

MINUTES OF THE ZONE MEETING

held at the Jurien Bay Education & Conference, 67-69 Bashford Street, Jurien Bay
Friday 21 February 2020 commencing at 10:10 am

1 OPENING & WELCOME

The Zone President and Chair of the meeting, Cr Ken Seymour, welcomed delegates and observers and introduced Cr Dahlia Richardson, Shire of Dandaragan. Cr Richardson welcomed delegates to Jurien Bay and commented on the arts trail recently opened at Badgingarra –

- The project was inspired by the Dandaragan Shire 4 Arts Group which envisages an art trail connecting the four towns in the Shire: Badgingarra, Dandaragan, Jurien Bay and Cervantes.
- The Badgingarra Arts Trail is the first section to be opened and comprises a 4.2 km of walk, cycle trail featuring 18 sculptures by Coomberdale artist Natalie Tonkin and the local community.
- The trail passes the Badgingarra Cemetery with its ornate entry gates.
- The trail starts opposite the Badgingarra Community Centre on the corner of North West Road and Brand Highway.

Cr Richardson introduced the Shire CEO, Mr Brent Bailey, who gave a brief overview of the Shire statistics and commented on –

- The Shire is the renewable capital of the State with significant solar and wind power generation projects. However, the local district is still impacted by power constraints.
- The district experienced a 27% growth in tourism over the last 10 years.
- Iconic industries in the district include Tronox Limited, Iluka Resources, Indian Ocean Rock Lobster (Lobster Shack), Jurien Skydive, Harvest Road (Koojan beef facility in the Shires of Dandaragan, Moora and Victoria Plains), Moora Citrus and AgriFresh.
- Key projects over the next 5 years include completion of Turquoise Coast cycle path (linking Jurien Bay to Cervantes), Cervantes foreshore development, Dandaragan streetscape, Badgingarra truck stop and CBH sample site, Jurien Bay foreshore and youth precinct.
- APA Group has donated a 6x6 Tatra fire appliance to the Hill River Bushfire Brigade. The unit has water capacity of 9,600 litres and 80m water cannon.

2 ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

Delegates -

Cr John Davis	Shire of Chittering
Cr Keith Carter	Shire of Dalwallinu
Cr Dahlia Richardson	Shire of Dandaragan
Cr Jan Court	Shire of Gingin
Cr Barry Haywood	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Ken Seymour	Shire of Moora
Cr Chris Antonio	Shire of Northam
Cr Rosemary Madacsi	Shire of Toodyay

Observers

Mr Matthew Gilfellow	Shire of Chittering
Ms Jean Knight	Shire of Dalwallinu
Mr Brent Bailey	Shire of Dandaragan
Mr Aaron Cook	Shire of Gingin
Mr Peter Bentley	Shire of Goomalling
Cr Paula Greenway	Shire of Toodyay
Mr Stan Scott	Shire of Toodyay
Hon Laurie Graham MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Mr Shane Love MLA	Member for Moore
Ms Mandy Walker	Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt
Mr Chris Evans	Research, Evaluation & Project Support, RDA Wheatbelt
Mr Ben Armstrong	Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries
Mr Craig Manton	Regional Manager Wheatbelt, Main Roads WA

Mr Gavin Robbins	A/CEO, Wheatbelt Development Commission
Ms Megan Creagh	Local Content Advisor, Wheatbelt Development Commission
Ms Jo Burges	Executive Manager People and Place, WALGA
Ms Susie Moir	Policy Officer, Community, WALGA
Mr Cliff Simpson	Road Safety Advisor (Wheatbelt North), WALGA
Robert Dew	Zone Executive Officer

2.2 **Apologies**

Cr Don Gibson	Shire of Chittering
Cr Leslee Holmes	Shire of Dandaragan
Mr Jason Whitaker	Shire of Northam
Cr Bill Manning	Shire of Toodyay
Cr Pauline Bantock	Shire of Victoria Plains
Cr Jacqui Corless-Crowther	Shire of Victoria Plains
Ms Glenda Teede	Shire of Victoria Plains
Cr Stuart Boekeman	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu
Cr Mandy Stephenson	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu
Cr Denese Smythe	Shire of York
Mr Chris Linnell	Shire of York
Ms Jennifer Collins	Regional Manager Wheatbelt, Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries
Hon Mia Davies MLA	Member for Central Wheatbelt
Hon Martin Aldridge MLC	Member for Agricultural Region

