



Western Australia

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
On Friday **20th April, 2012**, commencing at 10.25 am.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 10.25 am.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Elected Members:

Councillor S A Broad, Shire President
Councillor R E Foulkes-Taylor, Deputy Shire President
Councillor BM Seaman
Councillor DA Mc Taggart
Councillor PR Squires

Staff:

J N (Neil) Warne, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Dianne Daniels, Senior Finance Officer 2.34 pm – 3.02 pm

Leave:

Cr Halleen had been granted leave of absence for this meeting.

Apologies:

None

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

4.1 Standing Orders

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches

8.3 Duration of speeches

CARRIED 5-0

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Friday 18th May, 2012

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

None

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

The President indicated that he wished to discuss some matters behind closed doors at an appropriate time during the meeting.

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 15th March, 2012

Background:

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Councillors.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**Moved: Councillor Squires**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 15th March, 2012 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings subject to

the report of Cr Seaman on page 14 item 14.2 line 1, 4th paragraph of the page to be altered by deleting '(SKA promotion)' so that the sentence reads

Councillor Seaman had attended a meeting of WARAG on 20th February.

CARRIED 5-0**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

The President did not make any announcements at this time.

COUNCIL BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That Council move behind closed doors. 10.35 am

Seconded: Councillor Mc Taggart**CARRIED 5-0**

Council discussion behind closed doors.

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council move from behind closed doors. 10.58 am.

Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**CARRIED 5-0*****MORNING TEA***

Council adjourned for morning tea 10.59 am

Council resumed at 11.17 am

10. ACTION LIST**List ex December 2011**

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Prepare 'Flying Minute' motion for submission to the next Murchison WALGA Zone Meeting Cue 11 th May.	Motion prepared and submitted for inclusion on the agenda	Completed

List ex March 2012 Meeting

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Improvement surrounds CEO's residence	A couple of items not yet tackled	Almost completed
2.	Tenders for road maintenance Beringarra-Pindar Road	Call tender for work	Consider this meeting

List Resulting from 15th March meeting

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	CSIRO Road Agreement Beringarra-Pindar Road	Advise CSIRO Council favours an extension of the existing agreement.	Completed
2.	Funding bitumen re-sealing Carnarvon-Mullewa Road	Alter budget to allow for this project \$280,000	Completed

3.	Regional Road Group Possible extra grant Carnarvon- Mullewa Road 2012/13	Advise MRWA of acceptance	Completed
4.	Crossland Resources Road Agreement	Advise Crosslands of acceptance of extension of agreement	Completed
5.	Tender Road Works SLK 199-209 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road	Advise Greenfields to advise No tender accepted	Completed
6.	Tender Re-sealing 10-20 kms South Murchison Settlement.	Advise Greenfields to advise successful and unsuccessful Tenderers of result of tender	Completed
7.	Arrangement for Council using own resources to carry out 199-209 SLK construct and bitumen job.	Works Supervisor to prepare report on the strategy to tackle this job.	Report nearing completion
8.	New schedule of fees and charges	Will be available for the May Meeting	Incomplete
9.	Tender to be called for a small Truck for use by plant maintenance person	Tenders yet to be called Will be for May meeting	Incomplete

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor
That the Action List be accepted.

Seconded: Councillor Squires

CARRIED 5-0

11. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Squires declared an interest in Item 12.4 tenders for road works.

ITEMS 13 AND 14 WERE CONSIDERED AT THIS STAGE

13. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

None

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

The President advised that he would be attending meetings of both the Midwest Development Commission and the MidWest Infrastructure Committee on Friday 27th April, 2012.

The President mentioned some possible changes to funding of Royalties to Regions via the MidWest Infrastructure Fund which may be 'in the pipeline'.

