



Western Australia

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
On Friday **19th July 2013**, commencing at 10.00 am.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 9.37am.

Antony Schinckel of CSIRO will be attending the meeting at 10am

Ed Edwards and Liam Kelly of Athena Resources will be attending the meeting at 12.30pm and staying on to join council for lunch.

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 M Halleen

Councillor P Squires

Councillor B M Seaman

Councillor A Whitmarsh (from 9:40am)

Staff:

Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer

Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Dianne Daniels

Works Supervisor – Brian Wundenberg

Apologies:

Nil.

Leave of Absence:

Nil

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**4.1 Standing Orders*****Council Decision:***

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

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: 4

Against: 1

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 16th August.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 21st June 2013****Background:**

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

Cr Foulkes-Taylor asked for it to be noted as per his email '*To all concerned with putting the minutes together, I thought it was an excellent (and accurate) record of the meeting.*'

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21st June 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes- Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21st June 2013 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

Cr Whitmarsh joined the meeting at 9:40am

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Antony Schinckel of CSIRO will be attending the meeting at 10am

Ed Edwards and Liam Kelly of Athena Resources will be attending the meeting at 12.30pm

10.1 Ant Schinckel of CSIRO

See page 6

10.2 Athena Resources

See page 27

11. ACTION LIST

No	Item	Action	Action
1.	CEO Residence	Decorative front fence – need input from new CEO	Ongoing – Design pending
2.	Improve shade house south of Road House	Per MSDC meeting and September Council meeting. Changed per November 2012 meeting	Further input required re alteration to shade house
3.	Provision for open fires at Caravan Park	BBQ's arrived 11 th July – just in time for Polocrosse	Completed
4.	Classification of Pindar Beringarra Road	Pindar – Beringarra ongoing.	Item in today's Agenda
5.	Nookawarra Airstrip	Work to rip strip proposed for week commencing 15 th July. Will rip within road boundary and close end of strip to the east of Beringarra-Pindar Road	Work scheduled for week of this meeting – CEO to provide update at this meeting.
6.	Community Centre Kitchen	Install Lockable Storage Area	Area installed – just requires painting & final touches.
7.	Rates on Boolardy Station now that it is owned by CSIRO & Dust Suppression and ongoing road agreement issues	Rates not payable. Letter sent to CSIRO. Ex-gratia payment of \$95,000 received. Still no response to road dust suppression and road agreements.	Letter sent expressing disappointment – CSIRO not honouring agreement.
8.	Review of the committees of council	Establish terms of reference and roles of councils committees.	Completed at June meeting.
9.	Dust Suppression	Costing prepared – submitted to CSIRO	Awaiting CSIRO response
10.	Contact CGG re gravel road in their shire. Carnarvon-Mullewa and Beringarra-Pindar	Discussed with CGG CEO, Ken Diehm on 27 th June. Details sent through to him as no response from previous correspondence with Neil Arbuthnot (CGG) or Brendan Wilson (Mullewa)	Following up – still – with CGG
11.	Establishment of Working Group for Accident Prevention	Following annual Electors Meeting – community wish to set up accident prevention group to help work towards road safety and reduced RTA's.	To be established.
12.	Litter initiatives	Following annual Electors meeting' – community push to improve litter situation. Set up initiative with Pia to coincide with council visit.	CEO to arrange date for Council Meeting to be held out at Pia- trying to establish best date with Liz Sorrenson

There was discussion on the action list. Cr Seaman Queried when item 5 would be actioned? Work scheduled for Wednesday 24th July. Further discussion have been held with Main Roads re signage and it has been confirmed there is no acceptable signage for this situation. It was queried whether the police should be on hand. The CEO advised that she will advise the police of the proposed work and speak with the Tomkins early next week.

Cr Halleen said the fire pits/BBQ's are here and it was good to have them prior to the PoloCrosse event. Currently they have been placed around the edges of the grassed area but they will need to be shifted more into the centre so that people staying can sit around them and use them.

Cr Squires queried the delay with the caravan park laundry and dump point. The CEO advised that she is still waiting to hear the outcome of the 2012/2013 CLGF application. As soon as we get approval we will be ready to go ahead with it but cannot do anything until we know we have the funding. The dump point is being installed as part of this project as it will require a plumber and he will be able to do both upgrades/additions at the same time.

Cr Seaman wanted to ensure the CEO's front fence was still being included in the 2013/2014 budget. Regarding point 11, Accident Prevention working group Cr Seaman said the Department of Road Safety had recently launched a new initiative that we might be able to use this to assist development of the group. Cr Squires commented on the lockable storage area at the community centre kitchen and how good it is. Just needs finishing touches and painting

Recommendation:

That the Action List be accepted.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Halleen	Seconded: Councillor Seaman	
That the Action List be accepted.		
Carried	For: 6	Against: 0

12. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The CEO declared an interest in item 18.6

At 9:54 am council broke to hear the presentation from Ant Schinckel

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS**10.1 Ant Schinckel of CSIRO**

The Shire President welcomed Ant to the meeting.

Ant gave council an overview of the current status of the project. All bulk construction on the ASKAP site has been completed and they are now working on the fit-out of the antennas. Further funding has been received to allow this to be completed. The MWA (Murchison Widefield Array) is up and operational.

CSIRO's EMP is under final review and will be sent through to the shire to be integrated into our LEMA.

Ant said that Lena had advised that the signed road agreement had been sent to the CEO on the 1st of July, the CEO confirmed that it had definitely not been received in the office yet and Ant will follow up on this.

Ant confirmed that all is on track for the Astrofest event.

There was discussion on the classification of the Beringarra-Pindar Road which is being addressed further in an agenda item later today. It was explained that the shire has been trying to get a RAV classification to allow trucks to use the road and the work which has to be done towards this. Cr Foulkes-Taylor said that James Abbott had met with council and things seemed to go well at the time but nothing has been followed through and we have had problems in getting definite answers from him.

Cr Halleen feels there has been a lot of handballing between departments. Cr Squires advised that we are preparing a full costing of all work to be done to correct grids, line of sight issues and floodways and would like support of CSIRO. Cr Foulkes-Taylor said that if CSIRO had funds to assist with the improvement works then this would speed up the process, but if not the shire would develop a plan and work through it bit by bit each year.

We need to remember that the preferred road under the SKA is the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road up to Meeberrie Road and across via Woolleen. Cr Broad reminded us that an audit had been done on this road last year and James had said we would be given a copy but this has not happened. Ant will follow up for us. We need to remember that there are options on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road – whether to travel up as far as Meeberrie and across or as far as Twin Peaks and across and all these will need to be considered. At the moment there is some uncertainty. The project is no longer under the Department of Commerce but is directly under the Premier's portfolio and we will have to see how plans develop as the project moves on. Cr Halleen asked about the power tender. Tenders had been called and completed by Horizon Power but costs were considerably more than anticipated. Horizon Power are reviewing the conditions and locations and will probably call tenders again a few months down the track. This will see the project move down in to 2014 or even 2015 – not December 2013 as previously scheduled.

Ant enquired how the work on the UHF repeaters was going. We advised that work had been completed on Chanel's 1 & 6 – resulting in much improved coverage. Work has still to be completed on Channel 7 and following that CSIRO will be able to review what interference/action will be required if it is causing a problem. Cr Squires said that the improved radio coverage would give improved safety for CSIRO staff travelling to and from the site.

There was general discussion then regarding how long Ant was in WA for and future visits to Council.

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, left the meeting at 10.20 am

Brian wundenberg, Works Supervisor, returned to the meeting at 10.22am

10.24 am normal meeting resumed. Ant was invited to stay as a spectator until we broke for morning tea so that he could join us for refreshments.

13. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**13.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor**

June			Hours					YTD	
Plant Item	Year	Rego	1 July '12	Start	End	Total		Operating Costs	
			Hrs/Kms	Hrs/km	Month	YTD	Plant	Fuel	
Cat Grader 12H P.02	2005	MU 141	8405	9871	9996	125	1591	29,989.76	26,153.90
Cat Grader 12M P.03	2008	MU 51	4488	5729	5844	115	1356	35,772.36	22,461.02
Volvo Loader P.27	2006	MU 65	4276	5337	5420	83	1144	34,176.48	21,229.39
Komatsu Dozer	1997		7820	8134	8208	74	388	37,000.68	8,631.82
Cat Vibe Roller P.16	2005	MU 177	564	1424	1509.4	85.4	945.4	19,267.34	16,025.79
JD Grader	2011	MU 121	1390.5	2906.8	3040.8	134	1650.3	15,056.85	37,492.90
Bomag Roller P.43	2012	1DVH736	324	1066.6	1097.9	31.3	773.9	5,923.18	6,086.34
Cat 938G Loader P.41	2004	MU 193	3196	4040	4078	38	882	8,629.80	11,393.85
Kenworth P/Mover	2004	MU 000	550	5043	7174	2131	6624	5,276.25	7,380.63
Iveco P/Mover	2003	1AGW988	248103	267205	0	0	19102	14,458.64	16,666.53
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	113179	140201	141649	1448	28470	31,263.88	19,286.65
Iveco Tipper Conv P.10	2004	MU 00	157625	157849	157865	16	240	25,821.92	10,638.63
Generator 1-110kva	2011		3096.1	6377	7315.8	938.8	4219.7	1,268.85	0.00
Generator 2-110kva	2011		2328.8	6588.5	6897.9	309.4	4569.1	1,268.85	0.00
Maintenance Gen			0	541.3	658	116.7	658	2,186.65	0.00
Construction Gen			6351.1	11421	11770	349	5418.9	1,718.42	947.71
Kubota 6kva Gen	2012		0	1642	1844	202	1844	1,983.38	126.26
Mitsubishi Canter P.06	2011	01 MU	50905	79900	82788	2888	31883	7,662.76	9,406.34
Mitsubishi Canter	2009	MU 140	131890	157430	160154	2724	28264	5,610.67	7,317.06
Toyota Prado	2012	MU 0	0	7747	9557	1810	9557	632.73	352.87
Great Wall	2012	MU 167	0	10857	11257	400	11257	568.20	1348.49
Isuzu Dmax P.28	2009	MU 300	124013	149625	154278	4653	30265	5,187.60	4,130.10
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	49735	89000	93250	4250	43515	6,672.65	6,954.17
Isuzu T/Top	2005	MU 1002	94910	112203	116400	4197	21490	11,187.38	6,521.10
Toyota Patient Trf	1986	MU 1017	21100	21188		SOLD	88	1,519.76	72.00
Side Tipper P.18	2001	MU 2010	0	23721	25303	23721	25303	3,043.77	0.00
Side Tip-Evertran P.17	2009	MU 662	46913	65047	66102	1055	19189	9,513.73	0.00
Tri-Axle L/L Float P.13	2008	MU 663	0	3769	3769	0	3769	29,640.76	0.00
45ft Flat Top	1978	1THH060	0	0	25	25	25	40.05	0.00
No. 2 Float	2001	MU 2004	15227	26835	0	0	11608	4,479.89	0.00
30000L W/Tanker P.24	2005	MU 2024	12582	26131	26524	393	13942	5,007.02	0.00
Dog Fuel Trailer P.48	1993	MU 658					2603.57		
Dog Fuel Trailer P. 49	1972	MU 2005					122.08	389.70	0.00
Dolly 1-Red P.05	2001	MU 2003	12511	24567	24567	0	12056	1,501.65	0.00
Dolly 2-Black P.08	2000	MU 2009		197	562	365	562	1,991.55	0.00
New/H Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1452	1591.6	1596	4.4	144	511.77	604.38
Forklift			11700.1	11837.6	11847.3	9.7	147.2	366.24	301.11
Caravans								5353.39	0.00
JD Ride on mower			136	289.2	293.3	4.1	157.3		
Mercedes Patient/Trf	2004	MU 1009	95805	97264	97283	19	1478	817.96	202.28

There was discussion on item 13.1

Cr Halleen queried the differences on the hours for the maintenance and construction gen sets. This was explained as the maintenance crew had done minimal camping during the reporting period compared to the construction crew.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor thought it was a good idea that we were proposing to use one of the settlement generators more than the other so that when we came to buy a replacement we would be able to keep the less used one and trade the other.

Cr Squires also thought this was a good idea as a lot of the wear in plant and machinery is caused by the start up.

Cr Halleen queried why there had been a short power outage on the Saturday night of the PoloCrosse. Brian advised that the generator had been found to be running hot and had shut down to prevent damage, It had since had the coolant changed and been checked and was operating fine. It may be that the temperature has been set a bit too low to trigger automatic safety shut down and this is to be checked.

At 10.28am Council broke for morning tea.

At 10.46am Council resumed the meeting. Ant Schinckel did not return to the meeting.

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO, rejoined the meeting at 10.47am

Cr Paul Squires rejoined the meeting at 10.47am

13.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor

Construction Crew.

The construction crew have finished the 3km of road works – gravel sheeting, widening of creek crossing, and straightening approach to grid from the north on the Beringarra-Pindar road, from the boundary grid of Beringarra-Nookawarra heading north.

New signs have been put in place – creek crossing/crest keep left plus guide posts.

Crew started the rehab of gravel pits and truck turn around but due to rain this had to come to a stop, The crew then moved up to the next works program - 3km of gravel sheeting, drains and contour banks on the Beringarra-Cue road. By the 13th July the 3km of gravel sheeting should be completed i.e. gravel carted in and spread, bunds rolled and build and put in new drains. Before leaving this section of works all gravel pits plus turn rounds will be rehabilitated. The next job while in the area is the realignment of Dick's Corner.

[See attachment for the 3km of works on Beringarra-Cue road.](#)

Maintenance Crew.

John and Glen have finished grading around the Murgoo/Mt-Wittenoom/Pia area and then moved camp up to Boolardy homestead. From here they graded Boolardy homestead drive-way and a full grade up to MRO turn off. They are now on the Boolardy/Kalli road camped at Kalli homestead.

The heavy maintenance crew is also required for some work on a section of this road to repair some bog holes plus wash outs. Sandy is taking a week off doing some flying for Billabalong station so I will see if Stuart Broad who is currently at Beringarra can fill in for a week or two carting in gravel to these bog holes. At same time while truck and loader are in the area we will cart in calcrete (for fill) and gravel for base course for new 24ft grid (First grid north of Boolardy homestead turn off on the Beringarra/Pindar road) that Roscco and Tom Foulkes-Taylor are scheduled to put in on the 26th July 2013)

On maintenance crew work program for June I have put together a sheet on plant worked hrs, travel hrs and maintenance on plant hrs per day.

[See attachment.](#)

I would like to cut down the 80km that crew are travelling in and out per day to 50km as you can see by June's maintenance grading program that we are losing a bit of time with travel to and from the job.

Beringarra – Pindar Road.

At last council Meeting June 21 Councillor Squires requested the work supervisor to put a costing and time frame of works together to have the Beringarra–Pindar road open to RAV 9. Apologies, I have run out of time this month to do an inspection but will try for next meeting.

