



WALGA

Great Southern Zone

MINUTES

of an ordinary meeting
(2 voting delegates per council)

held on

Friday 31 August 2018

Venue

Tambellup Sports Pavilion
Off Howard Road / East Terrace
Tambellup

8

1. OPEN: 10.20am

Welcome by Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup Shire President Scott Thompson

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Cr Keith House
Annabel Paulley

Zone President
Zone Executive Officer

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

Cr Greg Stocks and Cr John Shanhun
Cr Scott Thompson, Cr Mark Paganoni and CEO Keith Williams
CEO Peter Northover
Nil
Cr Greg Stewart and CEO Shelley Pike
Cr Rob Lester and CEO Martin Cuthbert
Cr Liz Guidera and CEO Julian Murphy
Cr Alan Smith
Cr Ronnie Fleay and Cr Jill Mathwin
Cr Jon Oldfield and Cr Marie O’Dea
Cr Dale Douglas

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

Guests

Wayne Scheggia, Acting CEO, WALGA
Mark Batty, Executive Manager Environment and Waste, WALGA
Nina Hewson, Ministerial Policy Officer, Dept of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)
Luke Shepherd, Legislation Officer, DLGSC
Susan Kay, Executive Director Community Services, City of Albany
Russell Pritchard, Great Southern Development Commission
Wayne Green, District Superintendent, DFES

Apologies

Minister for Transport, Rita Saffioti
Minister for Primary Industries & Regional Development, Alannah MacTiernan
Peter Watson, Member for Albany
Bruce Manning, CEO, Great Southern Development Commission
Andrea Smithson, WALGA Road Safety Adviser
Cr Andrew Price, Shire of Jerramungup
Cr Russel Thomson and CEO Belinda Knight, Shire of Woodanilling
CEO Peter Bentley, Shire of Kent
Councillors and CEO, Shire of Denmark
Cr Chris Pavlovich, Shire of Plantagenet
Cr John Goodheart, Shire of Katanning
Mayor Dennis Wellington, Cr Anthony Moir and CEO Andrew Sharpe, City of Albany
Cr Philip Horrocks and Cr Colin Egerton-Warburton, Shire of Cranbrook
Deputy CEO Sue Dowson, Shire of Woodanilling

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Ronnie Fleay declared an interest in WALGA State Council agenda items 5.3 and 5.8 due to being a member of the WA Planning Commission.

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

4. GUEST SPEAKERS

- 4.1 Mark Batty, Executive Manager Environment and Waste, WALGA
Subject: Waste to Energy and other environment and waste updates.
- 4.2 Susan Kay, Executive Director Community Services, City of Albany
Subject: Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy for the Great Southern Region.

5. MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY ZONE MEETING – 29 June 2018

MOVED Cr Rob Lester

SECONDED Cr Ronnie Fleay

That the minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Great Southern Zone of the WALGA held on Friday 29 June 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 – 4 July 2018

MOVED Cr Mark Paganoni

SECONDED Cr Rob Lester

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

CARRIED 14-0

5.2 Business Arising

Refer to the attached Status Report from WALGA to the Zone dated August 2018.

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

Heavy Vehicle Services (HSV) has revised the Harvest Mass Management Scheme (HMMS) model for the 2018-19 harvest. Need to circulate revised HMMS to communities. Concerns raised about if HVS can process all the applications before harvest starts.

Cr Mark Paganoni felt the Zone should push a more long term arrangement through Local Government Agriculture Freight Group, rather than a year-to-year HMMS.

Cr Alan Smith said HMMS information on Main Roads website was hard to find.

ACTION: Cr Dale Douglas to send Main Roads HMMS website link to Executive Officer to circulate to Zone councils.

Keith Williams attended Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy workshop where they talked about even larger trucks on roads.

ACTION: Keith Williams to liaise with Executive Officer to arrange a meeting with Main Roads WA and Zone councils to discuss road freight network issues.

Cr Liz Guidera - need local government, farmers and transport people in the discussion.

5.2.2 Mobile phone service during fire emergencies.

Response: WALGA's Emergency Management Policy Unit are coordinating further briefings and collecting information from relevant Zones to ensure the sector's concerns can be raised with the relevant parties.

5.2.3 Funding sources for the various funding cuts including human services.

As per status report.