14.2 Councillors

Councillor Seaman reported having chaired a meeting of the Astrofest Committee 4th April, 2012. It was a good meeting which dealt with quite a few issues. There was some doubt as to whether the Astrofest would proceed this year due mainly to Shire staff not wishing to be responsible for the financial control due to 'back', current and continuing financial and administration work. Other 'interest' groups had advised an inability to accept this role. The meeting 'had things in place' pending a decision 'to go'.

Councillor Seaman attended a WARAG meeting on the 17th of April. It was a well attended meeting with invited guests Dr Brian Boyle – SKA Director, Mr David Luchetti – General Manager Astronomy and Research Agencies Branch-Department of Innovation and Mr Tony Brooker, Past Chair and community member. Dr Boyle presented an update on the current status of the ASKAP project and also the total spend in the region for local businesses. Everything was going well at the ASKAP site with construction proceeding on the dishes not yet fully assembled.

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor reported on his attendance at the Wadjarri Dictionary Launch on Thursday 29th March. This was a very positive day, the whole procedure went off very well. The Shire was appropriately thanked for its support in relation to the launch.

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor advised that the Plant Committee had met at Yuin on 27th March. Councillor Halleen was elected Chairperson of that committee. The minutes of the meeting would be considered later today.

Councillor Seaman brought up the matter of the trial change of work cycle for the outside staff. This provides for a break within the 10 days work cycle from late Saturday afternoon, recommencing work Monday morning. The Acting CEO said an arrangement had been put in place to provide for no reduction of actual work time. Councillor Seaman said this had 'been tried' on previous occasions and in the end work arrangements had returned to 10 day work and 4 days off. Councillor Seaman quoted the existing Council policy in relation to work arrangements and the apparent conflict the trial has with this and Council – Staff agreements.

Council indicated that, on balance, Council was of the opinion that the 10 days work then 4 days off was more efficient than the current 'on trial' work arrangements..

Resolved that this matter be referred to the Acting CEO for investigation.

12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

The Works Supervisor had advised that he was not feeling well and had apologised for being unavailable to attend the meeting.

12.1 Monthly Plant Report for March 2012

Note: Plant report has been changed to reflect figures recorded at end of each month.
(This is first report under new system, therefore does not reflect full month)

HEAVY PLANT				Start	End	Total	
Plant Item	Year	REGO	Hours	Hours	Total	Service	Ownership
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	7893	7994.8	101.8		
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	4008	4104	96		
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	4013	4068.7	55.7		
Komatsu Dozer	1997		7643	7653	10		
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	396	422	26		
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	959	1035.9	76.9		
Bomag M/Tyre Roller			81	124	43		
Cat 938G Loader			3009.4	3028.9	19.5		
Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU 000	240991	242805	1814		
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	101166	102688	92572		
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00	153349	154174	825		
Generator 2-100KVA	2005		1260.3	1381.8	121.5		
Generator 1-83KVA	2005		1543.9	1835.2	291.3		
Maintenance Genset			16620	16793	173		
Construction Genset			4949	5228.8	279.8		
Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	40913	42530	1617		
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	120295	121629	1334		
Toyota Prado	2010	MU 0	41500	42100	600		
Holden Rodeo	2008	MU 167	146716	148265	1549		
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	116893	119024	2131		
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	35419	38532	3113		
Toyota P/T Vehicle	1986	MU 1017	21079	21079	Not used		
Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	190603	191549.8	946.8		
Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	38986	40220.72	1234.72		
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663	32445	35145.8	2700.8		
No. 2 float	2001	MU2004	11055	13551	2496		
30000lt Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	8025	9775	1750		

Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658					
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005					
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003		11038			
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009					

New Holland Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1382.4	1402	1960		
Forklift			11656.4	11663.4	7		
Caravans							
Various small plant							
Ride on Mower - JD			93.5	105.5	12		

12.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor

CONSTRUCTION CREW

With the Easter public holidays and the crew break being all in the one fortnight I had the crew working on the pot holing on the section of bitumen 20km south of the settlement in readiness for the reseal on the 4th May 2012.

