



Western Australia

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,  
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,  
On Friday **19<sup>th</sup> October 2012**, commencing at 10.00 am.

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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 10.46 am.

The President advised that Council had received the proprietors of the roadhouse for a meeting at 10.05 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 B M Seaman  
 Councillor P R Squires

**Staff:**

Ms Jenny Goodbourn Chief Executive Officer  
 Mr Brian Wundenberg Works Supervisor

**Leave of Absence:**

Councillor McTaggart

**Apologies:**

Councillor Halleen – The President regretfully informed Council that Councillor Halleen had met with an accident and broken his arm so was unable to attend the meeting as he was in Perth receiving treatment.

**3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Nil.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**4.1 Standing Orders*****Council Decision:***

**Moved: Councillor Squires**

**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**

**For: 3**

**Against: 1**

**5. NEXT MEETING**

The scheduled date for the next ordinary meeting is 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2012.

**6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor requested a leave of absence for the November Ordinary Meeting of Council.

***Council Decision:***

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That Councillor Foulkes-Taylor be granted a leave of absence for the November Ordinary Meeting of Council.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

**7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

The President indicated that there will be one matter to discuss behind closed doors at an appropriate time later in the meeting.

**8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 21st September 2012**

**Background:**

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

**Recommendation:**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2012 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Nil

*At this point it was decided to change the order of business and address items, 11, 12.1, 12.2, 18.1, 18.2 and 15.2 to enable the Works Supervisor to be available for consultation.*

**11. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

**12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**12.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor**

HEAVY PLANT			Start	End	Total		
Plant Item	Year	REGO	Hours	Hours/km	Total	Service	Ownership
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	8594	8750	156		
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	4644	4806	162		
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	4429	4600	171		
Komatsu Dozer	1997		7924	In town for repairs			
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	791	892	101		
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	1667	1814.6	147.6		
Bomag M/Tyre Roller			472	516	44		
Cat 938G Loader	2004		3369.7	3476.2	106.5		
Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU 000	252984	255164	2180		
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	118722	121500	2778		
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00	157633	157675	42		
Generator 2-110kva	2011		3306.5	3725.0	418.53		
Generator 1-110kva	2011		3587.5	3982.7	395.2		
Maintenance Genset			17626.8	17771.8	145		
Construction Genset			7290.3	7856	565.7		

Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	55211	57149	1938		
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	135344	137845	2051		
Toyota Prado	2010	MU 0	55430	55695	265		
Holden Rodeo	2008	MU 167	155914	157544	1630		
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	128747	131122	2375		
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	55621	61550	5929		
Isuzu T/Top	2005	MU1002	97168				
Toyota P/T Vehicle	1986	MU 1017	21152	21162	10		

Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	6921	9092	2171		
Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	51575	53182	1607		
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663	38664	38664	Not used		
No. 2 float	2001	MU 2004	16197	17713	1516		
30000lt Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	14713	16485	1772		
Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658					
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005					
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003		19601			
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009					

New Holland Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1485	1501	16		
Forklift			11728	11741.6	13.6		
Caravans							
Various small plant							
Ride on Mower - JD			150	163	13		

## **12.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor**

### **Construction Crew**

Construction works on the Carnarvon Mullewa road are progressing well. I have spent some time camping at Bilabalong with the works crew this month operating the grader (just to keep my eye in) and to give Jeremy a spell. The first 7km (to grid 3km north of Bilabalong Station) has all earth works completed and just needs final shave for sealing. All floodway's have had cement mix and compacted.

The next 3km to grid 500m south of Bilabalong needs floodways to be put in place. (cement added to gravel and compacted)

The 10 km section south of Bilabalong is now under way. This section will only require calcrete carted in on about a 2km section and will require shape up to 3% crown and cross-fall in floodway. Gravel will then need to be carted in at 150mm thick for base course. A 1.2m culvert and end wall is also required.

### **Maintenance Crew**

John and Glen are working on the Pindar-Beringarra road, working from south boundary to Boolardy Station. Whilst on this road John will spread out gravel that was carted for the approach to new grid which Rossco put in 20 km north of Yuin Station.

When the maintenance crew have finished grading to Boolardy then they will finish off maintenance of Muggon-Butchers and Muggon roads. They will then commence a run around of all roads prior to Christmas, patch grading the worst areas, a light grade on the Carnarvon Mullewa Road south to boundary then run up to north boundary.

*Cr Squires left the meeting at 11.03 am*

*Cr Squires returned to the meeting at 11.07 am*

### **Grids**

Rossco has finished 2 grid replacements, one 20 km north of Yuin on the Pindar Beringarra road (24ft wide), the second at Beringarra on the Byro-Beringarra road (18ft wide). Photos are provided of the first grid 20 km north of Yuin

### **Plant/Repairs**

The Dozer has been sent to town for repairs and will have a complete overhaul whilst in there.

Bob Fabling with the assistance of Pia has been doing a great job catching up on our plant maintenance works for the last couple of weeks.

## Staff

On a sad note, Ross (Jock's) our fitter has resigned from the Shire and returned to Glenburgh Station. The mechanic/fitter position has been advertised in the Geraldton Guardian, West Australian and is also on the Shire website.

Neil Combe has taken a week's leave to visit his new grand-daughter in Geraldton.

