



Great Eastern Country Zone

Minutes

Held at Kellerberrin Leisure Centre

**Commenced at 9:30am
Thursday 27 August 2020**

Table of Contents

1.	OPENING AND WELCOME	3
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES.....	3
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	5
4.	ANNOUNCEMENTS	5
5.	GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS.....	5
5.1	Drought Funding Update – Mark Batty.....	5
6.	MINUTES	5
6.1	Confirmation of Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held Thursday 25 June.....	5
6.2	Business Arising from the Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting Thursday 25 June 2020	6
6.3	Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held Monday 10 August 2020	6
6.3.1	(Exec item 6.3) Strategic Priorities for the 20/21 Financial Year.....	6
6.3.2	(Exec Item 7.1) Wheatbelt Conferences	6
6.3.3	Minutes of the Executive Committee 10 August 2020.....	7
7.	ZONE BUSINESS.....	7
7.1	Roadwise – Road Safety Snapshots.....	7
7.2	Stop Puppy Farming Legislation	7
7.3	COVID-19 Pandemic – Further Update.....	8
8.	ZONE REPORTS.....	10
8.1	Zone President Report.....	10
8.2	Local Government Agricultural Freight Group.....	10
8.3	Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee	10
8.4	Wheatbelt Health MOU Group	10
9.	WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (WALGA) BUSINESS.....	11
9.1	State Councillor Report.....	11
9.2	WALGA Status Report.....	10
9.3	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Matters for Decision.....	15
9.4	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Matters for Noting / Information	19
9.5	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Organisational Reports.....	19
9.6	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Policy Forum Reports	19
9.7	WALGA President’s Report	19
10.	MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.....	20
11.	AGENCY REPORTS.....	20
11.1	Wheatbelt Development Commission	20
11.2	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	20
11.3	Main Roads Western Australia	20
11.4	Wheatbelt RDA.....	20
12.	EMERGING ISSUES.....	21
13.	URGENT BUSINESS.....	21
14.	DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS	21
15.	CLOSURE.....	21

Great Eastern Country Zone

Meeting was held at Kellerberrin Leisure Centre, Kellerberrin

Commenced at 9.30am, Thursday 27 August 2020

Minutes

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Shire of Bruce Rock	President Cr Stephen Strange Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan Cr Tony Crooks Mr Darren Mollenoyux Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Cunderdin	Cr Dennis Whisson Cr Alison Harris Mr Stuart Hopley Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Dowerin	Cr Adam Metcalf Ms Rebecca McCall Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Kellerberrin	President Cr Rodney Forsyth Cr Scott O'Neill Mr Raymond Griffiths Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Kondinin	Cr Bev Gangell Ms Mia Maxfield Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Koorda	President Cr Jannah Stratford Cr Pamela McWha Mr Darren Simmons Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Merredin	President Cr Julie Flockart Mr Mark Dacombe Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Mount Marshall	President Cr Tony Sachse – Deputy Chair Mr John Nuttall Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Mukinbudin	Cr Rod Comerford
Shire of Narembreen	President Cr Rhonda Cole - Chair Cr Kellie Mortimore

	Mr Chris Jackson Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Nungarin	President Pippa DeLacey
	Mr Adam Majid Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Tammin	Cr Tania Daniels
	Mr Neville Hale Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Trayning	President Cr Melanie Brown
	Ms Leanne Parola Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Westonia	President Cr Karin Day
	Cr Bill Huxtable
	Mr Jamie Criddle Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Wyalkatchem	President Cr Quentin Davies
	Cr Owen Garner
	Mr Stephen Tindale Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Yilgarn	President Wayne Della Bosca
	Mr Peter Clarke Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate

WALGA Representatives

Mayor Tracey Roberts, President

Nick Sloan, Chief Executive Officer

Tony Brown, Executive Manager Governance & Organisational Services

Mark Batty, Executive Manager Strategy, Policy and Planning

Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer

Guests

Hon. Martin Aldridge MLC, Agricultural Region

Kristen Twine, Project and Research Officer, Wheatbelt Development Commission

Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt

Cliff Simpson, Road Safety Advisory, Roadwise

Apologies

Shire of Dowerin

Cr Darrel Hudson

Shire of Merredin

Cr Mal Willis

Shire of Kondinin

President Cr Sue Meeking

Shire of Mukinbudin

President Gary Shadbolt

Mr Dirk Sellenger Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate

Shire of Nungarin

Cr Gary Coumbe

Shire of Trayning

Cr Geoff Waters

Shire of Tammin

Cr Glenice Batchelor

Shire of Mt Marshall

Cr Nick Gillett

Shire of Wyalkatchem

President Cr Quentin Davies

Shire of Yilgarn

Cr Bryan Close

Hon Laurie Graham MLC, Agricultural Region

Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt

Kathleen Brown, Electorate Officer, Mia Davies MLA Office

Craig Manton, Main Roads WA

Rob Cossart, Wheatbelt Development Commission, CEO

Attachments

The following were provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. Great Eastern Country Zone Minutes 25 June 2020.
2. Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee Minutes 10 August 2020.
3. Central Country Zone Correspondence
4. Item 7.2 – Puppy Farming Correspondence
5. COVID-19 Impact on Local Economies
6. Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Minutes
7. Wheatbelt DEMC Report
7a – Transport Freight and Logistics Direction
8. Item 5.5 Local Government Review Panel Report
9. WALGA President Report
10. RDAW Zone Update

State Council Agenda – via link: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/2ec50f86-fa98-4e62-92e7-4a68fd60c7f3/Agenda-State-Council-2-September-2020.pdf>

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

5. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Drought Funding Update – Mark Batty

Mr Mark Batty, Executive Officer Strategy Policy and Planning, WALGA provided an update to the Zone.

RESOLVED

That the Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee discuss at their next meeting the opportunity of working in collaboration with WALGA to coordinate a Summit in the near future.

6. MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held Thursday 25 June

The Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held on Thursday 25 June 2020 have previously been circulated to Member Councils.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Karin Day
Seconded: Cr Julie Flockart

That the Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held Thursday 25 June 2020 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

6.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting Thursday 25 June 2020

Nil

6.3 Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held Monday 10 August 2020

The recommendations from the Executive Committee Meeting have been extracted for the Zones consideration.

6.3.1 (Exec item 6.3) Strategic Priorities for the 20/21 Financial Year

Background:

The Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee resolved:

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Tony Sachse Seconded: Cr Geoff Waters

That the following items be the Strategic Priorities for the 2020/2021 year for the great Eastern Country Zone:

- 1 *COVID-19 Region Recovery*
- 2 *Future Drought Funding*
- 3 *Health Matters with emphasis on Mental Health, NDIS and Aged Care*
- 4 *Local Government Act Review with emphasis on regional collaboration*
- 5 *Education with emphasis on accommodation and further education at Cunderdin and Merredin.*

CARRIED

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan

That the Great Eastern Country Zone endorse the Strategic Priorities for 20/21 Financial Year.

CARRIED

6.3.2 (Exec Item 7.1) Wheatbelt Conferences

Background:

The Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee resolved:

RESOLVED

That one third of the surplus funds be returned to the Central Country Zone and one third also be returned to the Avon-Midland Country Zone, while Great Eastern Country Zone retain one third of the surplus funds. The amount to be paid to each of three Zones is \$4713.34.

The correspondence was attached to the Agenda.

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Karin Day
Seconded: Ms Mia Maxfield

That the Great Eastern Country Zone endorse the distribution of the surplus funds from the 2018 Wheatbelt Conference amongst the Central Country, Avon-Midland and Great Eastern Country Zones, each receiving \$4713.34.

CARRIED

6.3.3 Minutes of the Executive Committee 10 August 2020

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Alison Harris
Seconded: Cr Wayne Della Bosca

That the remaining items contained in the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Great Eastern Country Zone held Monday 10 August 2020 be endorsed.

CARRIED

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1 Roadwise – Road Safety Snapshots

Background

Cliff Simpson, Regional Road Safety Advisor (Wheatbelt North) has advised that Roadwise has produced road safety snapshots for each Local Government. Cliff provided a presentation.

Noted

7.2 Stop Puppy Farming Legislation

By Shire of Kellerberrin

Background

Please refer to the letter from Australian Federation for Livestock working Dogs as attached to the Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rod Forsyth
Seconded: Cr Alison Harris

That WALGA advocate that livestock working dogs and their owners be exempt in the proposed Stop Puppy Farming legislation (not simply in the regulations) from having to register as breeders.

CARRIED

7.3 COVID-19 Pandemic – Further Update

Nicole Matthews: COVID-19 Coordinator

Please note: This report provides a COVID-19 update since 3 August 2020.