Crew have put an apron on the grid just east of Wooleen wool shed.

The Construction Crew are currently working on the Greenough River Crossing at Yuin. They are making good progress and hope to have this section completed by the end of the swing, 24th April (Anzac Day 25th).

They will come in and have Anzac Day off and then will put the apron on the second grid at Woolleen on Thursday the 26th before commencing break.

MAINTENANCE CREW

As above, the Maintenance Crew works schedule altered to fit in with the public holidays. Paul gave a hand with the pot holing and then took annual leave. John completed further works on the CEO residence and other house maintenance around the settlement. This crew as of today 16th are heading back out to recommence road maintenance at Beringarra and continue the run from there.

Sandy will be taking the six wheeler and a loader (938G) up to Beringarra and working with the Maintenance Crew sheeting various sections of the road and also repairing the Murchison River crossing at Milly Milly. He will be camping in the caravan recently purchased from Trevor.

The crew are currently based at Beringarra homestead.

Roads Graded this Month

Pindar Beringarra
Nookawarra-Mileura

Patch Grade

Carnarvon Mullewa Road from settlement to the South boundary.
Errabiddy Bluff
Meeberrie-Woolleen and Twin Peaks Woolleen
Sanford River Crossing, just South of Twin Peaks Homestead

FLOOD DAMAGE CREW

Wadjers crew have completed the Butchers track road and are now working on the Curbur homestead flood area and from there will move on to the Curbur lake area.

The Muggon road will be repaired from the Muggon Homestead south to Butchers track. This will entail the use of a scraper which will be here today (16th) and we hope to have this section of road completed by Saturday 21st.

On this section I have decided not to cart the sand away but to pull in the sand and re sheet over the top with scraper. Reason for this is twofold, it will make the road both wider and higher.

The third submission for the flood damage has been approved so we can now commence works on these two sections which includes the Curbur homestead area and the Curbur lake area. Total \$347k.

Gravel has been carted in on the Twin Peaks- Woolleen road in readiness for flood damage repairs. Once the Wadjers crew have finished the two Curbur sections they will move to Woolleen and commence work on the Twin Peaks Road and the Woolleen Mt Wittenoom Road.

PLANT

The Iveco Prime mover is still giving us electrical problems. It was sent in to Purcher for the fourth time for more repairs (same problem).

30,000lt water truck has been sent into town for minor repairs.

Caravan recently purchased from Trevor has been revamped with a new air conditioner, larger fridge, tyres etc and is now being used by Sandy with the Maintenance Crew.

GRIDS

A new apron on the grid just east of Woolleen wool shed has been completed.

Angle iron for the grids on the Carnarvon Mullewa road has been purchased and is now in the yard in readiness for trial run.

I am expecting to hear back from contractors (Ken Kempton and Jack Weston) before the next council meeting in May on the repair and replacement of new grids.

STAFF

Full works crew on hand.

Ross (Fitter) is on a week's annual leave.

10 KM CONSTRUCTION/RESEAL

A comprehensive report for the re-construction and sealing of 10 km of road from Twin Peaks intersection to Billabalong homestead should be completed for the May Council meeting.

Apologies for not having this report ready for April meeting. This is due to very busy works schedule with the setting up of new Contractor Wadjers for the flood damage.

COUNCIL DECISION OFFICER'S' RECOMMENDATION:
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Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the Works supervisor's Plant and Works Report be received and adopted.

Seconded: Councillor Squires

CARRIED 5-0

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned for lunch 12.58 pm

Council resumed, all members present, at 2.03 pm

COUNCIL CONSIDERED ITEM 15 OF THE AGENDA

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Plant Committee meeting held 27th March 2012

Minutes had been made available to Councillors.

