



CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE

Minutes

**Friday 15 March 2019
Corrigin Recreation and Events
Centre
Larke Crescent Corrigin**

Commencing at 9.33am

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Minutes

Central Country Zone of WALGA

Friday 15 March 2019, commencing at 9.33am

1.0 OPENING AND WELCOME

In opening the meeting at 9.33am, Cr Conley welcomed all delegates and guests to the meeting and proceeded to Item 1.1.

1.1 Motion of Condolence – John Cowcher

On the 16th January 2019 John Cowcher sadly lost his life in a boating incident. John and his family were enjoying their annual holiday in Peaceful Bay when he was tragically taken from us.

John was first elected to the Council of the Shire of Williams in 1993. He served as Deputy President and was then elected President in 1999. He continued in the position of President for almost 20 years until his untimely death.

To have devoted so much to the community of Williams through his local government service speaks volumes for the character of John. He lived and breathed community engagement and was passionate about delivering on the Williams community's aspirations.

John was a regular delegate at Zone Meetings and actively participated in developing Zone policy. He will be sadly missed for his keen interest in local government matters and for his wise counsel

John served as Deputy President of the Zone for the 2013-2015 period. He was actively involved in representing the views of the Zone on fire management and the Emergency Service Levy and was instrumental in the Zone setting up a Zone Working Group that had the task of seeking an independent review of the current management and distribution of the Emergency Services Levy.

Many delegates will remember John's welcome to the last Central Country Zone meeting in Williams in November 2018 and the passion with which he promoted Williams and its many achievements, particularly around the aged care facilities.

The Zone extends its deepest sympathy to Heidi, Christopher and Michael.

The Zone President Cr Conley then invited delegates to observe a minute silence in memory of John.

1.2 Welcome – Cr Lyn Baker

Cr Lyn Baker, President Shire of Corrigin extended a welcome to Corrigin to delegates and guests and outlined some of the current activities and community initiatives being delivered in the community.

2.0 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Cr Mark Conley (Chair)	President, Shire of Cuballing
Cr Dee Ridgway	President, Shire of Beverley
Cr Chris Pepper	Deputy President, Shire of Beverley
Mr Stephen Gollan	CEO, Shire of Beverley
Cr Katrina Crute	President, Shire of Brookton
Cr Neil Walker	Deputy President, Shire of Brookton
Ms Vicki Morris	DCEO, Shire of Brookton
Cr Lyn Baker	President, Shire of Corrigin
Cr Des Hickey	Deputy President, Shire of Corrigin
Ms Natalie Manton	CEO, Shire of Corrigin
Mr Gary Sherry	CEO, Shire of Cuballing
Mr Allen Cooper	A/CEO, Shire of Dumbleyung
Cr Barry West	President, Shire of Kulin
Cr Rodney Duckworth	Deputy President, Shire of Kulin
Mr Garrick Yandle	CEO, Shire of Kulin
Cr Jeanette De Landgraft	President, Shire of Lake Grace
Cr Steve Hunt	Deputy President, Shire of Lake Grace
Ms Denise Gobbart	CEO, Shire of Lake Grace
Cr Bill Mulrone	President, Shire of Pingelly
Cr David Freebairn	Deputy President, Shire of Pingelly
Mr Mark Dacombe	A/CEO Shire of Pingelly
Cr Brett McGuinness	Deputy President, Shire of Quairading
Mr Graeme Fardon	CEO, Shire of Quairading
Cr Phillip Blight (entered the meeting at 10.55am)	President, Shire of Wagin
Cr Greg Ball (entered the meeting at 10.55am)	Councillor, Shire of Wagin
Mr Peter Webster (entered the meeting at 10.55am)	CEO, Shire of Wagin
Cr Ian Turton	Councillor, Shire of Wandering
Cr Ray Harrington OAM	President, Shire of West Arthur
Ms Nicole Wasmann	CEO, Shire of West Arthur
Cr Julie Russell	President, Shire of Wickepin
Mr Mark Hook	CEO, Shire of Wickepin
Cr Moya Carne	Councillor, Shire of Williams
Mr Geoff McKeown	CEO, Shire of Williams

Mr Bruce Wittber, Joint Executive Officer

WALGA Representatives

Mr Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure
Ms Anne Banks-McAllister AM, Regional Capacity Building Manager

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Ms Geneveve Giumelli, Senior Legislation and Strategy Officer

Guests

Mr Craig Manton	Regional Manager, Wheatbelt Region Main Roads WA
Mr Dennis O'Reilly	General Manager Regional Services, Department of Transport
Ms Louise Adamson	Operations Manager, MRWA Central Wheatbelt Region
Mr Gordon MacMile	Director Strategic Coordination and Delivery, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Ms Mandy Walker	Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt Inc
Mr Stephen Grimmer	Facilitator Strategy and Improvement City of Albany and IPR Support Program Co-ordinator
Ms Pip Kirby	Wheatbelt Development Commission

Apologies

Shire of Narrogin	
Cr Wayne Davies	President, Shire of Quairading
Shire of Wagin	late attendance
Cr Brendan Whitely	President, Shire of Wandering
Ms Amanda O'Halloran	CEO, Shire of Wandering

Mr Wayne Scheggia	Deputy CEO WALGA
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Hon Mia Davies MLA	Member for Central Wheatbelt
Mr Peter Rundle MLA	Member for Roe
Hon Martin Aldridge MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Jim Chown MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Colin De Grussa MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Laurie Graham MLC	Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Darren West MLC	Member for Agricultural Region

Mr Tim Woolerson	General Manager Transwa
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Ms Helen Westcott	Joint Executive Officer
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3.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

5.0 GUEST SPEAKERS

5.1 New Transport Portfolio Initiative (9.45am)

Mr Craig Manton, Regional Manager MRWA and Mr Dennis O'Reilly, General Manager Regional Services Department of Transport will present on the Transport Portfolio Unified Relationship Management Trial.

