



Gascoyne Country Zone

Minutes

Shire of Carnarvon Council Chambers

10:00am

Friday, 28 February 2020

Gascoyne Country Zone

Meeting to be held at the Shire of Carnarvon Council Chambers

Commencing at 10:00am, Friday, 28 February 2020

Minutes

ATTENDEES

Shire of Carnarvon

President Eddie Smith
David Burton – Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Exmouth

President Cr Matthew Niikkula
Matthew Bird – A/Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Shark Bay

President Cr Cheryl Cowell – Chair
Brian Wake – Works Supervisor
Cr Ben Belottie – Observer

Shire of Upper Gascoyne

President Cr Don Hammarquist OAM
John McCleary – Chief Executive Officer

WALGA

Tim Lane – Manager Strategy and Association Governance
Sebastian Davies-Slate – Policy Officer Transport and Roads

GUESTS

Department of Local Government,
Sport and Cultural Industries

Benita Donda – Regional Officer
Ben Armstrong – Senior Policy and Project Delivery Officer

Gascoyne Development Commission

Tym Duncanson – Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES

Shire of Exmouth
Shire of Shark Bay

Cameron Woods – Chief Executive Officer
Paul Anderson – Chief Executive Officer

Attachments

The following were provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. Minutes 29 November 2019 Meeting
2. Letter from Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction (Item 5.2)
3. State Council Agenda – also available via link: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/23e6a5d1-55b5-4244-a8c7-2cf682088bac/Agenda-State-Council-4-March-2020.pdf>
4. President's Report

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. DEPUTATIONS

2.1 National Redress Scheme

Ben Armstrong, Senior Policy and Project Delivery Officer, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, will present to the Zone on the National Redress Scheme.

NOTED

Presentation distributed with the Minutes

2.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Benita Donda, Regional Officer, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, will present to the Zone on the Department's priorities.

Presentation distributed with the Minutes

RESOLUTION

That the Minister for Local Government be invited to attend the next in-person meeting.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, Councillors must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before the Zone as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors and deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Item 5.1 – Cr Don Hammarquist declared an impartiality interest relating to Item 5.1.

Item 5.2 – Cr Cheryl Cowell declared an impartiality interest relating to Item 5.2.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the 29 November 2019 Meeting of the Gascoyne Country Zone

RECOMMENDATION

**Moved
Seconded**

**Cr Hammarquist
President Smith**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Gascoyne Country Zone held on 29 November 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

4.2 Business Arising

Nil.

5. ZONE BUSINESS

5.1 State Aviation Strategy

By Sebastian Davies-Slate, Policy Officer Transport and Roads

Cr Don Hammarquist declared an impartiality interest.

Background

The Department of Transport (DOT) have released the Draft State Aviation Strategy 2020 for comment.

The Strategy is informed by the Parliamentary Inquiry into regional airfares, conducted by the Economics and Industry Standing Committee. The DOT have stated that the Strategy addresses each of the recommendations identified in the final report of the Inquiry, titled "Perceptions and Realities of Regional Airfare Prices in Western Australia."

The Strategy has four main objectives:

- affordable airfares;
- connected communities;
- fit for purpose airport infrastructure; and
- informed and future ready, through better data analysis and planning.

WALGA will prepare a submission on the Strategy and is seeking input from Local Governments. The Strategy can be found at the following link: <https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/aviation/wa-aviation-strategy-2020.asp>

Comment

The Strategy will inform State Government Policy on aviation in Western Australia, and will affect Local Governments that operate aviation infrastructure, and other Local Governments that rely on reliable and cost-effective aviation.

In addition to the submission that WALGA is preparing, Local Governments may wish to make individual submissions.

RESOLUTION

That:

1. The Zone note the update relating to the State Aviation Strategy; and,
2. Zone members consider making a submission to the Department of Transport and providing input to WALGA for the preparation of a sector submission.
3. WALGA include in its submission:
 - a. Future planning for the long term horizon of aviation including tourism, mining and other industries,
 - b. Interconnectedness between towns, with a particular emphasis on tourism; and,

- c. **Broader aviation infrastructure needs including upgrade of airstrips for remote Western Australia to service RFDS and other needs.**

CARRIED

5.2 Ningaloo Coast Regional Strategy

Cr Cheryl Cowell declared an impartiality interest in Item 5.2.

A letter has been received from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions in relation to the Coastal Exclusion Process and the concerns raised by the Zone.

The correspondence is attached for information.

RESOLUTION

That WALGA advocate for the DBCA to undertake economic impact studies on state management plans.

CARRIED

5.3 Asset Preservation Model

Shire of Upper Gascoyne

Secretariat Comment

As per the Zone Status Report (refer item 5.6):

Work has commenced to review and document the Asset Preservation Model in order to facilitate an informed discussion about how the model works, its sensitivity to inputs and assumptions and the implications of changes. This project will continue through 2019/20.

Noted.

Shire of Upper Gascoyne Reports relating to the Asset Preservation Model are provided as an attachment to the Minutes.