## General Notes

I have been speaking to Dave Pollock from Wooleen Station about the corner on the road ½ km east of his driveway. He has given the OK to get gravel and also to put a bore down. He has also suggested the possibility of moving the corner. I would like to discuss this further with Council to go over the different options.

*Cr Broad left the meeting at 11.28 am*

*Cr Broad returned to the meeting at 11.30 am*

*Cr Seaman left the meeting at 11.35am*

*Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 11.36am*

## Road Stripping – South of Settlement Carnarvon Mullewa Road

Mark Salt for MRD Geraldton came out and had a look at the stripping section of road 10-20 km south of the settlement on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. He will be compiling a report and will send to me once completed.

### ROADS GRADED SEPT/OCT 2012

NAME	Length of Road	SLK <sup>s</sup> Graded this month	Road Maint Repairs Loader/Truck	COMMENTS
Beringarra /Pindar	319.80km	0.00 - 63km = 63km		*Light grade plus drains
Erong	63.12km			
Beringarra/Byro	90.89km			
Twin-Peaks/Wooleen	47.65km	0.00 – 39km = 39 km		Light grade plus drains where required.
Booldardy/Kalli	57.30km			
Byro/Woodleigh	71.00km			
New Forrest/Yallalong	16.36km			
M <sup>c</sup> Nabb/Twin-peaks	49.75km			
Yallalong-West	16.72km			
Mileura/Nookawarra	49.08km			
Muggon	38.75km			
Manfred	34.55km			
Beringarra/Mt Gould	34.80km			
Tardie/Yuin	13.20km			
Innouendy	9.30km			
Booldardy Hsd	2.00km			
Yunda Hsd	32.80km			
Meeberrie Wooleen	25.22km			
Mt Wittenoom	37.55km			
Wooleen/Mt Wittenoom	33.85km	0.00 – 12km = 12km		
Beringarra Cue	109.82km			
Booldardy Wooleen	19.08km			
Kalli Cue East	21.87km			
Coodardy Noondie	19.92km			
Butchers Track	64.54km			
Butchers Muggon	23.80			
Murchison Settlement	2.00km			
Pinegrove Yallalong	-----			
Carnarvon-Mullewa	278.63km	85km – 133km =48km		Murchison River to the south boundary. Light grade plus drains.
Woolgorong-South	15.00km			
Ebabiddy-Bluff				
Air strip Graded				

\*This road light grade (4 cuts over then 4-5 cuts back) plus drains

**Comments on the Report by Council:**

Grading of the Beringarra- Pindar Road from the Boolardy Homestead to the MRO turn off was discussed and it was concluded that the Shire should carry out a normal maintenance grade whilst the road agreement is in negotiation.

The new grids were discussed with confirmation that on the two main roads the grids would be 24ft wide and 18ft wide on all other roads. Councillor Seaman asked about the grid approaches. The aprons will be done in about 12 month’s time to allow the ground to settle.

Update on the dozer – sway bar is completely u/s and will need to be replaced so costs will be around \$20-\$25k as advised by the Plant Committee- Confirmed the cracks are fixable and the motor and rest of them machine is in good condition.

Bob Fabling, mechanic, will provide written reports on all our machinery.

There was discussion on the proposal to re-align the road ½ km east of Woollen Station driveway. Two variations of the alignment were looked at and route 1, the shorter option, was thought to be the best and the works supervisor is to provide a costing so it can be compared to the work that had formerly been proposed. Approval and native title clearance will be required for the realignment and this is to be started now in readiness.

The current maintenance program was discussed and the amount of km’s graded so far. A lot of the grading being done is heavy maintenance but this will enable light grades to be done in the next few years.

The good standard of the local contract labour was raised and Brian is to pass on congratulations to the contractors. We are lucky to have such conscientious, multi skilled people.

There was discussion on the new UHF/VHF radios that have been installed in the vehicles by FESA. We will leave the old ones in the vehicles for future trade-in and keep the couple we have just purchased as spares. Tom Hanly- RDC 20 product for dust suppression- will be here on the 28<sup>th</sup> to trial a dust suppression product. The company has volunteered to come up and apply the product to 250m of road so that we can assess its’ effectiveness. The product has been used on mines in South Africa and is environmentally friendly. The Works Supervisor has suggested the area in front of the shire office so that it can be easily monitored. Other locations were suggested but it will be up to the Works Supervisor to decide.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the Works Supervisor’s report be accepted.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

**18.1 Classification of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road**

File:	12.19
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	10 <sup>th</sup> October, 2012
Attachments:	Permit and Additional Conditions

**Matter for Consideration:**

The classification of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and the current unauthorised use by vehicles outside of the classification specifications.

**Background:**

The Carnarvon-Mullewa Road is currently a RAV network 7 through the Murchison Shire. This allows for a 36.5 metre long B-double and Dog combination (i.e. a 3 trailer combination) but only up to a maximum 36.5 metre length. RAV Network 9 – up to 53.5m – are allowed to the Murchison boundary only from the south (to accommodate Talling Peak Mine).

**Comment:**

There are currently several freight companies operating vehicles over the 36.5m limit transporting stock from stations, and this has been happening for quite some time. If there was an accident and the Shire was aware that oversize trucks were using the road and had done nothing about it then it could open up a serious liability issue.

I have contacted Main Roads WA to see what we can do to address the matter.