Road-trains on Shire Roads

At last council meeting the President queried about the shire Construction crew only using single trailers for road works and was this because the Beringarra-Pindar road was not a road-train route. I said no, the section of road we were repairing was in stony area and a single trailer was better off than a road train. Council were concerned about the shire using a road-train on roads not up to RAV 9 within the shire.

I rang MRD in Geraldton and spoke to Rob Gillis about this and he emailed back with clarification of the shire using road-trains within the shire road and road works.

[See attachment.](#)

Shire Works Staff Leave.

21st June 2013 – 12th July 2013

Neil Combe 4 day's sick leave (damaged ribs)

Trevor & Leanne Hipper 3 days Annual Leave 26th, 27th, 28th

Contract Maintenance Grader.

The contract grader has finished maintenance grading the Carnarvon/Mullewa road on Friday 28-6-2013.

Hours - maintenance grading Carnarvon-Mullewa from settlement too north boundary:

• Carnarvon-Mullewa road 150km	238.2 hrs	\$29,775.00
• Mobe to Settlement from Geraldton	7 hrs	\$ 875.00
• Stand down (wet weather) @ \$45.00	11.1 hrs	\$ 1,387.00
• Patch Grade Beringarra-Byro	10.7hrs	\$ 1,337.50
• Patch grade Woodleigh-Byro	7 hrs	\$ 875.00
• Mob grader back to Settlement	4 hrs	\$ 500.00
Total	278 hrs	\$34,749.50

ROADS GRADED 16th JUNE – 12 JULY 2013

Name	Length of Road	SLK Graded this month	Heavy-Road Maintenance/Repairs Loader-truck	Comments
Beringarra /Pindar	319.80km	70km		Cockney Bill to MRO turn off
Erong	63.12km			
Beringarra/Byro	90.89km	3km		Contractor – patch graded
Twin-Peaks/Wooleen	47.65km			
Boolardy/Kalli	57.30km	20km		
Byro/Woodleigh	71.00km	3km		Contractor – patch graded
New Forrest/Yallalong	36.18km			
M ^c Nabb/Twin-peaks	49.75km			
Yallalong-West	34.46km			
Mileura/Nookawarra	49.08km			
Muggon	38.75km			
Manfred	34.55km			
Beringarra/Mt Gould	34.80km			
Tardie/Yuin	13.20km			
Innouendy	9.30km			
Boolardy Homestead	2.00km	2km		
Yunda Homestead	32.80km			
Meeberrie Woolleen	25.22km			
Mt Wittenoom	37.55km	10km		
Woolleen/Mt Wittenoom	33.85km			
Beringarra Cue	109.82km			
Boolardy Wooleen	19.08km			
Kalli Cue East	21.87km	22km		
Coodardy Noondie	19.92km			
Butchers Track	64.54km			
Butchers Muggon	23.80km			
Murchison Settlement	2.00km			
Pinegrove Yallalong	-----			
Carnarvon-Mullewa	278.63km	32km		Contractor
Woolgorong-South	15.00km			
Errabiddy-Bluff	12km			
Air strip Graded				

Total roads graded this month – 124km by shire crew
38km by contractor

Brian Wundenberg, works supervisor, ran council through his works report. Brian raised an issue on an alignment near the Byro shed regarding a culvert section that is too narrow for two vehicles to pass and whether it should be done whilst they are in the area. There was general discussion but the consensus was that if we stopped to fix every problem along the way we would stray too far from the road work program. Cr Seaman enquired whether we had offered flu vax to the staff following the down time last year. This has not been done and is too late for this year. We will make sure we bring this in next May and offer to all staff so they have the option of getting a flu jab before the season starts. Cr Seaman also queried that the lights appeared to be flickering today – which she had not notice before. This could be due to any number of things, old wiring, compressor or welder use but we will monitor to make sure it is not a problem with the generators.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor wanted to note how good the road works south of Beringarra were. He was pleased with the high standard of the works carried out.

Cr Halleen said there is a dip just past the border between Cue and Murchison on the Kalli Road that needs a warning sign as it is quite deep.

There was a query regarding the fact that speed advisory signs had been removed and whether we could put them back. Brian advised that we cannot put speed signs on gravel roads – even though they are only advisory – this had been advised by Greenfield Technical Services. Cr Broad found this ridiculous and it doesn't seem to have any common sense behind it. We will verify that this is correct.

Cr Broad also said that we must remember that the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road is the preferred route when talking to CSIRO so it doesn't get confusing. The CEO said that with the timeline being pushed out and ASKAP using the Beringarra-Pindar Road it is a delicate balance.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor asked that if we get the contract maintenance grader back he would like to see no more windrows whilst they are working.

Cr Broad discussed the fact that the heavy maintenance should be working ahead of the maintenance crew and this is not happening. There have been a couple of problems on the trucks which has prevented this happening but should all be sorted out and ready to go from next week.

Cr Squires left the meeting at 11.18am

Recommendation:

That the Work's Supervisor's report be accepted.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Squires	Seconded: Councillor Seaman	
That the Work's Supervisor's report be accepted.		
Carried	For: 5	Against: 0

Cr Squires returned to the meeting at 11.20am

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

Prior to the reports concerning meetings attended the Shire President wanted to note some comments regarding the roadworks being carried out. The work is of an extremely high standard and some really worth while work has been completed. Council would like to pass their congratulations on to Jenny, Dianne Brain and all the staff.

14.1 Shire President

Cr Broad attended the State Council meeting on 3rd July. It has been a busy day with a very comprehensive budget review. The income source for WALGA seems stable and it has now grown into a big business. Never before during all his time on council had the shire president seen all items on the WALGA state agenda go through without any changes but it happened at this meeting.

There was a behind closed doors section dealing with employees conditions.

Cr Halleen asked if there had been anything further about amalgamations.

Cr Broad advised that the Minister had been in attendance but there had been nothing further said about amalgamations. Elections are going ahead as planned in October. The Minister has said he will announce his decision regarding the Metropolitan Review by the end of July

The President of WALGA also said that the new minister is like a breath of fresh air.

Cr Halleen queried about bringing in compulsory voting. There has been nothing further on this but it is part of the metropolitan review so will be dealt with as part of that.

14.2 Councillors

Cr Seaman – No meetings attended

Cr Whitmarsh – No meetings attended

Cr Squires- No meetings attended

Cr Foulkes-Taylor – Wanted to reiterate the comments sent in a recent email from himself and his wife: *Rosco and I popped in on Saturday on our way home from our little camping trip with our friends from Perth and my sister, who hasn't seen the settlement for quite a few years and was amazed at the transformation.*

I was so proud to show them around and they were very impressed with all they saw. It is all looking absolutely lovely and is an absolute credit to you.

Our roads are in much better shape than those we travelled on in the Meekatharra Shire too!

Thank you for making me feel proud to be a Murchisonite!

Best of luck with this year's Tidy Towns Awards....can't see how we wouldn't win.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor had attended the WALGA Focus group forum in Geraldton the 27th June. A full meeting report has previously been forwarded to all councillors. The CEO had also attended this although the Forum was held in two separate groups – one with elected members and one with CEO's. Was interesting and surprising to see how little most councils knew of the services that WALGA could provide.

Cr Halleen – no meetings attended but as President of the Murchison PoloCrosse Committee would like to formally thank the shire for their support. Without the support of the shire the annual PoloCrosse weekend could not happen. Every year there is something new or improved which makes the other clubs notice and try to keep up with. This year saw 19 teams attend and it was a great weekend, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved. Thanks again.

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16. FINANCE

16.1 Financial Activity Statements 30 June 2013

File:	2.2
Author:	Dianne Daniels – Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	15 July 2013
Attachments:	Financial Activity Statements for 12 months to 30 June 2013 Balance Sheet Income Statement Detail Income Statement Summary Income Statement by Nature & Type

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider adopting the monthly financial statements for the period ending 30 June 2013.

