



Northern Country Zone

MINUTES

26 August 2024

Hosted by the Shire of Morawa
Greater Sports Ground Function Room
commencing at 10:00am



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ATTACHMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- Item 3.1: Regional Drought Resilience Planning Presentation
- Item 6.1.1: Minutes of Northern Country Zone 24 June 2024 Meeting
- Item 6.1.2: Minutes of Northern Country Zone Flying Agenda Item 240731
- Item 7.1: State Council Agenda 4 September 2024
- Item 9.2: State Council Representative's August 2024 Report
State Council Deputy Representative's August 2024 Report
- Item 9.3: WALGA President's Report
- Item 9.4: Zone Status Report August 2024
- Item 9.5: DLGSC August 2024 Report
- Item 9.6: WALGA RoadWise Report
- Item 10.2: Audit Report 2023-2024
- Item 10.3: Bank Statement 31 July 2024

The Policy and Advocacy Prioritisation Framework shown below, adopted 22 April 2024, is used to guide Zone Delegates' decision making.

Impact on Local Government Sector Impact on Local Government sector without intervention	High	Medium	Low
Reach Number of member Local Governments affected	Sector-wide	Significant (multiple regions, Zones, or bands)	Few
Influence Capacity to influence decision makers	High	Medium	Low
Principles Alignment to core principles such as autonomy, funding, general competence	Strong	Partial	Peripheral
Clarity Policy change needed is clear and well-defined	Clear	Partial	Unclear
Decision-maker support Level of support among decision-makers (political and administrative)	High	Medium	Low
Public support Level of support among the public or other stakeholders	High	Medium	Low
Positive consequences for WALGA Prospect of positive consequences for WALGA. E.g. enhanced standing among members or leverage for other issues.	High	Medium	Low
Negative consequences for WALGA Prospect of negative consequences for WALGA for not undertaking the advocacy effort. E.g. diminished standing among members or other stakeholders.	High	Medium	Low
Partnerships Potential for partnerships with other stakeholders	Yes (3+)	Possibly (1-2)	No (0)

Zone Delegates were requested to provide written notice on amendments to recommendations within the State Council agenda ASAP to the Zone President and Secretariat, to allow Zone Members time to consider the alternative recommendation. None were forthcoming.

1. OPENING, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1 Opening

The Meeting was declared open at 10:01 am.

1.2 Acknowledgment of Country

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA acknowledges the Yamatji people, who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pays its respects to their Elders past and present.

1.3 Welcome

The President welcomed members and guests.

1.4 Announcements

Members and Guests were asked to sign the Attendance Register as it was passed around.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

MEMBERS

NB: One Voting Delegate from each Member Council

Shire of Carnamah

Cr Merle Isbister - President
Mr Rob Paull - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)

Shire of Chapman Valley

Cr Kirrilee Warr – President (NCZ Deputy President and State Council Rep)
Mr Jamie Criddle - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)

Shire of Coorow

Cr Guy Sims - President
Ms Mia Maxfield - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)

City of Greater Geraldton

Cr Jennifer Critch
Mr Ross McKim - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)

Shire of Irwin

Refer Apologies

Shire of Mingenev

Cr Gary Cosgrove - President
Cr Hellene McTaggart

Shire of Morawa

Cr Karen Chappel – President (NCZ President)
Cr Ken Stokes - Deputy President
Mr Scott Wildgoose - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)
Ms Jackie Hawkins – Executive Manager Corporate and Community

Shire of Northampton

Cr Robert Horstman - Deputy President

Shire of Perenjori

Cr Leslie Hepworth - Deputy President

Shire of Three Springs Cr Nadine Eva – Deputy President
Mr Keith Woodward - Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)

EXECUTIVE Ms Dianne Daniels – NCZ Executive Officer

GUESTS

Department of Fire and Emergency Services Mr Mark Bowen – Superintendent Midwest Gascoyne Region

Mid West Development Commission Mr Nils Hay - Chief Executive Officer
Mr Mickey Rootes – Senior Regional Development Officer
Mr Kyle Williams – Senior Regional Development Officer

