



CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE

Minutes

**Friday 29 November 2019
Popanyinning Hall,
Great Southern Highway
Popanyinning**

Commencing at 9.30am

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Minutes

Central Country Zone of WALGA

Friday 29 November 2019, commencing at 9.30am

1.0 OPENING AND WELCOME

Due to the elections being conducted at the start of the meeting the Executive Officer opened the meeting at 9.30am and welcomed all delegates in attendance.

1.1 Welcome – Cr Eliza Dowling, Deputy President Shire of Cuballing

Cr Eliza Dowling, Deputy President Shire of Cuballing extended a welcome to delegates and guests and in so doing gave an overview of the development of the Dryandra Equestrian complex based in Cuballing.

2.0 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Cr Brett McGuinness (Chair)	Councillor, Shire of Quairading
Cr Don Davis	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
Cr Des Hickey	President, Shire of Corrigin
Ms Natalie Manton	CEO, Shire of Corrigin
Cr Mark Conley	President, Shire of Cuballing
Cr Eliza Dowling	Deputy President, Shire of Cuballing
Mr Gary Sherry	CEO, Shire of Cuballing
Cr Julie Ramm	President, Shire of Dumbleyung
Cr Marilyn Hasleby	Councillor, Shire of Dumbleyung
Mr Peter Crispin	CEO, Shire of Dumbleyung
Cr Barry West	President, Shire of Kulin
Cr Rodney Duckworth	Councillor, Shire of Kulin
Mr Garrick Yandle	CEO, Shire of Kulin
Cr Jeanette De Landgraft	President, Shire of Lake Grace
Cr Peter Stoffberg	Deputy President, Shire of Lake Grace
Ms Denise Gobbart	CEO, Shire of Lake Grace
Mr Dale Stewart	CEO, Shire of Narrogin
Cr Bill Mulrone	President, Shire of Pingelly
Cr Jackie McBurney	Deputy President, Shire of Pingelly
Ms Julie Barton	CEO Shire of Pingelly
Cr Jo Haythornthwaite	Deputy President, Shire of Quairading
Mr Graeme Fardon	CEO, Shire of Quairading
Cr Phillip Blight	President, Shire of Wagin
Cr Greg Ball	Deputy President, Shire of Wagin
Mr Peter Webster	CEO, Shire of Wagin
Cr Ian Turton	President, Shire of Wandering
Cr Brendan Whitely	Councillor, Shire of Wandering
Ms Belinda Knight	CEO Shire of Wandering
Cr Julie McFall	Councillor, 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 Bruce Wittber, Joint Executive Officer
Ms Helen Westcott, Joint Executive Officer

WALGA Representatives

Mr Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure
Ms Lyn Fogg Governance Advisor, Sector Support and Advice

Guests

Ms Jenifer Collins Regional Manager Wheatbelt, Department of Local Government,
Sport and Cultural Industries
Mr Jordan Langford-Smith A/Assistant Auditor General, Office of the Auditor General
Mr Rob Dickie Government & Industry Relations Advisor, CBH
Ms Dorte Hansen Senior Project Officer, Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA

Apologies

Hon Mia Davies MLA Member for Central Wheatbelt
Mr Peter Rundle MLA Member for Roe
Hon Martin Aldridge MLC Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Laurie Graham MLC Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Colin de Grussa MLC Member for Agricultural Region
Hon Darren West MLC Member for Agricultural Region

Mr Ian D'Arcy CEO, Shire of Brookton
Cr Grant Robins Deputy President, Shire of Kulin
President Leigh Ballard President, Shire of Narrogin
Cr Tim Weise Deputy President, Shire of Narrogin
Cr Wayne Davies President, Shire of Quairading
Cr Graeme Parsons Deputy President, Shire of Wandering
Cr Kevin King President, Shire of West Arthur
Cr Jarrad Logie President, Shire of Williams
Mr Geoff McKeown CEO, Shire of Williams

Ms Mandy Walker Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt Inc

3.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ELECTION OF STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

4.1 Delegates and Deputy Delegates to Zone

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer/Returning Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 21 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Following the biennial local government elections Member Councils are to appoint delegates and deputy delegate(s) to the Zone.

At the time of writing the agenda Member Councils had advised their delegates and deputy delegates to the Zone as follows:

Council	Delegates	Deputy Delegates
Shire of Beverley	Cr Don Davis Cr Chris Pepper	
Shire of Brookton	Cr Katrina Crute Cr Neil Walker	
Shire of Corrigin	Cr Des Hickey Cr Mike Weguelin	
Shire of Cuballing	Cr Mark Conley Cr Eliza Dowling	Cr Deborah Hopper Mr Gary Sherry
Shire of Dumbleyung	Cr Julie Ramm Cr Marilyn Hasleby	Cr Grant Lukins Cr Catherine Watkins
Shire of Kulin	Cr Barry West Cr Grant Robins	Cr Rodney Duckworth
Shire of Lake Grace	Cr Jeanette De Landgraft Cr Peter Stoffberg	
Shire of Narrogin	President Leigh Ballard Cr Tim Weise	
Shire of Pingelly	Cr Bill Mulroney Cr Jackie McBurney	Cr Peter Wood
Shire of Quairading	Cr Brett McGuinness, Cr Jo Haythornthwaite	Cr Wayne Davies (1) Mr Graeme Fardon (2)
Shire of Wagin	Cr Phil Blight Cr Greg Ball	Cr Bryan Kilpatrick
Shire of Wandering	Cr Ian Turton Cr Graeme Parsons	Cr Brendan Whitely
Shire of West Arthur	Cr Kevin King Cr Julie McFall	
Shire of Wickepin	Cr Julie Russell Cr Wes Astbury	Cr Sarah Hyde
Shire of Williams	Cr Jarrad Logie Cr Moya Carne	

The above details are for information purposes only.

4.2 Election of WA Local Government Association State Council Representative and Deputy State Council Representative

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer/Returning Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 22 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Nominations were called and closed on Thursday 21 November 2019. All Member Councils have been advised of the outcome of the nomination process.

Executive Officer Comment:

The following nomination(s) were received for the position of State Council Representative:

State Council Representative Nomination

Cr Phillip Blight Shire of Wagin

As a consequence of there being only one nomination for the State Council Representative there will not be a ballot at the meeting and Cr Phil Blight will be elected unopposed as the State Council Representative for the Zone for the period until December 2021.

The following nomination(s) were received for the position of Deputy State Council Representative:

Deputy State Council Representative Nomination

Cr Katrina Crute Shire of Brookton

As a consequence of there being only one nomination for the Deputy State Council Representative there will not be a ballot at the meeting and Cr Katrina Crute will be elected unopposed as the Deputy State Council Representative for the Zone for the period until December 2021.

Election State Council Representative

The Returning Officer declared Cr Phillip Blight elected to the position of State Council Representative for the period 2019-2021.

Election Deputy State Council Representative

The Returning Officer declared Cr Katrina Crute elected to the position of Deputy State Council Representative for the period 2019-2021.

4.3 Election of Zone President, Zone Deputy President and up to Three Zone Executive Committee Members

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer/Returning Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 22 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

The Central Country Zone Constitution provides:

The Zone Executive Committee shall consist of a maximum of six persons, being:

- a) President, ex-officio:
- b) Deputy President, ex-officio:
- c) Representative to State Council, ex-officio, if not President or Deputy President: and
- d) three Delegates elected from member councils, as necessary.

Executive Officer Comment:

Nominations were called and closed on Thursday 21 November 2019. All Member Councils have been advised of the outcome of the nomination process.

The following nominations were received for the positions of Zone President, Zone Deputy President and two or three Executive Committee members:

Zone President Nominations

Cr Brett McGuinness, Shire of Quairading

Zone Deputy President Nominations

No nominations

Zone Executive Committee Nominations (3 positions)

Cr Katrina Crute, Shire of Brookton

Election of Zone President

There being only sufficient nominations to fill the position of Zone President, Cr Brett McGuinness will be declared elected to the position of Zone President for 2019-2021.

Election of Zone Deputy President

As there were no nominations for the position of Deputy President for the period 2019/2021 nominations will be invited from the floor of the meeting.

Election of Zone Executive Committee (3 positions)

As there are less nominations than required for the Executive Committee, Cr Crute is declared elected to the Zone Executive Committee for the period 2019/2021 and for the two unfilled position, nominations will be invited from the floor of the meeting.