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.

Comment:**Summary of Financial Results June 2013**

The Current Position at 30 June 2013 is a surplus of \$2,216,011 against a balanced Budget:

Opening Funding Surplus variance	0
Add Operating Revenues up	1,536,145
Add Operating Expenditure down	376,003
Add Funding Balance Adjustment	67,939
Less Capital Revenue down	-1,355,726
Add Capital Expenditure down	1,588,588
Plus Rate Revenue up	3,062

Operating Revenues are up due to an advance on the 2013-2014 Financial Assistance Grant from the Grants Commission of \$1,557,002 with Operating Expenditure down by \$376,003, mainly in the Transport Program, with Road Maintenance, Bunding of Various Old Roads, Grid Maintenance and Rehab Gravel Pits all down on budget. Also, we have an unspent budget of \$181,000 for work on the Beringarra Pindar Road which hinged on receiving a contribution from CSIRO towards its upkeep. A contribution of \$95 k was received this month, of which \$17.6 k went to payment of rates, leaving \$77.3 k which we have transferred into the CSIRO Road Account for use on that road early in 2013-14.

Capital Revenue is down as we have not yet received the 2012-13 R4R Individual Funding of \$505,851 for the Caravan Park Laundry/Dump Point/Accommodation or the R4R Regional Funding of \$771,875 toward the replacement of the Ballinyoo Bridge. These funds and the associated expenditure have been carried over to the 2013-14 Budget.

Capital expenditure that impacted the Balance Sheet in June was:

- Concrete floors under the three 'seaside shelters'
- Concrete under patio at Roadhouse motel units
- UHF Repeater upgrade
- Compressor and Air operated grease gun and trolley dispensing unit for mechanic truck

Rates collection is sitting at 85% collected as against 72% at 30 June 2012. CS Legal debt collection service has commenced the recovery process against those rate payers who fit within the policy guidelines of being 12 months overdue.

Please note that the Financial Statements for June 30 2013 may vary slightly from the Annual Financial Report as 2012-13 accruals and any requested audit adjustments are yet to be processed.

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.

Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels ran council through the monthly report. Cr Foulkes-Taylor just noted that the generators shown as 2 x 60KVA gen sets on page 18/44 should be 2 x 6KVA gen sets.

Cr Squires commented that he had no questions because Dianne explained things so comprehensively – which was great for council.

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

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 30 June 2013, as attached.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority.

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 30 June 2013, as attached

Carried

For: 6

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: 15 July 2013

Attachments: EFT & Cheque Details for June 2013

Matter for Consideration:

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of June 2013.

Background:

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

Comment:

Payments made during the month of June as per attached schedule.

Cr Broad noted that it was good when we had monthly payments totalling \$2.2mil to see that \$1.6m of that was transfers into short term investment account and not all expenditure

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 and Trust Accounts

Consultation:

None

Recommendation:

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$ 2,230,222.21 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$ 2,230,222.21 be passed for payment/endorsed by Council

Carried

For: 6

Against: 0

16.3 Murchison Museum Request for NBN Connection

File:	11.5
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Murchison Museum

Matter for Consideration:

Request received from Murchison Museum President for assistance with establishing a new internet connection for the museum cottage.

Background:

The museum committee try to ensure that there is a caretaker living in the museum cottage during the tourist season so that people can be shown around the museum without the shire staff having to be responsible for it. Currently there is a phone connection at the cottage but no internet connection.

The shire is currently in the process of registering its staff houses under the NBN programme so that we can move away from Telstra to an alternative provider. This has been trialled at three of the houses and is proving to be a much cheaper option with just as good a service. Under the NBN Interim Satellite Broadband offer we can get the satellite dish and modem supplied and installed at no cost.

Comment:

We have received a letter from Mrs Jano Foulkes-Taylor in her capacity as President of the Murchison Museum committee asking whether council would be prepared to install the same NBN service to the museum house as they are arranging for the shire properties. The shire currently pays for the telephone service connected to the cottage as part of its assistance to the museum. As with the shire properties there would be no fee for the setting up of the internet service but there would be a monthly fee of \$49.95. Should council wish to take over the internet connection at the cottage this would equate to an additional \$600 per annum in subsidy to the museum. Whilst the museum is not actually owned by the shire it does seem to make sense to have all the internet connections under the one provider and it is probably easier for the administration of them to come under the shire as far as access for installation or ongoing maintenance is concerned.

The caretaker would have to provide their own laptop or computer and should there be usage fees in excess of the \$49.95 per month they would be responsible for these too.

The caretaker is a volunteer position and having someone to operate the museum and show people around does save the shire administration time and money and also provides a better service to tourists and security for museum artefacts. Should the shire have to employ someone to do this it would be a lot more expensive than the proposed subsidy.

There was discussion on the proposal. Cr Halleen was happy to support it. Cr Squires queried who actually owns the museum. It was built from grant monies and is administered by the Museum Committee. Cr Seaman said that there is currently no policy regarding who is responsible for what and we should develop one so that everything is set out.

Cr Broad said the shire would always support the museum and would not see it suffer in any way.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

An additional \$600 per annum

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That council agrees to establish the NBN internet connection at the museum cottage and pay for the monthly rental of \$49.95.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Halleen****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That council agrees to establish the NBN internet connection at the museum cottage and pay for the monthly rental of \$49.95.

Carried**For: 6****Against: 0****16.4 Fees and Charges 2013-2014**

File:	2.4
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	15 July 2013
Attachments:	N/A

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider adopting the Schedule of Fees and Charges for inclusion in the 2013-2014 Budget.

Background:

A local government may impose and recover a fee or charge for any goods or services it provides or proposes to provide, other than a service for which a service charge is imposed.

In determining the amount of the fee or charge for goods or services, a local government is required to take into consideration the cost of providing the goods or services, the importance of the provision to the community and the price at which the goods or service can be provided by an alternate provider.

The basis for providing a fee or charge is not to be limited to the cost of provision except for the following services:

- (a) provision of copies of information requested under Division 7 - Access to Information;
- (b) receiving an application for approval, granting an approval, making an inspection and issuing a license, permit, authorization or certificate under section 6.16(2)(d);
- (c) prescribed under section 6.16(2) (f), where the regulation prescribing the service also specifies that such a limit is to apply to the fee or charge for the service.

Comment:

All fees and charges have been revised considering the cost to Council and by comparing the proposed Fee or Charge to that charged by alternative suppliers in a similar situation.

There was discussion on the proposed fees and charges, Cr Squires felt that \$460.00 to sink a grave was very cheap and would probably not cover costs.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor said that the \$46.00 permit to erect a plaque also included interring of ashes but was also very cheap, especially if new rocks had to be brought into the cemetery.

Cr Seaman left the meeting at 11.50am

Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 11.52am

Cr Halleen said that there would be the \$46.00 fee plus the \$92.00 plot reservation making a total of \$138.00 for anyone wishing to bury ashes. It was decided to amend the wording on the permit to erect plaque fee to include & inter ashes to clarify the charges.

The fees for sterilised working dogs were listed twice; the second one should be unsterilized fees. The fee is 25% of the full fee so this will be amended to \$7.50 for one year or \$18.75 for three years.

Cr Squires had brought in some plant costings which he had been calculating as he felt the plant and equipment charges were too low. It was explained that these were not the same as the rates used to allocate our plant costs across the jobs undertaken but only what we would charge for private works hire.

DCEO, Dianne Daniels explained that we had not had time to drill down all the costs so had kept them the same as last year. Last year there had been quite a bit of work undertaken to look into plant hire rates. Ours had been set at the lower end of the scale as it is only local people that may have to hire the machinery.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor said we need to ensure that the costs are recovered.