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 22 November 2019 at Dalwallinu. Copies of these Minutes have been circulated to all member Councils.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Zone Meeting held on 22 November 2019, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

RESOLUTION

Cr B Haywood moved and Cr R Madacsi seconded –

That the Minutes of the Zone Meeting held on 22 November 2019, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Future Drought Fund and National Drought Response Resilience Plan (Item 13.1)

Last meeting noted that the WA Local Government Association was seeking comment on the Commonwealth's Drought Resilience Funding Plan. The meeting requested member Local Governments to provide comment to the Executive Officer so that a collated response could be provided to the WA Local Government Association.

Responses were received from the Shires of Dalwallinu and Victoria Plains. The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu expressed support for the plan but made no other comments. These responses were forwarded to the WA Local Government Association.

The WA Local Government Association has provided the following update:

There are a number of funding streams relevant to Local Government under the Commonwealth Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan 2019.

https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/aust-govt-drought-response-plan_0.pdf

Future Drought Fund

The Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan 2019 identifies the establishment and operating of a *Future Drought Fund* (still in preparation and due to be presented to the Australian Parliament in February 2020).

The Australian Government's initial \$3.9 billion upfront contribution will be invested by the Future Fund with earnings to be reinvested until the balance reaches \$5 billion. It will provide a sustainable and ongoing source of funding to make agriculture more productive and profitable and enhance the wellbeing of our farming communities and the sustainability of our farming landscapes.

The Fund will provide support to assist primary producers and regional communities to prepare for the impact of drought, as well as to encourage them to adopt self-reliant approaches to manage exposure to drought. The Fund will support initiatives that enhance the public good (that is benefits that are not solely for individual farm entities), including:

- invest in research, innovation, extension and adoption
- assist in the adoption of new and existing technology
- improved environmental and natural resource management
- infrastructure and community initiatives.

From 2020–21, \$100 million will be available for drought-resilience initiatives. A Consultative Committee has been established to advise on the Drought Resilience Funding Plan, which will be developed in consultation with farmers and regional communities. The Funding Plan will guide the selection and prioritisation of drought-resilience projects. There was only limited public consultation in the development of the draft plan by the Consultative Committee (Merredin, Perth - state agencies only – and Geraldton).

Drought Communities Programme Extension

This programme has been designed as a rapid economic stimulus package to the current drought conditions being experienced nationally. 128 Local Governments were initially identified (all eastern states Local Governments), plus the recent addition of 35 Local Governments in Western Australia. Up to \$1 million per announcement for local community infrastructure and other drought relief projects.

This is the program that is causing the consternation across the sector with regard to eligibility criteria. Significant portions of the SWLD and pastoral regions are ineligible due to the narrow scope and interpretation of the three primary selection criteria - based on rainfall deficiency data from the Bureau of Meteorology and population and industry data from the 2016 census.

WALGA has been working with ALGA in order to gain some greater clarity on the rationale for selection criteria, which is by default creating a sense of 'winners and losers', with over twenty additional Local Governments in WA now seeking inclusion into the *Drought Communities Programme Extension*. WALGA will be seeking a review of the eligibility criteria, as both the criteria used, and the interpretation of it in determining Local Government eligibility is entirely unsatisfactory in the WA context of ongoing drought conditions.

President Craigie gave public voice to the emerging concerns across the sector in her column in the West Australian on Tuesday 11 February.

State Government assistance across the south west land division is largely focussed on the Water Deficient Declared Areas (eg parts of Shires of Esperance, Lake Grace, Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe), and is also focussed on carting water to Denmark, Cranbrook, Grass Patch, Hyden, Lake King, Rocky Gully, Wellsted, Salmon Gums, Ravensthorpe and Walpole. At this stage there is little apparent coordination between the State and Commonwealth drought assistance processes.

RECOMMENDATION

For Noting

RESOLUTION

Cr C Antonio moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –

That the WA Local Government Association be requested to advocate to the Commonwealth and State Governments to fully explain the eligibility criteria for funding under the Drought Communities Program Extension and to adjust the eligibility criteria to ensure that the anomalies that have occurred to date do not occur in the future. **CARRIED**

(b) Off Road Vehicles and Local Government (Item 7.2(1))

The November 2019 meeting resolved that a representative of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries be invited to a Zone meeting to provide an update on the issue of off-road vehicles. Mr Gordon MacMile, Chair of the Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee, indicated that he would be pleased to attend a meeting to discuss off-road vehicles but requested that this be deferred to early 2020 as he would have more information available at that time.