Moved: Councillor Mc Taggart

That the minutes of the Plant Committee held 27th March, 2012 be received and considered and the following recommendations of the committee be adopted:

Seconded: Councillor Squires

Item 4. Iveco Prime Mover

That the Iveco prime mover be replaced in the 2012/13 financial year with a second hand (suggested specifications) `Kenworth" type truck, no electric windows, 450-500hp, Cummins motor, 18 speed road ranger gear box and 6 rod Hendricks suspension, 2008 upwards model in the price range of \$180,000.

Item 5. Low Loader

That funds of \$14,000 be provided on the 2012/13 budget to modify brakes set-up on the SFM low loader and further, if funds can be made available, a winch be fitted to the front of the loader so that any machine that may break down can be pulled up squarely.

Item 6. Dual Cab Holden – used by Gardeners

That this vehicle be traded in the 2012/13 financial year and replaced with a 2WD diesel single cab up to \$25,000 and this be purchased by calling for quotes - at least three would be the expectation (Value less than the tenders requirement figure).

Item 7. Construction Fuel/Water Trailer and Tanks

That consideration be given to 35-40 ft flat bed trailer with a 4,000 litre water tank and a 12,000 litre fuel tank leaving sufficient room to mount the generator and half the trailer be lockable, especially over the fuel tank, the rest of the trailer be used as storage and \$30,000 be provided for the trailer, the cost of the water and fuel tanks yet to be costed, and the older trailer be sold.

Item 8. Emergency Vehicles Maintenance

That sufficient funds be provided in the 2012/13 budget for maintenance of the emergency vehicles being estimated for 2012/13 as being Larger Fire Truck \$5,000. Small Fast Attack Fire Vehicle \$5,000 (both need tyres, operations manuals, stickers to indicate filters and various taps etc plus normal maintenance) and Patient Transport Vehicle (seals electrical and tyres etc) \$7,000.

Item 9. Fast Attack Fire Unit

That negotiations be undertaken with FESA to see if they could fit 'water stabiliser balls' in the Fast Attack Fire Unit and if this fails Council provide up to \$1,000 to correct the tank water movement problem.

Item 10. Ex Main Roads Caravan

That this caravan be replaced with a similar caravan to the two purchased new several years ago (2 bedrooms, shower and toilet) and up to \$60,000 be provided for this on the 2012/13 budget and the ex MRD caravan be either sold by private treaty or put out for sale by tender.

Item 11. Generators

That \$10,000 be provided to purchase a 10-12 kva generator for use by the maintenance crew being a silenced Kubota unit with auto shut down and low water.

That \$10,000 be provided on the 2012/13 budget to purchase two 6kva Kubota generators for use with the water pumps on the turkey nests (this size is necessary to run two pumps simultaneously, any smaller there is too much voltage loss).

Item 12. Small Plant Items

That the Works Supervisor and Acting CEO make up a list of small plant items i.e. garden equipment, workshop items etc for inclusion in the 2012/13 budget.

Item 16. Water Truck

That urgent action be immediately taken to the cost of up to \$10,000 to have the water cart repaired by 'experts' in Geraldton being weld the existing leak cracks by a top boiler maker and possibly lined with a rubber type compound and also put a turntable type system on the tanker to try and take some of the twist out

and further it be recommended to Council that this water truck be sold (2012/13) and the purchase of a new water truck at an estimated cost of \$90,000 be provided for in the 2012/13 budget.

(This recommendation may be more closely considered at the 2012/13 budget preparation time in the light of the success or otherwise of the repair carried out in April in Geraldton)

CARRIED 5-0

The water tank (Item16 of the Plant Committee recommendations) has been to Geraldton for repairs and return. The leaking has been reduced by about 50% - the best possible result given the internal rust.

16. FINANCE

The Senior Finance Officer Dianne Daniels attended the meeting 2.34 pm.

16.1 Financial Activity Statements to 31st March 2012

File:
Author: Dianne Daniels, Senior Finance Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 12th April, 2012
Attachments: Financial Activity Statements for 9 months to 31st March, 2012
Balance Sheet
Income Statement Summary
Income Statement Detail
Income Statement by Nature & Type

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider adopting the monthly financial statements for 9 months to 31st March 2012.