RoadWise Mr Ian McCabe – Road Safety Advisor

PRESENTERS

North Midlands RDRP Ms Gillian Johnson - RDRP-North Midlands Project Officer

APOLOGIES

Federal Member for Durack Hon. Melissa Price MP

Member for Moore Mr Shane Love MLA

Member for Geraldton Ms Lara Dalton MLA

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Martin Aldridge MLC

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Sandra Carr MLC

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Colin DeGrussa MLC

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Darren West MLC

Shire of Chapman Valley Cr Trevor Royce

City of Greater Geraldton Mayor Jerry Clune

Shire of Irwin Cr Isabelle Scott
Cr Mark Leonard – President
Mr Shane Ivers – Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Mingenew Mr Matt Fanning – Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Northampton Cr Elizabeth (Liz) Sudlow – President (State Council Deputy Rep)
Mr Andrew Campbell - Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Perenjori	Cr Jude Sutherland – President Mr Paul Anderson - Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Three Springs	Cr Chris Lane – President
WALGA	Nicole Matthews – WALGA Executive Manager Policy
CBH	Ms Kellie Todman – Manager Govt & Industry Relations
DLGSC	Mr Craig Vinci – Acting Regional Manager Mid West Gascoyne Sport & Cultural Ind
Main Roads WA	Mr Leon Wilson – Acting Regional Manager Mid West-Gascoyne
National Emergency Management Agency	Ms Candy Hudson - Recovery Support Officer Pilbara, Gascoyne, Murchison and Mid West WA
Regional Development Midwest Gascoyne	Mr Mark Holdsworth - Director of Regional Development/Executive Officer Ms Yvonne Messina – Chair

3. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1 North Midlands Regional Drought Resilience Plan

Gillian Johnson North Midlands Project Officer

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program is one of eight foundational programs under the Future Drought Fund and was delivered in three pilot regions (Mid West, Wheat Belt and Great Southern) in partnership with the WA State Government.

Ms Johnson provided a ‘work in progress’ update of the North Midlands Regional Drought Resistant Plan.

3.2 Shire of Morawa

Cr Karen Chappel President
Mr Scott Wildgoose Chief Executive Officer

A presentation was delivered on projects recently completed, underway and planned and challenges being faced by the Shire.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillors must declare to the Zone President 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.

Nil

5. ADJOURNED BUSINESS

Nil

6. MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1.1 Minutes Ordinary Meeting 24 June 2024

Attachments: Minutes of the Meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA 24 June 2024

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA held on 24 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Eva

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA held on 24 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

6.1.2 Minutes Flying Agenda Item 240731 Governor General of Commonwealth of Australia - Invitation to Geraldton and Midwest

Attachments: Minutes of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA Flying Agenda Item 240731

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA Flying Agenda Item 240731 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Warr

Seconded: Cr Cosgrove

That the Minutes of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA Flying Agenda Item 240731 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes

Nil

7. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR DECISION

The following items have been taken directly from the WALGA State Council Agenda for 4 September 2024.

The Matters for Decision in the State Council agenda are numbered 8.1 to 8.7.

The WALGA Officer's Recommendation and Executive Summary only have been included. Please refer to the attached PDF version of the State Council Agenda for more detail.

ITEMS 7.1 to 7.7 WERE CONSIDERED EN BLOC

7.1 (SC 8.1) Local Government Elections Analysis 2015-2023

Prepared by: Emma Heys, Governance Specialist

WALGA Recommendation:

That WALGA advocate to the State Government:

1. *For an independent Local Government election audit, focusing on the Western Australia Electoral Commission's (WAEC) cost allocation methods and costing applications used, to confirm that marginal cost recovery principles are applied and that the costing program is being effectively managed.*
2. *For the requirement for the WAEC to develop and implement Service Level Agreements with Local Governments, similar to those agreements currently used in New South Wales and Victorian Local Government elections and that includes:*
 - a. *transparency of costing methodology,*
 - b. *direct engagement with Local Governments pre and post elections, and*
 - c. *the roles and responsibilities of the WAEC and Local Governments in the conduct of elections.*
3. *For the introduction of a provision for private service providers to enter the market for the conduct of Local Government elections.*
4. *For a mandated WAEC Report to Parliament specific to Local Government elections post each election cycle, outlining costs, results, voter turnout and matters for improvement both in the conduct of elections and the legislation, if relevant.*