Mr Ben Armstrong, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries will give an update on off-road vehicles to this meeting.

The Executive Officer reported that Mr Ben Armstrong had advised that he had not been briefed by the Department to give an update on off-road vehicles. **NOTED**

Mr A Cook asked as to the current status of the Off-Road Vehicle Advisory Committee and expressed concern at the lack of communication with local government on the issue. **Mr Armstrong indicated that he would follow the matter up.**

(c) 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 State Council meeting to be held Wednesday 4 March 2020. The Agenda has been circulated by WA Local Government Association to member Councils for distribution to delegates. The Zone is able to provide comment or submit alternate recommendations to State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

5.1 National Redress Scheme – Future Participation of WA Local Governments (Page 6)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council:

- 1) *Acknowledge the State Government's decision to include the participation of Local Governments in the National Redress Scheme as part of the State's declaration;*
- 2) *Endorse the negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding and Template Service Agreement with the State Government, and*
- 3) *Endorse by Flying Minute the Memorandum of Understanding prior to execution, in order to uphold requirements to respond within legislative timeframes.*

WALGA Executive Summary

- The National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) commenced on 1 July 2018.
- The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries has led an information and consultation process with the WA Local Government sector about the Scheme since January 2019.
- In July 2019 State Council endorsed, in principle, to participation by WA Local Government in the State's National Redress Scheme declaration emphasising the need for full financial coverage by the State Government.
- A significant advocacy outcome has been achieved with the State Government considering the sector's position and reaching a final position in December 2019 to endorse State Council's position, including the commitment to cover costs relating to redress payments to survivors.
- State Government agencies will again engage with Local Governments in early 2020, to inform of the:
 - 1) State Government's decision and the implications for the sector
 - 2) support to Local Government (financial and administrative) to be provided by the State, and
 - 3) considerations and actions needed to prepare for participation in the Scheme.
- State Government agencies will work with WALGA and all Local Governments over upcoming months to ensure that the necessary agreements, decisions, delegations, actions and preparations are in place to commence participation in the Scheme from 1 July 2020.

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

5.2 Submission on Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy (Page 9)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet in response to the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy be endorsed.

WALGA Executive Summary

- WALGA has prepared a submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet in response to the Discussion Paper 'A Path Forward: Developing the Western Australian Government's Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy.
- The Submission supports the development of an Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy to deliver a strategic foundation that enables the State Government to work more coherently as a whole, to work better with Aboriginal people, communities and organisations, Commonwealth and Local Governments, the private and philanthropic sectors and broader society, and which ensures transparency and accountability to the Western Australian community.
- The Submission advocates for:
 1. The inclusion of principles that specifically recognise the central importance of:
 - Acknowledging the impact of intergenerational trauma and shame and supporting Aboriginal peoples healing and wellbeing.
 - Fostering young Aboriginal peoples' positive aspirations for their future.
 - Education about Aboriginal culture for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
 - Truth telling.
 2. Involving Local Government in the design, development and implementation of State, regional and local action and implementation plans under the Strategy, recognising that the capacity, resources, staff levels and strategic priorities of all Local Governments are different.
 3. The clear articulation of the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, including Local Government, in the State, regional and local action and implementation plans.
 4. Alignment of the measurement and evaluation of the outcomes of the Strategy to a recognised outcomes measurement framework.
 5. Alignment of the Strategy with the Reconciliation Action Planning framework to support Local Governments to deliver outcomes that empower Aboriginal people.

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

5.3 WALGA Submission on Independent Review of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) (Page 18)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission on the Independent Review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) be endorsed.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The EPBC Act is Australia's central piece of national environmental law, focusing on matters of national environmental significance (MNES).
- The EPBC Act must be independently reviewed every 10 years. Professor Graeme Samuel AC, has been appointed to undertake the second review of the Act which will report in October 2020.
- A Discussion Paper seeking comment on the operation of the EPBC Act was released in November 2019, closing on 17 April 2020. It is intended that responses to the discussion paper will help inform the next steps in the review.
- The WALGA submission recognises the significant interaction that WA Local Governments have with environmental legislation at both the State and Commonwealth level and highlights and makes recommendations on matters of concern to the sector.
- The submission notes that many Local Governments find the Commonwealth assessment process both confusing and cumbersome, strongly supports the need for a bilateral agreement between the State and Commonwealth to facilitate a single environmental assessment and approval process and recommends an increased emphasis on strategic assessments and bioregional planning rather than assessments of individual actions, better engagement with Local Government and other improvements to the EPBC Act.

