



Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group (EWBG) Annual General Meeting held Wednesday 16th of October, 2019 at Merredin CRC Conference Room, Merredin.

Chairperson: Stuart Putt.

1. Opening of Meeting: 10.38am.

2. Attendance and Apologies:

- a. Attendance:** Kodie Fulker (DPIRD), Lisa O'Neill (Executive Officer), Adrian Chesson (DBCA), Malcolm Ovens (DBCA), Steve Palm (Mukinbudin), Dean Sinclair (Lake Grace), Cyril Smith (Kondinin), Bill Cowan (Narembeen), Helen Shemeld (Mt Marshall), Marlon Hudson (Trayning), Barry Davies (DPIRD), Ross Della Bosca (Westonia), Mark Crees (Merredin), Gary Coumbe (Nungarin), Kent Mouritz (Kondinin), Margaret Sullivan (Kulin), Jim Sullivan (Kulin), Glenice Batchelor (DPIRD), Ron Burro (Yilgarn), Wayne Della Bosca (Yilgarn), Stuart Putt (Mt Marshall), Linda Vernon (CWBA), Nathan Richards (LPMT).
- b. Apologies:** Garrick Yandle (Kulin CEO), Hon. Darren West (Member for Agricultural Region), Steve Hunt (Lake Grace), Kelly Manning (DPIRD), Hon. Melissa Price (Federal Member Durack), Hon. Mia Davies (Nationals Leader), Craig Robins (DBCA), Meja Aldridge (AWI), Brad Taylor (Kulin), Jamie Taylor (LPMT), Stuart McEwan (LPMT), Adam Majid (CEO Nungarin).

3. Disclosure of Interests: none.

4. Confirmation of Minutes:

- a.** Meeting held 27th of March 2019, at MRCLC, Merredin.
- b.** Meeting held 21st of September 2018, at CRC, Merredin.

Motion:

That the minutes presented from the meeting held on the 27th of March 2019 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

***Moved: M. Crees. Seconded: G. Coumbe.
Carried.***

That the minutes presented from the meeting held on the 21st of September 2018 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

***Moved: R. Burro. Seconded: K. Mouritz.
Carried.***

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

- a.** EWBG have sent letters to Minjar Gold Mine, Kidman Resources, WSA and Ramelius Resources (Edna May) requesting a sponsorship agreement with EWBG in the future.



Action: Wayne Della Bosca to make contact with Kidman Resources to discuss a possible sponsorship agreement with EWBG.

- b.** Norseman Road Grid – the grid is not effective due to the angle that the fence is connected to the grid.

Action: Executive Officer to contact Craig Robins (DPIRD Fence Manager) to request gate is assessed for effectiveness.

6. Adoption of Financial Statement:

- a.** 2018/19 Financial position presented.

Motion:

That the financials presented to be accepted as true and accurate and that the Byfield's Business Advisors Audit of the EWBG's 2019/20 financials were tabled at the meeting to the members.

**Moved: H. Shemeld. Seconded: M. Crees.
Carried.**

- b.** 2020/21 Budget Forecast as per Operational Plan.

Action: The Committee of Management will meet prior to the end of December 2019 to endorse the 2020/21 Operation Plan for EWBG.

Ron Burro outlined that the EWBG have safeguarded the financial stability of the group by creating a surplus to cover any biosecurity threats or shortfall that the group may experience in the future.

Motion:

The Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group's will set a membership fee of \$100 for 2020/21 for the eleven member Shire's of the group.

**Moved: J. Sullivan. Seconded: G. Coumbe.
Carried.**

7. Appointment of Auditor

Motion:

The Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group appoint Byfield's Business Advisors as the auditors for 2019/20 fiscal year.

**Moved: M. Crees. Seconded: W. Della Bosca.
Carried.**

8. Correspondence:

- a.** Inward/Outward Correspondence



Motion:

That all correspondence presented be considered and accepted.

**Moved: L. O'Neill. Seconded: H. Shemeld.
Carried.**

9. Chairs Report – presented by Stuart Putt. Included in the 2018/19 Annual Report.

10. Agenda Items

a. Wild Dog Action Plan and SBF Update – Barry Davies

Wild Dog Action Plan 20/21

A total of \$20 million from State and Federal government put towards 7 projects.

These projects include cell fencing, research (1080 breakdown, bait lures/attractants, visual restraints, drone thermal imagery, capacity building, sterilising) and project staff.

Esperance Gap fencing has commenced- 8km of the 660km completed. Road reserves and freehold land the starting area.

SBF Update

In November 2018 the Minister held a meeting in Yalgoo. \$5.8 million from the Wild Dog Action Plan has been put towards maintenance and upgrading the SBF. There has been 37kms of fence replaced from Everston to north of Mukinbudin. A further 88km has been contracted to be replaced between Lake Moore and Mt Marshall (north Muka). There will be a further 50km contracted in next 12 months to be replaced.

The Yilgarn gap has been approved to be sprayed to remove shrubs. This area will also be graded. The grading has been contracted and should start soon.

b. LPMT (Dogger) Update

- i. Stuart McEwan (provided by Executive Officer)
- ii. Jamie Taylor (provided by Executive Officer)
- iii. Nathan Richards

c. DBCA Update- as per report. 86 days in the field this year so far.

Working Lake Moore to upside down shed (Karroun Hill falls in DBCA area, working southern boundary due to size). Remlap/Mouroubra Stations are crucial areas of control for CWBA and EWBG. DBCA have committed 100 days per year to Wild Dog control. Looking in the future to have signage cobranded from DBCA, together with EWBG. Draft MOU has been submitted – key points: DBCA are seeking to appoint RBG as agent, EWBG can apply for permits on their behalf (letter to DBCA about permit application), the ability to audit LPMT's, complete shoot planning and Annual RBG Operational Plans will need to be received by DBCA in advance.

d. EWBG Update- presented by Executive Officer.

2019/20 will see the fourth year of Declared Pest Rate. The EWBG recently conducted four Pest workshops across the region, these were well attended and the EWBG will continue to cover the cost of RCP Permit applications. Over the last 12 months the



EWBG has participated in the Biosecurity Round Table, AWI/DPIRD RBG Executive Officer Workshops, WALGA forum and local Field Days.

2018/19 saw the construction of the Nevoria Haul Road, thanks to Minjar Gold Mine for purchasing and installing the grid and DPIRD for connecting the SBF.

In 2018/19 the EWBG conducted two extensive aerial baiting programs through the north and south of the EWBG prescribed area.

e. DPIRD update-

DPIRD restructure will be announced on the 17th of October.

Feral cats have been gazetted and are now a Declared Pest.

The BAM Act is to be reviewed at the end of 2020.

11. General Business

a. Shire of Kent

The EWBG will work with Paul Leonie (NRM Manager-Shire of Kent) to help find the best solution for Wild Dog control in the Magenta Hub.

b. Illegal travellers

Glenice Batchelor and the EWBG Executive Officer will continue to again follow up the implementing of infringing illegal travellers on the SBF.

c. Rating Landholders with freehold land 20ha and below

Shire Representatives are asked to seek the opinion of their Shire's on the option of including freehold land under 20ha in future Declared Pest Rates.

d. Financial Assistance Agreement

EWBG Shire Representatives are encouraged to suggest their Shire provides a letter of support to the continuation of State Funds through the Royalty for Regions Fund, which currently funds 1 FTE LPMT for the EWBG.

12. Next Meeting: March 2020.

13. Close of Meeting: 12.32pm.