The following process will be followed in regard to the election for the Deputy President and the two Executive Committee members:

- President will invite nominations from the floor for the relevant position;
- Should a ballot be required the following process will be followed:

- Prior to the ballot nominees for the position will be extended the opportunity to provide a two (2) minute election bid to delegates;
- The ballot will be conducted as a secret ballot;
- Each voting delegate to the Central Country Zone will be entitled to cast one (1) vote in the ballot process, with the “first past the post” method of election being used; and
- The candidates with the greater number of votes will be elected.

In the event of a tie between two candidates a second ballot will be conducted immediately between those two candidates.

Election Zone President

The Returning Officer declared Cr Brett McGuinness elected to the position of Zone President for 2019/2021.

Cr McGuinness assumed the chair.

Cr McGuinness then handed over to the Returning Officer to conduct the balance of the elections.

Election of Zone Deputy President

As there were no written nominations for the position of Deputy President for the period 2019/2021 the Returning Officer invited nominations from the floor of the meeting.

Cr Conley nominated Cr Jeanette De Landgraftt.

Cr Jeanette De Landgraftt accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations Cr De Landgraftt was elected to the position of Deputy President for the period 2019/2021.

Election of Zone Executive Committee (up to 3 positions)

The Returning Officer declared Cr Katrina Crute elected to the Zone Executive Committee for the period 2019/2021 and invited nominations for the unfilled vacancy.

Mr Mark Hook nominated Cr Julie Russell.

Cr Russell accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations Cr Russell was elected to the Zone Executive Committee for the period 2019/2021.

Cr McGuinness noted that there was one further position to be filled and encouraged delegates to consider the matter during the meeting.

The matter of the election of a member of the Executive was considered at Item 11 but is recorded at this point in the meeting.

Cr Crute nominated Cr Barry West.

Cr West accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations Cr West was elected to the Zone Executive Committee for the period 2019/2021.

Footnote:

The Executive Committee for 2019/2021 is:

President	Cr Brett McGuinness
Deputy President	Cr Jeanette De Landgraft
State Council Representative	Cr Phillip Blight
Executive Committee Members	Cr Katrina Crute
	Cr Julie Russell
	Cr Barry West

4.4 Election of Zone Representatives to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group and Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer/Returning Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 21 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

As the Zone is represented on the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group and the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee it is appropriate to conduct elections for these positions as part of the election of Zone office bearers.

Nominations were called and closed on Thursday 21 November 2019.

All Member Councils have been advised of the outcome of the nomination process.

At the close of nominations the following nominations had been received for the various positions:

Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Nominations (1 delegate and 1 deputy delegate)

Cr Katrina Crute, Shire of Brookton (delegate)

Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee Nominations (1 delegate and 1 deputy delegate)

No nominations

Election Delegate and Deputy Delegate to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

There being only sufficient to fill the position of delegate there will not be a ballot at the meeting and Cr Katrina Crute will be declared elected unopposed as the delegate to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group for the period 2019/2021.

As there were no nominations for the position of deputy delegate for the period 2019/2021 nominations will be invited from the floor of the meeting.

Election - Delegate to the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee

As there were no nominations for the position of delegate and deputy delegate to the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee for the period 2019/2021 nominations will be invited from the floor of the meeting.

The following process will be followed in regard to the election delegates to the various organisations:

- President will invite nominations from the floor for the relevant positions;
- Should a ballot be required the following process will be followed:
 - Prior to the ballot nominees for the position will be extended the opportunity to provide a two (2) minute election bid to delegates;
 - The ballot will be conducted as a secret ballot;
 - Each voting delegate to the Central Country Zone will be entitled to cast one (1) vote in the ballot process, with the "first past the post" method of election being used; and
 - The candidates with the greater number of votes will be elected.

In the event of a tie between two candidates for either election a second ballot will be conducted immediately between those two candidates.

Election - Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Nominations (1 delegate and 1 deputy delegate)

The Returning Officer declared Cr Katrina Crute elected to as the delegate to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group for the period 2019/2021.

As there was no nomination for the position of Deputy Delegate the President invited nominations from the floor of the meeting.

Cr Crute nominated Cr Phillip Blight.

Cr Blight accepted the nomination.

The Returning Officer declared Cr Blight elected as deputy delegate to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group for the period 2019/2021.

Election - Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee Nominations (1 delegate and 1 deputy delegate)

As there were no nominations for the positions of Delegate or Deputy Delegate to the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee for the period 2019/2021, the President invited nominations from the floor of the meeting.

Cr Blight nominated President Leigh Ballard. As Mr Ballard was not in attendance at the meeting the nomination was subject to his acceptance.

The Returning Officer declared Mr Ballard elected as the Zone Delegate to the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee for the period 2019/2021, subject to his acceptance.

No nominations were received for the deputy delegate to the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee.

5.0 GUEST SPEAKERS

5.1 Presentation and Update on Local Government Auditing - Mr Jordan Langford-Smith A/Assistant Auditor General, Office of the Auditor General (10.00am)

A presentation providing an update on Local Government auditing so far including a look at some of recent Local Government audits undertaken by the Office of the Auditor General.

5.2 Mr Rob Dickie Government & Industry Relations Advisor, CBH (10.30am)

A presentation providing an update from CBH with regards to its Network Strategy progress and the process for closure of non-Network Strategy sites.

On 13 November 2019 the Executive Officer noticed in the West Australian Newspaper an article (attached) relating to Tier 3 rail lines and CBH's efforts to reopen them. Mr Dickie will touch on this issue at the meeting but it needs to be acknowledged it is a complex matter and time will not allow a detailed discussion.

10.52am the meeting adjourned for morning tea

11.20am the meeting reconvened after morning tea

5.3 Ms Dorte Hansen, Senior Project Officer, Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA - Developing and Implementing Public Health Plans (11.10am)

At the last Zone Meeting on 30 August 2019 it was resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Blight Seconded: Cr Mulrone

That the Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA be invited to attend and present at the next Central Country Zone Meeting on Friday 29 November 2019 to provide information on accessing funding to assist Member Councils in developing and implementing their respective Public Health Plans.

CARRIED

In assisting Ms Hansen prepare for the presentation, the Executive Officer sought information on how far Member Councils had progressed in preparing their local health plans. An excellent response was received, with 13 of the Zone's 15 Member Councils responding.

Of the 13 Councils that responded, 11 Councils have yet to commence work on their respective local health plans, with the other 2 Councils at various stages in the preparation of their plans.

6.0 MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes – Friday 30 August 2019 (Attachment)

Presenting the Minutes of the Central Country Zone Meeting held Friday 30 August 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone held Friday 30 August 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Central Country Zone held Friday 30 August 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes of Previous Zone Meetings

6.2.1 Item 7.5 (7.1.1) — Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit - 30 August 2019

It was resolved at the last meeting in relation to the issue of *Climate Emergency* as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr Ridgway* *Seconded: Cr Pepper*

That the Central Country Zone advise WALGA that it is opposed to the use of the words “climate emergency” in place of the words “climate change” and the Zone State Councillor Cr Blight be requested to pursue this change on the Zone’s behalf.

CARRIED

Cr Blight raised the issue at the State Council Meeting with a motion to review the WALGA Climate Change policy being lost (see State Councillor Report).

6.2.2 Item 10.2 - State Government Consultation within the Wheatbelt - 30 August 2019 (Attachment)

At the last meeting of the Zone, correspondence from the Minister for Regional Development, Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC was noted. Further correspondence from Hon Darren West MLC has now been received and is attached to the agenda.

6.2.3 Item 10.6 - Lack of Respect and Responsiveness to Local Government and Managing Unwarranted, Untruthful and Sensationalised Reporting of Local Government – 30 August 2019 (Attachment)

It was resolved at the last meeting concerning a matter from the 4WDL VROC relating to *Lack of Respect and Responsiveness to Local Government and Managing Unwarranted, Untruthful and Sensationalised Reporting of Local Government* as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr Baker* *Seconded: Cr McGuinness*

- 1. That the Central Country Zone request WALGA to take a more proactive approach in insisting that the State Government (including its agencies and departments) cooperate properly and respectfully in its dealings with Local Government as an equal partner, in trying to achieve outcomes for the community at large.*
- 2. That WALGA continue its concerted effort to dispel mistruths perpetuated by some sections of the media and strive to ensure that a more balanced reporting regime prevails.*

CARRIED

Correspondence has been received from Cr Craigie, President of WALGA providing a detailed response to the concerns raised.

As this issue was raised by the 4WDL VROC it may be appropriate to forward a copy of the response to that group.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the correspondence from Cr Craigie, President of WALGA, be noted and a copy forwarded to the Executive Officer of 4WDL VROC.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Blight** **Seconded: Cr Pepper**

That the correspondence from Cr Craigie, President of WALGA, be noted and a copy forwarded to the Executive Officer of 4WDL VROC.