5.2 Integrated Planning and Reporting - Peer Support Program (10.05am) (Attachment)

Ms Anne Banks-McAllister AM, Regional Capacity Building Manager WALGA and Mr Stephen Grimmer, Facilitator Strategy and Improvement City of Albany and IPR Support Program Co-ordinator

Background:

The eleven Local Governments in the Great Southern recently completed a pilot peer support program for implementing the requirements of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR). The program is all about the sharing of practical tools, templates, ideas and experience in implementing and maintaining the requirements of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework, supported by a Program Facilitator and regional peers. The program has been so successful that all eleven participants are still actively involved and the program is being rolled out in the South West. A number of Local Governments across Western Australia have expressed interest in the program.

The program is supported by WALGA, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and LG Professionals WA. As administrators of the program, LG Professionals WA has successfully applied for funding to roll the program out across the state and the program is now engaging with other rural and regional Local Governments to determine the best way to achieve this. The Program Facilitator (Stephen Grimmer from the City of Albany) is available to present on the Peer Support Program with interested Local Governments, to share the Great Southern experience and to listen and understand the best way to take the program into other areas.

The South West is currently looking to participate in the Program.

A brochure is attached.

5.3 Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (10.25am) (Attachment)

Mr Gordon MacMile, Director Strategic Coordination and Delivery, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Presentation on consultation being undertaken by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries with local government on the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (Information and Discussion Paper attached).

10.55am Cr Blight, Cr Ball and Mr Webster entered the meeting

10.58am Meeting adjourned for morning tea

11.20am Meeting reconvened after morning tea

At this point of the meeting Cr Conley invited the representative of the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) to address the meeting

Ms Geneveve Giumelli Senior Legislation and Strategy Officer gave an update on the activities of the DLGSC. A copy of the DLGSC Update is attached to minutes.

6.0 MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes – Friday 30 November 2018 (Attachment)

Presenting the Minutes of the Central Country Zone Meeting held on Friday 30 November 2018.

Meeting Comment:

The Executive Officer advised that it had been brought to his attention that the Hon Rick Mazza MLC was in attendance for part of the last Zone Meeting and as such the attendance list should be amended accordingly.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone held Friday 30 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Baker** **Seconded: Cr Blight**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone held Friday 30 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings subject to the inclusion of Hon Rick Mazza MLC in the attendance list.

CARRIED

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes Zone Meeting Friday 30 November 2018

6.2.1 Item 10.4 Review of *Local Government Act 1995* Central Country Zone Position

Following the last Zone Meeting the Draft Response prepared by the Local Government Act Review Working Group in respect to beneficial organisations, financial management and rates, fees and charges, and endorsed by the Zone has been submitted to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and WALGA.

6.2.2 Item 10.5 Customer Service Standards for Collection Network of Container Deposit Scheme – Shire of Cuballing

This matter was considered at the last Zone Meeting when it was resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Fardon** **Seconded: Cr West**

1. *That the Central Country Zone make a submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation in relation to the draft Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Customer Service Standards pointing out the following concerns:*
 - *lack of consideration of district/Shire population – Central Country Zone is of the view that within the Zone the minimum requirement in respect to refund point population thresholds should be the district population and not town population;*
 - *consideration of distance - the service standards of outer regional areas to provide a collection point within 100kms and travelling two hours to access a collection point is too great and will discourage participation in the CDS; and*
 - *lack of local refund points reducing impacting on use of CDS - the lack of local collection points could significantly reduce the positive impacts of the CDS in the Central Country Zone.*
2. *That a representative of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation with knowledge of the Container Deposit Scheme and proposed Customer Service Standards be invited to attend the next meeting of the Zone.*

CARRIED

A submission on the Container Deposit Scheme Customer Service Standards was prepared and submitted by the 6 December 2018. A copy of the submission was distributed to all Member Councils.

A representative of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation was invited to attend this meeting of the Zone but the Executive Officer was advised by Ro Richardson, Manager Container Deposit Scheme that *"Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend your Zone meeting due to project work pressures but would appreciate a copy of the minutes"*.

Mr Richardson also advised:

The customer service standards nominate a minimum number of refund points, however local governments without a nominated refund point are encouraged to submit proposals for refund points addressing customer convenience and required handling fee once the coordinator opens the collection network tender process.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be noted.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Mr Sherry** **Seconded: Cr Mulroney**

That the report be noted.

CARRIED

6.2.3 Item 10.6 State Government Consultation within the Wheatbelt

This matter was considered at the last Zone Meeting when it was resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: President Ballard* *Seconded: Cr Ball*

1. *That the Central Country Zone write to the Minister for Regional Development expressing concern that on occasions State Government Agencies, in conducting community and local government consultation, fail to hold consultations in various locations within the Wheatbelt which prevent relevant community input.*
2. *That a copy of the correspondence to the Minister be also sent to all Members of Parliament representing the Central Country Zone.*

CARRIED

Correspondence was prepared and sent to the Minister for Regional Development together with all local Members of Parliament. No response has been received from the Minister however a number of Members of Parliament have responded with most waiting for a response from the Minister before dealing with the matter further.

