



WALGA

Great Southern Zone

MINUTES

of an ordinary meeting
(2 voting delegates per council)

held on

Friday 30 November 2018

Venue

Cranbrook Sporting Complex
King Street, Cranbrook

8

1. OPEN: 10.38am

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Cr Keith House
Annabel Paulley

Zone President (Shire of Gnowangerup)
Zone Executive Officer

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

Mayor Dennis Wellington and Cr Anthony Moir
Cr Scott Thompson, Cr Mark Paganoni.
Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton, Cr Phil Horrocks and CEO Peter Northover
CEO Bill Parker
Cr Keith House
Cr Rob Lester, and CEO Martin Cuthbert
Cr Liz Guidera and Cr John Goodheart
CEO Rick Miller
Cr Ronnie Fleay
Cr Chris Pavlovich and Cr Jon Oldfield
Cr Dale Douglas and Acting CEO Sean Fletcher

Total of 14 and out of a possible 22 voting delegates in attendance.

Guests

Mal Shervill, Policy Officer - Road Safety, WALGA
Bruce Manning, CEO, Great Southern Development Commission
Kay O'Neill, Manager Finance and Administration, Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Mick Irving, Customer and Stakeholder Great Southern, Water Corporation
Cr Len Handasyde, Shire of Plantagenet
Cr Peter Caron (observer and non-voting delegate), Shire of Denmark

Apologies

CEO Shelley Pike, Shire of Gnowangerup
CEO Rob Stewart, Shire of Plantagenet
Andrea Smithson, WALGA RoadWise Adviser
Cr Andrew Price, Shire of Jerramungup
Deputy CEO Wayne Scheggia
Dept of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Cr Alan Smith and Cr Scott Crosby, Shire of Kent
CEO Rick Mitchell-Collins, Kojonup.

Cr Jill Mathwin, Shire of Kojonup
Cr Janine Phillips, Shire of Denmark
CEO Keith Williams, Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup
Cr Lex Martin, Shire of Gnowangerup
Cr Russel Thomson, Shire of Woodanilling
Cr Ceinwen Gearon, Shire of Denmark
Cr Joanne Iffla, Shire of Jerramungup

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Perceived interest declared by Cr Chris Pavlovich in relation to Restricted Access Vehicles (RAV) issues due to him owning a truck transport business.

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

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

The Integrity Promotion (IP Team) team at the Public Sector Commission (PSC) undertakes the prevention and education activities under the Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003. Currently, the Commission's regional travel program is under review and until this is complete the IP team will not take any further regional travel. This means, unfortunately, that the IP team will not be able to send a consultant the Great Southern Zone's November meeting in Cranbrook. Should the PSC be able to consider a trip to the Great Southern in 2019, it will contact the Zone.

- Mick Irving, Manager, Customer and Stakeholder Great Southern, Water Corporation

5. MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY ZONE MEETING – 31 August 2018

MOVED Cr Ronnie Fleay **SECONDED** Cr Rob Lester
That the minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Great Southern Zone of the WALGA held on Friday 31 August 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.
CARRIED 14-0

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

MOVED Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton **SECONDED** Mayor Dennis Wellington
That the Minutes of meeting of the State Council of WALGA held on 7 September 2018 be received.
CARRIED 14-0

5.2 Business Arising

Refer to the attached Status Report from WALGA to the Zone dated December 2018 for the following items:-

5.2.1 Fires affected mobile phone service in regional areas - Shire of Jerramungup

Jerramungup CEO has spoken with Telstra about installing generators which could power mobile phone towers in emergencies.

Woodanilling loses its exchange and power so has no communications at all in emergencies. Telstra is investigating. This is a significant issue throughout the state.

5.2.2 Appeals against native vegetation clearing permits - Shire of Jerramungup

Cr Keith House raised this as an emerging issue at the September WALGA State Council meeting.

Update: Letter to the Zone from Wildflower Society of WA was circulated and discussed. Cr House advised that he had discussed the letter with delegates / councillors at the November meeting of the Great Southern Regional Road Group where the consensus was to discuss the letter at the Zone meeting for an appropriate response.