They have advised that there is no permit available to allow trucks over 36.5m to travel on the Carnarvon-Mullewa road. There are currently some Temporary Special Assistance Permits that have been issued after request by the Minister for Agriculture that are being used by trucks heading north out of Geraldton but these were issued as part of the drought assistance scheme. The permits have just been extended to the 30<sup>th</sup> November but will not be permanent.

To make any changes to the road it would need to be assessed by Main Roads and if found suitable they could apply a condition that all operators must obtain written approval from the Local Government to use the road. This is additional condition CA07 – see attached. This would then allow the Shire to control the number and type of vehicles that travel on the road.

### **Statutory Environment:**

s3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s55 (2) of the Land Administration Act 1997. The local government within the district of which a road is situated has the care, control and management of the road.

### **Strategic Implications:**

Nil

### **Policy Implications:**

Nil

### **Financial Implications:**

TBA

### **Consultation:**

Rod Gillis – MRWA

Rich Bain – MRWA

### **Recommendation:**

That the Shire requests Main Roads to assess the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road for it's' suitability to allow access to larger class vehicles than currently allowed.

### **Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

#### **Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the Shire requests Main Roads to assess the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and the Beringarra-Pindar Road for their suitability to allow access to larger class vehicles than currently allowed.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

*The motion was amended to include both the major access roads within the shire.*

## **18.2 Nookawarra Airstrip**

File:	12.14
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Attachments:	Nookawarra Map

### **Matter for Consideration:**

Issue of the Nookawarra Airstrip crossing the Beringarra-Pindar Road.

### **Background:**

This has been an ongoing issue for some years. The airstrip at Nookawarra crosses the Beringarra-Pindar Road and this could cause a serious problem should a plane be taking off or landing at the same time as a vehicle is travelling along the road. There have been some near misses in the past.

Originally the Shire contacted the lease holder to advise that they would need to stop the airstrip crossing the road and proposed to rip the area concerned within the road reserve. They also offered to extend the Western End of the strip to make up for the loss on the other end.



The lease holder said he did not want the Shire to do the airstrip extension and that he had arranged for a local contractor to do the extension. This was in October 2006.

Since then the Shire has put off ripping the airstrip and agreed to a barrier fence to be erected to separate the road from the airstrip.

As no fence was put up by the pastoralist the Shire put up airstrip cones but these have been removed and no extension of the western end of the strip has been undertaken.

**Comment:**

Council needs to consider the problem again and decide how to resolve the situation as it continues to cause a significant liability risk.

**Statutory Environment:**

s3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s55 (2) of the Land Administration Act 1997. The local government within the district of which a road is situated has the care, control and management of the road.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Civic Legal (2006)

**Recommendation:**

That Council resolve to stop the air strip crossing the Beringarra-Pindar Road and give notice to the lease holder that they will be ripping the air strip within the road reserve area to prevent its' use.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That Council resolve to stop the air strip crossing the Beringarra-Pindar Road and give notice to the lease holder that they will be ripping the air strip within the road reserve area to prevent its' use. That this be done following the inspection by Main Roads of the Beringarra-Pindar road so that their comments can be included in the notice.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

*The motion was amended to include the report from Main Roads.*

**18.3 Kalli Road to be road of Regional Significance**

File:	12.2
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	15th October 2012
Attachments:	Roads of Regional Significance

**Matter for Consideration:**

Alteration to the roads of Regional Significance to include the Kalli Road.

**Background:**

This item has been ongoing for some considerable time. Council had been considering altering the hierarchy of the roads to nominate the Boolardy-Kalli Road rather than the Wittenoorn/Meka Road as a road of regional significance.

**Comment:**

This matter was raised at the recent Murchison Sub-Group Regional Road Group meeting and Robyn Duncan has sent through information on how to proceed. Only Roads of Regional Significance formally approved by the Regional Road Group are eligible for funding under the Regional Road Group scheme. The funding is also subject to other minimum requirements such as road counts. If more traffic is using the Boolardy-Kalli Road it would be beneficial for the road to be nominated as a Road of Regional Significance as it may help us to obtain increased funding

**Statutory Environment:**

s3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s55 (2) of the Land Administration Act 1997. The local government within the district of which a road is situated has the care, control and management of the road.

**Strategic Implications:**

Improved chance of obtaining grant funding.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Robyn Duncan – MRWA

**Recommendation:**

That Council requests a variation to Roads of Regional Significance to include the Boolardy-Kalli Road rather than the Wittenoorn-Meka Road

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor</b>	
<b>Carried/Lost</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>

*Following discussion there were some points that needed further clarification and so the item was deferred to the November Ordinary meeting.*

**15.2 Plant Committee Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

Minutes have been emailed to Councillors.

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Seaman</b>	
That the Minutes of the Plant Committee meeting of 11 <sup>th</sup> October, 2012 with the addition of a resolution regarding changes to the plant replacement programme be received.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>
<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Seaman</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Squires</b>	
That the recommendation of the Plant Committee meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> October, 2012 to Council that they proceed with the purchase of a new Toyota Prado subject to the quotes received being within the budgeted parameters be adopted.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 3</b>	<b>Against: 1</b>

**Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the recommendation of the Plant Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 to Council that they proceed with the purchase of a Great Wall V200 single cab 4x4 Diesel Ute at \$22,990 less trade in be adopted.