6.2.4 Item 10.7 Country Ambulance Strategy

This matter was considered at the last Zone Meeting when it was resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr Baker* *Seconded: Cr Ball*

1. *That the Central Country Zone prepare correspondence to the public consultation on Country Ambulance Strategy incorporating the following issues:*
 - *Declining volunteer numbers;*
 - *Transfer of Responsibilities from St John Ambulance to WA Country Health Service;*
 - *Viability of St John Ambulance Sub-centres;*
 - *Adoption of a Paid Staff Model;*
 - *Developing improved relationships with local governments;*
 - *Improved quality of health and hospital services to remove the requirement for inter hospital transfers; and*
 - *Change to WA Country Health Service policy that does not enable patients to be transported to the most appropriate hospital facility.*
2. *That a copy of the correspondence submitted to the public consultation on Country Ambulance Strategy be forwarded to WALGA for information and action.*

CARRIED

A submission on the Country Ambulance Strategy was prepared and submitted by the 10 December 2018. A copy of the submission was distributed to all Member Councils.

6.3 Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday 6 March 2019 (Attachment)

Presenting the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2019.

Executive Officer Comment:

Any recommendations from the meeting are included as separate agenda items.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee held Wednesday 6 March 2019 be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Crute** **Seconded: Cr De Landgrafft**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee held Wednesday 6 March 2019 be received.

CARRIED

6.4 Local Government Act Review Working Group Meeting – Wednesday 6 February 2019 (Attachment)

Presenting the Minutes of the Local Government Act Review Working Group Meeting held on Wednesday 6 February 2019.

Executive Officer Comment:

Any recommendations from the meeting are included as separate agenda items.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Local Government Act Review Working Group Meeting held on Wednesday 6 February 2019 be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Crute** **Seconded: Cr Baker**

That the Minutes of the Local Government Act Review Working Group Meeting held on Wednesday 6 February 2019 be received.

CARRIED

7.0 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (WALGA) BUSINESS

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

7.1 State Councillor Report

Cr Phillip Blight

Central Country Zone State Councillor Report WALGA State Council Meeting 5 December 2018

The following comments/notes are provided on the WALGA State Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5 December 2018

There was some discussion about the vexatious use of media to disparage and or to grandstand

Most zones accepted the recommendations as proposed by the secretariat and they were then passed without debate other than:

Item 5.1 Proposed Removal by Main Roads WA of the “Letter of Approval” Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition

The following clause was added:

That WALGA:

5. Advocates to Main Roads to establish a stakeholder working group to develop an appropriate mechanism through which the increased infrastructure costs from the use of heavy vehicles and those loaded in excess of limits (concessional loading) can be recovered from those benefiting, and redirected into the cost of road maintenance.

RESOLUTION 132.7/2018 CARRIED

Item 5.7 Off Road Vehicles

An amendment was carried to broaden the scope of funding and responsibility.

Most other composite recommendations were unchanged from the position of the Central Country Zone and carried with little discussion.

7.2 WALGA Status Report (Attachment)

From Executive Officer

BACKGROUND:

Presenting the Status Report for March 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone notes the:

- State Councillor Report; and
- WALGA Status Report.

That the Central Country Zone notes the:

- State Councillor Report; and
- WALGA Status Report

CARRIED

At this point the meeting moved to consider Item 10.2 but is recorded in numeric sequence.

7.3 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda - Matters for Decision

From Executive Officer

Background:

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and as part of the consultation process with Member Councils circulates the State Council Agenda for input through the Zone structure.

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternate recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

5.1 Local Government Act Review – Sector Positions Following Feedback from Submissions (05-034-01-0001 TB)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA endorse and submit to the Minister for Local Government and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries:

1. The Local Government Act Review Report contained in this agenda; and,
2. The attached WALGA Advocacy Positions.

ZONE COMMENT:

The State Council agenda item is a very extensive document and provides a summary of responses including commentary on the WALGA Key Principles of the Act Review together with feedback to the Detailed Discussion Papers. As such it is not practicable to outline in detail the WALGA position on each aspect of the review.

The following Key Principles have been developed as a result of feedback from Member Councils:

1. Sector Feedback – WALGA Key Principles

There was strong support in feedback received from member Local Governments for the following key principles for the Act review:

- Retain General Competence Powers

The Local Government Act is founded on the general competence powers principle, which gives Local Governments the legal capacity to do anything that is not prohibited by law. This principle is uniformly supported by the Local Government sector and that it should not be diluted by over-regulating the operations of Local Government.

- Provide Flexible, Principles-based Legislative Framework

The Local Government Act works well when Local Governments apply their general competence powers within a legislative framework that provides for good governance, with accountability to the community for decision-making. The Local Government sector seeks a light-touch regulation approach accompanied by best practice guidance, support and assistance.

- Principles not Prescription

There is concern that, without adequate care and sector input, the new Local Government Act will be overly prescriptive and mistakes of the past will be repeated. Prescriptive compliance regimes do not typically drive innovation or organisational performance; instead boxes are ticked and processes to comply are implemented leading to inefficiencies and distractions.

The Local Government Act should focus on principles and objectives, not on process. As an example, Local Governments are required to give state-wide public notice of the intention to review a local law, and this means it must be advertised in a newspaper circulated throughout the state.

The objective of requiring a state-wide public notice is to inform the community. However, one could argue that typical citizens are unlikely to study the Local Government Notices section of The West Australian, and therefore this requirement is ineffective. Given this is what is written into the Act, an administrator could suggest that they have complied with the law and therefore the community is informed, even though a state-wide notice clearly does not achieve this! Most administrators do not take this approach and Local Governments have instead innovated and now distribute email newsletters and operate multiple social media accounts and it is these methods that inform the community.

Similarly with regional subsidiaries, a key feature of the model is to enable Local Governments to establish a subsidiary that is fit-for-purpose by adapting the governing charter to the subsidiary's purpose and structure. Instead, the regulations are prescriptive and a number of Local Governments have considered the model and opted not to pursue it. Best practice, guidance material and smart people working together to solve problems drive innovation; prescriptive regulation drives compliance for the sake of compliance.