Cr Seaman asked through the chair to put a motion that the CEO and admin staff re-visit the fees and charges. The Shire President said that the fees had been kept low to take into account where we are and the service we provide to local community members. Cr Seaman accepted that this was a good point as many people were doing it tough out here.

Cr Squires had been concerned that these were the figures being used to allocate plant charges but is happy to leave them now that he knows this is not the case.

Cr Broad queried the introduction of the \$4 per km move/de-move cost. Deputy CEO, Dianne Daniels, advised that this was on the lower end of the scale with comparison to other contractors and it was clarified that it would only be one way charges. i.e. \$4 per km out to the job and then \$4km per km back in from the job at the end.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.16 - Allows a local government to impose and recover a fee or charge for any goods or services it provides or proposes to provide. Fees and charges are to be imposed when adopting the annual budget, but may be imposed during the financial year and amended from time to time by giving public notice

Strategic Implications:

N/A

Policy Implications:

N/A

Financial Implications:

Fees and charges raised will contribute to approximately 6.4% of operating revenue.

Consultation:

CEO; Works supervisor

Recommendation:

That Council adopt Fees and Charges for the 2013-2014 Financial Year as detailed in the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES SHIRE OF MURCHISON

SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
CEMETERY		
Plot reservation	\$92.00	\$92.00
Sinking grave	\$460.00	\$460.00

Re-opening grave	\$460.00	\$460.00
Permit to erect plaque	\$46.00	\$46.00
ADMINISTRATION		
Photocopying – black and white A4	\$0.15	\$0.15
Photocopying – black and white A3	\$0.20	\$0.20
Photocopying – colour A4	\$0.45	\$0.45
SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
Photocopying – colour A3	\$0.60	\$0.60
Facsimile – inward	\$1.00	\$1.00
Facsimile – outward	\$1.00	\$1.00
Laminating – A4	\$2.50	\$2.50
Laminating – A3	\$4.50	\$4.50
ADVERTISING IN THE MONOLOGUE		
Full page – black and white	\$22.00	\$22.00
Full page - colour	\$80.00	\$80.00
½ page – black and white	\$12.00	\$12.00
½ page - colour	\$45.00	\$45.00
¼ page – black and white	\$6.00	\$6.00
¼ page - colour	\$25.00	\$25.00
INTERNET ACCESS		\$2.50/half hour
SPECIAL SERIES PLATES		\$180.00
DOG REGISTRATIONS		
Sterilised 1 year	\$10.00	\$10.00
Sterilised 3 years	\$18.00	\$18.00
Sterilised Working Farm dog 1 year	\$2.50	\$2.50

Sterilised Working Farm dog 3 years	\$4.50	\$4.50
Unsterilized 1 year	\$30.00	\$30.00
Unsterilized 3 years	\$75.00	\$75.00
Sterilised Working Farm dog 1 year	\$2.50	\$2.50
Sterilised Working Farm dog 3 years	\$4.50	\$4.50
Dog Pound Fees per day		
Sustenance per dog	\$5.00	\$10.00
SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
Release fee	\$30.00	\$30.00
Pensioners 50% of abovementioned charges		
50% only payable if paid from 31 May each year		
CAT REGISTRATIONS		
Sterilised 1 year		TBA
Sterilised 3 years		TBA
Unsterilized 1 year		TBA
Unsterilized 3 years		TBA
Cat Pound Fees per day		TBA
Sustenance per cat		\$5.00
Release Fee		\$30.00
BOOKS AND MAPS		
Road to Murchison	\$30.00	\$30.00
A Varied and Versatile Life	\$28.00	\$28.00
Gascoyne Murchison Outback Pathways	\$30.00	\$30.00
Street Smart Maps – The Midwest	\$7.70	\$10.00
AMMUNITION		
Fiocchi 270 Winchester 130g x 20	\$50.50	\$50.50
Fiocchi 223 Remington 55g x 20	\$23.00	\$26.00
Winchester X222 RA 50g x 20	\$19.50	\$19.50

Winchester 222 Rem 50g x 20	\$23.50	\$23.50
Winchester 243 Win 80g x 20	\$37.00	\$37.00
Winchester 223 Rem 55g x 50	\$53.50	\$53.50
Winchester 308 Win 150g x 20	\$39.00	\$39.00
Winchester 22LR 40g x 50	\$8.50	\$8.50
Highland 223 Rem Soft Point	N/A	\$19.50
Highland 243 Win 90g x 20	\$25.50	\$25.50
SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
Remington 22 Hornet 45g x 50	\$81.00	\$81.00
Maxi Magnum 40g x 50	\$21.00	\$21.00
PLANT & EQUIPMENT – INC. OPERATOR		
Truck 6 wheel end tipper 10 m	\$132.00	\$132.00
Dozer D7	\$168.00	\$168.00
Loader Volvo 966	\$148.00	\$148.00
Loader Cat 938	\$128.00	\$128.00
Grader	\$155.00	\$155.00
Roller 12 tonne vibrating	\$130.00	\$130.00
Roller rubber tyre	\$111.00	\$111.00
Prime mover/1 side tipping trailer	\$160.00	\$160.00
Prime mover/2 side tipping trailers	\$195.00	\$195.00
Prime mover/30,000L water cart	\$160.00	\$160.00
Prime mover/Low loader	\$160.00	\$160.00
Mobe/De-mobe		\$4 per km
LABOUR	\$58.00	\$58.00

Voting Requirements:
Absolute Majority

Council Decision:
Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh **Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**
 That Council adopt Fees and Charges for the 2013-2014 Financial Year as detailed in the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES SHIRE OF MURCHISON

SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
CEMETERY		
Plot reservation	\$92.00	\$92.00
Sinking grave	\$460.00	\$460.00
Re-opening grave	\$460.00	\$460.00
Permit to erect plaque and inter ashes	\$46.00	\$46.00
ADMINISTRATION		
Photocopying – black and white A4	\$0.15	\$0.15
Photocopying – black and white A3	\$0.20	\$0.20
Photocopying – colour A4	\$0.45	\$0.45
SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
Photocopying – colour A3	\$0.60	\$0.60
Facsimile – inward	\$1.00	\$1.00
Facsimile – outward	\$1.00	\$1.00
Laminating – A4	\$2.50	\$2.50
Laminating – A3	\$4.50	\$4.50
ADVERTISING IN THE MONOLOGUE		
Full page – black and white	\$22.00	\$22.00
Full page - colour	\$80.00	\$80.00
½ page – black and white	\$12.00	\$12.00
½ page - colour	\$45.00	\$45.00

¼ page – black and white	\$6.00	\$6.00
¼ page - colour	\$25.00	\$25.00
INTERNET ACCESS		\$2.50/half hour
SPECIAL SERIES PLATES		\$180.00
DOG REGISTRATIONS		
Sterilised 1 year	\$10.00	\$10.00
Sterilised 3 years	\$18.00	\$18.00
Sterilised Working Farm dog 1 year	\$2.50	\$2.50
Sterilised Working Farm dog 3 years	\$4.50	\$4.50
Unsterilized 1 year	\$30.00	\$30.00
Unsterilized 3 years	\$75.00	\$75.00
Unsterilized Working Farm dog 1 year	\$7.50	\$7.50
Unsterilized Working Farm dog 3 years	\$18.75	\$18.75
Dog Pound Fees per day		
Sustenance per dog	\$5.00	\$10.00
SERVICE	2012-2013 \$/hour inc GST	2013-2014 \$/hour inc GST
Release fee	\$30.00	\$30.00
Pensioners 50% of abovementioned charges		
50% only payable if paid from 31 May each year		
CAT REGISTRATIONS		
Sterilised 1 year		TBA
Sterilised 3 years		TBA