Background:

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Regulation 34 requires that local governments report on a monthly basis and prescribes what is required to be reported.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4—Specifies that a local government is to prepare “such other financial reports” as is prescribed.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 34 states:

(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22(1)(d) for that month in the following detail:

- (a) Annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
- (b) Budget estimates to the end of month to which the statement relates;
- (c) Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;
- (d) Material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and
- (e) The net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

Strategic Implications:

Nil.

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

Consultation:

UHY Haines Norton

Comment:

Summary of Financial Results March 2012

The Current Position at 31 March 2012 is a surplus of \$551,509, so a strong improvement on 1 July 2011 brought forward, which was a deficit of \$16,639, but down \$201,865 on February. Contributing factors to this were that there was no Grants Commission income during the month to support running expenses and we

were required to repay the RLCIP Grant of \$30,000 which was earmarked for the relocation of the Boolardy Woolshed Shearers Quarters. The next grant from the Grants Commission is due in May, with the possibility of a pre-payment of part of the 12-13 funding to be paid in June.

This month we have again reviewed those expense accounts that are over budget by 10% or more and have inserted comments in the right hand column of the attached Income Statement by Program – Detail.

Rates

Rates have not yet been issued, but the Shire of Murchison has been given approval by the Department of Local Government to proceed with the issuing of rates, despite the fact that they are still sitting with the State Administrative Tribunal. The SFO has historic rates queries to resolve prior to raising the rates and will endeavour to complete the process during April.

Insurance Review

Representatives from LGIS are scheduled to meet with the CEO and SFO on the 17th April to review insurance requirements. Market value of Plant items will be reviewed as they are currently over-valued.

Occupational Safety and Health Audit

Council pays an annual subscription to LGIS Risk Management for services that we don't take advantage of, such as training regarding OSH responsibilities, take 5's, safety observations, assistance with writing safe work method statements, policies and procedures, OSH responsibilities and safety audits.

We have requested a site visit to audit our safety systems and to give us some direction going forward. The objective will be to utilise their services as regularly as required to maintain a safe and compliant workplace.

CSIRO

CSIRO are disputing SOM Contribution Claim 6, with payment being withheld by them until agreement can be reached. The point of contention is that the charges for November and December work were spread over two Claims (5 and 6) and CSIRO were of the belief that all 2011 charges had been finalised in Claim 5. We at no time gave them cause to assume that there would be no further charges for 2011 works when Claim 5 was issued. We have been corresponding with CSIRO in an effort to resolve this quickly and have offered to cover the entire cost of Administration and Overheads, which might otherwise have been claimed, on Claim 6.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Squires

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 31st March 2012, as attached.

CARRIED 5-0

16.2 Accounts Paid during the period since the last list was adopted/endorsed by Council

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Senior Finance Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 12th April, 2012

Attachments: EFT & Cheque Details for payments made

Matter for Consideration:

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of March 2012.

Background:

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Reg 13(1)–Requires that where the Chief Executive Officer has delegated power to make payments from the Municipal or Trust funds a list of accounts paid is to be prepared each month.

Strategic Implications:

None

Policy Implications:

None

Financial Implications:

Payment from Council's Municipal Account

Consultation:

None

Comment:

Payments made during the month of March, 2012 as per attached schedule.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Squires

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$3,898,159.05 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

CARRIED 5-0

The Senior Finance Officer Dianne Daniels left the meeting 3.02 pm.

17. DEVELOPMENT

Nil

18. ADMINISTRATION

18.1 Ballinyoo Bridge No 837 – Replacement Project

Background:

Since Council's Official Expression of Interest for Royalties for Regions funding for this project has been lodged negotiations have increased with the Main Roads WA Mid West Region in connection with securing a financial commitment from that department towards the cost of the bridge. An amount somewhere between \$M1/2 and \$M1 has been the figure considered reasonable to expect. In addition MRWA Mid West (in February '12) advised that Engineers Australia had applied for the bridge to be heritage listed.

