable to attend March and June 2018 Zone meetings.

Update: Zone Executive Officer emailed Chris Grant at Main Roads WA on 18 April 2018 with a list of local government roads which provide important connections for the Great Southern's road grain transport network. This is to identify projects for possible special federal funding which will improve the GSR freight network, particularly in view of:

- Direct Impacts of tier 3 rail closures.
- Lime Sands project upgrades, MRWA plus LGA. (Refresh old estimates)
- Specific MRWA and or LGA road sections on commodity routes.
- RAV upgrades on commodity routes that are linked to productivity.

ACTION: Executive Officer to follow up with Main Roads and report to next meeting.

5.2.10 Regional Training Opportunities

The following training courses were held:-

Understanding Financial Reports and Budgets	Albany	17 May 2018
Effective Community Leadership	Albany	18 May 2018

5.2.11 Follow up with guest speakers from 2 March 2018 meeting.

DPIRD held a Food and Beverage Economic Forum for the Great Southern on 28 June 2018.

Cr Antony Moir and Cr Bill Hollingworth attended.

Update by Cr Moir: Eye-opener to see the number of agribusiness opportunities available. Only 2% of Chinese can afford to buy Australian products but 2% is more than population of Australia! Forming co-operatives in primary production and getting packaging right for markets. Consistency of supply and price for premium products. Political tensions with South China Sea mean shipments are being more intensely scrutinised.

Melanie Price saw the benefit of a regional forum to look at sustainability, resilience and climate change adaptation issues.

Update: Awaiting more information.

Consideration to be given to which of the above items can be removed from the agenda.

MOVED Mayor Dennis Wellington

SECONDED Cr Liz Guidera

That no items be removed from the next agenda.

CARRIED 20-0

6. ZONE BUSINESS

6.1 Emerging Issues for Local Governments

Zone councils gave an overview of emerging issues affecting them over the past few months.

City of Albany

- Fires in May – only 2 fires were prescribed burns. The other 130 fires were private burns.
- Ring Road – Federal Government Transport Minister didn't know anything about Albany Ring Road!
- Will continue to lobby Western Power about power issues.
- Frenchman Bay chalet development approved.
- Goode Beach development coming to council for endorsement.
- Middleton Beach Road almost completed.
- Lower Great Southern Alliance has hit some hurdles.
- Harder and harder to get funding for roads in general.

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

- Aboriginal flag raised at shire offices and Police Station in Tambellup.
- Workforce planning community strategy.
- Hard to attract businesses to town.
- Funding for aged accommodation has come through but has pushed this project back by 1 year.
- Only have 2 police officers in Tambellup - quality of housing is poor.

Shire of Cranbrook

- Solar lights on truck bay have been turned on.
- Aged accommodation announcement welcomed.
- Masterplanning process underway.

Shire of Denmark

- Grateful for assistance with 14 fires in Shire of Denmark in May. Renewed focus on emergency management. Power went out – need to look at generator backup power.
- Compliance – integrated planning framework.
- Looking at community assets.
- Bridge issue – looking at traffic management report. Item going to Council in July.
- Congratulations on aged accommodation funding.

Shire of Gnowangerup

- Bank closure.
- Increase in rent for Police Officers – regional issue. Stations in the region back each other up.
- Working through budget process.

Shire of Jerramungup

- Completed coastal management plan.
- Fires putting out mobile phone service is huge regional issue. Emergency services affected.
ACTION: Melissa Pexton to consult with Zone and take this issue further.
- IT Vision Synergy Soft – files can be transferred into Excel, altered and then transferred back.

Shire of Katanning

- Aged accommodation funding is very much appreciated.
- Dome coffee shop and wine bar are open 7 days a week. Hotel rooms are not officially open yet. Conference space due to open in next month or so. Dome CEO Nigel Oakey showed promotional material which will go online and in hotel. Includes information about the whole region. Eg. trails.
- Increased rent for Police Officers – Regional Incentive Scheme funding by R4R. Maybe Zone could apply for this funding to address this issue?

Shire of Kent

- Pingrup pavilion is now completed.
- Nyabing Hotel is being reconstructed.
- 24-hour fuel facility being constructed in Nyabing.
- Flushing toilet being constructed in main street.
- Pingrup sign project.
- Local Telecentre has bought café to enable future sustainability.

Shire of Kojonup

- Delighted about aged accommodation funding.
- Robbie Miniter commended for the work he does with regional youth. Cultural Awareness workshops are good. Encouraged Local Governments to have them with their communities.
- Synergy Soft issues are concerning. We need best practice.
- VROC suggested Mark Batty from WALGA to present to next Zone meeting.
- Congratulated GSDC for getting 'Breath' filmed in the region.