To focus on the process and not the principles and objectives risks embedding today's practice into legislation instead of allowing Local Governments the flexibility to innovate and adapt to new methods and new technologies. Not everything a Local Government should do needs to be legislated. Ultimately, Councils are considered to be generally competent and are accountable to the community through democratic elections held every two years.

- Enabling Legislation

The need to provide enabling legislation with a "menu of opportunities" for the sector. The State Government need to set legislation that enables Local Governments to carry out activities, even though all Local Governments may not want to carry the activity, those that wish to, should be permitted to. A good example of this is Beneficial Enterprises that is discussed later in this report.

- Avoid Red Tape

WALGA has called for the de-cluttering of the extensive regulatory regime that underpins the Local Government Act. The Act Review provides a timely reminder that the legislative burden on Local Government is vast and burdensome; the Local Government Act itself runs to over 500 pages and the 9 associated Regulations combine to approximately 400 additional pages. It would not be unfair or unkind to observe that few within each Local Government's administration, and fewer Elected Members, would grasp the level of detail contained throughout the Act and Regulations, creating of its own accord a compliance burden.

This scale of legislation represents a considerable challenge to the delivery of effective and efficient governance. WALGA echoes the sentiments of Dr David Cox, Chair of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia, who stated at the Local Government Act Forum in January 2019:

"Consideration in drafting (the new Act) is to think about who you are drafting it for? Consider who has to read it and write it for normal people – not law graduates. People want to know what's governing them and they need to understand it."

- Size and scale compliance regime

There is a marked appetite in the response to the Facilitated Workshops, Detailed Discussion Papers and Future of Local Government Statewide Forum for differentiation between Local Governments based on size and scale.

The Zone would generally agree with the above Key Principles.

Outlined below are the details of any position recommended to the Zone, by the Zone Working Group, which is different to the WALGA position.

Question	WALGA Position	Zone Position	Comment
“All local governments regardless of their size should have the same level of powers and responsibilities.”	Supportive/Very Supportive 95%	Unsupportive	The Zone is of the view that some powers and responsibilities should be mandatory to all local governments, however there should be an opportunity for local governments, to be able to opt in (or opt out) of certain “optional” powers and responsibilities with such opportunity based on size and location
“Local governments should be required to have a legal practitioner certify that a local law is within power and legally enforceable.”	Supportive 70%	Neutral	This would be supported only if the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation is not also going to review the local laws
“The process for public question time should be consistent between councils.”	Supportive/Very Supportive 80%	Unsupportive	
“People unhappy with the quality of the answer given at public question time should be able to escalate the matter to an independent person.”	Neutral/Supportive 80%	Very Unsupportive	
To what extent are you concerned about behaviour and good governance in local government?	A great deal/ a lot 60%	No comment	Question not answered as it is considered this is more related to community opinion
“Local governments should determine if they require a community engagement charter or policy and the content of that charter or policy.”	Supportive 70%	Unsupportive	

In addition to responding to the individual questions WALGA has also considered a number of new concepts which are outlined below:

Building Upgrade Finance

It is **recommended** that support for Building Upgrade Finance be included in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

Renewable Energy Infrastructure Service Charge

It is **recommended** that support for Renewable Energy Infrastructure Service Charge be **included** in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

State/Local Government Relations

It is **recommended** that the principle that “The State Government must not assign any legislative responsibilities to Local Governments unless there is provision for resources required to fulfill the responsibilities” be included in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

Financial Ratios

It is **recommended** that the financial ratios be reduced to the following three (3) ratios and be included in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

- Operating Surplus ratio
- Net Financial Liabilities ratio
- Asset Renewal Funding Ratio

Community Engagement

It is **recommended** that Local Governments be required to adopt a community engagement policy, however there should be no prescription on how this is carried out.

Local Government (Long Service Leave) Regulations

It is **recommended** that support for the following position statement on *Local Government (Long Service Leave) Regulations* be **included** in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

Position Statement	That a review be undertaken of the Local Government (Long Service Leave) Regulations to identify opportunities to amend and improve the Regulations to address ambiguity and readability to enable consistent interpretation and application of a key sector entitlement.
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A number of amended positions are proposed following the consultation and submission process.

Local Government Act Review Principles

Attendees at the Facilitated Workshops, the Future of Local Government Forum and further meetings with members where the Act Review was discussed, have raised additional standards that could be added to improve and enhance WALGA’s Local Government Act Principles:

- (a) Uphold the General Competence Principle currently embodied in the Local Government Act;
- (b) Provide for a flexible, principles-based legislative framework;
- (c) Promote a size and scale compliance regime;
- (d) **Promote enabling legislation that empowers Local Government to carry out activities beneficial to its community taking into consideration the Local Government’s role in creating a sustainable and resilient community through;**
 - i. **Economic Development**
 - ii. **Environmental Protection**
 - iii. **Social Advancement**
- (e) **Avoid red tape and ‘de-clutter’ the extensive regulatory regime that underpins the Local Government Act; and**
- (f) **The State Government must not assign legislative responsibilities to Local Governments unless there is provision for resources required to fulfil the responsibilities.**

It is **recommended** that support for the additional Principles be **included** in WALGA’s advocacy positions.

Transferability of Employees between State & Local Government

It is **recommended** WALGA’s advocacy for transferability of employees between State & Local Government be **withdrawn**.

Beneficial Enterprises

It is **recommended** that support for **all** Local Governments to have the ability to establish a Beneficial Enterprises be **included** in WALGA's advocacy positions.

Electronic and On-line Voting for Local Government Elections

It is **recommended** that WALGA support the introduction of electronic and on-line voting for Local Government elections be **included** in WALGA's advocacy positions.