**Carried****For: 4****Against: 0****Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor**

That the recommendation of the Plant Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012 to Council that they approve the changes to the plant replacement programme for 2012/2013 as requested by the Works Supervisor be adopted:-

1. Turn 6 Wheeler Iveco Truck into Prime Move.
2. Sell end/tipper side tipper and pig trailer as surplus to requirements.
3. Keep water tanker for one more year – use the budgeted allocation from this to purchase a good 2<sup>nd</sup> hand trailer.

**Lost****For: 0****Against: 4**

**Following discussion it was decided further costing and rationale behind the changes was required and this is to be provided to the November meeting.**

*Council adjourned for lunch at 1.02 pm*

*Council resumed at 2.00 pm*

*Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, did not rejoin the meeting after lunch*

**10. ACTION LIST**

No.	Item	Action	Action
1.	Emergency Management Plan	LEMA adopted September Meeting LEMC meeting held 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Completed
2.	CEO Residence	Decorative front fence – need input from new CEO	Ongoing
3.	Kalli Road roadworks Aboriginal Heritage Act	Letter sent to Aboriginal Corporation	Still awaiting reply
4.	Improve shade house south of Road House	Per MSDC meeting and September council meeting – RLCIP funding	Incomplete
5.	Low level wall Sports Club	Brick wall erected. Uprights in place Crosslands funding transferred	Final completion of additional shade needs action
6.	Concrete front of motel units	Council staff to do	Incomplete
7.	Shire 'slogan/tagline'	Competition closed and judged – back to community for further input.	Results for consideration at this meeting
8.	Two way Radio communications	Letter sent to CSIRO – Dr Storey wants to organise further meeting	Ongoing
9.	Beringarra-Pindar Road New Road Agreement	Draft agreement with Civic Legal for overview before sending to CSIRO	Continuing
10.	Provision for open fires at Caravan Park	Investigate	Incomplete
11.	Investigate Replacement Patient Transport Vehicle	Letter sent to Michael Jack re 2 <sup>nd</sup> hand vehicle	Awaiting further reply

12.	28 Kms unsealed Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd	Letter written to CGG	Acknowledged – full reply to follow.
13.	Sponsorship of TV Programme 'Tracks of Ernie Dingo'	Letter written advising \$1,000 available subject to confirmation of productions and reasonable coverage for Murchison	Filming carried out 24 <sup>th</sup> September
14.	CSIRO Tender process	Letter sent Requesting CSIRO participation in the notification	Awaiting response
15.	Murchison Freight Service	Pick up points decided and advised and accepted by Keros. Trying to establish a drop off point within Geraldton	Drop-off point to be established

**From September Meeting of Council**

No.	Item	Action	Action
16.	Kalli Road classification as a road of regional significance	Matter raised at Murchison Regional Road Group Meeting on the 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Application to be made to MRWA for amendment
17.	Bitumen and Sealing works Carnarvon-Mullewa Road	Shire to call tenders	Tenders called
18.	Pindar-Beringarra Road	Letter re position on road to be sent to CSIRO, federal and state politicians and interested parties and departments	Completed
19.	Stripping of Road south of settlement	Independent report on cause of problem and repairs to be undertaken	Report being done. Bitumen surfacing arranging repairs
20.	MSDC – Variation to grant and plans for laundry	Variation to grant approved. Laundry plans being worked on	Projects underway
21.	Bush Fire Brigade	BFB approved – FESA informed	Meeting of BFB to be held 26 <sup>th</sup> October
22.	Radio Transmitters	Letter to CSIRO and obtain current GPS Co-ordinates	Letter to CSIRO – Michelle Storey would like another meeting.
23.	Ballinyoo Bridge	Letter sent to MRWA.	Teleconference to be held 16 <sup>th</sup> October.

**Recommendation:**

That the Action List be accepted.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**  
That the Action List be accepted.

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

***Item 11 has been dealt with previously see page 4***

***Item 12 has been dealt with previously see page 7***

**13. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS**

Nil

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED****14.1 Shire President**

The Shire President advised Council that Deputy President Foulkes-Taylor had won the Cue Outback Triathlon and would like to congratulate him.

The President then showed an article from the October 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Countryman in which it was reported that Mrs Jano Foulkes-Taylor had been presented with this year's Royal Agricultural Society, Rural Community Achiever Award. Council will send a letter of congratulation on this prestigious award.

Ernie Dingo had visited with the president following his interview with the CEO at the settlement and had interviewed him on pastoral life as part of the 'Tracks of Ernie Dingo' production.

The President had attended the ASKAP/MRO opening on the 5<sup>th</sup> October and given a speech as part of the ceremony. He had enjoyed the day.

The President advised that following the MWIP committee meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September certain budget constraints had been placed on projects.

The President wanted to clarify aspects of the board of the MWDC. Members nominating now will be part of the old board structure. The new board structure is probably 18 months away and will result in 7-9 members and may necessitate new elections.

The new CEO of the MWDC, Gavin Treasure, has commenced work.

#### **14.2 Councillors**

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor attended the Plant Committee meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> October and wanted to thank Steve (CEO's husband) for helping him join the teleconference.

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor also attended the ASKAP/MRO and wanted to say that he found the president's speech the most natural, brief and heartfelt of all the speeches and it represented the Shire very well. He felt it was a bit too rushed and maybe not the time to talk to politicians although he had managed to talk with Karen Brown, press secretary to Senator Evans.