Unsterilized 1 year		TBA
Unsterilized 3 years		TBA
Cat Pound Fees per day		TBA
Sustenance per cat		\$5.00
Release Fee		\$30.00
BOOKS AND MAPS		
Road to Murchison	\$30.00	\$30.00
A Varied and Versatile Life	\$28.00	\$28.00
Gascoyne Murchison Outback Pathways	\$30.00	\$30.00
Street Smart Maps – The Midwest	\$7.70	\$10.00
AMMUNITION		
Fiocchi 270 Winchester 130g x 20	\$50.50	\$50.50
Fiocchi 223 Remington 55g x 20	\$23.00	\$26.00
Winchester X222 RA 50g x 20	\$19.50	\$19.50
Winchester 222 Rem 50g x 20	\$23.50	\$23.50
Winchester 243 Win 80g x 20	\$37.00	\$37.00
Winchester 223 Rem 55g x 50	\$53.50	\$53.50
Winchester 308 Win 150g x 20	\$39.00	\$39.00
Winchester 22LR 40g x 50	\$8.50	\$8.50
Highland 223 Rem Soft Point	N/A	\$19.50
Highland 243 Win 90g x 20	\$25.50	\$25.50
SERVICE	2012-2013	2013-2014
	\$/hour inc GST	\$/hour inc GST
Remington 22 Hornet 45g x 50	\$81.00	\$81.00
Maxi Magnum 40g x 50	\$21.00	\$21.00

PLANT & EQUIPMENT – INC. OPERATOR		
Truck 6 wheel end tipper 10 m	\$132.00	\$132.00
Dozer D7	\$168.00	\$168.00
Loader Volvo 966	\$148.00	\$148.00
Loader Cat 938	\$128.00	\$128.00
Grader	\$155.00	\$155.00
Roller 12 tonne vibrating	\$130.00	\$130.00
Roller rubber tyre	\$111.00	\$111.00
Prime mover/1 side tipping trailer	\$160.00	\$160.00
Prime mover/2 side tipping trailers	\$195.00	\$195.00
Prime mover/30,000L water cart	\$160.00	\$160.00
Prime mover/Low loader	\$160.00	\$160.00
Mobe/De-mobe		\$4 per km
LABOUR	\$58.00	\$58.00
Carried by Absolute majority	For: 6	Against: 0

16.5 Elected Member Remuneration for 2013-2014

File:	2.4
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	15 July 2013
Attachments:	N/A

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider adopting Elected Member Remuneration as detailed in the table below.

Background:

A council member who attends a council or committee meeting is entitled to be paid a prescribed minimum fee and to be reimbursed for prescribed expenses.

The President, in addition, is entitled to a prescribed annual allowance and the local government may decide to pay the Deputy President an allowance up to 25% of that prescribed for the president.

Comment:

On 19 June 2013, the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal reviewed Elected Members Remuneration increasing maximums for attendance at Council Meetings and increasing the Presidents and Deputy Presidents Allowance. However, travel allowance is required to be claimed according to the Public Service Award 1992, which impacts adversely on the \$ per kilometre that can now be claimed.

In order for an equitable payment to all Council members, which takes into consideration the travel distance to Council meetings, it would be acceptable to pay a base fee plus a loading of say \$1 per kilometre. If we assume 11 OC meetings, 6 EO meetings and one trip to Perth for each councillor and allow an increase of 10% to the Fees for attending meetings, so that the base fee is \$3,850 instead of \$3,500, all Annual payments should fall within the prescribed range.

Cr Halleen asked the CEO to explain the changes to members travel allowance – which she did. This is causing concern in surrounding shires and even the Department of Local Government feel that it is something we should be raising with SAT *“We believe that the SAT, if a sufficiently compelling case can be made, could vary the 2013 Determination (rather than reviewing at the 2014 Determination). This would be at the Tribunal’s discretion.*

If there is a sufficient level of concern regarding the mileage situation you have highlighted (and the travel and accommodation issue), this would be a matter for WALGA Zones and the Executive to pursue on behalf of its members.”

There was robust discussion on the changes. Cr Seaman felt that increasing the allowances to include a \$1 per km loading based on where the councillor lived could be unfair if the councillor did not attend all the meetings. Cr Broad felt that the travel allowance rates had not kept up to date, taking into account the extra wear and tear on vehicles travelling on gravel roads and the higher cost of fuel in remote area.

In the end it was decided to adjust the recommendation to reflect that the additional \$1 per kilometre loading on the allowance would only be paid for those meetings actually attended. Each councillor would therefore get a different allowance calculated on a base allowance of \$3,850 plus \$1 per km loading for each km travelled to and from meetings.

Council also resolved to prepare a motion for submission to the next Country WALGA zone meeting in November.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995: Part 5 Division 8

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996: Part 8

Salaries and Allowances Tribunal 19 June 2013

Strategic Implications:

Nil.

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

A minimum and maximum level of payment is established by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal and paid in accordance with Part 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996. The increased payments will add approximately \$10,650 to Operating Expenses based on 11 OC meetings, 6 EO meetings and one trip to Perth per Elected Member for the 2013-14 financial year.

Consultation:

CEO

Recommendation

That Council adopt Elected Members Remuneration for the 2013-2014 Financial year as detailed in the schedule below.

The President is to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$6,600 plus the \$1 per kilometre loading, to a maximum of \$18,500, plus an Annual Allowance of \$6,600;

The Deputy President is to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$3,850 plus a loading of \$1 per kilometre to a maximum of \$9,000, plus an Annual Allowance of \$1,650;

All Members are to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$3,850 plus a loading of \$1 per kilometre to a maximum of \$9,000;

All Elected Members are to be paid a Telecommunications Allowance of \$1,100 per annum and a Travel Allowance based on the Public Service Award 1992.

ELECTED MEMBERS REMUNERATION

	2012-13		2013-14	
	Range	Adopted	Range	Budget
Fees for Attending Council and Committee Meetings	\$	\$		
Councillor	2.4-7K	3,500	3.5-9k	3.85-9k
President	6-14K	6,000	3.5-18.5k	6.6-18.5k
	Range	Adopted	Range	Budget
Annual Local Government Allowances	\$	\$		
President	.6-12K	6,000	.5-19k	6.6k
Deputy President	25%	1,500	25%	1.65k
Other Fees – Elected Members	\$	\$		
Telecommunications Allowance	250	1,000	.5-3.5k	1.1k
Travel Allowance	\$1.90 per km	\$1.90 per km	94.3/91/89.5	94.3/91/89.5 per km

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority.

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

1) That Council adopt Elected Members Remuneration for the 2013-2014 Financial year as detailed in the schedule below.

The President is to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$6,600 plus the \$1 per kilometre loading for any meetings attended, to a maximum of \$18,500, plus an Annual Allowance of \$6,600;

The Deputy President is to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$3,850 plus a loading of \$1 per kilometre for any meetings attended to a maximum of \$9,000, plus an Annual Allowance of \$1,650;

All Members are to be paid an Attendance Fee at the base rate of \$3,850 plus a loading of \$1 per kilometre for any meetings attended to a maximum of \$9,000;

All Elected Members are to be paid a Telecommunications Allowance of \$1,100 per annum and a Travel Allowance based on the Public Service Award 1992.