Other ongoing issues:-

5.2.4 Target Issues for the Zone in 2018

Top priority for the Zone is 'Roads'.

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

5.2.5 Regional Subsidiaries Bill

Verbal update provided by Wayne Scheggia.

Positive discussion with State Government to affect changes as implemented in South Australian and have engaged legal firm to prepare see Wayne's notes. Hopefully the amendments will be useful to councils and will solve the problems.

5.2.6 Reinstatement of percentage funding allocation relating to vehicle licensing concession

State Agreement is now in place.

5.2.7 WANDRRA funding

Changes to NDRRA take effect from 1 November 2018.

5.2.8 Review of Emergency Services Legislation

Ongoing for some time. Got through 3 stages of review and was about to be introduced to Parliament but stalled. WALGA making enquiries to progress the Ministerial decision. WALGA will keep councils updated.

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

Update: Main Roads Great Southern has submitted list of Great Southern Local Government roads to Perth staff for consideration of possible future Federal Government funding as opportunities come up.

5.2.10 Regional Training Opportunities

Effective Community Leadership

Tuesday 4 September 2018

Tambellup

5.2.11 Follow up with guest speakers from 29 June 2018 meeting.

Bruce Manning's GSDC presentation has been emailed to councils.

Still awaiting responses to questions from Dept of Primary Industries and Regional Development

5.2.12 Blue Sky Strategic Planning Workshop - Cr Keith House

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

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

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

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

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

5.2.13 Robbie Miniter

Letter sent to Robbie Miniter congratulating him on his OAM award and his nomination for the Leadership and Innovation Award in the WA Regional Achievement & Community Awards coming up in October.

5.2.14 Funding to Community Resource Centres

The State Government announced on 10 August 2018 that funding to CRCs would be reinstated at the full \$13 million per year.

Cr Greg Stocks - this is a good example of how councils can band together and advocate for better outcomes for the region. Hopefully the Zone can play an advocacy role on other issues in the future.

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

Ongoing.

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

MOVED Cr Jill Mathwin

SECONDED Cr Ronnie Fleay

That items 5.2.6, 5.2.13 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 gave an overview of emerging issues affecting them over the past few months.

City of Albany

- Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) \$4.5 million grant funding for Middleton Beach development including sea wall. Councils urged to lock in funding offers as soon as possible so that they don't lose funds if there is an election.
- Field of Lights installation opening from mid-October 2018 until ANZAC Day in April 2019. Expected to attract 30,000 visitors to Albany.
- Development application expected for waterfront development for 140-room hotel.
- Having trouble appointing a CEO for the Amazing South Coast but still progressing to spend funds. Need to get destination marketing organisation self-sustaining.

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

- BBRF \$10 million for Great Southern housing project. Trying to get agreement signed in next few weeks.
- Tambellup deli / shop owners are facing health issues and the business is not selling but community is rallying to buy it and run it as a co-operative until someone can buy it so that it is not lost to the community.
- Nominated for Tidy Towns awards - water-efficiency project at depot with 2 large water tanks.
- CBH development at Broomehill receival point - 2 extra bins and extra chalets in shire caravan park.

Shire of Cranbrook

- Looking forward to aged accommodation project starting.
- Cranbrook hosting Bloom Festival in September.
- Linking communities project with Tambellup.
- Regional Aged Communities Forum.
- Nominated for fire award.

Shire of Denmark

No-one present to report.

Shire of Gnowangerup

- 5% rate rise regrettable but necessary.
- Pleased about CRC funding outcome.
- Police issue continues relating to lack of rent subsidy and alleged pay cuts. Council wrote to Minister who responded that Gnowangerup was a three-officer police station with no difficulty in filling positions. Council will hold them to that.

Shire of Jerramungup

- Issues with vexatious objections to road projects which is having an impact on spending road funding. Mark Batty - an environmental lobby group is running an active campaign across the whole South West at the moment. Minister and DWER are aware of this. Councils urged to raise issues with WALGA for advocacy to State Government.

ACTION: Shire of Jerramungup to send through information to WALGA in time for raising as an emerging issue at the State Council meeting on 7 September.

MOVED Cr Rob Lester

SECONDED Cr Ronnie Fleay

That the Great Southern Zone of WALGA expresses its concern at the amount of seemingly vexatious appeals against the issuing of native vegetation clearing permits occurring across the Zone.