Councillor Squires also attended the ASKAP/MRO opening and had enjoyed the day. He was very impressed with the president's speech and the way it brought in the road agreement. He felt it was the best part of the day

Councillor Squires discussed the response from Penny Griffin in connection with trying to get a satellite subsidy as we are not able to have mobile coverage. He felt that the response missed the point as he was not referring to the Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme but to something more than this. He advised that he will put a motion to the November meeting.

Councillor Squire attended the Plant Committee meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> October and felt that it had gone well.

Councillor Seaman had attended the LEMAC meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. The meeting had been followed with a table top exercise. Tex has advised that he will come to the November meeting to do a presentation to Council of the role of the LEMA and how it fits into councils' role.

Councillor Seaman had been unable to attend the ASKAP/MRO opening but had enjoyed watching it and also said the president made a very good speech, including the location of the SKA and his welcome to past and present custodians.

One incident on the day of the opening was a cow being hit on the road. Luckily Councillor Seaman had been able to locate the cow and humanely destroy it but it highlighted that the people responsible didn't know how to handle the incident and appeared to have no process in place for reporting it.

Councillor Seaman attended the ASKAP sun downer at Kings Park on the 6<sup>th</sup> October and was glad she did as she was the only representative from the Murchison that was able to attend. The MC, Patricia Kelly, again spoke of the ASKAP as being in Geraldton and Councillor Seaman would like a letter sent re-iterating the location as Murchison. Councillor Seaman also spoke with Liza Harvey, Minister of Police, regarding road safety.

There was general discussion about animal welfare and the losses to pastoralists and it was felt there was a need for this to be included as part of the road agreement with CSIRO as it is with Crosslands and that this should be a formal resolution of Council.

#### **Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the road agreement includes compensation for goats, sheep and cattle hit on the roads by vehicles using the road for ASKAP/MRO purposes.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

Councillor Squires advised that he had discussion with the South African representative at the ASKAP/MRO opening ceremony and they had approached the project in a completely different way – building roads first to enable the movement of equipment and supplies to the site, before commencing any development of the site itself.

**15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**15.1 Local Emergency Management Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

Minutes have been emailed to Councillors.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 be received and Council note the items for Council decision as follows:-

**MAPS:**

Following discussion on the necessity of good maps in an emergency it was resolved that the LEMC send a letter to pastoralists in the Shire of Murchison explaining that we would like to get a current station map from the Ag Department for use in emergency situations. We would ask for their input regarding names of wells, windmills and access roads.

**ACCESS ROADS:**

There was discussion on the possibility of funding for each station to be able to maintain a central track for access in case of fire or emergency. This matter needs to be taken to the next BFB meeting which is being organised for the 26<sup>th</sup> October.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

***Item 15.2 has been dealt with previously refer page 11***

*Cr Seaman left the meeting at 2.51pm*

*Cr seaman returned to the meeting at 2.53pm*

*Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, joined the meeting at 2.53pm*

**16. FINANCE**

**16.1 Financial Activity Statements 2012**

File:

Author:	Dianne Daniels Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 October 2012
Attachments:	Financial Activity Statements for three months to 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 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 two months to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

**Background:**

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Regulation 34 requires that local government 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 (c);
- (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 September 2012**

The Current Position at 30 September 2012 is a surplus of \$2,291,757, which is up on budget by \$424K, as summarised below:

- Opening Funding Surplus up by \$27.4K
- Operating Revenues down by \$189K
- Income from Rates Arrears lower than expected by \$37.6K
- Operating Expenditure down on budget by a total of \$390K
- Depreciation down by \$48.9K
- Capital Expenditure down on budget by \$288.6K

Refer to Notes 9, 12 and 14 in the Financial Report for comments and explanations.

Accounts Receivables have been steady for the three month period, with no improvement on Rate Arrears during September. 2012 – 2013 Rates are scheduled to be run in the week ending 20/10/2012. Apart from Rates, two of the larger Debtors which make up 47% of the outstandings have been addressed in September. One of the debts is for \$11,183.70 to DEC for Contractor Services at Muggon and Woolgorong for 08/09, 09/10 and 10/11. It would appear that the MOU for these services was never signed and it has now passed its expiry date, so DEC consider it would be inappropriate to backdate the agreement. Further investigation is underway, but we may be in a position that this debt will need to be written off in the near future.

We have been steadily working through historic issues on the Accounts Payable ledger and now have only four creditors that need investigation in over 90 days for minor amounts.

On the Audit front, Funding Acquittals have been completed by the Auditors for CLGF 10-11 Individual, 10-11 Group and 11-12 Individual, with the R2R 11-12 Acquittal currently with the Auditor.

Once again, Capital Expenditure has been limited to construction on the Mullewa Carnarvon Road SLK 199-206, but we are in the process of organising quotes for several projects including the purchase of the CEO vehicle and gardeners ute, the installation of the new air-conditioners/internet/Foxtel to staff houses and motel units and the purchase of the Works Supervisors new computer. These projects should be underway by the end of October or early November.

**Comments on the Report by Council**

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor asked if there was any time limit on the flood damage claim and the Deputy CEO advised him there wasn't in this case.

President Broad asked how we were going with the auditors request to provide source documents for the 2010/2011 audit. The Deputy CEO advised him that the documents had all been located and sent off to them.

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 as attached.

**Voting Requirements**

Simple majority.

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 as attached.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

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

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Attachments: EFT & Cheque Details for September 2012

**Matter for Consideration:**

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of September 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 September, 2012 as per attached schedule.