Resolved: Mal Shervill to consult with Mark Batty about the Zone discussion and assist with drafting an appropriate response letter to the Wildflower Society of WA. Draft letter is to be reviewed by Zone member councils before being sent. If required, the Wildflower Society's minutes might be requested in order to verify that the vegetation clearing sub-committee has authority to act on behalf of the Society.

Other ongoing issues:-

5.2.3 Local Government Act Review Forum held in Cranbrook on 19 October 2018

The following documents were tabled:-

- Facilitator's report from the forum.
- InfoPage from WALGA.
- Matters for Noting Item 6.1 in the December 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda.

The WALGA process from here is as follows:-

- 16 November 2018 – WALGA distributed an InfoPage requesting Local Governments (Council decision required) to provide a submission on the Act review process. A submission to WALGA is requested by 22 February 2019. This will enable Councils to consider an item at their December meetings.

- November Zone Meetings/December 2018 State Council Meeting – Item for noting will be prepared that will cover information on the Local Government Act review process and a summary of the forums held in October/November and general themes coming through.
- Late January/Early February 2019 – State-wide Forum on the future of Local Government – The forum will include a review of the information coming through from the Local Government Act forums and submissions, in addition there will be guest speakers presenting on the future of Local Government.
- February Zone Meetings/March 2019 State Council Meeting – Item for Decision on sector positions feedback following feedback from Local Government submissions.

5.2.4 Policy for Restricted Access Vehicles on Roads not on an Approved Network During Harvest

- The link to Main Roads WA's Harvest Mass Management Scheme website was emailed to all Zone councils in early September for dissemination within their communities.
- Main Roads WA officers gave a presentation on the Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy in Cranbrook on 19 October 2018.

Also, councils will be aware of the following:-

- Proposed abolition of the CA07 condition - refer to State Council agenda Matters for Decision item 5.1. Also see attached letter from Vincent Catania MLA to Minister for Transport.
- Dept of Transport's Review of Regulations for Towed Agricultural Implements. Public consultation closed on 16 November.

5.2.5 Target Issues for the Zone in 2019

For discussion including suggestions for guest speakers in 2019.

- **Roads**
Specific examples of sections of grain freight roads which need upgrading will need to be provided to the Executive Officer before a further request to the Minister for Transport to attend a 2019 Zone meeting is made.
- **Unmet labour need in the Great Southern.**
Proposed changes to Federal immigration rules and broader migration issues. Need to relocate people out of cities into regional areas to fill vacancies such as medical services. Promote quality of life in rural and regional areas.
The Kojonup case regarding a Registered Nurse not being allowed to stay on at the aged care facility has gone to WA Health Minister Ben Wyatt and to the Federal level. Peter Rundle and Rick Wilson are aware of this issue.
Currently, the Great Southern regional has 3.5% unemployment which is classed as full employment, and is evident across all skilled and unskilled jobs in the region.
Cr Rob Lester commented that health positions are often advertised as temporary and not permanent.
ACTION: WALGA to investigate avenues to pursue this issue.
- **Economic development**
Economic development reports from session at Local Government Week 2018 were circulated with the November Zone agenda.

5.2.6 Regional Subsidiaries Bill

Ongoing. Refer to December State Council agenda.

5.2.7 Review of Emergency Services Legislation

WALGA was going to make enquiries to progress the Ministerial decision. WALGA will keep councils updated. Ongoing.

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

Refer to 5.2.5 above. Remove from next agenda.

5.2.9 Regional Training Opportunities

ACTION: Executive Officer to enquire if there is any regional training planned for 2019.

5.2.10 Follow up with guest speakers from previous meetings

- City of Albany Executive Director Susan Kay is progressing a proposal for the Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy with the Great Southern Development Commission and will be liaising with Zone councils once the proposal is finalised.
- Still awaiting responses to questions from Dept of Primary Industries and Regional Development

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

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

Update: Cr House still encouraging feedback from Zone councils.

RESOLVED: That the Zone sends a letter of appreciation to WALGA CEO Ricky Burges before her impending retirement.

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

No updates at this time. Ongoing.

5.2.13 Unmet labour need in the Great Southern

Abattoir, agriculture and health industries are relevant for the Great Southern.

Transient labour in vineyards.