The Zone is deeply concerned that the Environmental Protection Act has no mechanism to deter such vexatious claims.

This is having a material impact on the ability of Local Governments to maintain a safe and trafficable road network in a timely and cost effective manner.

The Zone seeks WALGA's assistance to reduce such vexatious actions and to advocate for changes to the Act to ensure any third party appeals are genuine (for example, requiring a refundable bond, payable by an appellant, on the lodgement of a third party appeal).

CARRIED 14-0

- Bushfire Risk Mitigation Officer position covering 11 shires including Ravensthorpe and Esperance. Concerned that this position is spread too thinly and won't get much work done. Incumbent saying that her contract will end in 3 months.
ACTION: To be raised with DFES District Superintendent Wayne Green.
- Opening of skate park.
- Completed water bomber plane turnaround.
- Meetings with Dept of Transport regarding boat harbour at Bremer Bay.
- Teacher housing has been sold off. Some teachers own their own homes but may move on. Teachers are being told that they have to be willing to share houses.

Shire of Katanning

- Local co-op has gone into voluntary administration. Offer received for the business as a whole which is positive. 47 jobs are at stake. Will know outcome in the next month.
- Councillor Advice Programme - Paul Omodei sat in on council meeting to provide feedback. Worthwhile and recommended that other councils take advantage of this service.
- Healthy occupancy rates in new Dome Premier Mill hotel.
- Bushfoods for Saline Lands Project - first initial meeting recently. 4-year project.
- Met with Australia's South West to discuss tourism issues. Will be getting more involved in Hidden Treasures.
- FORM promoting Silo Art Trail in the month leading up to Field of Lights display in Albany by encouraging tourists to visit communities with silo art on the way to Albany.
- Cr Keith House urged councils to use WALGA's advice programme.

Shire of Kent

- CRC staff bought local café.
- CBH very keen to put accommodation into caravan parks for their workers. Councils urged to talk with local CBH representatives about this.
- Silo art at Pingrup.
- Nyabing Hub is progressing. Pub is being built and scheduled to open by Christmas.
- Shire of Kent's new CEO starts in late October.

Shire of Kojonup

- Discussion around reducing speed limit in Kojonup main street or building bypass.
- Australia's South West visited Kojonup.
- Hidden Treasures - last meeting discussed how to promote upper area of the Great Southern. Plan to ramp up what is already happening.
- Care needs are increasing at Kojonup's aged care facility. Now need to Registered Nurse (RN) on staff 7 days a week. Hard to attract RNs to Kojonup. Was able to secure RN on graduate visa from Murdoch University. Found subsidised housing. RN is no longer eligible to stay in Kojonup for extended term. RN occupation is not on list of permanent positions which are able to stay in WA but RN is on the list in Eastern States.

Keith Williams - should allow RNs to stay on in regional areas but not in Cities.

Russell Pritchard - the visa list is a State list. Need to write to State Government.

Cr Alan Smith - regional areas have different needs to metro areas.

ACTION: Zone to write to State Government to request that Registered Nurses and other unmet labour positions be included on the State visa list.

Shire of Plantagenet

- Film called Rams is being shot in Mt Barker and reported to inject \$1.6 million into the local community.
- Talking with new operators of medical centre.
- Formed a committee about seniors.
- Cattle saleyards - started to construct new loading ramp.
- Wanting to operate water bombers out of airstrip but council is not keen to start operating an airstrip.
- Waste levy of \$50 per ratepayer. Will cost \$300,000 to close landfill and \$3 million to open new landfill.

Shire of Woodanilling

Nothing to report.

6.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Nina Hewson and Luke Shepherd

- Director General Duncan Ord was happy to attend June Zone meeting.
- Local Government Act Review in 2 stages. Minister has endorsed policy position on this recently. Phase 2 will produce new Local Government Act 2020. Discussion papers due to be released in September 2018. Forums will be hosted in October and November. Prefer to hold group forums with councils who have expressed an interest - Albany, Denmark, Gnowangerup, Katanning and Woodanilling. Cr Marie O'Dea said that people will probably not travel more than 45 minutes. Submissions close in December. Draft reforms due in second half of 2019.
- \$12 million available for sporting facilities grants.
- Aboriginal arts grant round open and closes on 6 September.
- Puppy farming - submissions closed on 3 August. Received 4,730 submissions.
- Office of Multicultural Interests - mentoring programme.