Executive Summary:

- This report presents the findings of a comprehensive review and analysis of five election cycles up to and including the 2023 Local Government election against the backdrop of legislative reforms to the Local Government electoral process in Western Australia.
- With a focus on postal elections conducted exclusively by the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC), the analysis has found evidence of the rising cost of conducting Local Government elections in Western Australia.
- Elected Member feedback, costs vs service comparisons and engagement by the sector with WALGA's governance services over the 2023 Local Government election period, are the basis for the recommendations as outlined above.
- The Governance Policy Team considered this item at its meeting of 7 August and endorsed the position for consideration by State Council.

7.2 (SC 8.2) Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework Advocacy Position

Prepared by: Daniel Thomson, Manager Economics

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council endorse a new Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework Advocacy Position as follows:

It is essential that the energy transition currently underway delivers economic opportunities, ensures reliable and affordable electricity, and the greatest possible benefits for the community.

WALGA calls on the State Government to develop a comprehensive framework to manage the impact of the energy transition that includes local engagement and the realisation of community benefits from energy transition projects as a priority.

Executive Summary:

- Western Australia's energy industry is transforming to achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2050.
- In Western Australia there is no framework that provides a consistent approach to how proponents of major energy projects consult with local communities and how they can share in the benefits.
- WALGA will advocate for the State Government to develop a framework to guide consultation and benefit sharing with local communities during the energy transition.
- A joint meeting of the Environment Policy Team and Infrastructure Policy Team held on 10 July endorsed the position for consideration by State Council.
- This draft advocacy position should be considered in conjunction with the accompanying draft WALGA advocacy positions Renewable Energy Facilities ([Item 8.3](#)) and Priority Agriculture ([Item 8.4](#)).

There was a lengthy discussion regarding this item, with members concerned that there was still no guiding framework a year on from the Northern Country Zone resolution of 26 June 2023 that WALGA formulates a Statewide Local Government Future Industries Engagement Framework, in consultation with Local Government (refer Item 9.4 Zone Status Report). Members would like more information about how the advocacy position would operate.

11:10am -11:12am Cr Isbister left the room briefly and returned

7.3 (SC 8.3) Renewable Energy Facilities Advocacy Position

Prepared by: Kieran McGovern, Policy Officer Planning

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council endorse a new Renewable Energy Facilities Advocacy Position as follows:

The growth in the number, size, and complexity of renewable energy facilities across Western Australia is expected to continue as energy generation and other traditional industries de-carbonise their facilities and operations. The renewable energy state planning framework requires changes to ensure it is fit for purpose to guide the ongoing development of this sector.

WALGA calls on the State Government to:

1. *Adopt a new State Planning Policy for renewable energy facilities, to replace the existing Position Statement: Renewable energy facilities, that:*
 - a. *Facilitates the orderly development of renewable energy facilities across Western Australia;*
 - b. *Outlines the key planning and environmental considerations, for the location, siting, design and operation of renewable energy facilities and their associated infrastructure;*
 - c. *Provides a framework that clearly stipulates the minimum required documentation and technical reports that need to be submitted with proposals for renewable energy facilities;*
 - d. *Supports the development of Local Planning Policies by Local Governments to further guide locally appropriate planning consideration of renewable energy facilities;*
 - e. *Provides a clear relationship with:*
 - i. *State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning and Development Control Policy 3.4 - Subdivision of rural land, to ensure planning decisions adequately balance the need to protect and preserve rural land for rural purposes;*
 - ii. *State Planning Policy 2.4 - Planning for Basic Raw Materials to ensure proposals for renewable energy facilities consider their impact on basic raw material supply at the earliest stage of the planning process; and*
 - iii. *State Planning Policy 2.9 - Planning for Water to ensure water resources impacted by renewable energy facilities are identified and adequately managed.*
 - f. *Includes policy measures to address:*
 - i. *concerns relating to the location of these facilities and their associated infrastructure on agricultural land, their proximity to lot boundaries, town sites and sensitive land uses, and potential impact on airport operations and rural activities;*