Executive Summary

1. At the time of writing the COVID-19 pandemic in WA remains under control, with only 5 active cases and no evidence of community transmission.
2. Based on health advice Phase 5 of the State Government Roadmap has been further delayed until at least 24 October 2020, and the Perth Royal Show has been cancelled.
3. Widespread, unknown source community transmission in Victoria has resulted in the re-imposition of Stage 3 and 4 restrictions in that State and a further downward revision in GDP and national employment forecasts.
4. Learnings from Victoria are informing the WA Government's outbreak preparedness.
5. State Recovery Plan announcements are being made progressively, with region plans released for the Kimberley, Wheatbelt, Great Southern, Mid-West, Gascoyne, Peel and Goldfields-Esperance.
6. WALGA has undertaken local economic impact analysis for each Local Government Area to assist in operational and strategic planning decision making. Each Local Government CEO and Mayor or President has been provided with a tailored analysis pack for its area. A tailored report your Regional Development Area is attached.

Background

COVID-19 in WA

The COVID-19 pandemic in Western Australia remains under control with only 5 active cases (all in quarantine) and no evidence of community transmission. Notwithstanding this, the State Government is continuing to prepare for outbreaks or a 'second wave' of COVID-19, with learnings from the situation in Victoria informing that process.

Further restrictions on entry to Western Australia have also been implemented, including a requirement for truck drivers entering Western Australia to show evidence of having received a negative COVID-19 test result in the previous five days or to take a test within 48 hours.

On 18 August the Premier announced a third delay to the commencement of Phase 5 of the roadmap to easing restrictions, based on the latest health advice. Phase 5, which was originally scheduled to commence on July 17 now has a tentative start date of Saturday 24 October. A final decision on this timeline will be made earlier in October.

The Premier also announced the cancellation of the Royal Show due to the health risk posed by the large number of visitors and indoor venues, as well as number of high frequency contact surfaces that, if somehow COVID-19 was present, would lead to a significant outbreak.

State Recovery Plan

Further initiatives have been announced as part of the State COVID-19 Recovery Plan, including for tourism, local manufacturing, infrastructure, health, police, schools and TAFE, renewable energy, sport, culture and the arts. Region plans have been released for the Kimberley, Wheatbelt, Great Southern, Mid-West, Peel, Gascoyne and Goldfields-Esperance. Information on these and other Recovery Plan announcements can be found at <https://inthistogether.wa.gov.au/>.

COVID-19 Economic Impact

The Victorian shutdown has seen further downward revisions to GDP and employment forecasts provided by the Commonwealth Treasurer in the Economic and Fiscal Update on 23 July:

- Real GDP in the September quarter will shrink by between \$7 billion and \$9 billion
 - 80% of this economic cost, \$6 - \$7 billion, is expected to be in Victoria;
 - the remainder arises from the broader impact on confidence in other states and supply chain impacts from the shutdown of certain industries in Victoria.
- The combined effect on GDP of the previous Victorian restrictions through the September quarter are expected to be in the order of \$10 - \$12 billion, detracting 2.5% from quarterly real GDP growth.
- National unemployment is expected to exceed the forecast peak of 9.25% and may instead peak closer to 10%.
- The effective rate of unemployment (which accounts for people not looking for work and those on zero hours) which had fallen to just over 11% will increase again to high 13%.

Australian Bureau of Statistics figures indicate that during the months of June and July, the WA economy recovered almost half of the 95,000 jobs lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WALGA COVID-19 Local Economic Impact Analysis

WALGA has prepared tailored economic impact reports for each Local Government in WA to assist them as they develop COVID-19 recovery plans and initiatives. Each Local Government has been provided analysis on:

- How employment in different industries has been impacted in their Local Government Area since the start of the pandemic;
- The proportion of their Local Government Area's labour force that were accessing the JobSeeker subsidy in March, April, May and June;
- The proportion of organisations within their Local Government Area that were accessing the JobKeeper subsidy in April and May; and
- The overall economic impact of COVID 19 in their Local Government Area, relative to other Local Governments Areas and regions.

This information will assist Local Governments to:

- Inform their response and recovery activities and stimulus measures to ensure they are appropriately targeted;
- Anticipate and plan for the financial impact of ratepayers (residents and businesses) requiring access to hardship measures for their rates, or for potential changes in fees and services revenue; and
- Engage key stakeholders, such as regional Chambers of Commerce, businesses, community groups and not for profits and other key bodies and institutions, so that these organisations can use the information within this report as an input into their own decision making and planning.

A tailored report for your Regional Development Area was attached with the Agenda.

WALGA will continue to update this analysis as new data is released and is seeking to partner with State Treasury to further inform and broaden this analysis by incorporating other key economic and social data.

WALGA's analysis has also been provided to the State Recovery Controller, Sharyn O'Neill and the Minister for Local Government. WALGA understands that the Minister will table a summary of this analysis for consideration at an upcoming meeting of the State Disaster Council, chaired by the Premier.