ACTION: Update to be circulated with the Zone minutes.

7. REVIEW OF WALGA STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – 7 September 2018

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

Wayne Scheggia

Issues in other Zone meetings:-

- Continuing to advocate for funding for Elected Member training.
- Phase 2 of review is now a new Local Government Act. Important victory for the sector.
- Working on next State Budget submission - seeking input from LGs on local level impact relating to statewide issues. Still looking at \$160 million operating deficit but need to emphasise local and regional economic growth. Looking at economic development strategy for WA. Grow revenue and apply it where it counts - at the local level.
- Economic Development Australia - how people are thinking Australia-wide:-

State level

Health Essential services Affordable housing Reduced violence

National level

Public hospital Foreign ownership Aged care Pension payments Tough criminal laws

- Local Government Week. WALGA seeks input from councils - what they did / did not like and suggests for next year's convention.
- Agenda item around health survey - draw attention at State Council meeting to problem with getting RNs in regional areas.

MOVED Cr Liz Guidera

SECONDED Cr Ronnie Fleay

That the WALGA President's Report dated September 2018 be received.

CARRIED 14-0

7.2 State Councillor's Report

Cr Keith House presented his verbal report.

- State funds to Local Government monies are flowing.
- Harvest Mass Management Scheme.
- CRC funds reinstated.
- Police rural housing rent issue has been directed to relevant policy areas and will come back to State Council.
- LGIS insurance services - councils urged to support this.
- Good feedback on Local Government Week.

Moved Cr Liz Guidera **SECONDED Cr Jill Mathwin**
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 September 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda - Matters for Decision

MOVED Cr Marie O'Dea **SECONDED Cr Rob Lester**
That the Great Southern Zone supports the recommendations for items 5.1 to 5.2 and 5.4 to 5.7 and 5.9 to 5.10 in the 7 September 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda.

CARRIED 14-0

Cr Ronnie Fleay left the room at 12 noon and did not vote on the following motion:-

MOVED Cr Marie O'Dea **SECONDED Cr Jill Mathwin**
That the Great Southern Zone supports the recommendations for items 5.3 and 5.8 in the 7 September 2018 WALGA State Council Agenda.

CARRIED 13-0

Cr Ronnie Fleay re-joined the meeting at 12.01pm.

7.4 Matters for Noting – Zone information

Nothing raised.

7.5 State Council Status Report

Nothing raised.

8. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' REPORTS

8.1 Executive Officer's Report

8.1.1 Zone Strategy for 2019

Zone councils asked to identify issues they wish to target in 2019 so that appropriate Ministers and other relevant presenters can be invited well in advance of next year's meetings.

- Roads
- Economic development session at Local Government Week 2018.
ACTION: Wayne Scheggia to send out reports from this session.

8.1.2 Consideration of sending one Zone delegate to the 2018 ALGA National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Alice Springs, NT from 20 - 22 November 2018.

RESOLVED: That the Zone does not send a delegate this year.

Shire of Plantagenet will be sending someone to the 2019 congress.

8.2 Other Reports

8.2.1 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG) – Delegates Cr Keith House and Cr Ronnie Fleay
Minutes of meeting held on 13 August 2018 are attached. Remaining 2018 meeting = 15 October.

- Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy
ACTION: Council to provide feedback on the Strategy Stakeholder Questions to Cr Keith House or Cr Ronnie Fleay.
- Zone's 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's is represented by the Executive Manager for Infrastructure at an administration level.
- The changes to the Harvest Mass Management Scheme for the 2018/2019 harvest. Zone's are requested to remind their Local Governments to encourage farmers and transport operators to submit their applications for the HMMS Road List as soon as possible to ensure that Main Roads has time to assess and endorse applications before harvest commences.

8.2.2 Great Southern Human Services Forum – CEO Rob Stewart

Minutes of 6 June 2018 meeting tabled as late item.