- ii. *planning for renewable energy facilities in industrial areas in relation to the coordination of these facilities, their appropriateness in the 'General Industry' zone and impacts and suitable location on heavy industry sites;*
 - iii. *the need for local engagement and the realisation of community benefits from the development of renewable energy facilities.*
2. *Review the definition of 'renewable energy facility' considering the increasing size and scope of facilities and consider creating definitions based on the scale of the facility (Utility-scale and other), and the form of facility (solar energy and wind energy).*
 3. *Provide guidance to Local Governments on the consideration of green hydrogen production facilities on rural land where it is an incidental use to a renewable energy facility.*

Executive Summary:

- A 2023 WALGA Annual General Meeting resolution and subsequent resolution by the Great Eastern Country Zone requested WALGA *establish and promote policies to protect and prioritise the preservation of agricultural land against its displacement by non-agricultural activities that lead to a net reduction of the State's productive agricultural land.*
- The Central Country Zone resolved to request WALGA to advocate to the State Government *to develop a more comprehensive and effective approach to guide the management and placement of renewable energy facilities; including but not limited to wind, solar, battery renewable diesel and associated infrastructure.*
- The existing State Government *Position Statement: Renewable energy facilities* does not adequately address these concerns, leading to inconsistent application and approvals of renewable energy facilities across the State.
- WALGA will advocate for the existing *Position Statement: Renewable energy facilities* to be amended and elevated to a State Planning Policy, including more nuanced provisions which provide greater guidance to Local Governments and applicants, and allow for renewable energy land uses to be classified as either small or large facilities.
- A joint meeting of the Environment Policy Team and Infrastructure Policy Team on 10 July endorsed the position for consideration by State Council.
- This draft advocacy position should be considered in conjunction with accompanying draft WALGA advocacy positions Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework ([Item 8.2](#)) and Priority Agriculture ([Item 8.4](#)).

7.4 (SC 8.4) Priority Agriculture Advocacy Position

Prepared by: Kieran McGovern, Policy Officer Planning

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council endorse a new Priority Agriculture Advocacy Position as follows:

The state planning framework should provide sufficient statutory protections for areas identified as high quality agricultural land.

WALGA calls on the State Government to:

1. *Amend the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 to:*
 - a. *Create a new model zone under Schedule 1, Part 3, Clause 16 for land identified as high quality agricultural land known as the 'Priority Agriculture' zone, with the following objectives:*
 - i. *to retain priority agricultural land for agricultural purposes; and*
 - ii. *limit the introduction of sensitive land uses which may compromise existing, future and potential agricultural production.*
 - b. *Define 'Priority Agriculture' zone under Schedule 2, Part 1, Clause 1 to align with the definition provided in State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning.*

2. *Review the areas which have been identified by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as high quality agricultural land and expand the extent of mapping to address the whole of Western Australia.*
3. *Undertake a 'health check' of State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning and Development Control Policy 3.4 - Subdivision of rural land, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.*

Executive Summary:

- A 2023 WALGA Annual General Meeting resolution and subsequent resolution by the Great Eastern Country Zone have requested *that WALGA establish and promote policies to protect and prioritise the preservation of agricultural land against its displacement by non-agricultural activities that lead to a net reduction of the State's productive agricultural land.*
- WALGA prepared a *Research Paper: Protection of Productive Agricultural Land* that provides policy context, previous WALGA advocacy and analysis of State and Local Government approaches to agricultural land use protections.
- This work identified that a lack of consistency between the sub-regional planning strategies across the different regions of WA has impeded the implementation of best practice planning controls into local planning frameworks, and thus inconsistent application across the State.
- This advocacy position recommends statutory protections of areas that have been identified as high quality agricultural land, through amending the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* to include a model zone for 'Priority Agriculture'. This will provide the ability for Local Governments to adopt the model zone into their local planning schemes.
- A joint meeting of the Environment Policy Team and Infrastructure Policy Team endorsed the position for consideration by State Council on 10 July 2024.
- This draft advocacy position should be considered in conjunction with accompanying draft WALGA advocacy positions Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework ([Item 8.2](#)) and Renewable Energy Facilities ([Item 8.3](#)).