CARRIED

6.3 Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday 16 October 2019 (Attachment)
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Presenting the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held Wednesday 16 October 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 16 October 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 16 October 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 6 September 2019

The following comments/notes are provided on the WALGA State Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6 September 2019

EMERGING ISSUE

4.1 Proposed Elected Member 'Welfare/Counselling' Program(s)

By Mayor Logan Howlett, State Councillor, South Metropolitan Zone

Whilst this program is intended to mitigate against the potential of Elected Members suffering mental health issues, it is also important to have strategies to transfer any residual risk. Therefore, LGIS have been working with the Elected Member Personal Accident insurer to provide a loss of income / lumps sum benefit cover, should Elected Members suffer mental anguish due to their capacity as an Elected Member. We expect to be in a position to present this to members in 2020.

Further, through the Councillors and Officers insurance arranged by LGIS on behalf of members, Elected Members also have access to a complimentary legal helpline to support them in matters concerning alleged wrong doings in their capacity as an Elected Member.

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett

Seconded: Cr Les Price

That WALGA requests LGIS to investigate the design and development of a tailored support service for Elected Members including the provision of a short term counselling service.

RESOLUTION 92.6/2019 CARRIED

5.7 Road Safety Strategy for WA Beyond 2020 (05-009-03-0014 TAP)

By Terri-Anne Pettet, Manager RoadWise Program

Moved: Cr Jan Court Seconded: Cr Nige Jones

That the submission to the Road Safety Council, for consideration in developing the next road safety strategy for Western Australia, be endorsed with the word 'management' being replaced with the word 'reform' in each case in points 4 and 5.

AMENDMENT

Moved: President Cr Phillip Blight Seconded: President Cr Karen Chappel

That point 2 be added as follows:

2. WALGA opposes the blanket reduction in speed limits and confirms the existing policy position supporting retention of WA's default open road speed limit at 110kms per hour.

CARRIED

THE MOTION AS AMENDED NOW READS:

That the submission to the Road Safety Council, for consideration in developing the next road safety strategy for Western Australia, be endorsed subject to;

**1. the word 'management' being replaced with the word 'reform' in each case in points 4 and 5; and
2. WALGA opposes the blanket reduction in speed limits and confirms the existing policy position supporting retention of WA's default open road speed limit at 110kms per hour.**

RESOLUTION 99.6/2019 THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS PUT AND CARRIED

This item had some discussion including the possibility of 100kms/hr but the amendment was framed based on sector wide endorsed policy.

5.8 Interim Submission - Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (05-006-02-0006 ID)

By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure

Moved: President Cr Stephen Strange

Seconded: President Cr Malcolm Cullen

That the interim submission to the Department of Transport on the draft Revitalising Agricultural Regional Freight Strategy be endorsed, with the addition to Section 4.7 of the following paragraph:

“Industry investment to increase road transport efficiency, largely through increased payloads per truck, inevitably requires increased investment in roads if these vehicles are able to operate end to end. There is currently no mechanism to enable part of the productivity benefit to be used to fund the infrastructure improvement needed. This potentially results in lost opportunities”.

RESOLUTION 100.6/2019 CARRIED

The addition was suggested by the South Metropolitan Zone

5.10 State Council and Zone Structure and Process Working Group Report (01-004-05-0002 TL)

Moved: President Cr Tony Dean

Seconded: President Cr Keith House

That:

- 1. The Working Group's Final Report be noted and released to the Local Government sector for information and consultation;**
- 2. Recommendations 5, 6, 7, and 8 be endorsed for immediate implementation; and,**
- 3. Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10 be endorsed in principle subject to sector and Zone consultation being undertaken during September, October, and November 2019, with a report brought to the December 2019 State Council meeting for final endorsement.**

RESOLUTION 102.6/2019 CARRIED

8. ADDITIONAL ZONE RESOLUTIONS

Moved: President Cr Phillip Blight

Seconded: Mayor Tracey Roberts

That the following Central Country Zone item be discussed

Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit – Environment and Waste

That the Central Country Zone advise WALGA that it is opposed to the use of the words “climate emergency” in place of the words “climate change” and the Zone State Councillor Cr Blight be requested to pursue this change on the Zone's behalf.

RESOLUTION 125.6/2019 CARRIED

Moved: President Cr Phillip Blight

Seconded: Cr Jenna Ledgerwood

That WALGA's Climate Change policy be reviewed.

LOST

Most zones accepted the remaining recommendations as proposed by the secretariat and they were passed without debate.

7.2 WALGA Status Report (Attachment)

From *Executive Officer*

BACKGROUND:

Presenting the status report for November 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone notes the:

- State Councillor Report; and
- WALGA Status Report.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Mulrone** **Seconded: Cr Russell**

That the Central Country Zone notes the:

- **State Councillor Report; and**
- **WALGA Status Report.**

CARRIED

7.3 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda - Matters for Decision

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 2020-21 State Budget Submission (05-001-03-0006 NF)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA's submission to the State Government in advance of the 2020-21 Budget be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The budget submission contains 18 recommendations across four identified strategic themes. The recommendations include funding for drafting of the new Local Government Act and elected member universal training.

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Documents/state-budget-submission-web.pdf?lang=en-AU>

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.2 Interim Submission - Remote Area Tax Concessions (05-001-03-0006 NF)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA's interim submission to the Productivity Commission's Draft Report into Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.3 Mandatory Code of Conduct for Council Member, Committee Members and Candidates – Sector Feedback (05-034-01-0001 JMc)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Request the Mandatory Code of Conduct Working Group be reconvened by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries;
2. Refer the following matters to the Working Group for further consideration:
 - (a) Part B – Behaviours
 - i. ensuring principles of natural justice can be adequately upheld in all circumstances;
 - ii. training opportunities that will assist Council Members determine complaint outcomes under Part B;
 - iii. development of a template Complaints Management Policy;
 - iv. reconsider the purpose of allowing ‘any person’ to make a complaint;
 - v. ensuring Committee Members and Candidates are included in Part B; and
 - vi. re-naming ‘Rules’ to an appropriate term throughout Part B.
 - (b) Part C – Rules of Conduct
 - i. review the rationale for creating a new Rule of Conduct breach where three or more breaches of Part B – Behaviours are found and the Local Government resolves to refer the matter to the Local Government Standards Panel; and
 - ii. review the proposal to amend the definition of an ‘interest’ relating to Impartiality Interests from the present definition in Regulation 11 of the Local Government (Rules of Conduct) Regulations.
3. Recommend the Working Group develop an endorsed Mandatory Code of Conduct for further consultation with the Local Government sector.

Executive Officer Comment:

WALGA has been a participant in the Mandatory Code of Conduct Working Group to develop the document *“however the Draft for Consultation was released prior to endorsement by the Working Group, and there are a number of unresolved issues previously raised by WALGA’s representatives that will be expanded upon in this submission.”* (p13 WALGA State Council Agenda)

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Documents/Item-5-3-attachment-link-Draft-Submission-on-Code-of-Conduct-October-2.pdf?lang=en-AU>

It is suggested that as there are three Parts to the Mandatory Code that it would be appropriate in addition to accepting the WALGA Recommendation that a formal resolution to accept Part A - Principles should also be included in the resolution.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation with the addition of a new Part 2 to support Part A – Principles. Part 2 and 3 would be renumbered to Part 3 and 4.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone supports the WALGA recommendation with the addition of a new Part 2 to read **“2 Part A – Principles are supported and Parts 2 and 3 be renumbered to read Parts 3 and 4”**.

That the Central Country Zone supports the WALGA recommendation with the addition of a new Part 2 to read “2 Part A – Principles are supported and Parts 2 and 3 be renumbered to read Parts 3 and 4”.