ELECTED MEMBERS REMUNERATION

	2012-13		2013-14	
	Range	Adopted	Range	Budget
Fees for Attending Council and Committee Meetings	\$	\$		
Councillor	2.4-7K	3,500	3.5-9k	3.85-9k
President	6-14K	6,000	3.5-18.5k	6.6-18.5k
	Range	Adopted	Range	Budget
Annual Local Government Allowances	\$	\$		
President	.6-12K	6,000	.5-19k	6.6k
Deputy President	25%	1,500	25%	1.65k
Other Fees – Elected Members	\$	\$		
Telecommunications Allowance	250	1,000	.5-3.5k	1.1k
Travel Allowance	\$1.90 per km	\$1.90 per km	94.3/91/89.5 per km	94.3/91/89.5 per km

2) That council prepare an agenda item for submission to the next Country Zone WALGA meeting in November addressing concerns regarding the members Travel Allowance to encourage WALGA to take up the matter on behalf of its' members.

Carried by Absolute Majority

For: 6

Against: 0

The recommendation was amended to reflect that the additional \$1 per kilometre loading would only be paid for those meetings actually attended.

The meeting broke at 12.30 for the presentation by Athena Resources

10. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

10.2 Athena Resources

Cr Squires left the meeting at 12.30pm

Cr Squires returned to the meeting at 12.34pm

Jenny Goodbourn, CEO left the meeting at 12.34pm

Jenny Goodbourn, CEO, returned to the meeting at 12.36pm

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO, left the meeting at 12.36pm

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO, returned to the meeting at 12.38pm

The Shire President welcomed Mr Ed Edwards, Managing Director of Athena Resources and Mr Liam Kelly, Senior Geologist of Athena Resources.

Mr Edwards and Mr Kelly ran through a presentation on Athena Resources and their plans to develop a large nickel and copper deposit and iron ore deposit within the shire of Murchison.

Athena have extensive mining tenements covering areas of Milly Milly, Byro, Mt Narryer, Curbur and Meeberrie. The ore is high grade magnetite which has a much lower cost of extraction than other types of iron ore. This makes it viable to mine the ore even if only relatively small amounts can be moved via road. Magnetite needs a much coarser grind size than other ore types meaning the difference between a \$130-\$140 million processing plant compared to a \$2 billion processing plant.

Phase one would see the processed ore transported by road to Mullewa, possibly the Tallering Peak site and then by train to the port at Geraldton. Research has been carried out in China to design the best type of processing plant and Athena are currently in negotiation with proposed funding partners to try and secure funding for the operation.

Phase one would see about 2-2½ million tonnes of ore transported per year. This would equate to a truck every 20 minutes. Various routes are being looked at including the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road or the building of a haul road as far as Meeberrie and then down the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. They have also looked into constructing a slurry pipe to transport the ore but there is a limited capacity. The best option would be to cart by rail but this is also the most expensive. The cheapest option for the quickest start up would be carting by road. There is also a need to secure port space. The port of Geraldton has the capacity, especially with Jack Hills and Tallering Peak ceasing production, but there is a need to find storage space at the port.

The Shire President thanked Mr Edwards and Mr Kelly for their presentation and invited them to join council for lunch where informal discussion could be continued.

Council adjourned for lunch at 1.10pm

The meeting re-commenced at 2.10pm

Cr Foulkes-Taylor did not re-join the meeting after lunch having had to leave for the day.

16. FINANCE

16.6 Draft 2013-2014 Financial Budget

File:	2.4
Author:	Dianne Daniels
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	16 July 2013
Attachments:	Draft Budget

Matter for Consideration:

This report seeks endorsement by Council of the Draft 2013-14 Financial Budget, in readiness for its adoption in Statutory Format at the August meeting. This is contingent upon receiving approval from the Minister of Local government for the Differential Rates adopted at the ordinary Meeting of Council in June 2013.

Background:

As part of the function of local government and its operations, under Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995, during the period 1 June in a financial year to 31 August in the next financial year, each local government is to prepare and adopt its Annual budget in the prescribed format.

2013-14 is the first year of budget preparation informed by the Community Strategic Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan with the recommended Draft Budget reflecting the first year of that plan.

Comment:

Budget Result

The net result of the 2013-14 Budget recommended for adoption is a balanced budget and includes provision for Capital Expenditure of \$6,850,469. This figure includes commencement on the replacement of the Ballinyoo Bridge (contingent on funding approvals being granted), a new unit of accommodation, plant replacement as recommended by the Plant Working Group and the replacement of the server and four office computers, along with other more minor Capital purchases.

This forecast result is based on the adopted differential rates model in which a 2.5% increase in aggregate rates revenue was recommended for all properties.

2013/14 Capital Program

Capital	Renewal	New	Expansion	Upgrade	Replace	Program
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Expenditure	Service				Total
Land & Buildings	872,751				872,751
Plant & Equipment	275,350		12,000	355,000	642,350
Furniture & Equipment				38,000	38,000
Infrastructure Other	32,590				32,590
Infrastructure Roads	77,500		2,060,940	3,126,338	5,264,778
Total	1,258,191		2,129,680	3,519,338	6,850,469

This expenditure will be funded from General Revenue, Reserves, borrowings and funding provided by State and Federal agencies.

Fees and Charges

All fees and charges have been revised considering the cost to Council and by comparing the proposed Fee or Charge to that charged by alternative suppliers in a similar situation. Refer to Agenda Item 16.4.

Allowances

Allowances proposed for the President and Councillors for 2013-14 have been presented at Agenda Item 16.5. In July 2013, the WA Salary and Allowances Tribunal determined a general increase in the range of allowances that can be paid to Presidents and Elected Members in WA and the proposed changes to Elected Members Remuneration have been based on those revised scales.

Borrowings

Borrowings in 2013-14 are confined to projects previously approved by Council in the (now superseded) Forward Capital Works Plan. An allowance was made to build a new unit of accommodation funded by a loan of \$150,000, with the balance of \$150,000 drawn from the Building Reserve.

The loan has been budgeted over 20 years at a projected interest rate of 6.5%

Community Consultation

In accordance with the requirements of section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, a statement of intended differential rates and minimum payments was published in the Geraldton Guardian newspaper on Wednesday 22 May 2013. The advertisement contained details of each differential general rate and minimum payment endorsed by Council and invited submissions from electors or ratepayers in respect of the proposed differential general rate or minimum payment and any related matters within 21 days. No submissions have been received and before adopting the differential general rates and associated Minimum Rates, Council is required to seek Ministerial Approval under s6.33 (3) of the Local government Act as the UV Mining Rate is more than twice the lowest differential general rate. This approval was sought immediately following the June 2013 meeting, however, the Minister is personally reviewing all submissions and an answer is still forthcoming.

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO, stepped us through the draft budget – detailing all schedules and capital purchases, disposals and financing. Cr Halleen queried the amount in printing and stationery; this includes the lease and use of the photocopier. Cr Halleen also queried the insurance amounts – most of which are lower than last year, we had a full valuation of plant and machinery and land and buildings carried out in February and these values have been brought into this year's budget. The insurance figures are based on the insurance schedule received from LGIS which has also taken these new valuations into account.

Cr Seaman left the meeting at 2.25pm

Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 2.27pm

Cr Squires queried an admin allocation of \$45,869 shown against E77300. This should have been allocated against the housing schedule E913000 and appears to have been double up. Dianne will verify this and adjust the budget accordingly. E143175 – PWO – Staff Training it was agreed the budget allocation be changed from \$25,000 to \$30,000 to allow for the mechanic to train to get his air-on ticket. This will be worthwhile as repairs to air-cons are currently costing the shire a lot in repairs and maintenance. Training to be reimbursed pro rata if mechanic leaves within 2 years.

Brian Wundenberg, works supervisor, left the meeting at 3.11pm
Brian Wundenberg, works supervisor, returned to the meeting at 3.13pm

The asset disposal prices were reviewed and altered to reflect more realistic figures.