7.5 (SC 8.5) Planning Principles and Reform Advocacy Position

Prepared by: Coralie Claudio, Senior Policy Advisor Planning

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council:

1. Retire Advocacy Position 6.2 Planning Reform; and
2. Replace Advocacy Position 6.1 Planning Principles with the following:

6.1 Planning Principles and Reform

1. *The Local Government sector supports an efficient and effective planning system guided by legislation, policy, and processes that:*
 - a. *facilitates the creation of sustainable and liveable communities and places;*
 - b. *has a focus on strategic planning that delivers on long-term objectives and outcomes that balance social, environmental, cultural, and economic interests;*
 - c. *is easy to understand, accessible and transparent;*
 - d. *recognises the diversity of Western Australia and ensures that local environment, context, communities and character are appropriately reflected in planning frameworks and decision making;*
 - e. *ensures decisions are made by the level of government closest to and most impacted by a planning proposal; and*
 - f. *establishes consistent planning frameworks and streamlines planning processes where there is a demonstrated benefit in doing so.*
2. *Reforms to the planning system should:*
 - a. *be guided by the above principles;*
 - b. *deliver community benefit;*

- c. *promote system efficiency, including through the use of technology;*
- d. *be evidence-based and informed by robust, transparent data;*
- e. *proceed at an appropriate pace to enable effective implementation;*
- f. *be informed by engagement with the community; and*
- g. *be amended only with WALGA involvement and/or consultation/involvement with Local Government.*

Executive Summary:

- It is proposed that the Advocacy Positions 6.1 Planning Principles and 6.2 Planning Reform be replaced with a new contemporary combined position that reflects the current planning system and planning reform agenda.
- The updated position identifies key elements that would create an effective and efficient planning system and how planning reform can be developed, prioritised, and implemented to achieve this.
- The updated position has been informed by feedback from Local Government officers, including WALGA's Planning Advisory Group and previous WALGA submissions on State Government planning reform initiatives.
- The Environment Policy Team endorsed the advocacy position at their meeting on 29 July.

7.6 (SC 8.6) Product Stewardship Policy Statement and Advocacy Position

Prepared by: Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council:

1. Rescind the existing Extended Producer Responsibility Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.5 Extended Producer Responsibility.
2. Endorse a new Product Stewardship Advocacy Position as follows:
 1. *Industry should take responsibility (physical and/or financial) for the waste that it generates through the entire life cycle of the products it produces through the implementation of effective product stewardship. Without effective Product Stewardship, there will be increasing costs for the community, resource recovery targets will be difficult to reach and a transition to a circular economy is unlikely.*
 2. *Effective Product Stewardship is characterised by:*
 - a. *Producers and importers taking responsibility for post consumption product impacts.*
 - b. *Schemes covering the entire cost of product recycling or recovery, including transport.*
 - c. *Leveraging existing Schemes and collection locations.*
 - d. *Being easy and convenient for the community to access.*
 - e. *Having equitable national coverage and access for all, including regional and remote locations.*
 - f. *Being evidence based.*
 - g. *Consistent regulation and implementation across Australia using national Product Stewardship legislation.*
 - h. *Timely action and industry cooperation during Scheme development and implementation.*
 - i. *Being demand based and aiming to recover the maximum amount of material, rather than being limited by targets.*
 - j. *No additional cost to consumers when the product is disposed of post consumption.*
 3. *Local Government calls on the Commonwealth Government to implement effective Product Stewardship schemes for all products that drive environmentally and socially sustainable outcomes through the design, manufacture and distribution of products that can be more easily reused, repaired, recovered or recycled.*
 4. *If national action is not progressed within a reasonable timeframe, or in a way that meets the needs of the Western Australian community, then Local Government supports a State based approach to Product Stewardship.*

Executive Summary:

- The [Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) Policy Statement](#) was first endorsed in 2004 and reviewed and amended in 2008.
- The Statement outlines the rationale for Local Government support for EPR, as a way of ensuring producers take responsibility for their products at the end of life, and some of the key elements of successful Schemes.
- WALGA's [Local Government Principles for Product Stewardship](#) was endorsed in 2022. The Principles provided more detail on key design elements for Schemes and have been used to inform advocacy.
- Following discussion at the April Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) and Officers Advisory Group meetings it was agreed to review the EPR Policy Statement and incorporate the Local Government Principles into a new Product Stewardship Policy Statement and Advocacy Position.
- The Product Stewardship Policy Statement and Advocacy Position has been updated to:
 - Include a greater focus on the potential for Product Stewardship to influence the design of products, as well as their post consumption disposal.
 - Identifying the increasing cost burden on Local Government and the community of increasing complex products.
 - Focus on ensuring all products have a clear and funded end of life pathway.
- The MWAC endorsed the new Policy Statement and Advocacy Position in June.

7.7 (SC 8.7) Submission on the Draft State Waste Strategy

Prepared by: Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste

WALGA Recommendation:

That State Council endorse the Draft State Waste Strategy Submission.

Executive Summary:

- The [Draft State Waste Strategy](#) (Draft Strategy) and [State Waste Infrastructure Plan](#) were released on 29 May. This follows the release of the [Strategy Directions Paper](#) in May 2023. WALGA provided a comprehensive [Submission](#) on the Directions Paper.
- Given the significant impact of the Strategy on Local Government, WALGA was granted an extension to the deadline to allow the draft submission to be considered by WALGA Zones and State Council.
- The focus of the Draft Strategy is:
 - Better outcomes for regional and Aboriginal communities
 - Increasing our focus on waste avoidance
 - Better management of priority materials
 - Realising the economic potential of recycling
 - Contingency planning and climate resilience.
- New Targets are also proposed for each of the Avoid, Recover and Protect areas.
- WALGA's draft submission on the Draft Strategy was informed by Local Government written feedback and feedback received at a webinar held on 19 July.
- This Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) endorsed the draft submission on 31 July 2024.
-

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Sims

Seconded: Cr Warr

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA supports the WALGA Officers' recommendations for Items 8.1 through to 8.7 in the 4 September 2024 State Council Agenda.

Carried

8. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – MATTERS FOR NOTING

Please refer to Item 9 to 11 of the 4 September 2024 State Council Agenda for details of the following Policy Team and Committee Reports.

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes State Council Agenda Items 9 through to 11 as detailed in the 4 September 2024 State Council Agenda.

8.1 (SC 9.0) Policy Team and Committee Reports

- Item 9.1 SC Agenda - Environment Policy Team Report
- Item 9.2 SC Agenda - Governance Policy Team Report
- Item 9.3 SC Agenda - Infrastructure Policy Team Report
- Item 9.4 SC Agenda - People and Place Policy Team Report
- Item 9.5 SC Agenda - Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Report

8.2 (SC 10.0) Matters For Noting / Information

- Item 10.1 SC Agenda – Local Government Legislative Reform
- Item 10.2 SC Agenda – Report on LG Road Assets 2022/2023

8.3 (SC 11.0) Organisation Reports For Noting

- Item 11.1 SC Agenda - Key Activity Reports
 - Item 11.1.1 - Advocacy Portfolio
 - Item 11.1.2 - Infrastructure Portfolio
 - Item 11.1.3 - Member Services Portfolio
 - Item 11.1.4 - Policy Portfolio
- Item 11.2 SC Agenda - President's Report
- Item 11.3 SC Agenda - CEO's Report

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Horstman

Seconded: Cr Isbister

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes State Council Agenda Items 9 through to 11 as detailed in the 4 September 2024 State Council Agenda.

Carried

9. REPORTS

9.1 Zone President's Report

Refer to the WALGA President's Report

9.2 WALGA State Council Representative's Report

The WALGA State Council Representative's and Deputy Representative's Report are attached.

Cr Warr spoke to the Report.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Critch

Seconded: Cr Eva

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the WALGA State Council Representative's Report and the WALGA State Council Deputy Representative's Report for August 2024.