CARRIED

5.4 Standards and Guidelines for CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination – Sector Feedback (05-034-01-0001 JMC)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Request the CEO Recruitment and Selection, Performance Review and Termination Working Group be reconvened by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries; and
2. Refer the following matters to the Working Group for consideration:
 - (a) Removal from the Model Standards the requirement to readvertise CEO positions after 10 years of continuous service;
 - (b) Encouraging, rather than mandating, the involvement of an independent person in the CEO Recruitment and Selection Process;
 - (c) Reconsideration of the proposal for independent review of the recruitment process;
 - (d) Support the role of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries as the regulator for monitoring and compliance; and
 - (e) Further investigate a role for a Local Government Commissioner.
3. Recommend the Working Group develop endorsed Model Standards for further consultation with the Local Government sector.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

WALGA Model CEO Standards Draft Submission:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Documents/Item-5-4-attachment-Draft-Submission-on-CEO-Standards-and-Guidelines-O.pdf?lang=en-AU>

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.5 Local Government Financial Ratios (05-034-01-0001 TB))

WALGA Recommendation

- 1) That WALGA advocate to the Minister for Local Government to amend the Local Government Financial Management Regulations to provide for the following ratios;
 - a. Operating Surplus Ratio
 - b. Debt Service Coverage Ratio
 - c. Asset Sustainability Ratio
 - d. Current Ratio
 - e. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio
- 2) The recommended indicators to the financial ratios be referred to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Office of the Auditor General for consideration;
 - a) Operating Surplus Ratio
A key indicator of a Local Government’s financial performance is the Operating Surplus relative to the operating revenues. A benchmark result of 0% or greater is considered acceptable. Advanced is 15% or above-
 - b) Debt Service Coverage Ratio
A Local Government’s ability to service debt is measured by the “Debt Service Cover Ratio”. This is the measurement of a local government’s ability to produce enough cash to

cover its debt payments. A Basic standard is achieved if the ratio is greater than or equal to 2. An Advanced standard is achieved if the ratio is greater than 5

- c) **Asset Sustainability Ratio**
Measures capital expenditure on renewal or replacement of assets, relative to depreciation expense. Standard is met if the ratio can be measured and is 90% (or 0.90) Standard is improving if this ratio is between 90% and 110% (or 0.90 and 1.10)
- d) **Current Ratio**
Liquidity refers to how quickly and cheaply an asset can be converted into cash. A Local Government's liquidity is measured by the "Current Ratio". This ratio provides information on the ability of a Local Government to meet its short-term financial obligations out of unrestricted current assets. Standard is met if the ratio can be measured and is at least 90%. Standard is improving if this ratio is between 90% and 110%.
- e) **Net Financial Liabilities Ratio**
An indicator of the extent to which the net financial liabilities of a Local Government can be serviced by its operating revenues. Target < 60% per annum.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.6 Local Government Audits (05-034-01-0001 TB)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA;

- 1) Write to the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) advising of the cost increases to the Local Government sector in respect to financial audits over the first 2 years of OAG audits and request constraint on audit cost increases in the future.
- 2) Write to the Minister for Local Government seeking formal commitment that Performance Audits carried out by the Office of the Auditor General are the responsibility of the State Government.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.7 Review of State Council and Zone Structure and Processes – Working Group Report and Recommendations (01-004-05-0002 TL)

WALGA Recommendation

That:

- 1. The Working Group's Final Report, and State Council's prior endorsement of Recommendations 5, 6, 7, and 8 from the Working Group's Final Report, be noted; and
- 2. Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10, from the Working Group's Final Report be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The Working Group's Final Report can be accessed through the following link:

[Final Report – State Council and Zone Structure and Process Working Group](#)

The recommendations of the Working Group being endorsed in Part 2 of the recommendation above are as follows:

1	That the existing composition and representational arrangements of State Council be retained.	<i>Endorsed in principle.</i>
2	That the role of Deputy State Councillor be retained.	<i>Endorsed in principle.</i>
3	That no term limits be introduced for the role of State Councillor.	<i>Endorsed in</i>

		<i>principle.</i>
4	That a Panel of Member Advisors be established comprising of State Councillors and other Elected Members appointed by the President.	<i>Endorsed in principle.</i>
9	That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The secretariat engage with Zones regarding the services and support that WALGA provides to Zones; and, 2. The secretariat continues to offer baseline Zone secretariat services to Zones as appropriate. 	<i>Endorsed in principle.</i>
10	That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The secretariat develop templates and processes to reduce the length of State Council agenda items; 2. Following consultation with the sector, production of hard copy agendas cease beginning with the March 2020 meeting of State Council; and, 3. A process be implemented, in consultation with the Local Government sector, to enable Councils to consider items for decision in the State Council agenda to raise awareness of contemporary strategic advocacy and policy issues and to enable Councils to provide guidance and direction to their Zone representatives. 	<i>Endorsed in principle.</i>

The above recommendations in effect make little or no change to the way in which State Council and the Zones operate. The Executive Officer considers this to be a disappointing outcome as there would seem to be many opportunities to make change to ensure that WALGA has greater “flexibility” in its operations. WALGA was established in 2001 and the role of local government and the expectations of the community have changed significantly in the intervening time, but sadly, WALGA has changed very little.

Important issues can sometimes take too long to “navigate” the WALGA process with the consequence there may be a lost opportunity to effect positive change for the sector as a whole.

The Executive Officer believes that in order to improve the effectiveness of WALGA there needs to be a way to streamline its structure and operations, which would include reducing the number of State Councillors but still keeping the same proportion between Metropolitan and Country.

The Executive Officer is of the view that Recommendations 1 and 2 should not be adopted but be revisited and an independent review be undertaken at “arms” length of WALGA to see if there are changes that could be made to the “*existing composition and representational arrangements of State Council*”.

ZONE COMMENT:

For consideration by the Zone.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr Conley** **Seconded: Cr Ball**

That the Central Country Zone request that WALGA conduct an independent evaluation of the WALGA structure.

MOTION LOST

5.8 Membership of Development Assessment Panels (05-047-01-0016 VJ)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA advocate to the Minister for Planning, that the composition of Development Assessment Panels (DAPs) be modified to provide equal representation of technical advice and local knowledge, in accordance with the original objectives of the DAP system to enhance the decision making process by improving the balance of experts.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.9 Interim Submission - Draft State Planning Policy 3.6 – Infrastructure Contributions (05-036-03-0010 VJ)

WALGA Recommendation

1. That the interim submission to the WA Planning Commission on draft State Planning Policy 3.6 – Infrastructure Contributions, be endorsed.
2. That the West Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) be advised that the proposed cap on community infrastructure contributions is strongly opposed and without the removal of this proposed cap, WALGA does not support draft State Planning Policy 3.6 – Infrastructure Contributions.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.10 Local Government as Collection Agency for Construction Training Fund (05-015-02-0005 VJ)

WALGA Recommendation

1. That WALGA advise the Construction Training Fund (CTF):
 - 1.1 That due to the operational improvements and establishment of an on-line portal for payments of the Building and Construction Industry Training Fund, Local Government will not continue to be a collection agency for these payments;
 - 1.2 That the online receipt issued upon payment of the *Building and Construction Industry Training Fund*, must clearly show the property address and estimated building value to ensure it complies with section 20 of the *Building Act 2011*;
 - 1.3 That the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) must provide access to the data collated in the Building Permit Database Project to assist CTF in their acquittal process; and
 - 1.4 That a review of the apprenticeship pathways should be undertaken, as the Local Government sector can provide many potential apprentice pathways directly connected to the construction and development industry.
2. That WALGA advise the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Education & Training and Minister for Commerce that the current CTF collection process is unnecessary administrative red tape for the Local Government sector, and seek their support for Local Government to not continue to be a collection agency for these payments.

Executive Officer Comment:

Use of the ampersand (&) in the title should be changed as the Minister's title is Minister for Education and Training.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.11 Interim Submission - Public Health Regulations Review Discussion Papers (05-031-01-0001 BW)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submissions provided to the Department of Health on the following discussion papers be endorsed:

1. Managing public health risks at events in WA
2. Management of public health risks related to offensive trade in WA
3. Managing the public health risks associated with cooling towers and warm water systems in WA
4. A new regulatory framework for managing drinking water in WA.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submissions can be accessed through the following links:

[WALGA Submission Managing public health risks at events in WA;](#)
[WALGA Submission Managing public health risks related to offensive trades in WA;](#)
[WALGA Submission Managing public health risks associated with cooling towers and warm water systems in WA;](#) and
[WALGA Submission A new regulatory framework for managing drinking water in WA](#)

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.12 Reforms to the Building Approval Process for Single Residential Buildings in Western Australia (05-015-02-0010 VJ)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Advise the Department of Mines Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) that Option 3 of the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement, improvements to the single residential building approvals process, is supported in principle, subject to the following matters being addressed in consultation with the Local Government sector:
 - a) Prior to any regulatory changes, a review of the building fees and charges is essential, to ensure that any costs associated with the approval of building work, implementation of mandatory inspections, compliance and enforcement actions, and record keeping requirements for the Local Government sector, will result in full cost recovery
 - b) The Independent Building Surveyor who signed the Certificate of Design Compliance should be responsible for undertaking the inspections, therefore, Local Government would not be solely responsible for mandatory inspections
 - c) The State Government's registration process for the Builder should be strengthened to ensure that the builder fulfils their obligations for compliance with the National Construction Code
 - d) Implementation of mandatory inspections should be undertaken by properly qualified and independent personnel, at the following stages (at a minimum) of the construction process
 1. Foundations and footings
 2. Slab/reinforcement of bearers/joists
 3. Waterproofing
 4. Roof, and
 5. Occupancy or final completion
 - e) The occupancy or final completion inspection must ensure that the bushfire construction and energy efficiency requirements have been complied with, and
 - f) The removal of the proposed 'fast track approval' concept, as is not warranted nor properly justified as an improvement option.
2. Endorse the submission of this State Council report to the DMIRS, as the Association's submission on the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement.