All of the WALGA advocacy positions are included as an attachment to Item 5.1

Executive Officer Comment:

No formal recommendation has been made in respect to this item as it is felt that the Zone needs to work through each issue, where WALGA is proposing a change to its advocacy position, and also determine a response where there is a difference of opinion on the survey questions which have been detailed above.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr McGuinness** **Seconded: Cr Ball**

That the WALGA Recommendation be amended to read:

That WALGA endorse and submit to the Minister for Local Government and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries:

1. **The Local Government Act Review Report contained in this agenda, subject to the following amendments (highlighted in yellow) to the WALGA Position:**

Question	WALGA Position	Zone Position	Comment
"All local governments regardless of their size should have the same level of powers and responsibilities."	Supportive/Very Supportive 95%	Unsupportive	The Zone is of the view that some powers and responsibilities should be mandatory to all local governments, however there should be an opportunity for local governments, to be able to opt in (or opt out) of certain "optional" powers and responsibilities with such opportunity based on size and location
"Local governments should be required to have a legal practitioner certify that a local law is within power and legally enforceable."	Supportive 70%	Neutral	This would be supported only if the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation is not also going to review the local laws

“The process for public question time should be consistent between councils.”	Supportive/Very Supportive 80%	Unsupportive	
“People unhappy with the quality of the answer given at public question time should be able to escalate the matter to an independent person.”	Neutral/Supportive 80%	Very Unsupportive	
To what extent are you concerned about behaviour and good governance in local government?	A great deal/ a lot 60%	No comment	Question not answered as it is considered this is more related to community opinion
“Local governments should determine if they require a community engagement charter or policy and the content of that charter or policy.”	Supportive 70%	Unsupportive	

and;

2. The attached WALGA Advocacy Positions on Building Upgrade Finance, Renewable Energy Infrastructure Service Charge, State/Local Government Relations, Financial Ratios, Community Engagement, Local Government (Long Service Leave) Regulations, Local Government Act Review Principles, Transferability of Employees between State & Local Government, Beneficial Enterprises and Electronic and On-line Voting for Local Government Elections.

CARRIED

5.2 Economic Development Project (05-088-03-0001 ABM DM)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council endorses the:

1. Local Government Economic Development: Research Findings and Future Directions Discussion Paper; and,
2. Local Government Economic Development Framework.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.3 Interim Submission to Salaries and Allowances Tribunal – Elected Member Fees and Allowances (05-034-01-0019 TL)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal relating to Elected Member Fees and Allowances be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

WALGA's submission argues for an increase to the Elected Member fees and allowances payable to Elected Members in the order of three percent, with the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal to consider appropriate economic indicators and increasing training requirements in future years.

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

Central Country Zone Meeting Comment:

Cr Blight expressed a concern that the three percent increase being proposed in the WALGA submission to the Salaries and Allowance Tribunal did not seem adequate in light of the proposed changes to the Local Government Act that will require compulsory Universal Training. Cr Blight felt that this would require additional time to be devoted to Councillor duties and as such should be recognised in the level of fees and allowance paid to elected members. It was also noted that there had not been an increase in fees and allowances for a number of years.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Blight** **Seconded: Cr West**

That the WALGA Recommendation be amended to read:

That the interim submission to the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal relating to Elected Member Fees and Allowances be endorsed, subject to the submission being amended to include a request to the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal to undertake a review of the fees and allowances, following the introduction of mandatory universal training as proposed by the clause 64 of the *Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2019*, so as to ensure adequate recognition is given to the impact on the role of an elected member created by universal training.

CARRIED

5.4 Review of the Administrative Road Classification Methodology - Regional Roads within Rural/Non Built Up Areas (05-001-03-0033 MM)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council supports the proposed Administrative Road Classification Methodology - Regional Roads within Rural/Non Built Up Areas.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.5 Interim Submission – Draft Position Statement: Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure (05-036-03-0064 VJ)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the WA Planning Commission on Draft Position Statement: Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure, be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

According to the WALGA State Council Report the position statement aims to provide guidance on how container deposit scheme infrastructure could be considered and assessed in the Western Australian planning system.

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.6 Interim Submission – Parliamentary Inquiry into Short-Stay Accommodation (05-036-03-0016 CH)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee's Inquiry into Short-Stay Accommodation be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.7 Interim Submission – State Planning Policy 2.4 Basic Raw Materials (05-036-03-0017 CH)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the Western Australian Planning Commission on draft State Planning Policy 2.4 Basic Raw Materials and the Draft Basic Raw Materials Guidelines be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.8 Community Policy Reform Project (05-018-02-0010 KD)

WALGA Recommendation

That State Council receives the Community Policy Reform Report and endorses the establishment of a Community Technical Reference Group.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.9 Submissions – Draft WA Cultural Infrastructure Strategy (05-012-03-0015 SM)

WALGA Recommendation

That the Submission on the Draft WA Cultural Infrastructure Strategy be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

5.10 Interim Submission - Public Health Act 2016 Aquatic Facilities and Public Buildings Regulation Review (05-031-01-0001 EDR)

WALGA Recommendation

That the Interim Submissions provided to the Department of Health Public Health Act 2016 Discussion Papers on Regulations for Aquatic Facilities and Public Buildings be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.11 WA Foodborne Illness Reduction Strategy (05-031-01-0001 EDR)

WALGA Recommendation

That the WA Foodborne Illness Reduction Strategy 2018-2021+ be endorsed.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone endorses all recommendations being matters contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda other than those recommendations separately considered.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Baker** **Seconded: Cr West**

That the Central Country Zone endorses all recommendations being matters contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda other than those recommendations separately considered.