Recent letters received (copy attached to agenda) are-

State Heritage Office advising

"We are not aware of any suggestion from Engineers Australia that Ballinyoo Bridge should be added to the State Register and no fresh submission has been received".

MRWA Mid West

"It will not be possible to contribute to this replacement in 2012/13 because all funding submissions were required by August 2011 for the 2012/13 budget cycle.

".....it is recommended that Royalties for Regions is targeted for the full cost of this project as other programs such as the Local Government Bridge program is unlikely to produce a positive outcome"

Statutory Environment:

Negotiations with Government on bridge funding is well within Council's legislative boundaries.

Financial Implications:

Based on Council's EOI for Royalties for Regions funding and the stated Local Government contribution a sum as mentioned above was necessary to reach the estimated total cost of the project. Whatever the shortfall is this is the amount that has to be made up from other funding agencies.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That arrangement be made to meet Mr Bernie Miller, recently appointed Regional Manager Main Roads Mid West, either at his Geraldton Office or as guest at the May Meeting of Council to discuss the Ballinyoo Bridge project and other Council/MRWA matters and if considered advantageous

and

arrangements be made for a deputation to the Minister for Transport, the Hon Troy Buzzwell, MLA at his Perth Office to discuss the bridge project and either Mr Vince Catania MLA or the Hon Wendy Duncan MLC be invited to introduce the deputation to the Minister.

COUNCIL DECISION:**Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Mc Taggart**

That arrangement be made to meet Mr Bernie Miller, recently appointed Regional Manager Main Roads Mid West, either at his Geraldton Office or as guest at the May Meeting of Council to discuss the Ballinyoo Bridge project and other Council/MRWA matters if considered advantageous

CARRIED 5-0

Note : Council did not adopt the second half of the recommendation as it did not believe this to be appropriate action at this time.

18.2 Murchison Country Zone of WALGA – Half Yearly Conference at Cue 11th May 2012**Background:**

The next half yearly conference of the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA will be held in Cue on Friday 11th May. Council has an item on the agenda. Usually Council appoints Councillors plus the CEO to attend as delegates (CEO only a voting delegate if insufficient Councillors attend)

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

Participation in WALGA activities is well within the Local Government legislative boundaries.

Financial Implications:

Any costs properly provided for in the current budget.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That Councillors Broad and Foulkes-Taylor be appointed Murchison Shire delegates to the next half yearly conference of the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA to be held at Cue on 11th May, 2012 and the Acting CEO attend as an observer.

CARRIED 5-0**18.3 Cost Recovery From FESA – Shire of Murchison Bush Fire Activities****Background:**

An arrangement exists where all or some of the costs in connection with Council's activities in bush fires in the shire of Murchison over the past summer can be recouped from FESA. Mr Jim McNamara, the FESA Officer who liaises with Council has confirmed this is the case. The total cost, the figure includes all costs, for Council involvement in fires over summer (this does not include the very recent fire at Curbur) totals \$73,919. The

CEO is of the opinion that Council should discount the bill in some way to indicate that we are committed to fire control and fire suppression and don't abrogate all responsibility for meeting the cost of fire control. The gesture of FESA is very much appreciated, however I think an account listing all costs and then discounting the account for an amount for 'contribution to cost from Council funds' would be reasonable. If say Council thought 25% (any % can be applied) off the \$73,919 was fair and reasonable this would be a discount of \$18,480.

Not included in the above figures is the value of aircrafts owned by local people who have been willingly and voluntarily used in connection with these fires. There is a view that this value should be added to the total cost or at least advised to FESA. It has previously been confirmed that the actual costs of providing this support (use of locally owned aircrafts) cannot be recouped from FESA.

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

The Bush Fires Act authorises Councils to act in Bush Fire Control.