**Comments on the Report by Council:**

Councillor Seaman raised the issue of the \$100 donation to Pia Wadjari. This was donated to them to buy a couple of trophies for the interschool sports carnival. Councillor Seaman said the request had never come to Council and must have been overlooked.

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor queried why the price of fuel had risen by about 18c. The Deputy CEO explained that this was following the adoption of the fuel pricing policy at the August meeting where a margin had been approved to allow for commission to the roadhouse lessees and for some cost recovery for pump



maintenance by the Shire. The price had not been changed for a year and was unrealistic compared to surrounding providers and the cost of the fuel being supplied.

**Recommendation:**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,040,675.17 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,040,675.17 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That Council introduce an urgent item to deal with the \$100 donation to Pia Wadjarri.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against:**

**21.4 Donation to Pia Wadjarri**

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That Council endorse the actions of the previous Acting CEO in authorising a donation of \$100 to Pia Wadjarri Remote Community School for the purchase of trophies for the inter school sports carnival.

**Carried by Absolute Majority**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

*Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels left the meeting at 3.35 pm*

*Cr Foulkes-Taylor left the meeting at 3.35pm*

*Cr Foulkes-Taylor returned to the meeting at 3.36 pm*

**17. DEVELOPMENT**

Nil

**18. ADMINISTRATION**

*Item 18.1 has been dealt with previously refer page 8*

*Item 18.2 has been dealt with previously refer page 9*

*Item 18.3 has been dealt with previously refer page 10*

**18.4 Internet Fees**

File:	13.10
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn, Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Attachments:	Nil

**Matter for Consideration:**

The introduction of internet fees for public internet access at the Roadhouse and the provision of a pc for the public to use.

**Background:**

Currently the Shire does not charge any fees for people to access the internet point at the roadhouse. There is currently no computer provided, just a connection for people to use their own laptops, however the monthly bill has been getting increasingly expensive. The bill which used to be about \$250 a month had gone up to \$800 last month. This is mainly due to the fact that we have no control over data downloads and people have been accessing it excessively. The easiest way to control this is for the Shire to provide a pc for people to use and install the appropriate software to prevent excessive downloads.

**Comment:**

Quotes have been obtained for: A suitable PC - \$1,574.00  
Kiosk software - \$300.00  
K9 web protection – Free

There was a budget allocation of \$3,500 for a laptop computer for Ross, as the mechanic, and the public internet computer could be funded from this if Council wished, with the budget allocation being amended to reflect the change.

If the Shire was to provide a computer then it would be prudent to charge a fee to people wishing to use it to help recoup some of the cost involved.

A review of surrounding shires shows:-

Mt Magnet - \$2.00 per 15 minutes; Cue \$6.00 per hour or \$3.50 for ½ hour, Sandstone 0.50c per 15 minutes.

I would suggest that we set our fees at \$5.00 per hour with minimum charge of \$2.50 for ½ hour.

A Shire can impose /amend fees and charges during the course of a year subject to giving local public notice of the fee and charge to be imposed.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government Act 1995 s6.16 Imposition of fees and charges and s6.19 Local Government to give notice of fees and charges.

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Dianne Daniels – Deputy CEO

Matt Gill – 2VNET

**Recommendation:**

That Council:-

- Authorise the purchase of a suitable pc and software for installation as a public internet access point at the road house at quoted costs of \$1,874.00.
- That the budget provision of \$3,500 for workshop internet access be amended to reflect the purchase of the above pc.
- That Council sets a fee of \$5.00 per hour or \$2.50 per ½ hour for public internet use and advertises its' intentions to impose these fees in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995.

**Voting Requirements:**

Absolute Majority

**Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That Council:-

Authorise the purchase of a suitable pc and software for installation as a public internet access point at the road house at quoted costs of \$1,874.00.

That the budget provision of \$3,500 for workshop internet access be amended to reflect the purchase of the above pc.

That council sets a fee of \$5.00 per hour \$2.50 per ½ hour for public internet use and advertises its' intention to impose these fees in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995

**Carried by Absolute Majority****For: 4****Against: 0****18.5 Slogan Competition**

File:

Author: Jenny Goodbourn

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Attachments: Nil

**Matter for Consideration:**

Further consideration of the new slogan for the Shire of Murchison

**Background:**

At the September meeting of Council the entrants in the 'new slogan competition' were judged and two favourites were chosen. It was then decided to go back to the community with these two finalists, *isolation to innovation*, and *red dirt and radio quiet* to get further input, a third option of no change and remaining with *the shire with no town* was also offered. The community has been contacted with an invitation to participate in a 'Doodle Poll'.

**Comment:**

At the time of preparing this Agenda 16 out of 31 invitees had voted in the poll. There has also been an option to come into the Shire or the roadhouse to vote and today an email was sent out to everyone reminding them to vote so that the results could be assessed at the October meeting. Full details of votes will be available at the meeting for consideration.

Final numbers were:-

Isolation to Innovation 13 votes

Red Dirt &amp; Radio Quiet 9 votes

The Shire With No Town 16 votes

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

TBA – dependent on results of voting

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

Following community consultation the decision is to leave the slogan as it is '*the Shire with no town*' and to review it again in twelve months

**Carried****For: 4****Against: 0****18.6 Christmas Shutdown Period and associated functions**

File:

Author: Jenny Goodbourn

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Attachments: Nil

**Matter for Consideration:**

For Council to consider the annual Christmas shutdown period, date of the December Council meeting and date for the staff/councillor Christmas Function.