CARRIED

7.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda - Matters for Noting/Information

- 6.1 ERA Business Licensing Inquiry – WALGA Response to Draft Report (05-049-03-0001 DM)
- 6.2 Local Government Performance Monitoring Project 2017/2018 (05-036-04-0004 VJ)
- 6.3 Review of Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaption Planning (CHRMAP) Guidelines (05-036-03-0065 AR)
- 6.4 Completion of the Changing Places and Community Infrastructure Grant Programs (06-072-01-0001 and 06-071-01-0001 Respectively KD)
- 6.5 Update on Building and Energy’s State Wide Cladding Audit (05-015-02-0010 VJ)
- 6.6 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (01-006-03-0008 RNB)
- 6.7 Electric Scooter Shared Services (05-005-03-0010MM)
- 6.8 Systemic Sustainability Study Actions Update (05-034-02-0003 TB)
- 6.9 2018 WALGA Annual General Meeting Action updates (01-003-02-0003 TB)

7.5 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda - Organisational Reports

- 7.1 Key Activity Reports
 - 7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit (01-006-03-0017 MJB)
 - 7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services (01-006-03-0007 TB) (Attachment)
 - 7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure (05-001-02-0003 ID)
 - 7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Places (01-006-03-0014 JB)

7.6 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda - Policy Forum Reports

- 7.2 Policy Forum Reports
 - 7.2.1 Mayors/Presidents Policy Forum
 - 7.2.2 Mining Community Policy Forum
 - 7.2.3 Container Deposit Legislation Policy Forum
 - 7.2.4 Economic Development Policy Forum

7.7 WALGA President's Report

Presenting the WALGA President's Report for March 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone notes, other than those recommendations separately considered, the following reports contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda:

- Matters for Noting/Information;
- Organisational Reports;
- Policy Forum Reports; and
- WALGA President's Report.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Crute** **Seconded: Cr Mulroney**

That the Central Country Zone notes, other than those recommendations separately considered, the following reports contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda:

- **Matters for Noting/Information;**
- **Organisational Reports;**
- **Policy Forum Reports; and**
- **WALGA President's Report**

CARRIED

8.0 FINANCE

8.1 Review of Zone Honoraria and Meeting Attendance Fee

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 6 March 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

The Zone Executive Committee at its meeting on 6 March 2019 gave consideration to the matter and resolved to recommend to the Central Country Zone as follows:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Blight Seconded: Cr De Landgraft

That the Central Country Zone Executive Committee recommend to the Central Country Zone meeting on Friday 15 March 2019:

1. *That the current Zone policy relating to the payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member be amended to read as follows:*

That the Zone approve payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member –

- *equal to the maximum Council meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 4 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, if outside Zone area, or full day within the Zone (\$236);*
- *equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, for a half day meeting within the Zone (\$118);*
- *return travel at 95.54 cents per km;*
- *conditions:*
 - *claims payable on receipt of a signed declaration –*
 - *to President and State Council Delegate, or as authorised by the President*
 - *to elected members specifically appointed as a representative, prior to claim*
 - *where no other payment is available to the elected member*
 - *no claims payable:*
 - *for attendance at Ordinary, Meetings of the Zone, or participation in phone conferences and video conferences except where a person has been appointed as a Zone delegate to an external Committee, in which case the delegate may claim a meeting fee equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, for a half day meeting within the Zone (\$118), for attendance at a meeting by way of phone or video conferences;*
 - *to Council employees representing the Zone.*

2. *That the 2019/2020 honorarium be set at the following amounts:*

<i>Zone President</i>	<i>\$1,040</i>
<i>Zone State Council Delegate</i>	<i>\$520</i>
<i>Other Zone Executive Committee members</i>	<i>\$260</i>

CARRIED

Executive Officer Comment:

Recognising that at the Zone Meeting on 24 May 2019 it is proposed to submit the 2019/2020 budget for adoption it is considered prudent to determine any changes to the Zone Honoraria and Meeting Attendance Fee arrangements ahead of that meeting so that the changes (if any) can be incorporated in to the budget deliberations.

Currently the Zone uses the following policy:

That the Zone approve payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member –

- *equal to the maximum Council meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 4 of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, if outside Zone area, or full day within the Zone (\$236);*
- *equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, for a half day meeting within the Zone (\$118);*
- *return travel at 95.54 cents per km;*
- *conditions:*
 - *claims payable on receipt of a signed declaration –*
 - *to President and State Council Delegate, or as authorised by the President*
 - *to elected members specifically appointed as a representative, prior to claim*
 - *where no other payment is available to the elected member*
 -
 - *no claims payable:*
 - *for attendance at Ordinary, Meetings of the Zone, or participation in phone conferences and video conferences except where a person has been appointed as a Zone delegate to an external Committee, in which case the delegate may claim a meeting fee equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination dated 12 April 2016, for a half day meeting within the Zone (\$118), for attendance at a meeting by way of phone or video conferences.;*
 - *to Council employees representing the Zone.*

The Salaries and Allowances Tribunal (SAT) on 10 April 2018 issued a determination that there was no increase in elected members fees and allowances for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. A further review is currently underway with a determination most probably in early April 2019.

If SAT proposes a change in meeting fees this can be accommodated with a minor amendment to the policy that changes the determination date to the most recent determination. Amending the policy to reflect the most recent determination will avoid the need to change the policy in the future when changes in the meeting fee changes. It is likely that any change to the meeting fee will be reasonably small and able to be absorbed into current budget deliberations for 2019/2020.