Shire of Plantagenet

- Fortunate to miss out on recent fires. Plantagenet extended the restricted burning season due to dry conditions.
- Mt Barker Tourist Bureau held 'last hoorah' and will come under Alliance and Amazing South Coast.
- Excited about hosting major motion picture in Mt Barker later this year.
- Reduction in CRC is a concern. Potential cost shift to Local Government and have written to Minister.
- Landcorp – Yerraminup Industrial Estate. Cost of water and power are still a barrier and delays residential and industrial development.
- State-funding HACCC system being wound up and Federal-funded system will come into play on 1 July 2018. Elderly people are concerned.
- Plantagenet Village Homes has completed another 7 aged care homes and a clubhouse.

Shire of Woodanilling

- WANDRRA funding payment issues have been resolved.
- Going through fire mitigation process which should make the town and some reserves much safer.
- Monitoring the research into bushfire mitigation in areas with Sheoak trees.

6.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Refer to presentation by Director General Duncan Ord.

Cr Ronnie Fleay left the room at 2.12pm.

MOVED Cr Jill Mathwin

SECONDED Cr Rob Lester

That the Great Southern Zone supports the recommendations for items 5.2 and 5.3 in the July 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda.

CARRIED 19-0

Cr Ronnie Fleay reentered the meeting at 2.13pm.

Item 5.4 – Policy for Restricted Access Vehicles on Roads Not on an Approved Network During Harvest

MOVED Cr Rob Lester

SECONDED Cr Russel Thomson

That the WALGA recommendation for item 5.4 be amended to read as follows:

That WALGA:

1. **Subject to part 3 of this resolution, supports continuation of** the Harvest Mass Management Scheme to enable heavy vehicles that meet the requirements of RAV 2, RAV 3 or RAV 4 to travel on roads not assessed for the RAV network between paddocks and the nearest RAV route during the harvest period.

2. **Advocate that any roads assessed on the initiative of Main Roads that do not meet the requirements for addition to the RAV network at the level used under the Harvest Mass Management Scheme remain unassessed for the purpose of network definition.**

3. **Advise MRWA that any condition requiring an Agricultural Pilot to accompany the RAV combination to facilitate the movement between the paddock and the nearest RAV Network road, is not acceptable.**

4. **Request Main Roads Heavy Vehicles Section to work with stakeholders in providing an alternative solution, prior to the 2018 harvest, to the proposed requirements for an Agricultural Pilot, on unassessed roads, that is within the legal boundaries and is acceptable to Industry.**

CARRIED 20-0

7.4 Matters for Noting – Zone information

No items raised.

7.5 State Council Status Report

No items raised.

8. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' REPORTS

8.1 Executive Officer's Report - Nil

8.2 Other Reports

8.2.1 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG) – Delegates Cr Keith House and Cr Ronnie Fleay Minutes of meeting held on 13 April 2018 are attached.

Attention is drawn to the following matters -

- Harvest Mass Management Scheme - Changes to the Scheme for the 2018/2019 harvest include a requirement for agricultural pilots for RAV combinations using local roads that have not been approved on the respective RAV network. The Group acknowledges the advice received by Main Roads from the State Solicitor's Office but has expressed its concerns at the lack of consultation with stakeholders and that in many cases the requirement will not be complied with. The Group resolved to bring to the attention of the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Agriculture the implications of the changes to the Scheme. *Refer to WALGA State Council Agenda Item 5.4*
- The Group has extended an invitation to PGA of WA and the WA Farmers Federation to join the Group as non-voting participants.
- Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy - The Group requests Zones at their forthcoming meetings to encourage stakeholder engagement in the Strategy and to list for discussion the Strategy's stakeholder questions (see attached).

ACTION: Council to provide feedback on the Strategy Stakeholder Questions to Cr Keith House or Cr Ronnie Fleay.

Further information provided by Simon Wakeling, Heavy Vehicle Network Access Advisor, Main Roads as follows:-

A. Provide information sheet about the HMMS changes.

Attached is the HMMS presentation which contains all the relevant information.

B. Additional request via Phoebe regarding towed agricultural implements Regulations.

The requirements for towed agricultural implements are defined in Part 13 of the Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014. However, the mass requirements for vehicles are defined in Part 8 of these Regulations. It should be noted, Part 13 of the Regulations have not been reviewed for some time, with the previous Road Traffic (Towed Agricultural Implements) Regulations 1995 simply being integrated. The Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014 can be found at the State Law Publisher website at www.legislation.wa.gov.au

Remaining LGAFG 2018 meetings: 13 August and 15 October.

8.2.2 Great Southern Human Services Forum – CEO Rob Stewart

Last meeting held on 6 June 2018 – awaiting minutes.

8.2.3 Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) – CEO Keith Williams.

Great Southern Fire District being split into two districts - the Upper Great Southern (based in Narrogin) and Lower Great Southern Districts (based in Albany and includes Esperance). Also, the Rural Fire Division and the implications for Local Government.

Update by Keith Williams: There will be 11 Local Governments in one fire district and 13 in the other. Management of fires is becoming more complex and fires are becoming more complex.

Cr Russel Thomson said Woodanilling shared a CESM with other councils and the change in fire districts will split this CESM.

Keith Williams advised that the CESM was confident she could manage this issue.

