

**MINUTES OF THE ZONE MEETING**

held at the Shire of Gingin Council Chambers, 7 Brockman Street, Gingin  
Friday 23 February 2024 commencing at 10:02 am

**1 OPENING & WELCOME**

The Zone President and Chair of the meeting, Cr Chris Antonio, welcomed delegates and in particular WALGA President Cr Karen Chappell, WALGA staff and Members of Parliament, acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting is held and paid respects to Elders, past present and emerging and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

He introduced Mr Aaron Cook, CEO, Shire of Gingin. Mr Cook welcomed delegates to Gingin and gave a presentation highlighting statistics of the Shire, current and long term projects, current issues and opportunities.

Cr Tracy Lefroy entered the meeting at 10:07 am.

Hon Steve Martin MLC advised that he was experiencing internet connection issues and that would leave the meeting and rejoin when he had a stable connection. He left the meeting at 10:12 am.

Cr C Antonio enquired as to what were the biggest economic influences in the Shire of Gingin. Mr Cook replied that they were broad but the pressure points were the rapid expansion of high intensity agriculture and housing estate developments.

Cr D Coad asked as to the costs of the developments to the Shire of Gingin. Mr Cook replied that it was about deviating staff away from normal operations, external reviews, the time taken to prepare Council meeting Agendas which were regularly 1,200 to 1,400 pages. He commented that the Shire was trying to keep in house, if possible, as external consultants were expensive.

**2 ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

**2.1 Attendance**

Delegates -

Cr Chris Antonio	Shire of Northam ( President)
Cr Aaron King	Shire of Chittering
Cr Keith Carter	Shire of Dalwallinu (via Video)
Cr Lincoln Stewart	Shire of Gingin
Cr Julie Chester	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Tracy Lefroy	Shire of Moora (from 10:08 am)
Cr Michael McKeown	Shire of Toodyay
Cr Pauline Bantock	Shire of Victoria Plains
Cr Dwight Coad	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu
Cr Kevin Trent	Shire of York (via Video)

Observers –

Cr Mary Angus	Shire of Chittering
Ms Melinda Prinsloo	Shire of Chittering
Ms Jean Knight	Shire of Dalwallinu (via Video)
Mr Aaron Cook	Shire of Gingin
Mr Peter Bentley	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Atilla Mencshelyi	Shire of Northam
Cr Julie Williams	Shire of Northam
Ms Debbie Terelinck	Shire of Northam
Cr Shelly Dival	Shire of Toodyay
Cr Rosemary Madacsi	Shire of Toodyay (via Video)
Mr Sean Fletcher	Shire of Victoria Plains
Cr Elyssa Giedraitis	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu (via Video)
Cr Denese Smythe	Shire of York (via Video)
Cr Karen Chappell	President WALGA
Ms Rebecca Brown	Manager Waste & Environment, WALGA
Mr Suvrat Patel	Network Manager Wheatbelt Region, Main Roads WA

Hon Shane Love MLA	Leader of the Opposition, Member for Moore
Hon Martin Aldridge MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Steve Martin MLC	Member for Agricultural Region (via Video)
Robert Dew	Zone Executive Officer

## 2.2 Apologies

Cr Rolly Van Gelderen	Shire of Goomalling
Mr Stuart Taylor	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu
Mr Chris Linnell	Shire of York
Mr Nick Sloan	CEO, WALGA
Mr Grant Arthur	Director Regional Development, Wheatbelt Development Commission
Mr Josh Pomykala	Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt Inc
Hon Colin de Grussa MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Darren West MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Ms Mia Davies MLA	Member for Central Wheatbelt

## 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## 4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

## 5 MINUTES

### 5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Zone Meeting held 24 November 2023 at Goomalling. Copies of these Minutes have been circulated to all member Councils.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Zone Meeting held on 24 November 2023, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

#### RESOLUTION

**Cr T Lefroy moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –**

**That the Minutes of the Zone Meeting held on 24 November 2023, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.**

**CARRIED**

### 5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Northam Regional Hospital Upgrade (Item 7.2 (b))

The August meeting resolved that arrangements be made for a delegation comprising the Zone President and Zone representative, Cr C Antonio, to meet with the Minister for Health to advocate for the Northam Regional Hospital being upgraded to a larger Regional Hospital.