5.4 Proposed Removal of the CA07 RAV operating condition

Shire of Upper Gascoyne

Secretariat Comment

As per the Key Activity Report in the State Council agenda:

On advice from the State Solicitors Office, Main Roads WA is intending to remove the CA07 condition that requires a transport operator to obtain a letter of approval from the relevant Local Government. Main Roads WA is proposing to replace the condition with a notification process (CA88). After consultation with Regional Road Groups and a Stakeholder Working Group, the overwhelming majority of participants are of the view that the proposed arrangement is not an acceptable alternative.

Elected representatives from each WALGA Zone participated in a teleconference on 6 December and strongly reaffirmed the position that an acceptable alternative to the current CA07 condition has not been identified.

WALGA has written to Main Roads WA stating that WALGA does not support the alternative and maintains the position adopted by State Council in December 2018.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Hammarquist

Seconded: Cr Cowell

That John McCleary be appointed to the WALGA Working Group to represent the Gascoyne Zone.

CARRIED

5.5 Gauging Stations for the Gascoyne River

Shire of Upper Gascoyne

The Shire of Carnarvon and the Shire of Upper Gascoyne will provide information to WALGA and/or the next Zone meeting following their upcoming debrief with DFES.

5.6 Solar Eclipse 2023

Shire of Exmouth

RESOLUTION

That the 2023 Solar Eclipse event be included as a regular item on the Gascoyne Zone agenda for regular updates to be provided.

CARRIED

5.7 Zone Status Report

Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	WALGA Contact
2019 September 5 Zone Agenda Item 5.1 Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition	That the Gascoyne Zone request WALGA to establish a Working Group relating to the Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition issue as soon as possible, to allow the Working Group to develop possible options prior to meeting with Main Roads.	The RAV Access working group met by teleconference in early December. Based on the resolution of this meeting a letter detailing Local Government expectations was sent to Main Roads WA. This matter is being followed up with senior officers from Main Roads WA.	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
2019 June 20 Zone Agenda Item 5.2 Asset Preservation Model	That the Gascoyne Country Zone request WALGA to undertake a review of the Asset Preservation Model that informs the distribution of road funding to ensure equity, recognition of Local Government circumstances and the validity and accuracy of assumptions that inform the model.	Work has commenced to review and document the Asset Preservation Model in order to facilitate an informed discussion about how the model works, its sensitivity to inputs and assumptions and the implications of changes. This project will continue through 2019/20.	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 5.2 Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition	That the Gascoyne Zone request WALGA to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for thorough consultation with the Local Government sector regarding alternative approaches to the CA07 operating condition; and, Establish a Working Group consisting of representatives from MRWA, WALGA, LGIS, DoT and the Local Government sector incorporating at least one member from each affected WALGA Zone to consider alternative approaches. 	The RAV Access working group met by teleconference in early December. Based on the resolution of this meeting a letter detailing Local Government expectations was sent to Main Roads WA. This matter is being followed up with senior officers from Main Roads WA.	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
2019 September 6 State Council Agenda Item 5.5 Submission on the Draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy	That the submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation relating to the draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy be endorsed, subject to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noting the lack of enforcement resources dedicated to rural and remote areas; and, A request that other Government officers be trained to undertake enforcement actions on behalf of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. 	State Council Resolution That the submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation relating to the draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy be endorsed subject to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noting the lack of enforcement resources dedicated to rural and remote areas; and, A request that other Government officers be trained to undertake enforcement actions on behalf of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. RESOLUTION 97.6/2019 CARRIED	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
2019 September 5 Zone Agenda Item 5.1 Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coastal Reserves Draft Joint Management Plan	That the Gascoyne Zone request WALGA to follow up on the Ningaloo Coast Regional Strategy Carnarvon to Exmouth – Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coastal Reserves, Draft Joint Management Plan seeking a response before the November meeting.	WALGA has commenced discussions with the Shire, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and the Gascoyne Development Commission on the development of the Regional Strategy, and the concerns raised by the Shire of Exmouth. Ongoing.	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
2019 June 20 Zone Agenda Item 5.1 Regional Strategy Carnarvon to Exmouth – Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coastal Reserves, Draft Joint Management Plan	That the Gascoyne Zone: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Request WALGA continue to advocate to the State Government that an independent economic assessment of Wilderness Camping in the Shire of Exmouth and the broader Gascoyne Region be undertaken prior to any decisions being made; and, Note that the Shire of Exmouth will draft a statement to be sent to Gascoyne Local Government Chief Executive Officers outlining concerns with the current proposal. 	WALGA has commenced discussions with the Shire, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and the Gascoyne Development Commission on the development of the Regional Strategy, and the concerns raised by the Shire of Exmouth. Ongoing.	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078