The meeting recommended that the Zone support the recommendation to State Council with an amendment to specifically recognise the detrimental impact of pest species such as corellas on biodiversity and threatened species.

RECOMMENDATION

That the above recommendations and comments be endorsed.

RESOLUTION

Cr B Haywood moved and Cr C Antonio seconded –

That the above recommendations and comments be endorsed.

CARRIED

Matters for Noting/information

6.1 Draft Position Statement: Residential Aged Care – Submission (Page 30)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Draft Position Statement: Residential Aged Care be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- In October 2019 the Western Australian Planning Commission released the *Draft Position Statement: Residential Aged Care* for consultation.
- The purpose of the position statement is to remove planning process barriers and encourage the provision of an appropriate supply and diversity of residential aged care options.
- Submissions were due by 19 January 2020, prior to the next WALGA State Council meeting. Consequently, the submission was processed through WALGA's interim submission process, endorsed by State Council by Flying Minute on 17 January 2020 and submitted.

6.2 Managing Housing Health Risks in WA (Page 32)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Department of Health in response to the Managing Housing Health Risks in WA discussion paper be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The *Public Health Act 2016* is progressing through a five-stage process of implementation and is currently at Stage 4. All regulations from the previous *Health Act 1911* will be repealed and replaced with new regulations at the commencement of Stage 5, which is anticipated to commence in 2021.
- The Department of Health released the 'Managing Housing Health Risks in WA' discussion paper for public comment with three options for consideration.

- WALGA's Submission discusses the Local Governments preference for Option C to develop new, updated regulations to manage public health housing risks.
- The People and Place Policy team reviewed the submission and State Council endorsed it via Flying Minute on 19 December 2019.

6.3 Submission on Modernising the Environmental Protection Act (1986) (Page 34)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA's submission on Modernising the Environmental Protection Act (1986) (EP Act) to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The State Government is seeking to make amendments to the EP Act, and have released an Exposure Draft Bill and Discussion Paper explaining the reasons for the proposed changes
- Officers prepared a draft submission, which was sent out to the sector for comment, with some changes made to the draft
- The Environment Policy Team met on Wednesday, 16th January and endorsed the revised draft submission subject to minor changes
- The revised draft was sent out to State Council members as a Flying Minute for endorsement, and was endorsed on Friday, 24 January (*Resolution 189.FM/2020*).
- State Council is to note the final WALGA submission as submitted to the Department as the consolidated position of the sector on the EP Act review.

In response to a query, Ms J Burges advised that she would follow up what was meant by the term minor clearing. (See later in this meeting)

6.4 Submission to the Productivity Commission on National Transport Regulatory Reform (Page 36)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Productivity Commission be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- WALGA has prepared a submission to the Productivity Commission on the National Transport Regulatory Reform.
- The Infrastructure Policy Team endorsed WALGA's submission, which contains the following recommendations:
 - 1) the Rail Safety National Law be amended to remove the requirement for Interface Agreements for rail crossings on disused rail lines, to allow limited resources to be focussed on those crossings where there is a material risk.
 - 2) transport regulation requirements be considered within the framework of the Safe System principles set out in the National and various State Road Safety Strategies.
 - 3) the authority responsible for management of the roads (specifically Local Governments) being considered for heavy vehicle access must remain central to the decision-making process.
 - 4) performance criteria be established and monitored in relation to the accuracy of access decisions.
 - 5) to encourage the use of pre-approved networks, mechanisms should be in place to ensure road managers are notified of significant changes to the volume of heavy movements on relevant parts of the network, particularly access roads which would be expected to carry relatively low volumes of heavy vehicle traffic.
 - 6) mechanisms to rapidly review access provision and / or respond with a suitable funding arrangements are required to be put in place to address damage caused by extraordinary freight loads.
 - 7) regulations ensure certainty around the powers of Local Governments, as road managers, to provide clarity in negotiations with freight generators.
 - 8) the Australian Government support the road development and maintenance costs associated with the movement of heavy vehicles on Local Government roads.
 - 9) an independent data hub be established to collate data on heavy vehicle movements for use by road managers, and a requirement for telematics and reporting be progressively implemented.
 - 10) the presence of modal competition be introduced as a criterion that can be used by Local Government road managers to make heavy vehicle access decisions.