At the last meeting, Cr Antonio reported that he had not been able to set up the meeting but would endeavour to do so and continue to update the Zone.

Cr Antonio may care to provide an update.

#### RECOMMENDATION

For Noting

Cr Antonio reported that a letter had been written to the Minister for Health but no response as yet but he will continue to push, he has spoken informally with WA Country Health Service Board members and will continue to update the Zone as more information comes to hand.

(b) Other

No other matters were brought forward.

**6 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION BUSINESS**

**6.1 WALGA State Council Agenda**

Review of the Agenda for the meeting of State Council to be held Wednesday 6 March 2024. The Zone is able to provide comment or submit alternate recommendations to State Council for consideration.

**Matters for Decision**

8.1 Separation (Centre) and Edge Line Markings by Local Government on Low Volume Rural Roads (Page 8)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA endorse the below Advocacy Position:

1. Main Roads Western Australia allow Local Governments to install edge line and separation (centre) line markings on roads that meet all relevant criteria, but do not meet the criterion on traffic volume.
2. For this exemption, Local Governments must adhere to the following conditions:
  - a) The Local Government contact Main Roads via the Regional Network Manager with their intent to undertake line marking on specific roads that do not meet the traffic volume criterion, but meet all the other criteria.
  - b) The Local Government obtain a Council resolution, committing to fund all installation and maintenance costs.
  - c) Local Government undertake spotting/surveying.
  - d) Main Roads to undertake an inspection following the survey/spotting work, confirm the start and finish points for the longitudinal line markings, and record the sections of road with line markings to be maintained by Local Government in the relevant database.
  - e) Main Roads approve the final layout prior to line marking occurring.
  - f) Local Government undertake the works.
  - g) Local Government maintain the works in accordance with Main Roads WA standards.
  - h) Local Government remove the lines if maintenance works are not performed to the standard.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The Main Roads WA warrant does not currently allow edge line or separation (centre) line markings on Local Government roads that carry less than certain traffic volume thresholds.
- Local Governments would like to enhance the safety of their roads by installing line markings in instances where only the traffic volume criterion under the warrant is not met.
- A process is proposed in this item whereby Local Governments would pay for the installation and maintenance and Main Roads would perform the necessary inspections to ensure that the markings adhere to the applicable standard.
- Local Governments would not be required to undertake these works, but rather would have the option to install line markings on qualifying roads that do not meet the traffic volume criterion at their own cost.

**The meeting requested that this matter be deferred and dealt with separately.**

8.2 Recovered Materials Framework Advocacy Position (Page 13)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Rescind the existing WALGA *Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land Policy Statement 2007* and Advocacy Position 7.9:

Local Government:

1. Acknowledges the benefits of applying recycled organics to land, especially as a means of diverting organic material from landfill; and,
  2. Supports the development of standards for applying recycled organics to land, to ensure a fit for purpose product is developed.
2. Endorse a new *Recovered Materials Framework Advocacy Position* as follows:

The use of recovered materials, across a range of applications, is essential in reducing the use of basic raw materials, meeting State Waste Strategy Targets and increasing diversion of waste from landfill. To ensure end users have high confidence in the quality and safety of products derived from recovered materials, consistent, outcomes-based standards and investment certainty are required.

The State Government, in consultation with Local Government and the waste management industry, should take a leadership role in facilitating the use of recovered material by:

1. Developing a regulatory framework which:
  - a. Outlines clear, outcomes-based specifications for individual products which take into consideration the receiving environment and allow for site-specific assessment.
  - b. Minimises risk to human health and the environment from the use of recovered material.
  - c. Establishes robust systems to provide quality assurance and ongoing surveillance throughout the supply chain.
2. Providing guidance and support mechanisms for the successful implementation of the framework.
3. Supporting the development of, and access to, sustainable end markets and long-term offtake agreements through initiatives such as active engagement with potential end users and the inclusion of recovered material content targets in Government procurement and large infrastructure projects.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The *Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land Policy Statement 2007* was developed at a time when the main option for landfill diversion of organic material in Western Australia was through mixed waste Alternative Waste Treatment (AWT) facilities.
- The Policy Statement provides principles for the development of standards for recycled organics applied to land, however these principles are potentially broadly applicable to any recovered material applied to land.
- The approach taken is that the principles/approach in the Policy Statement have been reviewed and used to inform the development of the Recovered Materials Framework Advocacy Position.
- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is developing a Recovered Materials Framework to cover the application of recovered materials to land.
- The Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) endorsed the new Advocacy Position in December 2023.