Financial Implications:

The cost of Council's involvement in bush fire control this financial year far exceeded the budget and the recoup from FESA will be very much appreciated and reduce the over expenditure.

Voting Requirement:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION OFFICER'S

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

That when submitting the account to FESA for recoup of Council's costs associated with its involvement in bush fires over past summer the value of private aeroplanes used in these endeavours be also included in the total cost or at least advised to FESA and the amount sought from FESA (which would not include the value of privately owned aircrafts) be discounted by 20% representing a contribution of the total costs from Council funds.

CARRIED 5-0

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS RETURNED TO ITEM 12.3 ON THE AGENDA

12.3 Annual Road Inspection

Background:

Previously Council decided that the Annual road Inspection would be held in May 2012.

Council needs to indicate the arrangements it wishes be made. Some of the options to be considered are-

- Transport
- Duration, part of Shire 1 day, most of the Shire 2 days
- Overnight stay if 2 days
- Catering
- Must see locations to be included in the inspection

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

Road inspections are well within Council's legislative boundaries

Financial implications:

Normal costs, transport and catering: no excessive expenditure

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Mc Taggart**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the Annual road inspection be held on Monday and Tuesday 14th and 15th May 2012 and include the following arrangements-

- 2 days inspection
- Overnight at Murchison Settlement
- Caravan Park gazebo evening meal end of day 1 – with Roadhouse assistance
- Route to include flood damage repairs
- Small bus for transport preferred – driver to be provided from Council staff
- Short meeting of Council at the conclusion of the road inspection on day 2

CARRIED 5-0**12.4 Tenders for Roadworks Beringarra-Pindar Road****Background:**

Council previously directed that tenders be called for the 'additional maintenance' task on the Beringarra-Pindar Road. Basically the tender will be for 'operator and plant use' per hour for a list of plant used on this task. This was called per advertisement in the 'Geraldton Guardian' with tenders closing Monday 16th April, 2012.

Tenders were submitted by Central Earthmoving of Geraldton and Squires Resources Pty Ltd of Murchison

Interest Declared:

Councillor Squires had declared an interest in Item 12.4 and left the Council Chambers at 3.51 pm.

Statutory Environment:

Calling tenders for road works is well within Council's legislative boundaries.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

In considering the tenders, Council took into consideration, quality of previous work for Council, price and Council's 'Local Preference Tender Policy'.

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Seaman**Seconded: Councillor Mc Taggart**

That Council accept the tender submitted by Squires Resources Pty Ltd for maintenance work from time to time as necessary and approved on the Beringarra – Pindar Road as part of the Road Agreement with CSIRO for the portion of road from Council's southern boundary to the MRO turn off approximately 230 kms north of the southern boundary.

CARRIED 4-0

Councillor Squires returned to the council chambers 4.06 pm

18.4 JMG Murchison Settlement Generators

Correspondence between Council and JMG in relation to the performance of the generators and their attendance on 24th January for after sales adjustments for which they charged \$6,494.62 continues. This account has not been paid. Negotiations are continuing. Except for the first reply from JMG, Council correspondence to them is quite detailed but the replies from JMG are quite short. See attachments to the agenda.

Background:

The CEO believes we have a little way to go with these negotiations.

Interest Declared:

None

Financial Implications:

The amount outstanding cannot be paid unless an Officer signs the invoice approving of this expenditure or Council directs the account be paid.

Voting Requirement:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**Moved Councillor Squires****Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That negotiations continue with JMG in relation to the account from JMG for \$6494.62 for attendance in Murchison on 24th January, 2012 to make adjustments to the generators (installed in Late November, 2011) and in relation to the performance of the generators generally.

CARRIED 5-0**19. NOTICE OF MOTION**

No notice of motions for consideration.

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Activity
21 st March	Attended Murchison Sub Group Regional Road Group Teleconference. Resume of meeting attached.
29 th March	Attended Launch of Wadjari Dictionary at Murchison. This was a very well organised and conducted event.
4 th April	Attended the Astrofest 2012 Committee Meeting in Murchison.