<p>2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 5.4 Ningaloo Coast Regional Strategy Carnarvon to Exmouth – Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) Coastal Reserves, Draft Joint Management Plan.</p>	<p>That the Gascoyne Zone requests WALGA to advocate to the State Government to undertake an independent economic assessment of Wilderness Camping in the Shire of Exmouth and the broader Gascoyne Region.</p>	<p>WALGA has commenced discussions with the Shire, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and the Gascoyne Development Commission on the development of the Regional Strategy, and the concerns raised by the Shire of Exmouth.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p>	<p>Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078</p>
<p>2019 September 5 Zone Agenda Item 5.1 Financial Assistance Grants</p>	<p>That the Gascoyne Zone request WALGA to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vigorously pursue the release of the findings of the 2013 FAGs Review; 2. Note the position taken at the ALGA National General Assembly supporting a review of the FAGs allocations; and, 3. Develop a policy position supporting a review of the FAGs methodology. 	<p>WALGA notes the Gascoyne Zone's comments and will seek advice from the Governance and Organisational Service Policy team in early 2019 on the most appropriate policy position for FAGs funding moving forward.</p>	<p>Nebojsa Franich, Policy Manager, Economics, nfranich@walga.asn.au 9213 2096</p>
<p>2019 September 5 Zone Agenda Item 8.1 Local Government Innovation Fund</p>	<p>That WALGA advocate for the State Government to establish a Local Government Innovation Fund, for Local Governments with a small rate base, to fund innovative projects with a broad Local Government benefit.</p>	<p>WALGA's State Budget Submission addresses this issue as Initiative 7 of the submission asks for the piloting of a place based, localised approach to economic development in WA. The implementation of such an approach provides a framework through which funds can be provided to Local Governments for projects that will benefit the community and achieve community objectives.</p> <p>Results of the budget submission will be provided to the sector following the State's budget deliberations</p>	<p>Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au</p>
<p>2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 2.1 Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Peer Support Program</p>	<p>That the Gascoyne Zone request WALGA to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support Local Government in their tourism endeavours as a key component of the Economic Development project; 2. Continue to prosecute the economic development and tourism agenda; 3. Advocate to the State Government to review the regional development commission and tourism structures in WA aiming for a more strategic and collaborative approach; and, 4. Advocate to the State for revitalization of the regional development commission regional plans. 	<p>State Council adopted the <i>Local Government Economic Development: Research Findings and Future Directions Discussion Paper</i> and <i>Local Government Economic Development Framework</i> at its meeting of 27th March 2019. This includes the endorsement of a range of Economic Development policy positions, including those relating to tourism. With the support of State Council's Economic Development Policy Forum, WALGA will now implement its Advocacy Strategy to prosecute this policy agenda.</p> <p>In response to the Gascoyne's resolution, as a matter of priority, WALGA will seek a response from the Minister of Regional Development on the status of the Regional Development Commissions and the development of regional plans.</p> <p>At the time of writing this update a response has not been received from the Minister's office.</p>	<p>Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au</p>

NOTED

6. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – MATTERS FOR DECISION

(Zone delegates to consider the Matters for Decision contained in the WA Local Government Association State Council Agenda and put forward resolutions to Zone Representatives on State Council)

The State Council agenda is available here: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/23e6a5d1-55b5-4244-a8c7-2cf682088bac/Agenda-State-Council-4-March-2020.pdf>

MATTERS FOR DECISION

5.1 National Redress Scheme – Future Participation of WA Local Governments

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.

5.2 Submission on Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy

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

5.3 WALGA Submission on Independent Review of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

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

MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

- 6.1 Draft Position Statement: Residential Aged Care – Submission
- 6.2 Managing Housing Health Risks in WA
- 6.3 Submission on Modernising the Environmental Protection Act (1986)
- 6.4 Submission to the Productivity Commission on the National Transport Regulatory Reform
- 6.5 Submission to Joint Select Committee on Road Safety
- 6.6 WALGA Submission on Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper
- 6.7 Proposed Amendments to the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 for Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure
- 6.8 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)
- 6.9 2019 Annual General Meeting Status Update

ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

- 7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit
- 7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services
- 7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure
- 7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Place
- 7.2 Policy Forum Reports

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Hammarquist
Seconded: Cr Nikkula

That the Gascoyne Country Zone endorse State Council items 5.1 – 5.3.

CARRIED

7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

7.1 State Councillor's Report to the Zone

Cr Cheryl Cowell provided an update on the previous State Council meeting.

NOTED

7.2 President's Report to the Zone

Tim Lane outlined the President's Report on behalf of Cr Lynne Craigie.

NOTED

7.3 Gascoyne Development Commission

Chief Executive Officer, Tym Duncanson, provided an update to the Zone.

NOTED

Presentation distributed with the minutes

7.4 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Zone Update is available here:

<https://us7.campaign-archive.com/?u=6b3a3f7b848e66bfa0f6fc583&id=eaac4e7969>

NOTED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: 10:00am, Friday, 1 May 2020 to be held via teleconference.

Next in-person meeting: 10:00am, Friday 26 June, Shire of Exmouth

10. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:30pm.