**The meeting recommended that the Zone support the recommendation to State Council.**

8.3 Review of Cemeteries Act 1986 and Cremation Act 1929 Discussion Paper (Page 16)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Supports the intent of the Review of Cemeteries Act 1986 and Cremation Act 1929 Discussion Paper to reduce red tape, modernise legislation and standardise administrative practices; and
2. Advocates that Local Government cemetery managers retain the capacity to impose cemetery fees and charges under Part 6 of the Local Government Act.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries released the Review of *Cemeteries Act 1986* and *Cremation Act 1929* Discussion Paper in November 2023 for public submission.
- WALGA was granted an extension to the submission closing period of 16 February 2024 to permit sector involvement in providing feedback from the Zone process and State Council consideration.

**The meeting recommended that the Zone support the recommendation to State Council.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the above recommendations and comments be endorsed.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr P Bantock moved and Cr T Lefroy seconded –**

**That the above recommendations and comments be endorsed.**

**CARRIED**

Hon Steve Martin MLC rejoined the meeting at 10:48 am.

State Council Agenda item 8.1 was resubmitted.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Coad moved and Cr M McKeown seconded –**

**That the Zone recommends that the following be added to the WALGA recommendation –**

3. **That funding be sought from external sources, including Main Roads WA, for the installation and on-going maintenance of approved line markings undertaken by local governments on qualifying roads that do not meet the traffic volume criterion.**

**LOST 3/7**

**MOTION**

**Cr P Bantock moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –**

**That the Zone support the WALGA recommendation for State Council Agenda item 8.1.**

**AMENDMENT**

**Cr A King moved and Cr D Coad seconded –**

**That the motion be amended by adding after the words “item 8.1” the following words “, with the exception of points 2(g) and 2(h)”.**

**CARRIED**

**AMENDMENT**

**Cr A King moved and Cr D Coad seconded –**

**That the motion be amended by adding after the words “2(g) and 2(h)” the words “and recommends that point 2(b) be amended by deleting the words ‘and maintenance’ ”.**

**LOST 4/6**

**RESOLUTION**

**The motion as amended –**

**That the Zone support the WALGA recommendation for State Council Agenda item 8.1, with the exception of points 2(g) and 2(h).**

**was put and was**

**CARRIED 9/1**

## Policy Team & Committee Reports

- 9.1 Environment Policy Team Report (Page 19)
- 9.2 Governance Policy Team Report (Page 20)
- 9.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report (Page 22)
- 9.4 People and Place Policy Team Report (Page 23)
- 9.5 Municipal Waste Advisory Council Report (Page 24)

### RECOMMENDATION

That the above Policy Team Reports be noted.

### RESOLUTION

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr J Chester seconded –  
That the above Policy Team Reports be noted.**

**CARRIED**

## Matters for Noting/Information

- 10.1 2024-25 Federal Budget Submission (Page 26)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council note WALGA's 2024-25 Federal Budget Submission.

### WALGA Executive Summary

- The WALGA President has written to the Federal Assistant Treasurer to support the initiatives identified in ALGA's 2024-24 Federal Budget Submission.
- The submission also highlights additional areas that are a priority for WA Local Governments in the 2024-25 Budget, including:
  - Funding to improve safety on high-speed roads in regional and peri-urban areas.
  - Addressing gaps on the long-term cycle network
  - Addressing systemic issues in the provision of health services in the regions and compensating Local Governments for the costs they are incurring to support the provision of primary health services in their communities.
  - Funding for a dedicated training program for key areas of skills shortages in Local Government, including town planners, building surveyors and Environmental Health Officers (EHOs).
  - Funding support for programs to manage the impacts of climate change and build resilience.
- The submission was provided to Commonwealth Treasury and the Assistant Treasurer in January 2024, and will be sent to all WA Members of Federal Parliament in coming weeks.