Debate about where increase in Emergency Services Levy (ESL) will be spent. Things will generally stay the same for Bushfire Brigades apart from a higher ESL.

ACTION: Keith Williams to email written report to Executive Officer for distribution.
ACTION: Melissa Pexton to take the above issues back to WALGA and she encouraged Local Governments to report to WALGA with other issues. Need to feed from the bottom up. The better the information WALGA receives, the better WALGA can represent Local Governments.

Cr Chris Pavlovich and Cr Bevan Lang left the meeting at 2.26pm leaving 18 voting delegates.

- 8.2.4 South Coast Natural Resource Management (NRM) - Delegate: Cr Anthony Moir. Proxy: Keith Williams
Minutes of meeting held on 12 April 2018 attached.

Update by Cr Anthony Moir: Changes in funding. South Coast NRM will change structure for 2018-19 due to reduced budget. Operational Managers role has gone along with 2 project officers. However, South Coast NRM has received funding to deliver on project goals.

ACTION: South Coast NRM requests that Local Governments engage more with landcare groups to fulfil their obligations.

- 8.2.5 Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) – Bruce Manning
Refer to presentation during morning session.

- 8.2.6 Great Southern RoadWise
Temporary Road Safety Advisor Andrea Smithson will start in mid-July to cover Erin Miller's maternity leave.

- 8.2.7 Proposed joint meetings of Zone and Regional Road Group - Cr Chris Pavlovich
See attached comments from councils.

ACTION: Cr Keith House and Cr Len Handasyde to discuss how to progress a joint meeting in 2019.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Special breakfast forum with John Langoulant AO

Great Southern councils were invited to attend this forum. Mr Langoulant presented the findings from his Special Inquiry into Government Programs and Projects, which focussed on the associated governance arrangements, decision-making processes and financial consequences.

Update by Cr Liz Guidera: Topics discussed at the forum included governance arrangements, procurement and contract management, and accountability systems.

9.2 South West Native Title Settlement – Latest News

15 May 2018 - Aboriginal Affairs Minister meets the SWALSC Board Members

Aboriginal Affairs Minister, Ben Wyatt, met with the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council Board to reaffirm the WA Government's ongoing commitment to the South West Native Title Settlement. All pre-conditions for the commencement of the Settlement have been successfully met and the Minister and the SWALSC Board reflected upon how disappointed they are by further delays to the registration of the Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs). The SWALSC Board members and the Minister also discussed SWALSC's intention to transition to the Central Services Corporation as a part of the future Noongar Governance Structure.

Learn more by reading the SWALSC's Transition Program.

Learn more about the status of the ILUA Registration.

2 May 2018 - ILUA Registration - Procedural Fairness - timeframe extended

The National Native Title Tribunal has confirmed that the Native Title Registrar continues to consider the objections to the Indigenous Land Use Agreements as a part of the procedural fairness process. Procedural fairness is about giving people who may be affected by a decision the chance to have their say. The ongoing procedural fairness process further delays the registration of the Indigenous Land Use Agreements and means the Settlement is now expected to commence in early 2019.

Learn more about procedural fairness and ILUA registration on the NNTT website.

1 May 2018 - SWALSC Cultural Advice Workshops

The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) has appointed Tony Walley as the Cultural Governance Manager to consult with Noongar Elders about the development and ongoing management of the Cultural Advice Policies. The Cultural Advice Policies will set out how each of the six Regional Corporations will make cultural decisions, and how the individual Regional Corporations will support their Noongar Elders involvement in cultural governance decisions. Cultural advice workshops are being conducted across the south west region. If you would like to know more or get involved please visit the SWALSC website: <https://www.dpc.wa.gov.au/swnts>

ACTION: That the Zone writes to Robbie Miniter to congratulate him on his OAM award.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

10.1 Financial Report for the period 1 February 2018 to 31 May 2018 attached.

Opening balance as at 1 February 2018	\$7,521.22
Total debits	(\$4,465.69)
Total credits	\$221.00
Closing balance as at 31 May 2018	\$3,276.53

MOVED Cr Russel Thomson

SECONDED Cr Liz Guidera

That the financial statement for the period 1 February 2018 to 31 May 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Zone finances.

CARRIED 18-0

11.0 REMAINING ZONE MEETINGS FOR 2018

- 11.1 **Friday 31 August** **Tambellup**
Guest Speakers so far:-
 - o Steve Tweedie, Principal Consultant Local Government, Public Sector Commission
 - o Mark Batty, WALGA – waste into fuel, etc.
- 11.2 **Friday 30 November** **Cranbrook (AGM and ordinary meeting)**

12.0 LATE ITEM

12.1 Blue Sky Strategic Planning Workshop - Cr Keith House

Review of WALGA's Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020 and WALGA CEO's KPIs.

ACTION: Councils to consider appropriate KPIs for WALGA's CEO.

How do Zone's want to streamline information? Do they want to change or keep the status quo.

Councils to refer to document: WALGA Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020.

Councils to email Cr Keith House with feedback on the Strategic Plan and the WALGA CEO's KPIs.

Close: 2.40pm.