Cr Keith House - lack of connection from a regional perspective to the migration issue. Need to bring decision-making on migrant visas back to a local level.

Cr Chris Pavlovich - keeping skilled jobs for our young people but fill unskilled jobs such as vineyard positions with visa workers.

Mayor Dennis Wellington advised that unless you get a direct line into Canberra, it's a waste of time.

5.2.14 Road Toll Statistics - Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

Cr Keith House advised that the road toll statistics are formulated the same nationwide.

No further action. Remove this item from next agenda.

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

MOVED Cr Ronnie Fleay

SECONDED Cr Dennis Wellington

That items 5.2.8 and 5.2.14 be removed from the next agenda.

CARRIED 14-0

6. ZONE BUSINESS

6.1 Emerging Issues for Local Governments

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

City of Albany

- Discussion with Minister for Transport about Albany Ring Road.
- Field of Light is exceeding expectations - 40,920 people in 8 weeks. Predicted 30,000 in 8 months.
- Application for 108-room Hilton Hotel on Albany waterfront.
- 43 companies downloaded info on Middleton Beach hotel and 43 came back saying not interested in the current economic environment.
- Review of Container Deposit Scheme - feedback by 6 December 2018 for customer service standards for collection depots. CDS proposed to be introduced by early 2020.

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

- Approval for another development at CBH in Broomehill. Planning for 300,000 tonne capacity.
- Visit by Grants Commission - very supportive.
- BBRF housing project - delayed because some Local Governments have changed their scope of works. Rick Wilson informed of the delay.
- Cr Mark Paganoni - requested clarification from WALGA staff about where they are coming from in wanting CBH to be rated.

Mal Shervill - rateable review has identified many charitable organisations which are not paying rates. The net has been cast and some fish caught that maybe should not have been.

Cr Keith House - important for councils to provide feedback on rating issues via the Local Government Act Review by 22 February.

Mayor Dennis Wellington gave the example of a community of 180 RAAFA houses in Albany not paying any rates but the City of Albany is providing infrastructure and services which benefit the residents of this community.

Shire of Cranbrook

- Carry over funding approved for ablution block at new truck bay on Great Southern Highway.
- Draft masterplan for airstrip has been received and will be reviewed.
- Awarded a double header event for motorcross.

Shire of Denmark

- Corporate Business Plan adopted.
- \$1 million worth of work on oval awarded to local contractors.
- Industrial area work progressing and should be completed within weeks.
- Award jointly received with City of Albany for innovative management for Great Southern peer support programme.

Shire of Gnowangerup

- Gnowangerup 360 is not a council project but the council hopes for a good outcome for retail small business in the town.

Shire of Jerramungup

- Problems with boat ramp at Bremer Bay. Law suit from someone who broke their ankle on the ramp. Dept of Transport wants to close the whole facility and wash their hands of it. Repairs have been made. Would be good to get Minister of Transport to comment on this issue.

Shire of Katanning

- BKW Co-op went into voluntary administration but local consortium plan to re-open in February / March 2019.
- Council's new administration building should be finished at the end of January 2019. Official opening at end of February.
- Construction of new playground has been awarded.
- Changing Places toilet at Lions Park.
- New RV park and relocated dump point will attract people closer to town centre.
- Co-location of bowling club.
- Around 85% occupancy at new Premier Mill Hotel. Australia's South West board dinner held at the hotel recently.
- Many of Katanning's transformation projects will be finished in 2019 - good for the region.

Shire of Kent

- Community inn expected to open end of January 2019.

Shire of Kojonup

- Waiting for housing project to start.
- People stayed in Kojonup on way to road conference in Albany. Good partnership.
- Tourist train still not operating. Rail regulator is stone-walling. Compliance is unreasonable. LGIS has been a huge help.
- Community Resource Centre - serious change needs to occur.
- If NSW can take on Registered Nurses in aged care facilities, why can't WA?

Shire of Plantagenet

- Plantagenet is still achieving 2% growth.
- Land Corp dragging its feet on industrial park. Now looking at funding 3-4 initial blocks. Developers complaining of high cost of utilities installation in rural areas. Cost of water to industry is sometimes 6 times more than the metro area.
- Hospital is under-used. Looking at staff sharing with Albany and Denmark.
- South Coast Alliance - economic development strategy.