- 10.2 Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan (EM-SAP) Local Government Consultation Project (Page 34)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council note the update on the Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan Local Government Consultation project.

### WALGA Executive Summary

- In October 2022, a SEMC Climate Change Subcommittee (CCSC) was established to provide leadership and guidance in the development of an Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan (EM-SAP).
- The EM-SAP is being developed through the Department of Fire and Emergency Service's (DFES') Climate Change Adaptation Program (CCAP).
- WALGA has been engaged to obtain input from the Local Government sector on an EM-SAP Discussion Paper to inform the development of the final EM-SAP that will be submitted for endorsement by the SEMC in mid-2024.

- WALGA's consultation with the Local Government sector on the EM-SAP will be delivered during February and March 2024 and will include an EM-SAP Information Webinar on 14 February and several interactive workshops delivered on the 20, 21 and 26 February.
- Registration to participate in WALGA's EM-SAP webinar and workshops is via the WALGA website.
- A draft WALGA submission that includes the consultation summary and EM-SAP recommendations will be submitted to State Council via the Flying Minute process for endorsement at the end of March, to meet the SEMC's consultation timeframes.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the above matters for noting/information be noted.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr M McKeown moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –  
That the above matters for noting/information be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**Key Activity Reports**

- 11.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Advocacy Portfolio (Page 37)
- 11.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure Portfolio (Page 41)
- 11.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Member Services Portfolio (Page 44)
- 11.1.4 Report on Key Activities, Policy Portfolio (Page 48)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the above Key Activity Reports be noted.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Chester moved and Cr T Lefroy seconded –  
That the above matters for noting/information be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 11:14 am.

**RESUMPTION:** The meeting resumed at 11:33 am. All those present at the time of adjournment were present on resumption as was Ms Bourby Webster.

**6.2 WALGA President's Report**

Presentation of the WALGA President's Report (attached to Agenda).

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the WALGA President's Report be received.

Cr K Chappell presented her report.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr P Bantock seconded –  
That the WALGA President's Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**6.3 State Councillor's Report**

Report by Cr C Antonio (attached to Agenda).

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the State Councillor's Report be received.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Chester moved and Cr D Coad seconded –  
That the State Councillor's Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

#### **6.4 Zone Status Report**

Report by WA Local Government Association on status of Zone resolutions for action by the Association – February 2024 (attached to Agenda).

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the February 2024 Status Report be received.

##### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Chester moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –  
That the February 2024 Status Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

## **7 ZONE REPORTS**

#### **7.1 Zone President's Report**

Report by Cr C Antonio (attached to Agenda).

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Zone President's Report be received.

##### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Coad moved and Cr M McKeown seconded –  
That the Zone President's Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

#### **7.2 Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee**

Report by Zone delegate on activities of the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management be received.

Cr Bantock reported that there had been no meetings of the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee but that the Zone President, as the Zone's previous representative, had been invited to participate in several emergency meetings.

The Executive Officer reported that he had advised the appointment of Cr Bantock and Cr Lincoln as the Zone's Delegate and Deputy Delegate to the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee. At that time the Executive Officer for the Committee had advised that she was retiring from DFES and that a successor had not been appointed.

##### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr P Bantock moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –  
That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management be received.**

**CARRIED**

#### **7.3 Wheatbelt District Leadership Group**

Report by Zone Delegate Cr C Antonio on activities of the Wheatbelt District Leadership Group.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Leadership Group be received.

Cr C Antonio reported that the Group met last week, he believed the meetings have the potential to be good, shortage of housing and health issues were significant issues discussed.

##### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr D Coad seconded –  
That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Leadership Group be received.**

**CARRIED**



**7.4 Wheatbelt Health & Wellbeing Plan: Towards 2035 Working Group**

Report by Zone Delegate Cr T Lefroy on activities of the Working Group.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Leadership Group be received.

Cr T Lefroy reported that the Group had not met.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr T Lefroy moved and Cr J Chester seconded –**

**That the Report on the Wheatbelt Health & Wellbeing Plan: Towards 2035 Working Group be received. CARRIED**

**7.5 Wheatbelt Local Government & Health Partners Collaborative**

Report by Zone Delegate Cr C Antonio on activities of the Wheatbelt Local Government & Health Partners Collaborative.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Report on the Wheatbelt Local Government & Health Partners Collaborative be received.