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

CARRIED 5-0**21. URGENT BUSINESS**

Not urgent but worthy of recording;

1. Letter received from the former Vice President ICPA WA – Mrs Emma Foulkes-Taylor thanking Council for its support of the 2012 (and 40th Anniversary) conference held at the Esplanade, Fremantle on 23rd March, 2012.
2. E mail from Steven Tingay advising he wishes to donate a 'decent optical telescope' to the Murchison Shire. He would like to do this probably on Saturday 19th May. This is a most generous offer. See attached email letter in agenda booklet.

Astrofest 2012**COUNCIL DECISION:****Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That given the work load of the Shire staff this year resulting in the inability to accept the Astrofest financial management role for 2012 and other factors, the Astrofest become a bi-annual event with next event being in 2013 and that Priscilla Clayton and other stakeholders as appropriate be advised of this decision.

CARRIED 5-0**Donation of Telescope –Professor Tingay: See Item 21.2 page 16****COUNCIL DECISION:**

Resolved that if it is acceptable to Professor Tingay the function at which Professor Tingay could present the telescope he is making available to Council be held as a barbecue function at the caravan park rotunda on the evening of Friday 18th May.

Acting Chief Executive Officer

As no appointment had yet been made for the position of Chief Executive Officer Council had asked the Acting CEO J N Warne if he was available to continue in that role for a further period.

COUNCIL DECISION:**Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**

That the Shire President and Deputy President be appointed, with power to act, to discuss with J N Warne arrangements for Mr Warne to continue as Acting CEO for a further period and that this meeting take place 1.00pm Wednesday 25th April, 2012.

CARRIED 5-0**Murchison Settlement Development Committee**

(formally and/or taking the place of the previous CBD Committee)

Resolved that the inaugural meeting of the Murchison Settlement Development Committee be held in the Council Chambers 12 Noon Wednesday 25th April, 2012 and it be confirmed that the committee consists of Councillors McTaggart and Squires, Mesdames Natalie Broad and Jo Squires and Messrs Brian Wundenberg and Trevor Hipper and the CEO or Acting CEO.

Local Government Convention – First Weekend in August 2012

The CEO was asked to check whether all arrangements/programme had been published by WALGA and when it was prudent to make accommodation bookings.

Information to Electors**COUNCIL DECISION:**

Resolved that the electors be advised via a Council newsletter the situation in relation to the appointment of CEO, the delay in the Annual AGM of Electors Meeting and other matters.

Freight Service to Murchison (Mr Darryl Grey)

Council considered freight delivery problems over the Easter period.

COUNCIL DECISION:**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That the Acting CEO be directed to forward an official letter to Mr Darryl Grey, Murchison Freight Service, expressing disappointment at the problems and delay in delivery of freight which was supposed to be delivered to Murchison on Easter eve Thursday 5th April and express the view that Council believes an overload of freight not for delivery at Murchison may have caused the refrigeration problems on that day and also Council does not expect non Murchison deliveries to be transported, to the detriment of smooth deliveries

to Murchison, on the same day as Murchison deliveries. Mr Grey to be advised that continuous problems and complaints could result in the contract being reviewed.

CARRIED 5-0

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Council considered the discussion/decision made earlier today behind closed doors and the letter of today's date from Mrs Dianne Daniel – Senior Finance Officer.

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

That the position of Senior Finance Officer within the Shire Office be upgraded to that of Deputy Chief Executive Officer and the incumbent (SFO) Mrs Dianne Daniels be appointed Deputy Chief Executive Officer subject to the satisfactory completion of the process of entering into a three year contract of service with Council.

CARRIED 5-0

The Shire President invited Dianne into the Council Chambers and informed her of the Council decision. Dianne suitably responded.

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

No further items.

23. MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at 5.00pm