**Background:**

In previous years Council has closed the Office during the Christmas/New year period. There has also been a staff/councillor Christmas Function and it might be a good idea to amend the date of the December Council meeting to coincide with this function.

**Comment:**

Most of the outside crew will be on break from Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> December. The December meeting is currently scheduled for that day. If we were to hold the staff/ councillors Christmas Function on the preceding Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, then it might be a good idea to move the meeting forward to that day so that councillors could travel to the settlement for the meeting and then stay on for the Function. However the date for the Christmas Tree function has not been set yet and it may be that they were thinking of holding it on the 15<sup>th</sup>. If this is the case then the meeting could be brought forward to Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> December with the staff/councillor function to follow that evening.

It is expected that the office will be closed from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December until Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2013. The CEO will probably be in Murchison for the majority of this time and the office telephone system will be diverted to the CEO's mobile phone when not in the settlement during this period if that is acceptable to Council.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

- That the arrangements made by the CEO regarding the annual shutdown period be endorsed and advertised in the November and December editions of the Murchison Monologue
- That the December meeting of Council be changed to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012 with the annual staff/councillor function to be held on the same day commencing from 5:00pm

or

- That the December meeting of Council be changed to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012 with the annual staff/councillor function to be held on the same day commencing from 5:00pm

### Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Squires</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	
That the arrangements made by the CEO regarding the annual shutdown period be endorsed and advertised in the November and December editions of the Murchison Monologue.		
That the December meeting of Council be changed to Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 with the annual staff/councillor function to be held on the same day commencing at 5.00pm.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

### 19. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

### 20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Activity
17 <sup>th</sup> August	Met with shire EHO Trevor Brandy, discussed effluent disposal, fogger and water test results. Also discussed hay bay wall for generator noise suppression. Trevor to get some specifications to me.
19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Inter school sports carnival – over 100 children attended. Pia Wadjarri, Yulga Jinna, Burringurrah, Yalgoo, Cue and Upper Gascoyne schools were represented. Olympic games style competitions – all went well.
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Interview with Ernie Dingo for the production 'Tracks of Ernie Dingo'. Big focus on 'the shire with no town' during the interview – Seemed very positive.
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Meeting with myself, Deputy CEO and Jeanette Hook regarding issues at the roadhouse. Meeting had been requested by Jeanette and Rex but only Jeanette was able to attend
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Along with Councillor Halleen I attended the Regional Road Group Murchison Sub Group Meeting. This was held via teleconference and discussed matters that were then taken to the Regional Road Group meeting held the following week. Raised the issue of including the Kalli Road as a road of regional significance.
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Attended the LEMC meeting with Councillor Seaman. Minutes of the meeting have been circulated to Council.
29 <sup>th</sup> September	Attended the sports club AFL Grand Final event and BBQ. Great afternoon with lots of lovely food – thanks to Trevor and Leanne for organising the event and for the great food.
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Boolarly Wool Wagon was delivered to the settlement – Thanks to Robbie Foulkes-Taylor for his assistance in arranging the transportation from Geraldton. The wagon has been placed next to the tennis courts and covered until a permanent shelter can be established.
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Met with Jox who had decided he was unable to return to the Shire and tendered his resignation. Resignation regretfully accepted but understandable decision in view of the circumstances. Jox wanted to pass on his thanks for the support given to him by the Shire over the past few months.
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Attended the Official ASKAP opening ceremony with members of Council. Previous Acting CEO, Neil Warne, came up for the opening and enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in the culmination of a project which he had been involved in when it first commenced with site selection several years ago.
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Plant Committee Meeting – Held via teleconference with Cr's Halleen (Chairperson), Squires, Foulkes-Taylor and Brian Wundenberg.
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Kim Boulton - Senior Consultant, Records, Archives and Historical Management, commenced at Shire of Murchison to work on our archiving and records management.
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Meeting with Barry Turner CSIRO. Update on what is happening following the official opening. Members of SKA board visiting the site on the 16 <sup>th</sup> . Wanted to follow up on relocation of shed from Boolardy to settlement and interpretive display at roadhouse.

16 <sup>th</sup> October	Teleconference with Bernie Miller (MRWA), Brent Hamblin(MRWA), Peter Coughlan (BG&E) scheduled for 3.30pm today to discuss Ballinyoo Bridge project.
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**Recommendation:**

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Seaman</b>	
That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**21. URGENT BUSINESS**

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Seaman</b>	
That Council deals with urgent items 21.1 – 21.3		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**21.1 Attendance of the next Murchison Country Zone Meeting.**

File:	4.7
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Attachments:	Nil

**Matter for Consideration:**

Attendance at the next Murchison Country Zone (Cue Parliament) to be held in Cue on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

**Background:**

The next half yearly conference of the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA will be held in Cue on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Usually Council appoints Councillors plus the CEO to attend as delegates (CEO only a voting delegate if insufficient Councillors attend)

**Comment:**

Each member council is allowed two delegates at the meeting, these can be councillors or councilors and CEO and more people can attend if they wish but only two will be able to participate in voting at the meeting. Previous meetings have recently been attended by President Broad and Councillor Seaman. Councillor's Halleen and Foulkes-Taylor attended the last meeting in May.