Cr C Antonio reported that the matters had been covered by the Wheatbelt District Leadership Group.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Chester moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –**

**That the Report on the Wheatbelt Local Government & Health Partners Collaborative be received. CARRIED**

<b>8 AGENCY REPORTS</b>
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**8.1 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries**

- (a) Presentation of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries report (attached to Agenda).
- (b) Consideration of any topics or presentations the Zone would like the Department to give to the next Zone meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries report be received.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr T Lefroy seconded –**

**That the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries report be received. CARRIED**

**The meeting requested an update by the Department to the April Zone meeting on the Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund.**

**8.2 RDA Wheatbelt**

No Report

The Zone President advised that Mr Josh Pomykala had recently been appointed as the new Director Regional Development for RDA Wheatbelt Inc. He was based in Narrogin.

### **8.3 Transport Portfolio (Main Roads, Department of Transport, Public Transport Authority)**

Presentation of the Transport Portfolio report (circulated prior to meeting).

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Transport Portfolio report be received.

Mr Suvrat Patel presented the Main Roads WA report.

Cr A King expressed concern at the amount of rubbish along the Great Northern Highway and that it appeared that rubbish bins were not being emptied or areas cleaned up. He commented that he had raised this issue on previous occasions.

Cr D Coad asked as to RAV 7 routes within the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu.

Cr K Chappell queried the time limit on traffic signals at road work sites. She expressed concern that in many cases traffic was stopped for up to 15 minutes.

Cr C Antonio asked as to upgrade works on the Noggojerring Bridge on the Northam-Pithara Road 5-6 km out of Northam.

Cr S Dival asked as to upgrade works on Toodyay Road.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr M McKeown moved and Cr D Coad seconded –  
That the Main Roads report be received.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.4 RoadWise (Wheatbelt North)**

Presentation of the RoadWise (Wheatbelt North) report (attached to Agenda).

Mr Cliff Simpson has advised that he has retired from WALGA RoadWise and that the attached report is his last as the Road Safety Advisor for Wheatbelt North. He advised that a replacement Advisor has not yet been appointed, that the recruitment process has started and that he has contacted the 5 RoadWise Councils in the Zone and provided an individual update on progress and transitional arrangements. He gave his thanks and regards to the Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Roadwise (Wheatbelt North) report be received.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Coad moved and Cr J Chester seconded –**

- (a) That the Zone thank Mr Cliff Simpson for his work as the Roadwise (Wheatbelt North) Road Safety Advisor; and  
(b) That the Roadwise (Wheatbelt North) report be received.**

**CARRIED**

### **8.5 Wheatbelt Development Commission**

Presentation of Wheatbelt Development Commission's report.

Last meeting resolved (Item 10.5) that discussions between the Wheatbelt Development Commission and interested local governments on community preparedness for new industry be progressed. Cr T Lefroy, Cr D Coad, Cr M McKeown and Mr C Linnell expressed interest in working with the Commission. They may care to provide an update.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Wheatbelt Development Commission report be received.

Cr T Lefroy commented on the first meeting of the Working Group looking at community preparedness for new industry.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr T Lefroy moved and Cr D Coad seconded –  
That the Working Group report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**8.6 Other**

There were no other reports.

**9 FINANCE**

**9.1 Financial Reports**

Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Report for the period ending 31 January 2024 are attached to the agenda.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the financial reports for the period ending 31 January 2024, as attached, be received.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr J Chester seconded –  
That the financial reports for the period ending 31 January 2024, as attached, be received.**

**CARRIED**

**9.2 Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts are submitted for payment –

<u>Payee</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R W & S Dew	Secretarial Services to Zone – March 2024 Quarter	4,236.00
R W & S Dew	Recoup Starlink Service Fee – February 2024	193.76
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u><u>\$4,429.76</u></u></b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the accounts as listed totalling \$4,429.76 be approved for payment.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Chester moved and Cr L Stewart seconded –  
That the accounts as listed totalling \$4,429.76 be approved for payment.**