Noted

8. ZONE REPORTS

8.1 Zone President Report

By Cr Rhonda Cole

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan

Seconded: Cr Rod Forsyth

That the Zone President's Report be received.

CARRIED

8.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

By Cr Julie Flockart

Cr Julie Flockart provided her report to the Zone. Minutes of the 10 July Local Government Agricultural Freight Group was attached with the Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Pippa Delacey

Seconded: Cr Julie Flockart

That the issue of speed of tractors on local roads be referred to the GECZ Executive Committee prior to delegates attending the next Local Government Agricultural Freight Group meeting.

CARRIED

Note: Additional emails were read at the meeting on this matter and are attached with the Minutes.

8.3 Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee

By Cr Tony Sachse

Reports on the progress of the Wheatbelt DEMC were attached with the Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tony Sachse

Seconded: Cr Rod Forsyth

That the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee Report and attachments be received.

CARRIED

8.4 Wheatbelt Health MOU Group

By Cr Alison Harris

On behalf of Cr Batchelor who was an apology for this meeting, Cr Alison Harries provided an update to the Zone

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan
Seconded: Cr Karin Day

That the Wheatbelt Health MOU update be received.

CARRIED

**9. WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (WALGA)
BUSINESS**

9.1 State Councillor Report

Cr Stephen Strange

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: Cr Tony Sachse

That the State Councillor Report be received

CARRIED

9.2 WALGA Status Report

By Tony Brown, Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Presenting the Status Report for August 2020 which contains WALGA's responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

GREAT EASTERN COUNTRY ZONE STATUS REPORT August 2020

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Great Eastern C	2018 November 29 Zone Agenda Item 7.4 Water Corporation - New management and billing structure for standpipes	That the Great Eastern Country Zone request WALGA to advocate opposing the WA Water Corporation proposed fee structure in remote parts of the eastern Wheatbelt and; 1. Request the Water Corporation look to possible subsidised billing to remote user standpipes for users without any other possible means of potable water; Write to the Department of Water suggesting that as a result of the increased Standpipe water costs that they re-introduce the Farm Water Grants to allow effected landholders the ability to create on-farm water storage and water connections	Considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team at its March meeting and further follow-up with Councils requested with feedback to the next meeting.	Ongoing	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
Great Eastern C	2019 June 27 Zone Agenda Item 12.1 Government Regional Officer Housing	That the Zone request WALGA to advocate on the impact of Government Regional Officer Housing on retaining public sector professionals (Doctors, nurses, teachers) in the Great Eastern Country Zone.	In May 2019, the McGowan Government deferred a planned increase to GROH rents in 2019-20. The next increase of \$30pw was due to come into effect 1 July 2019. https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2019/05/McGowan-Government-temporarily-defers-increase-to-GROH-rents.aspx WALGA notes and includes the Zones Recommendation in its advocacy for GROH and greater service support for regional and remote Western Australian Local Governments, acknowledging the importance of this topic in the coming months.	Ongoing	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078

			<p>WALGA has been advised by WAPOL and the relevant State Government agency who confirm the rental freeze to GROH properties will remain until the completion of the review of the GROH Tenant Rent Setting Framework. Further work has been done in strengthening the partnerships between WAPOL officers and key Local Government officers in specified areas of concerns.</p> <p>Department of Communities modelling and draft ERC proposal has been elevated within the Department. The Director General has called for a working group to be established to include representatives from GROH, of which the TSRF review will be included. As further information is made available, WALGA will remain in contact with the Zones to provide timely feedback and advice.</p> <p>Department of Communities finalised their restructure on 20 May 2020. WALGA will now reengage with Dept. staff to discuss and progress GROH matters.</p> <p>WALGA has written to the Director General at the Department of Communities seeking a response to WALGA State Council July resolution:</p> <p>That WALGA contact the Director General of the Department of Housing to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seek action and acknowledge the extra challenges in attracting and retaining public sector staff in remote and rural areas of the state 2. Immediately review and address the issue of insufficient GROH housing (and the high cost of subsidised rental) for public sector staff and actively seek and enter into Joint Venture arrangements with Councils to address the shortfall in accommodation 3. Request that the agencies be requested to engage with WALGA to seek a solution to the current short supply of GROH housing within all regions. 		
Great Eastern C	2019 March Zone Agenda Item 12.3 Telstra – Power Outages Effecting Communications	1. Requests WALGA to advocate through the State Emergency Management Committee for action in respect to power outages effecting telecommunications and the eligibility for Local Governments to turn generators on.	<p>WALGA have written to the SEMC to request action in respect to power outages effecting telecommunications.</p> <p>WALGA have advocated to the SEMC and the SEMC have included this item on their agenda at the meeting to be held 2 August 2019.</p>	Ongoing	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078