**Statutory Environment:**

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

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Within the budgeted members fees and allowances provision

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

That Councillors Broad and Seaman be appointed Murchison Shire delegates to the next half yearly conference of the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA to be held at Cue on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 and the CEO attend as an observer.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That Councillors Broad and Seaman be appointed Murchison Shire delegates to the next half yearly conference of the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA to be held at Cue on 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 and the CEO attend as an observer.

**Carried**

**For: 4**

**Against: 0**

**21.2 School Bus Settlement to Pia Wadjarri**

File:	8.4
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Attachments:	Nil

**Matter for Consideration:**

Request for Shire to help with the provision of transport from Murchison Settlement to Pia Wadjarri Remote Community School.

**Background:**

Over the last few months the Shire has been working with the principal of Pia Wadjarri to try and see if transportation could be arranged for children in the settlement to be able to attend school at the community. Currently one of our employees has school age children here and provision of this service would enable them to remain in the settlement and not have to go to Geraldton or be home schooled. It would also mean that this service could be offered to any future prospective employees.

Last week Elizabeth rang to say that approval had been granted and that the bus would commence on Tuesday. Then on Tuesday evening she rang to say that she had been misinformed by someone in the Education Department and although the bus had been there on Tuesday she would not be able to have it there again until things had been sorted out.

The Public Transport Authority, who are in charge of school bus services, have approved a daily amount for the provision of the service. Pia was going to utilise the school bus and employ a driver but the Education Department have now said they are not allowed to employ drivers as it against the agreement they have with the Public Transport Authority.

**Comment:**

Elizabeth has contacted me to see if the Shire can help out to get this service going. She has suggested that the PTA pay the money to the Shire and we employ the driver. The problem then is that the school bus could not be used so an alternative vehicle would be required. She has a 7 seater pc which is often used for school business and would be happy for this to be used.

We are concerned that there may be insurance complications regarding public liability and vehicle insurance and have spoken to LGIS for their advice. They are looking into the matter and will get back as soon as they can.

I have also left a message for the PTA to call me so that I can fully discuss the matter with them and see if they can have the agreement with the Shire. Whilst this is basically an operational matter I wanted to bring it before Council for their consideration. It seems to me that really the Education Department should make an exception because of the unique circumstances and allow Pia to employ the driver and proceed as originally planned. However as school term has started there is an urgency to the matter and it would appear that if the Shire cannot assist then the service will fall over before it has really begun.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Nil

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Nil

**Consultation:**

Elizabeth Sorrenson – Pia Wadjarri Principal

Gillian Hill – Public Transport Authority – School Bus Services

**Recommendation:**

TBA

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That the CEO use her resources to help wherever possible to try and expedite a resolution of the situation between the Department of Education and the Public Transport Authority to enable Pia Wadjarri to operate the school bus, but the Shire will not actually take over the employing of a driver or operation of the service.

**Carried****For: 4****Against: 0****21.3 ASKAP/MRO/SKA Access Road**

File:	14.11
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Attachments:	Letter from Shire and response from Dr Megan Clark

**Matter for Consideration:**

Response received from Dr Megan Clark to the Shire's letter regarding access to the ASKAP/MRO/SKA site.

**Background:**

At the September meeting Council resolved:-

**Council Decision:****Moved: Councillor McTaggart****Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

*That Council draft a letter to CSIRO, federal and state politicians and interested parties and departments to request clarification and discussion on the matter and the letter be followed up with action as required.*

**Carried****For: 6****Against: 0****Comment:**

The letter was prepared and sent on the 27<sup>th</sup> September and a reply has now been received from CSIRO. CSIRO are advising that all queries should be directed to Julie DeJong at the Department of Commerce. Penny Griffin has offered to attend the November meeting of Council along with Bernie Miller from Main Roads to discuss our concerns.

Council feels this is a serious matter and that no one is really taking responsibility for the projects. We are still negotiating a road agreement with CSIRO in respect of the ASKAP/MRO site and whilst there is only light traffic on the road at the moment the construction of the Horizon Power site will necessitate heavy vehicle access.



Council suggested that it may be appropriate to involve Bill Mitchell again, as a consultant, in negotiations on the Beringarra-Pindar Road as he provided the service before and has a full understanding of the history of the problem.

**Statutory Environment:**

Nil

**Strategic Implications:**

Maintaining the integrity of the Shire’s road infrastructure is a major function of the Shire and has ongoing strategic implications in the integrated planning and asset management planning.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

Consultant’s fees have not been budgeted for so cost will need to be assessed.

**Consultation:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

That the Shire of Murchison approaches Mr Bill Mitchell to renew the relationship with him as advocate on the ASKAP/MRO/SKA access road issue.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Seaman</b>	
That the Shire of Murchison approaches Mr Bill Mitchell to renew the relationship with him as advocate on the ASKAP/MRO/SKA access road issue.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Squires</b>	
That Council moves behind closed doors at 4.35 pm.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

*Council resolved one issue pertaining to the Oasis Roadhouse behind closed doors. A copy of this item is retained in the Shires ‘confidential items file’ under locked access via the CEO.*

<b>Council Decision:</b>		
<b>Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor</b>	<b>Seconded: Councillor Seaman</b>	
That Council moves out from behind closed doors at 4.51 pm.		
<b>Carried</b>	<b>For: 4</b>	<b>Against: 0</b>

**23. MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 4.52 pm.

These Minutes were confirmed at the Council meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

Signed.....Presiding Officer