**CARRIED**

**10 ZONE BUSINESS**

**10.1 State Council Flying Agenda Process**

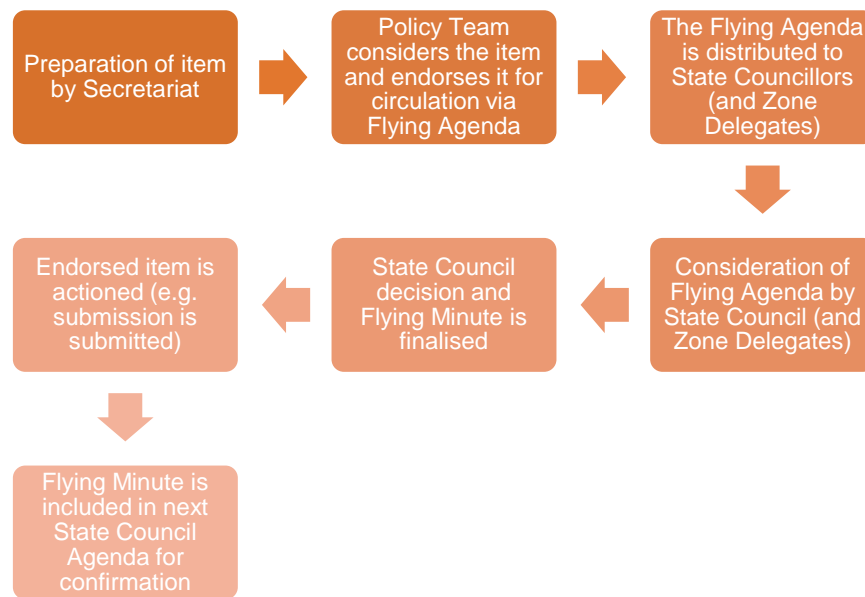
*By Kathy Robertson, Manager Corporate and Association Governance, WALGA*

**BACKGROUND**

State Council has five ordinary meetings per year. As a result, there are occasions when decisions need to be made or submissions need to be endorsed to meet external deadlines which do not fit within the existing State Council meeting schedule.

**COMMENT**

The first preference is always to seek an extension of time to enable the item to be considered by Zones and State Council through the usual Agenda process. However, if an extension of time is not granted, the item will need to be endorsed by State Council by way of a Flying Agenda. The process for a Flying Agenda is summarised below:



Flying Agendas are generally open to responses for 7 days.

At the request of State Council, the Flying Agenda process has recently been amended to better include Zone Delegates in the decision-making process. The Zone Executive Officer will alert Delegates via email when a Flying Agenda is out for consideration by State Council and request that any comments or feedback be directed to the Zone's State Council representative(s). State Councillors are then able to consider the feedback of Zone Delegates when making their final decision.

Please note that any comments or feedback sent directly to WALGA, rather than the Zone's State Council representative(s), will not go towards the Flying Agenda. There is no requirement to respond to an email circulating a Flying Agenda, however if you would like to contribute this should be directed to your State Council representative(s).

All completed Flying Minutes are available to view on the WALGA website here, and are included in the subsequent State Council Agenda as both previous Minutes (for confirmation) and as an Item for Noting.

For any questions about the State Council Flying Agenda process, please contact Kathy Robertson, Manager Association and Corporate Governance on [kr Robertson@walga.asn.au](mailto:kr Robertson@walga.asn.au) or (08) 9213 2036.

**RECOMMENDATION**

For noting

**NOTED**

**10.2 2024 Local Government Honours Program**

*By Meghan Dwyer, Executive Officer Governance, WALGA*

**BACKGROUND**

The annual Local Government Honours Program affords public recognition and celebration of the outstanding achievements and lasting contributions made by Elected Members and Local Government officers to their respective Councils, the WA Local Government sector and the wider community.

**COMMENT**

There are six awards in the 2024 Program:

1. Local Government Medal
2. Life Membership
3. Eminent Service Award
4. Merit Award
5. Local Government Distinguished Officer Award
6. Young Achievers Award

Nominations will open on **Friday, 8 March 2024** and close at **5:00 pm on Friday, 31 May 2024**.