- Submissions were due to close on 13 January 2020, but the Productivity Commission granted a two-week extension for WALGA's submission. The submission was submitted on 28 January 2020.
- The WALGA State Council endorsed the submission by Flying Minute as per resolution number 190.FM/2020.

6.5 Submission to Joint Select Committee on Road Safety (Page 38)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Joint Select Committee on Road Safety be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- In August 2019, Federal Parliament appointed a Joint Select Committee on Road Safety *to inquire and report on steps that can be taken to reduce Australia's road accident rates, trauma and deaths on our roads.*
- Submissions close on 31 January 2020.
- The Infrastructure Policy Team endorsed WALGA's submission, which contains the following recommendations:
 - 1) Develop authentic partnership arrangements built on a common vision and goals, with appropriate resources (knowledge, funding, skills, data, etc.) that enables Local Governments to participate fully and effectively in their role to reduce road trauma.
 - 2) Consider introducing Government policies to encourage and support the accelerated renewal of the vehicle fleet in Australia.
 - 3) Provide national leadership and political support to plan and design an inherently safe road transport system suited to the progressive introduction of increasing levels of autonomous vehicles in Australia.
 - 4) Identify and quantify the differences and gaps in road standards to understand the extent of the task required to bring the network up to safe system standard.
 - 5) Develop a program that supports innovation through funding of demonstration projects and encourages others by show casing effective projects (e.g. national safe infrastructure awards).
 - 6) Develop and fund a program to assess and apply a star rating to the local road network
 - 7) Support and encourage targeted speed limit reductions planned in consultation with Local Governments and where possible involve community road safety partnerships.
 - 8) Review current standards including maintenance standards of road lining and signing to ensure these methods adequately inform road users of appropriate behaviours and travel speed.
 - 9) Develop a means of monitoring the level and extent of implementation (process evaluation) to understand what effort achieves certain results and to identify the gaps in implementation.
 - 10) Provide Local Governments with access to consistent accurate and timely road trauma and crash incident data to guide decision-making.
 - 11) Explore opportunities to develop and apply a systems-based methodology to road crash investigations, similar to aviation industry investigations.
 - 12) With the States and Territories, develop a method of collating data so that "serious injury" information is reportable for Australia.
 - 13) Align the next National Road Safety Strategy with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to link with global objectives.
 - 14) Consider a road safety framework allowing for the mix of personal, social, economic and environmental factors that contribute to road trauma.
 - 15) Define/identify who can/should contribute to road safety then measure and monitor the capacity of the identified parties.
 - 16) Introduce a formal structure, instrument and processes to enable regular and meaningful consultation and engagement with the Local Government sector.
 - 17) Initiate research to identify and develop a more sophisticated safe-system aligned approach as an evolutionary step for the Australian Government Black Spot program.
 - 18) Increase the percentage of funding allocated on the basis of road safety audits to proactively drive safe system transformation of the road network.
- The WALGA State Council endorsed the submission by Flying Minute as per resolution number 191.FM/2020.

6.6 WALGA Submission on Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper (Page 40)

WALGA Recommendation

That the WALGA submission on the Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- The Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper was released for public comment in November 2019 for a three month period, closing on 10 February 2020
- Officers prepared a draft submission, which was sent out to the sector for comment, with some changes made to the draft
- The Environment Policy Team met on 22 January and endorsed the revised draft submission subject to minor changes
- The revised draft was sent out to State Council members as a Flying Minute for endorsement, and was endorsed on 31 January (RESOLUTION 192.FM/2020)
- The submission highlights key areas of concern and makes a number of recommendations for improvement, including that implementation be supported by a collaborative governance framework and that WALGA and Local Governments have the opportunity to participate in this process, and
- The WALGA submission was sent to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 6 February 2020.