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

District Superintendent Wayne Green

- New fire region split.
- No decision on location of new fire centre of excellence yet.
- Cr Rob Lester - fire mitigation plan officers are spread too thinly.
Wayne Green's response:- Darren's focus will be on carrying out recommendations in high risk shires of Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe. Planning officers go ahead of onground treatment officers.
Cr Rob Lester would like to see DFES invest in trial work for mat wiper which just takes off top of bush and leaves a cover and would only need mulching every 10 years.
Wayne Green - nothing to stop that being included in Jerramungup's plan. Shire of Jerramungup to discuss with Bushfire Risk Mitigation Officer.
- Cr John Shanahun has received concerns about new fire division. How will new division help Albany volunteer fire crews?
Wayne Green - get fire mitigation back on top of the list. Upskill managers and volunteers. Best practise to get best outcome for the community.

8.2.4 South Coast Natural Resource Management (NRM) - Delegate: Cr Anthony Moir. Proxy: Keith Williams
No meeting since the June Zone meeting.

8.2.5 Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC)
GSDC presentation to Zone's June conference emailed to all councils.

Russell Pritchard - still operating as a Development Commission even though department amalgamation has not gone through yet.

When programmes are released, GSDC staff are willing to give presentations to councils.

8.2.6 Great Southern RoadWise
Great Southern Road Safety Conference being held in Cranbrook on Tuesday 18 September 2018. RSVPs due by Friday 7 September 2018. Road Safety Commissioner will be in attendance.

8.2.7 Proposed joint meetings of Zone and Regional Road Group - Cr Chris Pavlovich
Cr Keith House and Cr Len Handasyde are still working with WALGA on this.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Road Toll Statistics - Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

Main Roads person was indicating that the way statistics are calculated are having affect on road funding.

ACTION: Cr Keith House to take road crash statistics issue to Road Safety Forum and seek clarification.

9.2 Hidden Treasures

Cr Marie O'Dea asked that councils refer to Hidden Treasures as 'our' organisation.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

10.1 Financial Report for the period 1 June 2018 to 30 June 2018 attached.

Opening balance as at 1 June 2018	\$3,276.53
Total debits	(\$1,137.50)
Total credits	\$935.00
Closing balance as at 30 June 2018	\$3074.03

MOVED Cr Mark Paganoni

SECONDED Cr Alan Smith

That the financial statement for the period 1 June 2018 to 30 June 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Zone finances.

CARRIED 14-0

10.2 Financial Report for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 July 2018 (new financial year) attached.

Opening balance as at 1 July 2018	\$3,074.03
Total debits	(\$10.00)
Total credits	\$135.00
Closing balance as at 30 July 2018	\$3,199.03

MOVED Cr Jill Mathwin

SECONDED Cr Marie O'Dea

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

CARRIED 14-0

11.0 REMAINING ZONE MEETINGS FOR 2018

Friday 30 November Cranbrook (AGM and ordinary meeting)

Guest Speakers so far:-

- Steve Tweedie, Principal Consultant Local Government, Public Sector Commission

12.0 GUEST SPEAKERS

12.1 Mark Batty, Executive Manager Environment and Waste, WALGA

- China National Sword
- Consistent Communications
- State Waste Strategy will be released for public consultation in 2 weeks.
- Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)
Supporting local charities and groups to become collection points.
CDS will probably be introduced in early 2020.
- Waste Authority Programmes
Better Bins Programme closes December 2018.
- Waste to Energy - one above landfill.
- DWER has released discussion paper on increase in fees and charges for clearing permits.
Submissions close on 1 November 2018.

12.2 Susan Kay - Great Southern Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy

- Creative Industries Great Southern
- Regular events across the calendar year
- Noongar culture
- Heritage
- Potential - contemporary music scene, filming in the Great Southern.
- Why we need a Great Southern Strategy? Having a strategy will enable the Great Southern to access funding.
- Cultural tourism
- Strategy focus might include collaboration to take arts into smaller communities in the Great Southern
- Long term planning
- Sought feedback for supply for Great Southern Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy
- Susan Kay willing to talk to Councils, community groups, etc.
- Would get a consultant to compile the strategy. Would cost about \$70,000. Would seek funding for strategy from DLGSC (\$20,000), GSDC and Albany Entertainment Centre. Looking at about \$3,000 - \$5,000 from each council.

ACTION: Susan Kay will be sending a letter and further information to Zone councils.

Close: 1.54pm