			<p>WALGA tabled this issue at the August SEMC meeting requesting SEMC to formally write to the District Emergency management Committees and to provide WALGA with advice on this matter. SEMC have taken this as an action.</p> <p>The Zone will be provided with a copy of SEMC's response when received.</p> <p>This matter has been officially raised at SEMC, particularly the sector is still awaiting a response.</p> <p>WALGA tabled concerns of the sector at the State Emergency Management Committee on Friday 13th December 2019. Following this WALGA met with Telstra and discussed how we can better understand the Telstra notification systems and how Local Governments can access the information and key contacts should this happen.</p> <p>The key outcomes from the meeting were for Telstra to share a series of fact sheets on topics relevant to the issues being faced by your communities and provide key contact information in order for these matters to be escalated or referred should you need to.</p> <p>The first fact sheet provided by Telstra was on Power Outages and was disseminated to all regional councils.</p> <p>WALGA is currently assisting DFES with a Commonwealth grant application with the aim of enhancing battery back-up service to 206 base stations across Western Australia. A DFES representative is available to present to the Zone once the outcome of the application is known.</p>		
Great Eastern C	2020 February 26 Zone Agenda Item 7.1 Federal Government Drought Communities	That the Great Eastern Country Zone requests WALGA, in consultation with ALGA, to liaise with the WA State Government Ministers for Water, Agriculture and Environment to provide a coordinated holistic response in respect to the ongoing drying climate issues and access to the Drought Communities Funding Program.	<p>State Council Resolution</p> <p>That State Council endorse the recommendation from the Great Eastern Country Zone relating to the Federal Government Drought Communities Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the Great Eastern Country Zone requests WALGA, in consultation with ALGA, to liaise with the WA State Government Ministers for Water, Agriculture and Environment to provide a coordinated holistic response in respect to the ongoing drying climate issues and access to the Drought Communities Funding Program. <p>RESOLUTION 37.1/2020</p>	April 2020 Ongoing	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078

			WALGA has met with the WA Minister for Water Chief of Staff and is lobbying through both the State and ALGA for a third round of funding, bespoke to Western Australia.		
Great Eastern C	2018 November 29 Zone Agenda Item 7.3 Container Deposit Scheme Locations	That the Great Eastern Country Zone requests that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All Local Governments be guaranteed, as a minimum, one flexible refund point in their area. 2. A flexible access point should be defined as a refund point which, as a minimum, is open 16 hours each two week period, including at least 8 hours at weekends <p>The State Government provide appropriate funding for the refund points.</p>	Due to COVID-19, on 31 March, the State Government announced that the scheduled implementation date of 2 June 2020, had been postponed, and will relaunched in October 2020.	August 2020	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Great Eastern C	2020 February 26 Zone Agenda Item 12.1 Landgate – Delays in receiving valuations	Request WALGA to inquire with Landgate in respect to the delays in receiving interim valuations.	WALGA CEO and Executive Manger Governance & Organisational Services recently met with the Valuer General and advised of the Zones concerns with the delays in the VG providing interim valuations. The Valuer General committed to looking into this issue and rectifying the delays.	August 2020	Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au
Great Eastern C	2020 25 June Zone Agenda Item 7.3 Telecommunications – Minister Response	That WALGA again raise the issue of lack of communication when power outages occur with the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) and the Federal/State Government politicians advising of the lack of response from Telstra on this issue and the extreme concern in an emergency situation that this causes.	WALGA has met with the Executive Manager of Corporate Services DFES to discuss a funding application to the Commonwealth for application to the Commonwealth resilience improvement funding package. It has several key pillars, namely: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$7m for installing 2000 satellite dishes onto fire stations 2. \$18m for hardening the mobile phone network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stage 1 of \$10m will be providing battery back-up for towers and extending battery life – for those towers delivered in rounds 1 and 2 of the Mobile Black Spot Program. Also includes generators in some cases. - stage 2 will be a grants program for further hardening work 3. \$10m for the expansion of mobile satellite communications capability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1.7m for NBN Co to expand its fleet of Sky Muster trucks and 12 portable satellite FlyAway kits - \$8.3m for competitive grants 	August 2020	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078