6.7 Proposed Amendments to the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 for Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure (Page 42)

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission on the proposed amendments to the Planning and Development (Local Planning Scheme) Regulations 2015, to exempt certain types of Container Deposit Infrastructure, be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- Minister for Planning sought public comment on proposed amendments to the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* that would help to facilitate the implementation of the Container Deposit Scheme.
- The proposed amendments are not supported as justification for the adoption of additional legislative provisions has not been provided, Local Government will be required to undertake compliance action if any CDS applicant incorrectly applies the proposed exemption clauses, and inappropriate site selection could undermine the intent and objectives of a particular zone within the Local Planning Scheme.
- The submission was due by 7 February 2020, prior to the next WALGA State Council meeting. Consequently, the submission was processed through WALGA's interim submission process, endorsed by State Council by Flying Minute on 5 February 2020 and submitted.

6.8 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (Page 44)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council note the resolutions of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council at its 11 December 2019 meeting.

WALGA Executive Summary

- This item relates to the MWAC meeting held on 11 December 2019; key outcomes of this meeting included:
 - 1) Agreement to send correspondence to the Environment Minister seeking clarification regarding the trajectory of the Waste Levy for 2020/21.
 - 2) Formalisation of the Consistent Communications Collective, a group which brings together Local and State Government and the waste industry to agree consistent approaches to waste management messages.
 - 3) Consideration of key issues relating to the introduction of Food Organic Garden Organic collection systems, including funding programs and representation on a State Government Reference Group.
 - 4) Agreement to send correspondence to the Premier regarding opportunities to encourage battery recycling in WA.

- 5) Endorsement of Submissions on two Senate Inquires and the proposed Export Bans for glass, plastic, paper/cardboard and tyres.

6.9 2019 Annual General Meeting Status Update (Page 47)

WALGA Recommendation

That the update relating to actions taken on 2019 Annual General Meeting resolutions be noted.

WALGA Executive Summary

- Nine motions were adopted at the 2019 WALGA Annual General Meeting held on 7 August 2019.
- The motions were forwarded to the relevant Policy Teams of State Council for action.
- State Council resolved that a report be prepared for the March 2020 State Council agenda detailing action taken on each of the motions.

RECOMMENDATION

That the above matters for noting/information be noted.

RESOLUTION

**Cr C Antonio moved and Cr R Madacsi seconded –
That the above matters for noting/information be noted.**

CARRIED

Organisational Reports

7.1 Key Activity Reports

- 7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environmental Policy Unit (Page 52)
- 7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services (Page 55)
- 7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure (Page 58)
- 7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Place (Page 60)

7.2 Policy Forum Reports (Page 62)

RECOMMENDATION

That the above organisational reports be noted.

RESOLUTION

**Cr B Haywood moved and Cr R Madacsi seconded –
That the above organisational reports be noted.**

CARRIED

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.

RESOLUTION

**Cr B Haywood moved and Cr C Antonio seconded –
That the WALGA President's Report be received.**

CARRIED

6.3 State Councillor's Report

Report by Cr Ken Seymour.

RECOMMENDATION

That the State Councillor's report be received.

Cr K Seymour commented on –

- Attended the opening of the first project of the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network at Mogumber.
- Has a lot to learn as a new State Councillor.
- The next meeting of State Council will elect a new President, Cr Lynn Craigie having completed her term, and Deputy President.

RESOLUTION

**Cr B Haywood moved and Cr K Carter 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 2020 (attached to Agenda).

RECOMMENDATION

That the February 2020 Status Report be received.

RESOLUTION

**Cr C Antonio moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –
That the WA Local Government Association Environment Policy Team be requested to establish a Working Group of key State and Local Government stakeholders to address the need to control the corella population in Western Australia.**

CARRIED

The meeting indicated that it believed that the establishment of Regional Biodiversity Groups is not an appropriate response for the control of corellas as the impact of corellas is a State wide issue.

RESOLUTION

**Cr R Madacsi moved and Cr D Richardson seconded –
That the February 2020 Status Report be received.**

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.

RESUMPTION: The meeting resumed at 11:44 am. All those present at the time of adjournment were present on resumption.

7 ZONE REPORTS

7.1 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

No meeting of the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group has been held since the last Zone meeting. The next meeting of the Group is scheduled for 3 April 2020.

NOTED

7.2 Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee

Report by Zone Delegate Cr C Antonio on meeting of the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee meeting held 19 February 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee meeting held 19 February 2020 be received.