On that basis the Executive Committee is recommending that the wording of the Meeting Fees and Travel Policy read as follows (note additional words are highlighted and those proposed to be deleted are highlighted and struck through):

That the Zone approve payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member –

- *equal to the maximum Council meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 4 of the **most recent** Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination ~~dated 12 April 2016~~, if outside Zone area, or full day within the Zone ~~(\$236)~~;*
- *equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the **most recent** Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination ~~dated 12 April 2016~~, for a half day meeting within the Zone ~~(\$118)~~;*
- *return travel at 95.54 cents per km;*
- *conditions:*
 - *claims payable on receipt of a signed declaration –*
 - *to President and State Council Delegate, or as authorised by the President*
 - *to elected members specifically appointed as a representative, prior to claim*
 - *where no other payment is available to the elected member*
 - *no claims payable:*
 - *for attendance at Ordinary, Meetings of the Zone, or participation in phone conferences and video conferences except where a person has been appointed as a Zone delegate to an external Committee, in which case the delegate may claim a meeting fee equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the **most recent** Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination ~~dated 12 April 2016~~, for a half day meeting within the Zone ~~(\$118)~~, for attendance at a meeting by way of phone or video conferences.;*
 - *to Council employees representing the Zone.*

All other aspects of the policy remain as previously approved.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone adopts the following policy in relation to Zone Honoraria and Meeting Attendance Fee:

1. That the current Zone policy relating to the payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member be amended to read as follows:

That the Zone approve payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member –

- *equal to the maximum Council meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 4 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, if outside Zone area, or full day within the Zone;*
- *equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, for a half day meeting within the Zone;*
- *return travel at 95.54 cents per km;*
- *conditions:*
 - *claims payable on receipt of a signed declaration –*
 - *to President and State Council Delegate, or as authorised by the President*
 - *to elected members specifically appointed as a representative, prior to claim*
 - *where no other payment is available to the elected member*
 - *no claims payable:*
 - *for attendance at Ordinary, Meetings of the Zone, or participation in phone conferences and video conferences except where a person has been appointed as a Zone delegate to an external Committee, in which case the delegate may claim a meeting fee equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, for a half day meeting within the Zone, for attendance at a meeting by way of phone or video conferences;*
 - *to Council employees representing the Zone.*

2. That the 2019/2020 honorarium be set at the following amounts:

Zone President	\$1,040
Zone State Council Delegate	\$520
Other Zone Executive Committee members	\$260

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr McGuinness Seconded: Cr Russell**

That the Central Country Zone adopts the following policy in relation to Zone Honoraria and Meeting Attendance Fee:

1. That the current Zone policy relating to the payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member be amended to read as follows:

That the Zone approve payment of meeting fees and travel, to an elected member –

- ***equal to the maximum Council meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 4 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, if outside Zone area, or full day within the Zone;***
- ***equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, for a half day meeting within the Zone;***
- ***return travel at 95.54 cents per km;***
- ***conditions:***
 - ***claims payable on receipt of a signed declaration –***
 - ***to President and State Council Delegate, or as authorised by the President***
 - ***to elected members specifically appointed as a representative, prior to claim***
 - ***where no other payment is available to the elected member***
 - ***no claims payable:***

- *for attendance at Ordinary, Meetings of the Zone, or participation in phone conferences and video conferences except where a person has been appointed as a Zone delegate to an external Committee, in which case the delegate may claim a meeting fee equal to the maximum Committee meeting fee for a Band 4 Council as listed in Table 3 of the most recent Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determination, for a half day meeting within the Zone, for attendance at a meeting by way of phone or video conferences;*
- *to Council employees representing the Zone.*

2. That the 2019/2020 honorarium be set at the following amounts:

Zone President	\$1,040
Zone State Council Delegate	\$520
Other Zone Executive Committee members	\$260

CARRIED

9.0 ZONE REPORTS

9.1 Zone President's Report

Cr Mark Conley

9.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

Cr Katrina Crute

The meeting scheduled for Friday 8 February 2019 was cancelled and as a consequence there has been no meeting since the last Zone Meeting.

9.3 Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)

President Ballard

9.4 Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group

Cr Katrina Crute, Chair of Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group

There has been no meeting since the last Zone Meeting.

10.0 ZONE BUSINESS - MEMBER COUNCIL MATTERS

10.1 Matters for Noting (Attachments)

Draft Heritage Regulations (Attachment)

Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts media release of 5 March 2019 is attached.

WALGA has been supporting the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage in the final stages of consultation that will support the implementation of the Heritage Act 2018. This process will take submissions on an initial set of regulations to accompany the Act; develop guidelines for local heritage surveys; and seek expressions of interest for a new Heritage Council, which will be appointed once the new Act is proclaimed. Local government input to the consultation process is strongly encouraged, with submissions via the on line portal taken until 3 May 2019. Further information can be found at www.stateheritage.wa.gov.au.

Minister for Environment - Waste Levy (Attachment)

Minister for Environment media release of 6 March 2019 is attached.

A media release outlining the decision by the State Government to not increase the Waste Levy for 2019/2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters listed for noting be received.

RESOLUTION:

Moved: Cr Blight

Seconded: Cr Ball

That the matters listed for noting be received, with the Executive Officer seeking some clarification from WALGA on the potential extension of the levy charge to non-metropolitan areas.