			WALGA is in discussion with DFES as to the priority elements that would constitute a WA funding bid to assist in resolving the telecommunications issue.		
Great Eastern C	2020 25 June Zone Agenda Item Zone Comment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That WALGA advocate to the Federal Government to request additional funding for the National On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme as the fund has been fully subscribed one year into a three year program. 2. That WALGA advocate to the State Government to reinstate the Farm Water Rebate Scheme. 	<p>On August 7 the WALGA Deputy President met with Senator Dean Smith as part of the advocacy approach, and WALGA is now writing to all Western Australian Federal Government members requesting additional funding for the National On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme.</p> <p>WALGA is meeting with the DWER in late August to discuss the State Government reinstating the Farm Water Rebate Scheme.</p>	August 2020	Mark Batty Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy and Planning mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Great Eastern C	2020 25 June Zone Agenda Item 6.2.1 Local Government Audits – Office of the Auditor General (OAG)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That WALGA carry-out research with the sector to quantify the new and extra requirements that the OAG is requesting from Local Governments and determine whether there is consistency across audits. Research to include information on the extra Local Government staff time that is now required. 2. This information be used to advocate to the OAG to further consider the costing model and the consistency of audits across the sector. 	<p>WALGA staff are currently carrying out the research with the sector.</p> <p>An update on this issue will be provided to the Zone.</p>	August 2020	Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au

ZONE COMMENT

This is an opportunity for Member Councils to consider the response from WALGA in respect to the matters that were submitted at the previous Zone Meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Alison Harris
Seconded: Cr Wayne Della Bosca

That the Great Eastern Country Zone WALGA August 2020 Status Report be noted.

CARRIED

9.3 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 full State Council Agenda can be found via link: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/2ec50f86-fa98-4e62-92e7-4a68fd60c7f3/Agenda-State-Council-2-September-2020.pdf>

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

Matters for Decision

5.1 Park Home Approvals and the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995

That WALGA requests the State Government to:

1. Urgently amend the *Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995* to allow the continued lawful placement of new manufactured homes on caravan park sites until 2030; and
2. Undertake a full review of the *Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995* and associated legislation and regulations.

5.2 Submission on Decision Paper – Swimming Pool and Safety Barrier Control

That the submission on the Decision Paper on Swimming Pool and Safety Barrier Control, be endorsed.

5.3 Development Assessment Panels

That the findings and recommendations of the Development Assessment Panels, 2011-20 Review be endorsed and that WALGA advocate for:

1. The abolishment of the current 'mandatory' mechanism which requires a Development Assessment Panel to act as the decision maker where a proposal has a value of \$10 million or greater, and replace this with an 'opt in' mechanism for all proposals;

2. Raising the Development Assessment Panel threshold from the current \$2 million back to \$3 million;
and
3. The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage to make public comprehensive data related to the performance of the Development Assessment Panel system to improve the transparency of the system.

5.4 Air Handling Discussion Paper Part Two

That the submission to the Department of Health in response to the Air Handling discussion paper Part Two be endorsed.

5.5 Local Government Act Review Panel Report

Background

WALGA carried out an extensive consultation process on Phase 2 of the Local Government Act Review in 2018/19, culminating in sector positions being endorsed by State Council in March 2019. This agenda item considers the Local Government Review Panel's recommendations in the context of the sector's current advocacy positions.

The Minister for Local Government has not considered the Panel's recommendations at this stage and has not requested a consultation process on the report. WALGA is taking the opportunity to obtain a sector opinion on the recommendations to provide to the Minister.

The Recommendations below are subject to Zone input and all Zone recommendations will be collated into a consolidated recommendation that will be provided for State Council consideration at its meeting on 2 September 2020.

Please refer to Attachment 8

Secretariat Comment

This item will require significant contribution from Member Councils

Recommendations

1. *That WALGA SUPPORT the following Recommendations from the Local Government Review Panel Final Report:*
 - *Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7;*
 - *Recommendation 8;*
 - *Recommendation 11;*
 - *Recommendations 12, 13 and 14;*
 - *Recommendation 15;*
 - *Recommendations 16 and 17;*
 - *Recommendation 24;*
 - *Recommendations 25(b) to (f);*

- *Recommendations 26(b), (d), (e) and (f);*
- *Recommendations 28, 29, 30, 31, 32(1)(a) to (o) and 32(2)(a);*
- *Recommendations 33 and 34;*
- *Recommendations 36 and 37;*
- *Recommendations 38(c), (d) and (e);*
- *Recommendations 39, 40, 41(a) to (g) and (i);*
- *Recommendation 42;*
- *Recommendations 43 and 44;*
- *Recommendations 45, 46, 47, 48 and 49;*
- *Recommendations 50, 51 and 52;*
- *Recommendation 54;*
- *Recommendations 55(a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (h) and (i);*
- *Recommendation 56;*
- *Recommendation 57;*
- *Recommendation 59;*
- *Recommendations 62 and 63;*
- *Recommendation 64 (c);*
- *Recommendations 65(a) to (e).*