Details on the 2024 Honours Program and Nomination Forms will be available from Friday, 8 March 2024 on the WALGA website.

For more information contact Meghan Dwyer, Executive Officer Governance, on 9213 2050 or via email at [honours@walga.asn.au](mailto:honours@walga.asn.au).

**RECOMMENDATION**

For noting

**NOTED**

Hon Shane Love MLA advised that due to another commitment he had to leave the meeting. He commented that land use planning was an issue across the State. He left the meeting at 12:21 pm.

**10.3 Wheatbelt Conference**

The November 2021 meeting noted that the proposal for a future Wheatbelt Conference had not progressed and requested that this item remain on the agenda until further notice. It was noted that any consideration of a future Wheatbelt Conference will need to take into account the prevailing COVID-19 situation and any restrictions that may be in place for gatherings.

**RECOMMENDATION**

For Noting

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr T Lefroy moved and Cr J Chester seconded –**

**That the WA Local Government Association State Conference Planning Committee be requested to include a major session on land use planning, incorporating a focus on non-metropolitan land, in this year's Local Government Conference.**

**CARRIED**

**The meeting requested members and delegates to advise topics and outcomes for a Wheatbelt Forum. Matters to be considered at the June 2024 Zone meeting. Land Use Policy and Waste Management were suggested as topics.**

**The Executive Officer was requested to approach the other Wheatbelt Zones to see if they would be interested in either joining with the Avon-Midland Zone in hosting a Conference/Forum or attending a Conference/Forum hosted by the Zone.**

<b>11 URGENT BUSINESS (as permitted by the Presiding Member)</b>
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No business was brought forward.

## 12 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Hon Martin Aldrige MLA commented –

- Credit to the WA Local Government Association on their pre-budget submission. It was clear and well set out.
- Concerned with the ageing fleet of emergency service vehicles.
- Discrepancies in the local government emergency grants scheme in particular occupational health and safety and capital works.
- Combined Emergency Services Act promised by the Government. This has been talked about for 10 years but to date there has been no progress.
- Emergency service volunteers need greater protection.
- State Government providing two new police helicopters. Would rather the funds be spent on emergency service helicopters.
- He has recently taken on the local government portfolio for the Opposition.

Hon Steve Martin MLC commented –

- Land use planning has been raised by the Central Country Zone. The State Government is a key player but has no strategy.
- Concerned that the funds allocated for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network have not yet been signed off by the Federal Government.
- No improvement in the housing situation. Requested members to get in touch with him if any concerns.
- Suggested that the recent WA Local Government Association publication highlighting how well local government is performing be sent to the State Minister for Housing.

Cr K Chappell commented on the delay in signing off of the funding for the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network –

- She had met with Hon Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, last Monday.
- The funding is still available.
- The State Government submitted the proposal in April 2023, however Catherine King's office has yet to receive it.
- WA Local Government Association staff are lobbying the Federal Government Departments trying to explain the effect of the delay on local government cash flows and work programs.

## 13 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Future meetings of the Zone are scheduled for –

19 April 2024	Shire of Toodyay
21 June 2024	Shire of Northam
23 August 2024	Shire of Dalwallinu
22 November 2024	Shire of Dandaragan

### RECOMMENDATION

That the next ordinary meeting of the Zone be held Friday 19 April 2024 and be hosted by the Shire of Toodyay.

### RESOLUTION

**Cr L Stewart moved and Cr J Chester seconded –**

**That the next ordinary meeting of the Zone be held Friday 19 April 2024 and be hosted by the Shire of Toodyay.**

**CARRIED**

Cr Kevin Trent and Cr Denese Smythe left the meeting at 12:50 pm.

**14 GUEST SPEAKERS**

**14.1 Really Awesome Regional Events (RARE) Company**

Ms Bourby Webster, founder of the The RARE Company based in Toodyay, gave a presentation on her proposal to bring small high quality art events on a regular basis to regional towns.

The Zone President thank Ms Webster for her presentation.

**15 CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Chair thanked attendees and the Shire of Gingin for hosting the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 1:09 pm.

**CERTIFICATION**

These Minutes were confirmed by the meeting held on .....

Signed: .....  
*(Chairman of meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed)*