Cr C Antonio commented on the following matters considered by the Committee –

- Background on Coronavirus COVID-19 and response.
- Flu vaccinations.
- Telstra and bushfires.
- Communication between metro and rural emergency groups.

RESOLUTION

Cr C Antonio moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –

That the Report on the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee meeting held 19 February 2020 be received. CARRIED

8 AGENCY REPORTS

8.1 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Presentation of report from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (attached to Agenda).

RECOMMENDATION

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

RESOLUTION

Cr C Antonio moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –

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

8.2 RDA Wheatbelt

Presentation of report from RDA Wheatbelt (attached to Agenda).

Recommendation

That the RDA Wheatbelt Report be received.

Mr M Walker presented the report and highlight several matters.

RESOLUTION

Cr C Antonio moved and Cr D Richardson seconded –

That the RDA Wheatbelt Report be received. CARRIED

8.3 Main Roads Wheatbelt

Presentation of report from Main Roads Wheatbelt.

Recommendation

That the Main Roads Wheatbelt Report be received.

Mr C Manton commented on –

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RESOLUTION

**Cr D Richardson moved and Cr R Madacsi seconded –
That the Main Roads Wheatbelt Report be received.**

CARRIED

8.4 RoadWise (Wheatbelt North)

Presentation of report from RoadWise (Wheatbelt North).

RECOMMENDATION

That the RoadWise (Wheatbelt North) Report be received.

Mr Cliff Simpson presented his report and drew attention to a number of areas.

RESOLUTION

**Cr C Antonio moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –
That the RoadWise (Wheatbelt North) Report be received.**

CARRIED

9 FINANCE

9.1 Financial Reports

Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Report for the period ending 31 January 2020 are attached to the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION

That the financial reports for the period ending 31 January 2020, as attached, be received.

RESOLUTION

**Cr D Richardson moved and Cr K Carter seconded –
That the financial reports for the period ending 31 January 2020, as attached, be received.**

CARRIED

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 2020 Quarter	3,608.50
	TOTAL (no GST)	<u>\$3,608.50</u>

RECOMMENDATION

That the accounts as listed totalling \$3,608.50 be approved for payment.

RESOLUTION

**Cr D Richardson moved and Cr K Carter seconded –
That the accounts as listed totalling \$3,608.50 be approved for payment.**

CARRIED

10 ZONE BUSINESS

10.1 National Redress Scheme – Recommendation by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

BACKGROUND

At its June 2019 meeting the Zone noted the National Redress Scheme update from the State Government on engagement with WA local governments regarding participation in the Scheme. The update indicated that a stage phase 2 discussion paper would be released in late August 2019 and that Department of Local

Government, Sport and Cultural Industries representatives would attend a future Zone meeting to discuss local government participation.

COMMENT

Mr Ben Armstrong will make a presentation on the National Redress Scheme and specifically what the local government's involvement in the scheme will entail over the coming months

Re-establishment of MOU Between Wheatbelt Local Governments and WACHS

BACKGROUND

Earlier this year the North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils (NEWROC) approached WALGA to deliver a regional health forum in the Wheatbelt. All Wheatbelt Local Governments were invited to attend this Forum held in Trayning on 20 September 2019. The forum was held with key service providers and stakeholders; WA Country Health Service (WACHS), St John Ambulance, WA Primary Health Alliance, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Regional Development Australia and the Hon Mia Davies MLA.

After the presentations from the key service providers and stakeholders, WALGA coordinated a workshop with the participants where key recommendations were captured. A report titled 'Wheatbelt Regional Health Services Summary Report' was then prepared. The Wheatbelt Regional Health Services Summary Report along with its recommendations from the workshop were presented to WALGA State Council for endorsement on 4 December 2019.

The following recommendations were endorsed:

That WALGA:

1. Re-establishes a working group to progress a Memorandum of Understanding with Local Governments in the Wheatbelt region and the WA Country Health Service, based on the previous work by the former Wheatbelt Health MOU Group, which outlines communication, responsibilities and strategic priorities unique to the region; and
2. Work with key service providers and stakeholders to engage with Local Government to further discuss the issues and develop solutions in the aged care services sector.