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.13 Wheatbelt Regional Health Services 05-030-03-0006 MM)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Re-establishes a working group to progress a Memorandum of Understanding with Local Governments in the Wheatbelt region and the WA Country Health Service, based on the previous work by the former Wheatbelt Health MOU Group, which outlines communication, responsibilities and strategic priorities unique to the region; and
2. Work with key service providers and stakeholders to engage with Local Government to further discuss the issues and develop solutions in the aged care services sector.

Executive Officer Comment:

This recommendation mirrors the establishment of a body similar to the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group of which the Zone was a member and met a portion of the group's operating costs. WALGA was not involved in the former Wheatbelt Health MOU Group.

The State Council Report makes the following comment:

In June 2015 the Zones initiated a review of the purpose and relevance of the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group. In August 2015 the group was suspended until a draft revised MOU was completed, which did not eventuate.

In the opinion of the Executive Officer, who was also involved in the executive support to the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group, the Group became dysfunctional following a number of discussions on the future direction of the Group at the June 2015 and August 2015 Meetings. Two of the Group's non-local government members placed conditions on providing continued funding which could not be agreed to by the local government members on the group, with the result the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group was dissolved.

A new local government-based advocacy group was established. Called "Healthy Wheatbelt", its membership included representatives from the three Wheatbelt Zones.

A meeting involving all three Zone Executive Committee members was held during Local Government Week in 2017. The outcome of this meeting was to undertake a review of the future of the group which eventually folded and surplus funds returned to the Zones.

There is no doubt a need to monitor the health spending in the Wheatbelt as for all rural and remote areas, but given the concerns of the Zone Executive Committee during the latter operation of the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group it is doubtful that her the establishment of the proposed committee will assist the process.

It should also be noted that during the time the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group operated the involvement of WACHS in the group's activities diminished significantly, particularly after all SIHI related activities came under the jurisdiction of WACHS (the Wheatbelt Health MOU Group was instrumental in the establishment of SIHI).

Given that WACHS will be guided by its recently adopted strategic plan, unless there is a specific requirement for WACHS to liaise more directly with local governments themselves, the Executive Officer is not entirely certain that WACHS' agreement to participate in a new "MOU Group" will be forthcoming. It is likely that WACHS sees this role as already being undertaken through the local and district area health groups that operate across Councils within each of the three Wheatbelt Zones.

ZONE COMMENT:

For Zone consideration

Cr McGuinness declared an impartiality interest in this matter

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Blight** **Seconded: Cr Mulroney**

That the Central Country Zone advise WALGA that it does not support the re-establishment of the "Health MOU Group".

CARRIED

5.14 Interim Submission to the Climate Health WA Inquiry (05-031-01-0001 KD)

WALGA Recommendation

That the WALGA interim submission to the Climate Health WA Inquiry be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.15 Submission on the Climate Change in Western Australia Issues Paper (05-028-03-0011 MB)

WALGA Recommendation

That the WALGA submission on the Climate Change in Western Australia Issues Paper be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

[Draft WALGA submission to the DWER Climate Change in Western Australia Issues Paper](#)

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.16 Interim Submission – Policy and Application Guidelines for Speed Zoning (05-009-02-0035 MS)

WALGA Recommendation

The interim submission to Main Roads WA on the Policy and Application Guidelines for Speed Zoning be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Documents/Item-5-16-attachment-Interim-Submission.pdf?lang=en-AU>

ZONE COMMENT:

Zone supports the WALGA recommendation

5.17 Interim Submission - Response to the Select Committee on Northern Australia (05-049-03-0001 NF)

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA's interim submission to the Select Committee on the effectiveness of the Australian Government's Northern Australia agenda be endorsed.

Executive Officer Comment:

The submission can be accessed through the following link:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/Documents/Item-5-17-attachment-Select-Committee-Report.pdf?lang=en-AU>

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 Walker** **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 Ministerial Review of State IR System (05-034-01-0001 EC)
- 6.2 Action Plan for Planning Reform (05-04702-0015 VJ)
- 6.3 Parliamentary Inquiry into Short Stay Accommodation – Final Report (05-036-03-0016 CH)
- 6.4 Draft State Planning Policy 7.2: Precinct Design – Submission (05-036-03-0067 AR)
- 6.5 Managing Public Health Risks Associated with Pesticides in WA (05-031-01-0001 MM)
- 6.6 Local Government Grants Scheme Working Group (05-024-03-0034 MP)
- 6.7 Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) Program (05-024-03-0035 MP)
- 6.8 WALGA Emergency Management Engagement Project (05-024-02-0059 EDR)
- 6.9 WALGA Submission to the Inquiry into 5G in Australia (05-001-02-0014 MB)
- 6.10 WALGA Comments on the Environmental Offsets Framework Review Report (05-025-03-0000 MB)
- 6.11 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (01006-03-0008 RNB)

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)
 - 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 (Attachment)

Presenting the WALGA President's Report

Cr Conley President, Shire of Cuballing raised his concern at the expectation by Local Government Insurance Services (LGIS) that the President and CEO of a local government would attend the LGIS presentation when details of the "member dividend reimbursement" were released to the local government. He felt that this was an unreasonable expectation and when he raised the matter with LGIS was advised that it the requirement of LGIS was a directive from WALGA.

Given that the Shire of Cuballing has always been a strong supporter of the LGIS scheme this was seen as a waste of time for all concerned.

Cr Blight as the State Council representative provided a brief response and noted the concern.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone notes 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 Blight** **Seconded: Cr Russell**

That the Central Country Zone notes 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 Central Country Zone 2018/2019 Audit Report (Attachment)

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest: Nil
Date: 18 November 2019
Attachments: 2018/2019 Financial Report and Management Letter

Background:

Presenting the finalised Financial Report and Management Letter

Executive Officer Comment:

The Draft Financial Report and Management Letter have been received and presented to the Zone Executive Committee held 16 October 2019 for review prior to signing.

The Zone Executive Committee having reviewed the Draft Audited Financial Report, Audit Report and Management Letter resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: Cr De Landgraff* *Seconded: Cr Russell*

1. *That the Central Country Zone Executive Committee endorse the Representation Letter and Draft Financial Statement and authorise the Zone President and Executive Officer, as appropriate, to sign the documents.*
2. *That the Audited Financial Statements be submitted to the Zone Meeting on Friday 29 November 2019 for acceptance.*
3. *That the Executive Officer:*
 - a) *Write to all Member Councils informing them of the need for creditor tax invoices to correctly name the creditor; and*
 - b) *Advise the auditor of the action taken by the Central Country Zone.*

CARRIED

The Audit was undertaken by Anderson Munro & Wylie and was undertaken efficiently and in a timely manner.

The action of writing to all Member Councils (item 3b above) has not been undertaken pending the formal adoption of the Audited Financial Statements by the Zone at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone 2018/2019 Audited Financial Report and Management Letter be accepted.

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

That the Central Country Zone 2018/2019 Audited Financial Report and Management Letter be accepted.

CARRIED

8.2 Bank Account Changes

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest: Bruce Wittber and Helen Westcott are current signatories
Date: 21 November 2019
Attachments: Nil

Background:

With the election of a new Zone President, Cr Brett McGuinness it would be appropriate for the Zone to give approval for his name to be added to the bank authorisation and for Cr Mark Conley to be removed.

Executive Officer Comment:

Currently the Zone President "countersigns" all cheques and electronic fund transfers with the other signatory being one of the Joint Executive Officers. Nearly all payments are made electronically and are required to be approved by two of the signatories.

With a change in the Zone President it is necessary to amend the current arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Cr Brett McGuinness be added as a signatory to the Central Country Zone bank accounts and Cr Mark Conley be removed.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Conley** **Seconded: Cr Blight**

That Cr Brett McGuinness be added as a signatory to the Central Country Zone bank accounts and Cr Mark Conley be removed.

CARRIED

9.0 ZONE REPORTS

9.1 Zone President's Report

Nil

9.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

9.2.1 Minutes of Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting 11 October 2019 (Attachment)

Presenting the Minutes of Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting 11 October 2019.