2. *That WALGA OPPOSE the following Recommendations from the Local Government Review Panel Final Report:*

- *Oppose Recommendation 5;*
- *Oppose Recommendations 20, 21 and 27;*
- *Oppose Recommendations 22 and 25(a);*
- *Oppose Recommendations 23 and 25(a);*
- *Oppose Recommendation 26(c);*
- *Oppose Recommendations 32(2)(b) and (c);*
- *Oppose Recommendation 35;*
- *Oppose Recommendations 38(a) and (b);*
- *Oppose Recommendation 41(h);*
- *Oppose Recommendations 53(a) and (b);*
- *Oppose Recommendations 55 (c) and (g);*
- *Oppose Recommendation 58;*
- *Oppose Recommendation 60;*
- *Oppose Recommendation 61;*

3. *That WALGA CONDITIONALLY SUPPORT the following Recommendations from the Local Government Review Panel Final Report as described:*

- *Recommendations 9 and 10 and but oppose any proposal to remove the poll provisions (Dadour provisions) in Clause 8, Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act;*
- *Recommendation 18 and reiterate WALGA's current advocacy position that there be adequate funding of legislative responsibilities assigned to Local Governments in relation to service delivery to remote Aboriginal communities;*

- *Recommendation 19 in support of a broad review of the property franchise including a community consultative process;*
 - *Recommendation 26(a) conditional upon a review of the relative benefits and merits of changes to reduce numbers of Elected Members on Council be supported, on the following basis:*
 - o *Populations up to 5,000 – 5 to 7 Councillors (incl. President)*
 - o *Populations between 5,000 and 75,000 – 5 to 9 Councillors (incl. Mayor/President)*
 - o *Populations above 75,000 – up to 15 Councillors (incl. Mayor);*
4. *That WALGA carry out further consultation on the following Recommendations from the Local Government Review Panel Final Report:*
- *Recommendation 22 – Property Franchise;*
 - *Recommendations 64(a) and (b) - WALGA*
 - *Recommendation 65(f) – Transfer of Employee Entitlements*

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rod Forsyth
Seconded: Cr Stephen Strange

That the Great Eastern Country Zone supports all matters for decision on the September 2020 State Council Agenda, subject to the below:

- 1. That WALGA's position on recommendation 25c be changed from support to oppose**
- 2. That WALGA's position on recommendation on 22 be changed from consult to oppose**
- 3. That WALGA's position on recommendation 38c to 38e be changed from support to conditionally support (request to be in conjunction of the 4 year cycle)**
- 4. That WALGA's position on recommendation to 46 be changed from support to conditionally support (one size doesn't fit all).**
- 5. That WALGA's position on recommendation to 54c be changed from support to oppose**
- 6. That WALGA's position on recommendation to 55h be changed from support to oppose**
- 7. That WALGA's position on recommendation to 55l be changed from support to oppose**

CARRIED

9.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Matters for Noting / Information

- 6.1 COVID-19 Pandemic - Update**
- 6.2 Planning and Development Amendment Act 2020**
- 6.3 Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) Program**
- 6.4 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)**

9.5 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Organisational Reports

7.1 Key Activity Reports

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

9.6 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 Forum**

9.7 WALGA President's Report

The WALGA President's Report was attached to the Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan
Seconded: Cr Karin Day

That the Great Eastern Country Zone notes the following reports contained in the WALGA September 2020 State Council Agenda.

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

CARRIED

10. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Hon Martin Aldridge provided an update to the Zone on the following matters:

- Select Committee
- Amendments to Dog Act/Puppy Farming Bill
- Thanked Local Governments that participated in the local General Practitioners Survey
- Feedback is invited on the Container Deposit Scheme

Noted

11. AGENCY REPORTS

11.1 Wheatbelt Development Commission

Kristen Twine, presented to the Zone on the following matters:

- Regional Economic Development Grants Program
- Wheatbelt Development Commission Strategic Plan
- New location, Merredin Institute

Noted

11.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Please find below a link to an Update from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries. An attachment Community Resilience Scorecard – Wheatbelt, was provided prior to the meeting.

<https://mailchi.mp/dlgsc/local-matters-august-2020-1096582>

Noted

11.3 Main Roads Western Australia

Mr Craig Manton was an apology for this meeting and will provide an update to the next Zone meeting.