Shire of Woodanilling

- Telephone communications - zero communications when power goes down.
- CEO Belinda Knight is moving on after 17 years with the council.
- Received \$200,000 funding for bushfire risk mitigation.
- WANDRRA funding project completed.
- Grants to put in better facilities at Lake Queerearup.

6.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

The Department's November / December 2018 update report to be circulated with minutes.

7. REVIEW OF WALGA STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – 5 December 2018

7.1 WALGA State Council President's Report - Cr Lynne Craigie

WALGA President's report circulated.

MOVED Mayor Dennis Wellington SECONDED Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton
That the WALGA President's Report dated December 2018 be received.

CARRIED 14-0

7.2 State Councillor's Report

Cr Keith House gave a verbal report of the September 2018 WALGA State Council regional meeting held in Dongara where there are high vacancy rates being a seasonal location. Dongara is tied to agriculture and fishing industries.

- Online content production - Geoff Henderson is the Co-ordinator. His contact details are available from WALGA. Accessible to all councils. This initiative will create an opportunity from a Local Government perspective to help promote local economic development and general community engagement.
- Vexatious issue relating to road vegetation clearing permit applications is being investigated by WALGA's Policy Team.

Moved Cr Mark Paganoni SECONDED Cr Ronnie Fleay
That the State Councillor Cr Keith House's report be received.

CARRIED 14-0

7.3 Matters for Decision – Zone consideration required

Consideration of the December 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda - Matters for Decision

MOVED Cr Ronnie Fleay SECONDED Cr Chris Pavlovich
That the Great Southern Zone supports the recommendations for items 5.1 to 5.12 in the December 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda.

CARRIED 14-0

Item 5.3 2019-20 State Budget Submission

Cr Ronnie Fleay called for Sport and Recreation funding to be reinstated with a 50/50 split between metro and regional WA. Need support in regional areas more than ever.

ACTION: Cr Keith House to raise this point at the December State Council meeting.

Item 5.1 Proposal to abolish Letter of Approval - CA07 Condition

Mal Shervill - WALGA still in discussions with Main Roads. WALGA submitted Local Government's position to MRWA. Main Roads needs to keep talking to WALGA. WALGA opposes withdrawal of the 'Letter of Approval' Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition until an acceptable alternative is developed.

7.4 Matters for Noting – Zone information

Noted that charitable organisations rating is referenced on page 238.

7.5 State Council Status Report

North Metro Zone meeting on 29 November. Mayor Tracy Roberts advised that she and others had met with WA Premier Mark McGowan who said that he looked forward to working cooperatively with the sector in 2019.

8. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' REPORTS

8.1 Executive Officer's Report

- 8.1.1 Great Southern Outdoor Recreation Strategy
Great Southern Centre for Outdoor Recreation Excellence (GSCORE) funding application to Lotterywest was successful. Albany, Denmark and Cranbrook committed funds to projects.

8.2 Other Reports

8.2.1 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG) – Delegates Cr Keith House & Cr Ronnie Fleay

Minutes of meeting held on 12 October 2018 are attached.
Next meeting on 8 February 2019.

- Do any councils have concerns about upgrades to CBH sites?
Mayor Dennis Wellington said Albany did not approve of CBH using extra long trucks due to lack of passing lanes between Albany and Ravensthorpe. CBH has now shelved this proposal.
- Zones are requested to consider for endorsement the amendments to the Group's Terms of Reference. The amendments provide for:-
 - PGA of WA and WA Farmers to become non-voting participants on the Group.
 - Deleting the President of WALGA as a formal member. When the Group was first formed the WALGA President was actively involved. In recent years the WALGA President involvement has diminished and they no longer attend meetings. The Group felt it was appropriate to remove the reference to the WALGA President. WALGA is represented by the Executive Manager for Infrastructure at an administration level.

MOVED Cr Ronnie Fleay SECONDED Mayor Dennis Wellington
That the Great Southern Zone of WALGA endorses the two amendments to the LGAFG's Terms of Reference.