It should be noted that the minutes have only just been received which made it difficult for the delegate to prepare the Zone report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting held 11 October 2019 be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Russell** **Seconded: Cr Landgrafft**

That the Minutes of the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting held 11 October 2019 be received.

CARRIED

9.2.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Delegate's Report

Cr Katrina Crute

Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting – 11 October 2019

Teleconference meeting

- **Accredited Pilots**

Main Roads hoping to clear up medical certificate requirements, ie. no older than 6 months when you apply compared with 3 years for Heavy Vehicle.

Does seem to be some confusion between Ag Pilot and Heavy Vehicle Accredited Pilot, just make sure you aren't being pressured into a HV Accreditation when you meet the requirements for Ag Pilot.

- **Curfews on moving Ag Implements**

This is only on selected Major State Roads, at select times of the year where there is a considerable increase in Tourist Traffic, acknowledging that this does coincide with Seeding & Harvest. Since that meeting a document has been released, I think the only roads in CCZ that are affected by the curfews are Albany Highway, Brookton Highway & Great Eastern Highway.

- **Towed Agricultural Implements**

Demand is driving the size of machinery being manufactured; WA relative to the rest of the consumers of Ag Machinery is a small player and we are unlikely (as LGs) to influence any consideration of our road rules when manufacturing equipment. The view of the manufacturing industry & the ag sector is the State/Federal Government have failed to keep up with Road Maintenance funding which has resulted in many bridges and roads being 30 – 40 years behind the manufacturing industry.

My personal view, there is still a tipping point at which even the ag industry will balk at the increase in rates required to maintain and increase the capacity needed on our local roads to meet

the increased in size of machinery. Not to mention the wider rate base that won't want to contribute to that cost either.

I welcome your feedback, suggestions or concerns whether by phone or email.

Katrina Crute
sp@brookton.wa.gov.au

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting held 11 October 2019 be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr De Landgraft** **Seconded: Cr Mulroney**

That the report on the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Meeting held 11 October 2019 be received.

CARRIED

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

WBS Regional Road Group Update

No report

Secondary Freight Network Project:

Main Roads – Perth (9th September)

Meeting to discuss the preparation of the PPR (Funding agreement between State & Federal Government), what it needs to include

Australian Regional Development Conference (17th – 18th September)

Co-presented a paper with Mandy Walker (RDA Wheatbelt) on WSF, very well received.

Regional Achievement & Community Awards (18th October)

Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Project won the Making a Difference Award

Steering Committee Meeting – (25th October @ WALGA)

Discussion around the pilot projects, the preferred Council for hosting the Project Manager – which is Bruce Rock.

Thank you,
Katrina Crute
Chair
RRG Wheatbelt South

RECOMMENDATION:

That the update report of the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group and Secondary Freight Network Project be received.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Blight** **Seconded: Cr Russell**

That the update report of the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group and Secondary Freight Network Project be received.

CARRIED

10.0 ZONE BUSINESS - MEMBER COUNCIL MATTERS

10.1 Matters for Noting (Attachment)

- **The Country Ambulance Strategy**

The Minister for Health launched The Country Ambulance Strategy - Striving for Equity in Country WA in November 2019.

The strategy sets out 19 recommendations to help strengthen country ambulance services including:

- measures to attract and support more ambulance volunteers
- greater investment in community paramedics
- improving coordination between hospitals and ambulance services
- adopting new technologies to improve communication to and from every ambulance on the road

The strategy also recognises the tremendous and valuable commitment of WA's ambulance volunteers.

Major initiatives that will potentially be implemented in 2020 include increased funding for community paramedics and boosting communication and technology to better coordinate planned transfers of country patients between hospitals.

The Country Ambulance Strategy - Striving for Equity in Country WA can be downloaded as follows:

http://www.wacountry.health.wa.gov.au/fileadmin/sections/country_ambulance/The-Country-Ambulance-Strategy-Driving-Equity-for-Country-WA.pdf

Executive Officer Comment:

The Zone considered this review in November 2018 and made a formal submission.

The Report on pages 10/11 outlines the 19 recommendations.

The Report also provides an outline of "Next Steps" which reads as follows:

Ambulance services are essential to all communities and are a critical service in the delivery of health care. As such, clear policy for ambulance services to support future service improvement of the country ambulance service in WA (Recommendation 1) and the transfer of the contract management to WACHS (Recommendation 5) should be viewed as the urgent first priorities.

Following in principle endorsement of the strategy by the WACHS Board, action will need to be taken on the recommendations required to improve country ambulance services in WA. Actioning these key recommendations requires the immediate the attention of WACHS, the Department of Health and SJA.

- **COAG Waste Export Ban**

Following a recent meeting of Environment Ministers an announcement was made relating to the phase out of problem waste exports from, July next year.

Ministers agreed that waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres that have not been processed into a value-added material should be subject to the export ban. They further determined that the ban should commence on 1 July 2020 with a phased approach. Ministers agreed the phase out should be completed by the following dates:

- *All waste glass by July 2020.*
- *Mixed waste plastics by July 2021.*

- *All whole tyres including baled tyres by December 2021.*
- *Remaining waste products, including mixed paper and cardboard, by no later than 30 June 2022.*

This timetable reflects the unique challenges of each jurisdiction, and the preparedness of some jurisdictions to complete the phase out ahead of schedule.

Ministers will further test the timetable with industry and local government, while also developing response strategies and undertaking independent market analysis.

The decision follows the August 2019 Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) charging environment Ministers with the development of a time-table for banning the export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres.

All jurisdictions acknowledged resourcing, from Commonwealth, states and territories, and industry will be required to effectively implement the ban.

In early 2020 Ministers will provide further advice on final timetables, definitions and response strategies to First Ministers for their confirmation.

In addition, ALGA has indicated that Councils and local government associations are invited to comment before 3 December 2019 on the proposed timetable for the waste export ban.

The Discussion Paper can be viewed by following the link shown below:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/consultations/bf403fda-b6d7-4476-9c6f-5627502d52a4/files/waste-export-ban-discussion-paper-november-2019.pdf>

- **WA Community Resource Centre Network - Public Consultation (Attachment)**

Presenting a letter from Hon Alannah MacTiernan, MLC Minister for Regional Development to Hon Mia Davies, MLA in relation to WA Community Resource Centre Network - Public Consultation.

- **ILUA Registration Decisions**

On the 25 November 2019, the Full Federal Court will hear the final ground for judicial review of the Native Title Registrar's decisions to register the six South West Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs). The Settlement cannot proceed until the judicial review applications have been concluded and the ILUAs are conclusively registered. Therefore the earliest likely date for the conclusion of these processes and the commencement of the Settlement is now by 2020. See the Settlement commencement flowchart. The November 25 hearing will deal with the matter raised in the recent Full Federal Court finding in the Quall decision (*Northern Land Council v Quall FCA 989*). In the meantime, the WA Government and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council continue to work in partnership in readiness for the Settlement.

Visit the [South West Native Title Settlement](#) website for more information.

- **Future Drought Fund and the National Drought Response Resilience Plan (Attachment)**

WALGA has issued an Infopage advising that the Future Drought Fund and the National Drought Response Resilience Plan is now open for comment until Friday 13 December 2019 through the completion of the online survey which is available at:

haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/future-drought-fund.

Any Member Council wishing to provide comment to WALGA can do so by Friday 6 December 2019.

- **Western Australia's Native Vegetation - Release of an Issues Paper by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation**

The State Government is developing four initiatives to improve the consistency, transparency and information base to enable better management of the State's native vegetation. The initiatives to achieve this are outlined in an issues paper for public consultation, *Native Vegetation in Western Australia prepared by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the Department)*. A copy of the issues paper forms an attachment to the meeting agenda.

The discussion paper along with other information relating to the review can be accessed by following the link shown below:

<https://dwer.wa.gov.au/consultation/nativeveg>

A period of public consultation has commenced, closing 10 February 2020. The Department is seeking feedback online and via community consultation workshops in Perth and regional locations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matters listed for noting be received.

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

That the matters listed for noting be received.

CARRIED

10.2 Central Country Zone Meeting Dates 2020

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: No interest to disclose

Date: 18 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

The Central Country Zone agreed to change the meeting structure for 2018 and maintained the same structure for 2019 for the purpose of reducing the number of in-person meetings to four and conduct several teleconferences that only deal with WALGA State Council related matters.

The meeting schedule for 2019 was as follows:

Meeting Date	Type of Meeting	Consideration of WALGA State Council
Friday 22 February 2019	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 3 May 2019	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 24 May 2019	In-person meeting	No
Friday 21 June 2019	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 30 August 2019	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 29 November 2019	In-person meeting	Yes

The meeting scheduled for Friday 22 February 2019 was changed to avoid the Friday of the Labor Day long weekend.