Carried

9.3 WALGA President's Report

The WALGA President's Report is attached.

President Chappel spoke to her Report.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Eva

Seconded: Cr Cosgrove

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the WALGA President's Report for September 2024.

Carried

9.4 Zone Status Report

A Status Report outlining the actions taken on the Zone's resolutions is attached.

Councillor Warr moved the Motion with a proviso that Item 11.2.1 Renewable Energy Developments – Community Engagement, from the 26 June 2023 meeting, be kept on top as a priority.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Warr

Seconded: Cr Eva

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the August 2024 Status Report outlining actions taken on the Zone's resolutions.

Carried

9.5 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Update

An update from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is attached.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Hepworth

Seconded: Cr Sims

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the August 2024 Update from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Carried

9.6 WALGA RoadWise

Mr Ian McCabe – RoadWise Road Safety Advisor, presented his August 2024 Report, which is attached to the Minutes.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Sims

Seconded: Cr Hepworth

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the August 2024 RoadWise Report.

Carried

10. ZONE MATTERS FOR NOTING/DECISION

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Correspondence Out

Nil

10.1.2 Correspondence In

Nil

10.2 Audit Report 2023-2024

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer
Attachments: Audit Report 2023-2024

Recommendation:

That the 2023-2024 Audit Report for the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be received.

Comments:

In the opinion of the Auditor, Mr Dwayne Wooltorton of North Midlands Accounting Services, the accounts present fairly the financial position of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA for the financial year ending 30 June 2024. There were no qualifications.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Critch

Seconded: Cr Isbister

That the 2023-2024 Audit Report for the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be received.

Carried

10.3 Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31 July 2024

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer
Attachments: Bank Statement July 2024

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA receives the Detailed Income Statement and Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 July 2024.

Comments:

The Detailed Income Statement shown below represents the cash position of NCZ at 31 July 2024, as reconciled to the Bank Statement.

NORTHERN COUNTRY ZONE OF WALGA				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT				
<i>For the period ending</i>				
31-Jul-24				
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description</i>
Statement Balance B/F	01-07-24		9,813.37	
Deposits			14,400.00	2023-24 Membership Subscriptions x 8
TOTAL RECEIPTS			14,400.00	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			24,213.37	
Payments Made	18-07-24		-2,747.42	Internet Tsf - Dianne Daniels - Inv 242501 - EO Services 25/04/2024 - 30/06/2024; Travel
TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE			-2,747.42	
Closing Cash Balance	31-07-24		21,465.95	

NORTHERN COUNTRY ZONE OF WALGA				
BANK RECONCILIATION SUMMARY				
<i>For the period ending</i>				
31-Jul-24				
Statement Balance B/F	01-07-24		9,813.37	
Deposits and Credits			14,400.00	
Cheques and Payments			-2,747.42	
Total Cleared Transactions	31-07-24		21,465.95	
Add back o/s			0.00	
Reconciled Balance			21,465.95	
Bank Statement	31-07-24		21,465.95	
Difference I&E to Bank Statement			0.00	

Northern Country Zone Resolution:**Moved:** Cr Eva**Seconded:** Cr Critch

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA receives the Detailed Income Statement and Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 July 2024.

Carried

10.4 Bank Signatories

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer

Recommendation:

That:

1. the following signatories be removed as authorised persons to operate National Australia Bank Account BSB: 086-833 Account: 21-924-6179:
 - a. Mr Scott Wildgoose
 - b. Mrs Moira Girando

2. the Northern Country Zone of WALGA authorises the following persons to operate the National Australia Bank Account BSB: 086-833 Ac 21-924-6179, on a two to sign basis:
 - a. Cr Karen Chappel President Northern Country Zone of WALGA
 - b. Mrs Dianne Daniels Executive Officer Northern Country Zone of WALGA
 - c. Mr Shane Ivers CEO Shire of Irwin

Background:

Mrs Moira Girando left Council and the Northern Country Zone some time ago and Mr Scott Wildgoose is also on the move, so a new signatory is required. Although in the past there have been four signatories to ensure that there are always two people available to sign payments, three is probably a good number as NAB freeze a signatory's access to online banking if they don't access it for some time. The CEO nominated will be the main second signatory, with Cr Chappel available as back-up if the CEO is on leave.