CARRIED 14-0

- 8.2.2 Great Southern District Leadership Group (formerly Great Southern Human Services Forum)
Refer to attached minutes of meeting held on 31 October 2018.
Also see memo from CEO Rob Stewart.

Moved Cr Liz Guidera SECONDED Cr Rob Lester
That a letter of appreciation be sent to CEO Rob Stewart for his efforts in representing the Zone on the Great Southern District Leadership Group.

CARRIED 14-0

- 8.2.3 Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) – CEO Keith Williams.
No minutes available.

8.2.4 South Coast Natural Resource Management (NRM) - Delegate: Cr Anthony Moir. Proxy: Keith Williams

No meeting minutes supplied by South Coast NRM.
Cr Anthony Moir advised that the Southern Prospects Strategy was released recently and is available on South Coast NRM website. More efficient structure and dealing with funding from State and Federal governments. Need to increase uptake of younger people involved in landcare. Decline in landcare groups in the area. Landcare Network had AGM 2 weeks ago. Issues with social media landscape and trying to encourage younger people to become involved. See South Coast NRM website for more details.

- 8.2.5 Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) - Bruce Manning
- Grant Scheme round offering \$700,000 from State Government is now closed. Successful applicants will be announced in first quarter of 2019.
 - 22 November - briefing and update on South West Native Title Settlement.
 - GSDC is looking for potential aquaculture sites on the coastline.
 - Movie filming in Albany and Mt Barker. TV series being filmed in Albany next year.
- 8.2.6 Great Southern RoadWise - Andrea Smithson
Not present to report.
- 8.2.7 Proposed joint meetings of the Zone and Great Southern Regional Road Group
Trial meeting to be held in Bremer Bay on Monday 29 April 2019.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1 **Clearing of native vegetation along roadsides - Wildflower Society of WA (Inc)**
Refer to letter from Wildflower Society of WA dated 2 November 2018. See 5.2.2 above.
- 9.2 **Water Corporation's increased charges for fixed standpipes - Shire of Katanning**
Pricing for Local Government-owned fixed standpipes in country regions is changing. Refer to attached FAQ document.
- Cr Liz Guidera said increase from \$2 to \$8 is significant. Going down to 20-25mm standpipe to save on costs will mean it takes much longer to fill up water trucks. See notes on the Water Corporation's presentation at item 12 below.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

- 10.1 **Financial Report for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 October 2018 attached.**

Opening balance as at 1 August 2018	\$3,199.03
Total debits	(\$2,250.48)
Total credits	\$935.00
Closing balance as at 30 October 2018	\$1,883.55

MOVED Cr Chris Pavlovich **SECONDED Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton**
That the financial statement for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 October 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Zone finances.

CARRIED 14-0

11.0 ZONE MEETINGS FOR 2019

Next meeting will be in Denmark on Friday 22 March 2019. State Council meeting now being held on Tuesday 26 March 2019.

Monday 29 April 2019 in Bremer Bay - trial joint meeting with Great Southern Regional Road Group.
ACTION: Executive Officer to liaise with Steve Hutchings and Cr Len Handasyde.

12.0 GUEST SPEAKER

Mick Irving – Manager, Customer and Stakeholder Great Southern, Water Corporation

Standpipe categories

- Local Authority Standpipe at subsidised rate of \$2.50 per kilolitre.
- Community standpipe is 20-25 mm with slower flow rate - small quantity use for domestic purposes for those who are not on scheme water at subsidised rate. Councils can put in a water tank with camlock fitting which will allow water tanks to be filled more quickly.
- Fire standpipe - use for fire purposes only and locked.
- \$8.50 per kilolitre for commercial rate.
- Price depends on how close to water source sites are.

Other points:-

- Card systems - Local Governments can claim back water usage at subsidised rate where eligible.
- Water Corporation will credit councils if the Water Corporation takes water from standpipes from time to time.
- Water Corporation does not charge for water used in emergencies.
- During declared drought, all prices revert back to subsidised rate during the declared drought period.
- Water Corp will install free 20-25mm community standpipe infrastructure.
- No barriers to Local Governments recovering their costs for water supplied to other users as long as no GST is charged.

ACTION: Water Corporation to meet with all councils to discuss their standpipes.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.39pm