WALGA has advised that the meeting schedule for 2019 is as follows:

PREFERRED DATES FOR ZONE MEETINGS	STATE COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2020
Friday 21 Feb to Friday 28 Feb	Wednesday 4 March
Friday 24 April to Friday 1 May	Regional Meeting Wednesday 6 May xx pm Venue TBA
Friday 19 June to Friday 26 June	Wednesday 1 July
Friday 21 Aug to Friday 28 Aug	Regional Meeting 3-4 September Venue TBA
Friday 20 Nov to Friday 27 Nov	Wednesday 2 December

Executive Officer Comment:

Teleconferences for WALGA business in April/May and June appear to work well given that these dates clash with busy schedules for many delegates.

It is proposed that the 2020 meeting schedule be as follows:

Meeting Date	Type of Meeting	Consideration of WALGA State Council
Friday 21 February 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 1 May 2020 (see note below)	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 22 May 2020	In-person meeting	No
Friday 19 June 2020	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 28 August 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 27 November 2020	In-person meeting	Yes

The proposed schedule has the meeting date for the "April" meeting scheduled for Friday 1 May 2020 to avoid a clash with school holidays and Anzac Day. The WALGA State Council Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 6 May so the date can be accommodated.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone Meeting schedule for 2020 be as follows:

Meeting Date	Type of Meeting	Consideration of WALGA State Council
Friday 21 February 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 1 May 2020	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 22 May 2020	In-person meeting	No
Friday 19 June 2020	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 28 August 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 27 November 2020	In-person meeting	Yes

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

That the Central Country Zone Meeting schedule for 2020 be as follows:

Meeting Date	Type of Meeting	Consideration of WALGA State Council
Friday 21 February 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 1 May 2020	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 22 May 2020	In-person meeting	No
Friday 19 June 2020	Teleconference	Yes and only WALGA business
Friday 28 August 2020	In-person meeting	Yes
Friday 27 November 2020	In-person meeting	Yes

CARRIED

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

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 18 November 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 Emergency Services, 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 issue was considered at the Zone Meeting on Friday 15 March 2019 where it was resolved as follows:

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 in-person Zone meeting on Friday 30 August 2019.

CARRIED

Details of the request to Member Councils was forwarded by email in late March, with a draft of an MOU prepared for the South West Country Zone also forwarded at that time.

The matter was considered again at the Zone Meeting on 30 August 2019 when it was resolved as follows:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Blight Seconded: Cr Walker

That the Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery (MOU) be adopted, subject to the approval of Central Country Zone's Member Councils, for a period of three years from the date of signing, with the MOU to be in place prior to 2019/2020 fire season.

CARRIED

Executive Officer Comment:

Since the Zone Meeting on 30 August 2019 a number of Member Councils have advised the Executive Officer that the matter has been considered by their Council and there is general support for the MOU.

The Shire of Narrogin made the following suggested changes:

- 1. That the words West Australian Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement (WANDRRA) be amended to Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFA WA) wherever they appear; and*
- 2. That there be a signing page added for signatories to the MOU.*

These changes have been incorporated into the final version along with some minor editorial and typographical changes.

A copy of the final version of the MOU is attached to the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

That, subject to any amendment, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery be adopted for a period of three years from the date of signing.

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Blight Seconded: Cr Ball

That, subject to any amendment, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Provision of Mutual Aid during Emergencies and Post Incident Recovery be adopted for a period of three years from the date of signing.

CARRIED

10.4 Proposed alternative to the CA07 Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition

Reporting Officer: Mark Bondiotti WALGA
Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 18 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

The following item has been submitted by WALGA.

Background:

At the December 2018 meeting State Council resolved that WALGA:

1. Opposes withdrawal of the "Letter of Approval" Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition until an acceptable alternative to Local Government is developed;
2. Supports the position that Local Governments not use provision of the Letter of Authority to charge transport operators to access the Restricted Access Vehicle network;
3. Supports the development of standard administrative procedures including fees and letter formats;
4. Supports the practice of Local Governments negotiating maintenance agreements with freight owners/generators in cases where the operations are predicted to cause extraordinary road damage as determined by the Local Government; and
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.

Comment

Main Roads are proposing an alternative to the CA07 condition which will replace the condition with a notification process. They are presenting the proposal to all Regional Road Groups and have requested Local Governments provide feedback through an online survey.

WALGA is establishing a stake holder working group to advise if the proposal is "an acceptable alternative", or to recommend amendments to Main Roads WA and to advise a policy position for State Council consideration. In accordance with the State Council resolution each Zone is invited to nominate a representative to serve on the Group.

For further information please contact Mark Bondiotti on 9213 2040 or email mbondiotti@walga.asn.au.

Executive Officer Comment:

The details of this request have been circulated to Member Councils so that there was some "forewarning" of the nomination.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone appoints _____ to be its representative on the CA07 Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition.

In response to a question in relation to appointing two delegates Mr Ian Duncan advised that was acceptable noting that the Zone was only entitled to one vote.

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr De Landgraft Seconded: Cr Blight

That the Central Country Zone appoints Ms Vanessa Crispe, Manager Infrastructure Services, Shire of Lake Grace and Cr Katrina Crute to be its representatives on the CA07 Restricted Access Vehicle Operating Condition.

CARRIED

10.5 WALGA Zone Meetings — Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (Attachment)

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 18 November 2019

Attachments: Correspondence from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Background:

The Executive Officer received correspondence from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC), a copy of which is attached to the agenda.

The correspondence is seeking feedback from the Zone on the following:

For the department to be responsive to your Zone, we are seeking your feedback on what the role of the department should be and the type of information your Zone would like to receive. We can provide information relating to the business areas above or source information from across state government more broadly.

The business areas referred to above include:

- Local Government
- Culture and the Arts
- Sport and Recreation
- Office of Multicultural Interests
- Racing Gaming and Liquor
- Aboriginal History Unit

The correspondence provides the following initial thoughts for the Zone's consideration;

- *The department to provide a 20 minutes presentation at the first or second meeting of 2020 on relevant key projects;*
- *Zone secretariats allow 10 minutes for the department on the agenda to provide a brief update and time for discussion around key issues and opportunities for your Zone; and*
- *At each one meeting, members provide the department with topics or presentations they would like to receive at the next meeting, either from DLGSC or other state agencies.*

Executive Officer Comment:

The request for a presentation opportunity will be included in the Meeting schedule for 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries be invited to provide a 20-minute presentation at the Central Country Zone's first in-person meeting for 2020, with the presentation to cover relevant key projects being undertaken by the Department.

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Crute** **Seconded: Cr Blight**

That the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries be invited to provide a 20-minute presentation at the Central Country Zone's first in-person meeting for 2020, with the presentation to cover relevant key projects being undertaken by the Department.

CARRIED

10.6 Wildflower Friendliness Rating System — Shire of Cuballing (Attachment)

Reporting Officer: Gary Sherry, CEO Shire of Cuballing
Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 15 November 2019

Attachments: Letter from the Minister for Tourism

Background:

The Shire of Cuballing recently received correspondence from the Minister for Tourism promoting the Wildflower Society of Western Australia's (WSWA) Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme for roads within a local government. The rating is intended to guide tourists to those local governments with the best roadside wildflower display.

The Shire of Cuballing believe that this scheme appears to seek to establish WSWA control over road verges rather than identify, acknowledge and reward local governments that are working to protect wildflowers along road verges.

The Shire of Cuballing implements quality roadside management practices and the Shire works closely with Main Roads WA, the Department of Water and Environment Regulation, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, the Peel Harvey Catchment Council and private property owners to maintain and improve the standards associated with road verge of management. The WSWA has actively appealed the Shire of Cuballing's responsible roadside management through the Department of Water and Environment Regulation. This action gives rise to the Shire's concerns over their ability to competently assess roadside management.

The Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme appears to be a contrived measure to attract state government funding and resources to the WSWA and further impose their authority on road managers. The Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme:

- doesn't take account of other road uses or road characteristics. For example, there is no consideration of
 - road safety for tourists using roads
 - marsupial or other native animals visible from roadsides; or
 - other roadside tourism attractions with a natural bent such as Dryandra Woodlands in the Shire of Cuballing;
- was not prepared with the input of local governments and other road management agencies. While the measure produces a star scoring system based on the roadside vegetation management classification of a private group who do not manage one single road reserve in Western Australia. Liaison with road managers who are responsible for roadside vegetation could have produced a better, more innovative result; and
- includes a range of vague measures. These include tourism measures scored solely on the opinions of WSWA and measures based on holding wildflower shows and having local roadside consultative groups.