The Wheatbelt Health MOU Group was previously established in December 2006 to be an advocacy group and to provide an avenue for Local Governments and stakeholders to work together to improve the delivery and availability of health services in the Wheatbelt. It was a partnership between the Avon-Midland Country Zone, Central Country Zone and Great Eastern Country Zone; Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt; WACHS; and the Wheatbelt Development Commission. The group ceased operating in 2015. WALGA was not previously involved with the former MOU

COMMENT

The WA Local Government Association wrote to the Wheatbelt Zones in mid-December 2019 seeking support, to re-establish the Wheatbelt Health MOU and to nominate representative to participate in a working group that will commence in February 2020. Nominations to be submitted by 24 January 2020.

Due to the short timeframe and the time of the year discussions were held with the Zone President. It was agreed that Cr Jan Court be nominated as this Zone's representative on the Working Group. Cr Court was one of the Zone's representatives to the former Wheatbelt Health MOU Group and also to its successor 'Healthy Wheatbelt'. She was the inaugural Chair of the Healthy Wheatbelt Group.

RECOMMENDATION

That Cr Jan Court's nomination as the Zone's representative to the Working Group to progress a Memorandum of Understanding with Local Governments in the Wheatbelt region and the WA Country Health Service been endorsed.

RESOLUTION

Cr D Richardson moved and Cr K Carter seconded –

That Cr Jan Court's nomination as the Zone's representative to the Working Group to progress a Memorandum of Understanding with Local Governments in the Wheatbelt region and the WA Country Health Service been endorsed.

CARRIED

11 URGENT BUSINESS (as permitted by the Presiding Member)

11.1 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group – Zone Delegate

Cr K Seymour advised that he had recently been elected as a Director for CBH Group and that as such he felt that it would be inappropriate for him to continue to be the Zone delegate to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group.

RESOLUTION

Cr K Carter moved and Cr R Madacsi seconded –

**That the Zone's representative to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group be –
Delegate - Cr Barry Haywood
Deputy Delegate – Cr Chris Antonio.**

CARRIED

12 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

13 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Future meetings of the Zone are scheduled for –

24 April 2020	Shire of Victoria Plains
19 June 2020	Shire of York
21 August 2020	Shire of Chittering
20 November 2020	Shire of Wongan-Ballidu

As the next meeting is scheduled to be held on the Friday of the Anzac Day long weekend consideration may care to be given to an alternate date.

RECOMMENDATION

That the next ordinary meeting of the Zone be held Friday 24 April 2020 and be hosted by the Shire of Victoria Plains.

The Executive Officer reported that the Shire of Victoria Plains had asked if they could swap dates with a future meeting.

The Shire of Chittering delegates indicated that they would be happy to swap with the Shire of Victoria Plains.

RESOLUTION

Cr D Richardson moved and Cr B Haywood seconded –

That the next ordinary meeting of the Zone be held Friday 1 May 2020 and be hosted by the Shire of Chittering.

CARRIED

14 GUEST SPEAKERS

14.1 Local Government Audits

Mr Patrick Arulsingham, A/Assistant Auditor General, Technical and Audit Support.

14.2 New Energy Future: Feedback from Cocreation Sessions

Mr Matt Tutt, New Energy Lead, Synergy, and Mr Piero Truini, Product Manager, Energy Solutions, Synergy.

15 CLOSURE

15.1 Appreciation Cr Lynn Craigie

RESOLUTION

Cr B Haywood moved and Cr C Antonio seconded –

That the Zone express it appreciation to Cr Lynn Craigie for her work during her term as the WA Local Government Association President.

CARRIED

15.2 State Council Agendas

Cr C Antonio urged the WA Local Government Association to endeavour to have State Council Agendas out in time to be considered at Council meetings prior to Zone meetings. He recommended that State Council Agendas be available to Councils by the last day of the month before Zone meetings.

15.3 National General Assembly of Local Government 2020

The President drew attention to the National General Assembly of Local Government to be held in Canberra 14-21 June 2020 and the Zone's budget provision to send delegates. He pointed out that this matter will be listed for consideration at the next meeting and requested delegates to give consideration as to whether the Zone should again be represented and to its delegates.

15.4 Closure

There being no further business the President thanked attendees, the Shire of Dandaragan for hosting the meeting, and declared the meeting closed at 2:23 pm.

CERTIFICATION

These Minutes were confirmed by the meeting held on

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