Noted

11.4 Wheatbelt RDA

Mandy Walker, RDA Wheatbelt presented to the Zone on the following:

Grant Guru
Wheatbelt Development Commission partnership
Drive Trails in the region

The full report was attached with the Agenda

Noted

12. EMERGING ISSUES

Nil

13. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

14. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Great Eastern Country Zone will be held in Merredin on Thursday 26 November 2020, commencing at 9.30am.

15. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.30pm.

From: Katrina Crute <sp@brookton.wa.gov.au>

Date: 18 August 2020 at 7:42:09 pm AWST

To: Robert Dew <tambin@westnet.com.au>, Cr Steven Pollard <president@northam.wa.gov.au>, Cr Phil Blight <sp@wagin.wa.gov.au>, Bruce Wittber <bwittber@wsquared.com.au>, Helen Westcott <hwestcott@wsquared.com.au>, Cr Rhonda Cole <rmcole@outlook.com>, Cr Scott Crosby <smcrosby@bigpond.com>, Cr Julie Flockart <crflockart@merredin.wa.gov.au>, Cr Rod Forsyth <president@kellerberrin.wa.gov.au>, Tony Brown <tbrown@walga.asn.au>, Annabel Paulley <annabel13@westnet.com.au>, Cr Barry Haywood <cr.haywood@goomalling.wa.gov.au>, Cr Russell Thomson <kunmallup@bigpond.com>

Subject: RE: MOVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

Hi Robert,

If the LGAFG which represents the Agricultural Region of WA requested:

That the WA Local Government Association be requested to prepare a discussion paper on the speed limits on public roads of tractors and self-propelled agricultural machinery for consideration by the Group.

Why do we need to provide any more evidence that this is required, the LGAFG exists under the workings of WALGA to provide advice and advocacy on behalf of the Ag region. Although I do not operate a farming enterprise I would argue that the limitation on the speed of Tractors on State roads is absolutely creating a safety issue and if these vehicles are manufactured to travel at a higher speed then our state laws need to keep pace with this.

I would like to think that a request by LGAFG for a discussion paper to be prepared is taken up by WALGA and if it isn't then an explanation from WALGA would be appropriate, so that LGAFG can make further applications to have this done.

Regards,

Katrina Crute

Tel: 0439 373 282



Katrina Crute
Shire President

☎ (08) 9642 1106

☎ 0439 373 282

✉ sp@brookton.wa.gov.au

🌐 www.brookton.wa.gov.au

📍 14 White St, Brookton WA 6306

✉ PO Box 42, Brookton WA 6306

From: Avon-Midland Country Zone <tambin@westnet.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 14 August 2020 3:34 PM

To: Cr C Antonio <president@northam.wa.gov.au>; Cr P Blight <sp@wagin.wa.gov.au>; Central Country Zone <BWittber@wsquared.com.au>; Central Country Zone <hwestcott@wsquared.com.au>; Cole, Cr Rhonda <CrR.Cole@narembreen.wa.gov.au>; Cr Scott Crosby <smcrosby@bigpond.com>; Katrina Crute <sp@brookton.wa.gov.au>; Cr Julie Flockart <crflockart@merredin.wa.gov.au>; Cr Rod Forsyth <president@kellerberrin.wa.gov.au>; Great Eastern Country Zone <tbrown@walga.asn.au>; Great Southern Country Zone <annabel13@westnet.com.au>; Cr Barry Haywood <cr.haywood@goomalling.wa.gov.au>; Cr Russell Thomson <kunmallup@bigpond.com>

Subject: MOVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

To All Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Members & Delegates

Ian Duncan has provided the following advice with regard to (a) pilot requirements for the movement of overwidth agricultural machinery and (b) speed limit on tractors and self-propelled agricultural machinery on public roads.

The Agricultural Pilot matter was on the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Group (SAC) agenda for the meeting yesterday. In the absence of a compelling case for change, which we don't have, Main Roads advised delegates that the risk analysis supports the current 1km maximum distance on regional distributors without a licenced pilot.

Mal Shervill is across the tractor speed limit matter with AVAC. I would need to convince the Infrastructure Policy team that a discussion paper on this matter is a high priority. I don't think many Local Governments drive tractors extensive distances on the road – but suggest that this would have to be the justification. There is potentially a road safety benefit (to following traffic) if tractors are travelling closer to the speed of other traffic.

Regards
Robert

--

Robert Dew
Executive Officer
AVON-MIDLAND COUNTRY ZONE WALGA

Phone - (08) 9620 1234
Mobile - 0429 962 013
E-mail - tambin@westnet.com.au
Post - PO Box 70, Wongan Hills 6603