Programs seeking to grow Tourism based on road side vegetation needs involve roadside managers at all stages of the programs. The Shire of Cuballing believes the lack of local government involvement in the Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme is a significant weakness of that scheme.

Executive Officer Comment:

The CEO Shire of Corrigin has also suggested that the Wildflower Society could be invited to present at a future meeting of the Zone on the wildflower friendly Shires initiative and clearing permits.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Country Zone request that WALGA:

- a) Raise concerns with the Minister for Tourism regarding the lack of local government involvement in establishing the Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme;
- b) Express concerns over the Wildflower Society of Western Australia's involvement in managing the scheme; and
- c) Request that the Minister review the Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme and the Wildflower Society of Western Australia's involvement in managing the scheme.

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Mulroney Seconded: Cr Russell

That the Central Country Zone request that WALGA:

- a) **Raise concerns with the Minister for Tourism regarding the lack of local government involvement in establishing the Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme;**
- b) **Express concerns over the Wildflower Society of Western Australia's involvement in managing the scheme; and**
- c) **Request that the Minister review the Wildflower Friendliness Rating Scheme and the Wildflower Society of Western Australia's involvement in managing the scheme.**

CARRIED

10.7 Funding to Support and Mentor Local Governments to Assist in the Development of Public Health Plans

Reporting Officer: Bruce Wittber, Executive Officer

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 21 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

Following its discussions with Dorte Hansen from the Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA (PHAIWA), the Zone may wish to discuss what further action, if any, is required in seeking further assistance from PHAIWA as Member Councils look to develop their Public Health Plans.

Executive Officer Comment:

Through work the Executive Officer has undertaken with another group of local governments, the possible development of a template, to assist rural and remote local governments with developing local public health plans has been raised with WALGA. Whilst WALGA continues to advocate for appropriate resources to assist local government it is of the view that the WA Country Health Service is better placed to assist.

The matter is presented for discussion and decision.

Noted

RESOLUTION: **Moved: Cr Carne** **Seconded: Cr Turton**
That the Central Country Zone consider the late item 10.8 Western Australia's Share of Fuel Excise — Shire of Wagin.

CARRIED

10.8 Western Australia's Share of Fuel Excise — Shire of Wagin

Reporting Officer: Peter Webster, CEO Shire of Wagin

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Date: 27 November 2019

Attachments: Nil

Background:

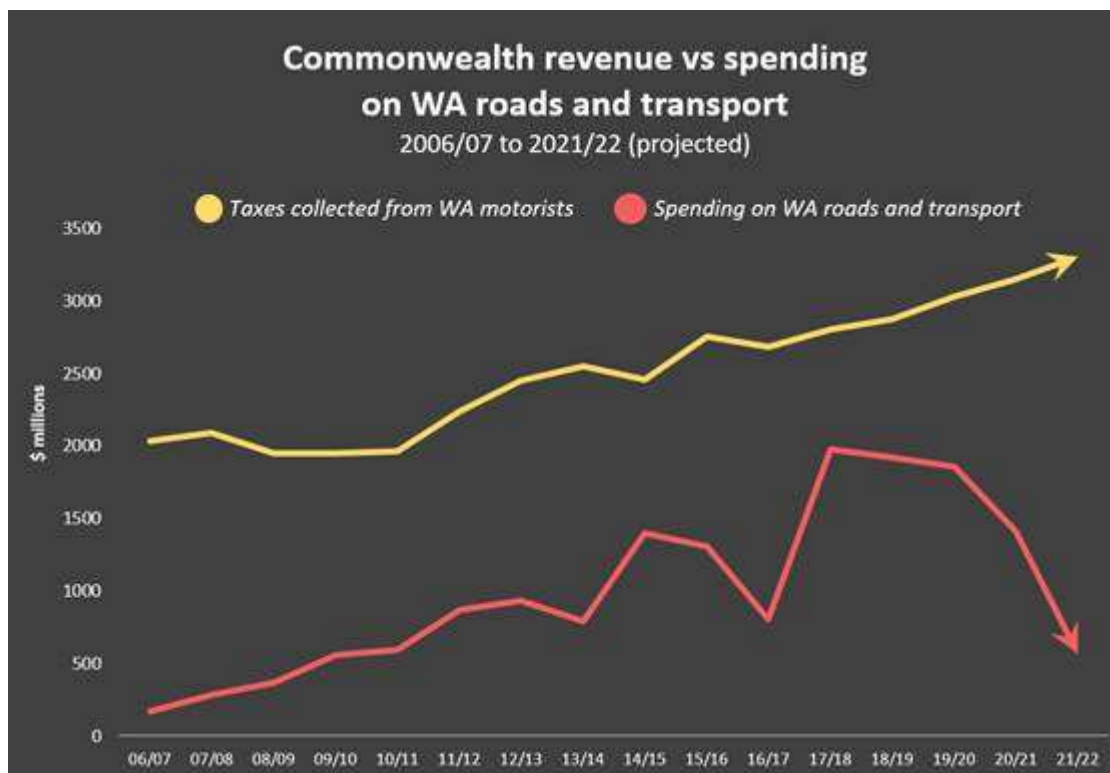
The Shire of Wagin has provided the following information in support of this item.

The motion shown below is a response to the release of a Federal Government report "An Assessment of Australia's Future Infrastructure Needs".

A recently commissioned report by the RAC reveals that over the past 12 years, for every dollar of motoring taxation collected by successive Federal Governments, WA has received an average of just 34 cents toward road and transport projects.

The report, by Acil Allen Consulting, also shows Western Australia is set to receive its lowest return from federal motoring tax in over a decade.

In 2021/22, WA is projected to pay \$3.3 billion in motoring taxes, however in that same year only \$562 million is forecast to be returned to fund road and transport projects – a return of just 17 cents in the dollar, the lowest level since 2007/08.



In commenting on the report, RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the upcoming Budget provides the opportunity for the current Federal Government to address the forecast shortfall and substantially increase its investment into the transport projects WA urgently needs.

“GST isn’t the only area where WA’s not been getting our fair share,” Mr Golsby said.

“Billions of dollars are being paid by WA motorists through taxes like fuel excise, yet this report clearly shows our State has been continually short changed by successive governments.

“WA is in desperate need of road and transport funding – we have a road fatality rate 33 per cent higher than the national average and 84 per cent higher than Victoria and, according to Infrastructure Australia, by 2031 we’ll be home to seven of the 10 most congested roads in the country.

“It is critical that current and future governments acknowledge these pressures and adequately fund the road and transport projects WA desperately needs.

“Urgent action is required to help reduce the high rate of deaths and serious injuries on our roads and manage the increasing social burden and economic impact of congestion.”

Zone Executive Officer Comment:

The Federal Government report “An Assessment of Australia’s Future Infrastructure Needs” is available by following the link shown below:

<https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/australian-infrastructure-audit-2019>

The Shire of Wagin believes that WALGA, as the local government sector’s peak body, should be asked to advocate for a full return of all fuel excise raised within Western Australia.

RECOMMENDATION:

That WALGA be requested to vigorously pursue a 100% return of all fuel excise raised within Western Australia.

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

That WALGA prepares and endorses a strategy to obtain transparency of the distribution of the fuel excise with the intent to maximise the return to Western Australia for road maintenance.

CARRIED

11.0 ZONE BUSINESS - OTHER BUSINESS/URGENT BUSINESS

The matter of the appointment of a further members of the Executive Committee was considered at this point in the meeting but is recorded under Item 4.3

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.)

Nil

13.0 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Nil

14.0 OTHER REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

14.1 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Presenting the November 2019 WALGA Zone Update

The Department's update can be accessed by following the following link:

[Zone Update from DLGSC](#)

Ms Jenifer Collins, Regional Manager Wheatbelt, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

14.2 Wheatbelt Development Commission

Nil report

14.3 Regional Development Australia (RDA) Wheatbelt (Attachment)

Presenting the Wheatbelt RDA Update Report

Ms Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt Inc

Noted

14.4 Main Roads WA

Cr Russell requested that it to be noted that the Central Country Zone congratulates the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Project on winning the Making a Difference Award at the recent Regional Achievement and Community Awards and further congratulates the 42 local governments for their commitment to the project.

CARRIED WITH ACCLAMATION

15.0 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Central Country Zone Meeting - Friday 21 February 2020, Shire of Dumbleyung
Central Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday 12 February 2020 - TBA

16.0 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.54pm.

DECLARATION

These minutes were confirmed by the Central Country Zone at the meeting held on Friday 21 February 2020.

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