CARRIED

10.2 Review of *Local Government Act 1995* Central Country Zone Position (Attachment)

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Date: 6 March 2019
Attachments: Central Country Zone Local Government Act Review Working Group's Response

Background:

At the Zone Meeting on Friday 31 August 2018 it was agreed as per the below resolution to establish a Working Group to assist the Zone with the Local Government Act Review:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Hunt Secoded: Cr Baker

That:

- 1. A Working Group of elected members and officers (CEOs) be formed by the Central Country Zone to review in detail proposed changes applicable to (but not limited to) those issues listed in Local Government Act Phase 2 review with recommendations and a draft submission being presented back to the Central Country Zone for its consideration at its meeting on Friday 30 November 2018; and*
- 2. The Working Group be formed at the Central Country Zone meeting on Friday 31 August 2018*

CARRIED

The Zone further resolved in relation to the membership of the Working Group:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Watkins Secoded: Cr Kilpatrick

That Cr Mark Conley, Cr Phillip Blight, Cr Katrina Crute, Cr Brett McGuinness, Ms Natalie Manton, Mr Mark Hook, Cr Julie Russell, Mr Matthew Gilfellon, Cr Ian Turton and Ms Denise Gobbart be appointed to the Local Government Act Phase 2 Working Party.

CARRIED

The goal of the Working Group's deliberation was to consider all the discussion papers and to then formulate a submission or Zone position that can be provided in a submission to both the DLGSC and WALGA.

The Working Group met on Tuesday 30 October 2018 and the outcome of that meeting was considered by the Zone at its meeting on Friday 30 November 2018.

The Working Group met again on Wednesday 6 February 2019.

Executive Officer Comment:

At the meeting on Wednesday 6 February 2019 the Working Party "worked" through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Discussion Papers covering the following topics:

The final six discussion papers relate to the following topics:

- ✓ **Smart**
 - Administrative efficiencies
 - Local laws
 - Council meetings
 - Interventions
- ✓ **Inclusive**
 - Community consultation and engagement
 - Integrated Planning and Reporting
 - Complaints management
 - Elections

Details of the Working Group's response to the questions on administrative efficiencies, local laws, council meetings, interventions, community consultation and engagement, Integrated Planning and Reporting, complaints management and elections are outlined on the attached Working Group Response.

Recognising that WALGA was preparing its report to the State Council on the Local Government Act Review the outcome of the Working Group's Meeting on 6 February 2019 was provided to WALGA as a draft, subject to endorsement at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Draft Response prepared by the Local Government Act Review Working Group in respect to administrative efficiencies, local laws, council meetings, interventions, community consultation and engagement, Integrated Planning and Reporting, complaints management and elections, as attached, be endorsed and submitted to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and WALGA as the Central Country Zone's position.

This matter was dealt with prior to Agenda Item 7.3 but is recorded in numeric order.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Walker** **Seconded: Cr Turton**

That the Draft Response prepared by the Local Government Act Review Working Group in respect to administrative efficiencies, local laws, council meetings, interventions, community consultation and engagement, integrated planning and reporting, complaints management and elections, as attached, be endorsed and submitted to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and WALGA as the Central Country Zone's position.

CARRIED

The meeting returned to Agenda Item 7.3

10.3 Partnering Agreement for the Provision of Mutual Aid for Recovery during Emergencies – Shire of Wagin (Attachment)

Reporting Officer: Peter Webster, CEO Shire of Wagin
Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 6 March 2019

Attachments: Draft Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery

Background

The Shire of Wagin, following a meeting with Department of Fire and Emergencies, has suggested that local governments in the area should have a Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery (MOU).

The Shire obtained a copy of an MOU involving the Cities of Mandurah and Rockingham and the Shire of Murray a copy of which is attached to this agenda.

Executive Officer Comment:

Whilst the “example” MOU will need to be revised to suit the Central Country Zone’s needs it however forms a good basis to commence discussion by Member Councils. In addition, the Executive Officer has also been made aware of a similar MOU entered into in August 2018, by the Member Councils of the South West Country Zone.

In submitting this matter for consideration, it is not known whether Member Councils are already in an existing MOU or whether the size of the Zone may be a deterrent from entering in to such a mutual arrangement.

Recognising that some Member Councils may be unfamiliar with the concept it may be appropriate to refer the suggestion to all Member Councils for comment and further consideration at the next in-person Zone meeting on 24 May 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the concept of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery be referred to Member Councils for comment and the matter be listed for consideration at the next in-person Zone meeting on Friday 24 May 2019.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Blight** **Seconded: Cr Ball**

That the concept of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery be referred to Member Councils for comment and the matter be listed for consideration at the next in-person Zone meeting on Friday 30 August 2019.

CARRIED

11.0 ZONE BUSINESS - OTHER BUSINESS/URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

12.0 ZONE BUSINESS - EMERGING ISSUES

(The intent of the item is to enable Member Councils to bring to the attention of the delegates a matter that is developing. It is proposed that the matter will be tabled for discussion but not decision and then enable Member Councils to take the information away and consider an outcome for possible consideration at the next Zone meeting.)

12.1 Induction before Nomination – Shire of Wagin

The Shire of Wagin referred to the inclusion in clause 15 of the *Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2019* of the requirement for “all candidates to complete an online induction prior to nominating for election” and sought some clarification on what is meant by the induction and what process is going to be used if a person nominating has not completed the induction course.

The Executive Officer indicated that he would follow the matter up.

13.0 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Nil

14.0 OTHER REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

14.1 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Ms Geneveve Giumelli, Senior Legislation and Strategy Officer

A copy of the March Update Report is attached to the Minutes.

14.2 Wheatbelt Development Commission

Ms Pip Kirby

14.3 Regional Development Australia (RDA) Wheatbelt (Attachment)

Ms Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development,

Presenting Zone Update Report March 2019

14.4 Main Roads WA

Mr Craig Manton, Regional Manager, Wheatbelt Region

Ms Louise Adamson, Operations Manager, Central Wheatbelt Region

15.0 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 3 May 2019 – Teleconference (WALGA Business only)

Friday 24 May 2019 – Shire of Beverley

16.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.47pm.

DECLARATION

These minutes were confirmed by the Central Country Zone at the meeting held on 24 May 2019

Signed _____
Person presiding at the meeting at which these minutes were confirmed