Comment:

There are usually only 12 or so invoices to pay every year and so the responsibility is not too onerous. The new signatory will need to be able to attend the NAB bank in Dongara to sign the required paperwork. Mr Shane Ivers has kindly agreed to take on the role.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Horstman

Seconded: Cr Isbister

That:

1. the following signatories be removed as authorised persons to operate National Australia Bank Account BSB: 086-833 Account: 21-924-6179:
 - a. Mr Scott Wildgoose
 - b. Mrs Moira Girando

2. the Northern Country Zone of WALGA authorises the following persons to operate the National Australia Bank Account BSB: 086-833 Ac 21-924-6179, on a two to sign basis:
 - a. Cr Karen Chappel President Northern Country Zone of WALGA
 - b. Mrs Dianne Daniels Executive Officer Northern Country Zone of WALGA
 - c. Mr Shane Ivers CEO Shire of Irwin

Carried

10.5 WALGA Honours Recipients

Prepared by: Chantelle O'Brien, WALGA Governance Support Officer

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the 2024 Honours Recipients.

Background:

WALGA celebrated their 2024 Honours awards recipients at an event on Friday, 2 August at Winthrop Hall. For the first time, a WALGA awards event was held solely to acknowledge and appreciate the extraordinary efforts of Elected Members and Local Government Officers in service of their Local Government, the sector and the community.

There were 46 recipients of Honours awards in the 2024 program, including two Local Government Medal recipients. Four new WALGA Life Members were also inducted.

5 Honours recipients were from the Northern Country Zone:

Cr Isabelle Scott	Shire of Irwin	Eminent Service Award
Mr Christopher Robert King	Shire of Perenjori	Eminent Service Award
Cr Kenneth Peter Stokes	Shire of Morawa	Merit Award
President Cr Kirrilee Warr	Shire of Chapman Valley	Merit Award
Sheri Moulds	City of Greater Geraldton	Local Government Distinguished Officers Award

Congratulations to all Honours recipients!

Nominations for the 2025 Honours Program will open early next year.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Cosgrove

Seconded: Cr Isbister

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the 2024 Honours Recipients.

Carried

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

As per Item 35 of the Zone Standing Orders, a Delegate may under General Business introduce a motion relating to any item of interest to Local Government, but not otherwise.

11.1 Call to Guests to Address the Meeting

The President called on Guests to address the meeting.

Mr Nils Hay and Mr Mark Bowen accepted the opportunity to update members on items of relevance to them.

11.2 Regional Issues

Background:

As per the resolution at Item 9.1 of the February 2018 meeting, Regional Issues are open for discussion.

Nil

11.3 Regional Tourism Initiatives

Background:

As per the resolution at Item 10.1 of the April 2019 minutes, Regional Tourism Initiatives are open for discussion.

Nil

11.4 Other General Business

The President called for Other General Business.

None was forthcoming from Members.

11.4.1 The President asked members if they would support the request from Ms Merome Beard MLA, current Member for North West Central and endorsed Liberal candidate for the new Mid West seat in the 2025 WA elections, to be invited to future Northern Country Zone of WALGA meetings.

Cr Warr and Cr Horstman declared an Interest, but the other members in attendance voted in favour of a standing invitation.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Critch

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA invites Ms Merome Beard MLA to future meetings of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA.

Carried

11.4.2 The President farewellled Mr Scott Wildgoose, CEO of the Shire of Morawa, who has accepted the CEO position at the Shire of Gin Gin.

Cr Chappel thanked Mr Wildgoose for his contribution to the Morawa Shire and wished him well in his future endeavours.

12. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Recommendation:

That the next ordinary meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be held on Monday 25 November 2024, commencing at 10 am, hosted by the Shire of Mingenew.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Eva

That the next ordinary meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be held on Monday 25 November 2024, commencing at 10:00 am, hosted by the Shire of Mingenew.

Carried

13. MEETING CLOSURE

Meeting declared closed at 12:06pm.