The Patient Transfer Vehicle had an additional \$1,000 allocated to it to allow for a UHF radio and sat phone aerial to be fitted. The Yarra Yarra crossing was discussed – currently this is not in the budget but council may look at varying the \$330,000 allocation for dust suppression dependant on CSIRO response to contributing to this work.

The allocation for 5 new grids was increased by \$27,369 to allow for 7 new grids to be completed.

The allocation for the new side tipper was increased to \$105,000 from \$95,000 and the \$2,500 mobile work platform was deleted from Section 12 as it was also included in section 14.

Cr Halleen queried the rest of the airport equipment – windsock light etc and automatic controls that have never been completed. There has been an allocation of \$10,000 made in the budget to allow for this work to be finalised and any light to be replaced that need to be.

Cr Squires suggested that we might be able to use the bund wall and slab from where the old fuel tank was located as the base for the proposed storage shed. This is a great suggestion and will be followed up by the Works Supervisor.

Transfers to and from reserves were discussed.

The meeting broke at 3.55pm to allow Dianne to update the budget spreadsheet and verify alterations.
Meeting re-commenced at 4.00pm to finalise item.

It was resolved to add an additional \$20,000 to E131060 vermin/wild dog control to allow for some research and development to be undertaken to help with the wild dog problem in the area.

Statutory Environment:

Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 refers.

Section 6.2(2) of the Act requires that in preparing its annual budget the Council is to have regard to the contents of its plan for the future prepared in accordance with section 5.56. Under the Integrated Planning Framework for Local Government, that is the Community Strategic Plan. This section requires that Council must prepare detailed estimates of:

- (a) Expenditure;
- (b) Revenue and income, independent of general rates
- (c) The amount required to make up the 'deficiency' if any shown by comparing the estimated expenditure with the estimated revenue and income.

Section 6.2(3) requires that all expenditure, revenue and income must be taken in account unless otherwise prescribed. Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 32 prescribes amounts that may be excluded in calculating the 'budget deficiency'

Section 6.2(4) requires the annual budget to incorporate:

- (a) Particulars of estimated expenditure proposed;
- (b) Detailed information relating to the rates and service charges which will apply, including:
 - (a) Amount estimated to be yielded by the general rate
 - (b) Rate of interest to be charge on unpaid rates and service charges;
 - (c) Fees and charges;
 - (d) Borrowings and other financial accommodations proposed;
 - (e) Reserve account allocations and uses;
 - (f) Any proposed land transactions or trading undertakings per section 3.59

Strategic Implications:

The budget has been devised with reference to the Strategic Community Plan, taking into account the wishes and aspirations of the community.

Policy Implications:

The Draft Budget has been prepared for presentation to Council before the first week of August in accordance with Council Policy.

Financial Implications:

The Draft Budget details planned revenue and expenditure for the 2013-2014 Financial year, with the estimated brought forward surplus being expended along with revenue from rates, general revenue, grants, reserves and borrowings, to give a balanced outcome.

Consultation:

CEO
Works Supervisor
Plant Working Group
UHY Haines Norton
Strategic Community Plan/Long Term Financial Plan

Recommendation:

That the attached Draft Budget be endorsed by Council for conversion to the Statutory Format, for adoption at the Ordinary Meeting of Council in August 2013, contingent upon receipt of approval from the Minister regarding the Differential Rates.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

That the attached Draft Budget, as amended, be endorsed by Council for conversion to the Statutory Format, for adoption at the Ordinary Meeting of Council in August 2013, contingent upon receipt of approval from the Minister regarding the Differential Rates.

Carried by Absolute Majority

For: 5

Against: 0

17. DEVELOPMENT

17.1 Consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan

File:	9.1
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn- Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	17 th May 2013
Attachments:	Long Term Financial Plan Draft

Matter for Consideration:

Consideration of the Long Term Financial Plan for adoption by Council.

Background:

As part of the Integrated Planning Process council engaged RSM Bird Cameron to prepare our Long Term Financial Plan and other required reports.

Comment:

The Draft Long Term Financial Plan has been developed and is now presented for council's comments and/or adoption. The plan is being developed in conjunction with the Asset Management Plan, Strategic Community Plan, Workforce Plan and Corporate Business Plan and forms part of the required Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework introduced by the Department of Local Government.

This framework has to be developed by 30th June 2013 as budget preparations and annual reports have to reflect the new criteria with effect from 1st July 2013.

Statutory Environment:

Integrated Planning and Reporting Standards as set by the Department of Local Government.

Strategic Implications:

The Long Term Financial Plan is an integral part of the Integrated Planning Process which has to be developed by all local governments within WA.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That the shire adopts the Long Term Financial Plan.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh****Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That the long Term Financial Plan lay on the table

Carried**For: 5****Against: 0**

The motion was amended as the Long Term Financial Plan was not available for Councils consideration at the time of the meeting. Travis has been working on the plan but is waiting to see the outcome of the draft budget before finalising the plan for presentation to council.

17.2. Murchison Oasis Roadhouse

File:	13.11
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Oasis roadhouse

Matter for Consideration:

Request for an alfresco area to the south side of the roadhouse and changes to the front of the motel units.

Background:

A letter has been received from Debra Stewart, operator of the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse and Caravan Park. She is asking Council to consider making the lawned area on the south side of the roadhouse into a paved alfresco area and to change the layout at the front of the motel units by removing the rocks and part of the lawn and building a retaining wall and steps.

Comment:

When the Roadhouse development was undertaken it was proposed that the area to the south would be where the Interpretive Centre would be built and when the shelters and benches were recently installed the area was left clear so that this could still happen. There is also still the old shade house/, memorabilia shed that needs to be sorted out further to the south and council may wish to consider plans for this at the same time.

When the concreting to the front of the motel units was recently done the CEO discussed the idea of removing the rocks and making a more formal parking area at the front of the units. Currently cars park at either end of the units or if they do park in front of the lawn this narrows access into and out of the caravan park area. As council is currently proposing to establish a laundry and more motel units it would be a good time to look at the design and any changes could be incorporated as part of the project.

The suggestions were discussed by council. Cr Halleen said that the area to the south of the roadhouse had been left until the interpretive centre had been decided so he was not in favour of an alfresco area. Other councillors tended to agree. The general consensus was that there was a need to do something to improve the parking at the front of the motel units. After some further discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the Community Advisory Group for their consideration and advice to Council

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

To be determined

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

To refer the request to the next meeting of the Community Advisory Group for their investigation, consideration and recommendation to Council.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Squires****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

To refer the request to the next meeting of the Community Advisory Group for their investigation, consideration and recommendation to Council.

Carried**For: 5****Against: 0****17.3. Satellite Phone Subsidy**

File:	14.12
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Satellite Phone Subsidy

Matter for Consideration:

Response received from the Department of Broadband, Communications and Digital Economy

Background:

Council wrote to the department in November 2012 and again in May 2013 regarding the satellite phone subsidy scheme. At the time the scheme was due to end on the 30th June and the shire was asking for special consideration to be given to the residents of Murchison shire due to the unique circumstances surrounding the ASKAP/SKA site which meant that we would never be able to get mobile coverage in the area.

Comment:

A reply has been received from the department – see attached. It still doesn't really address the specific question raised in councils' letter but the good news is that the subsidy has been extended until at least the 30th June 2014.

A review will be carried out by the end of the year to assess the scheme and whether it will be extended further. The review will focus on the current demand for the scheme and recent market developments such as the falling costs of satellite phone handsets.

The department has suggested we provide a submission to the review once it commences later this year and this would be a good opportunity to formally submit our views on the need to continue the scheme and address issues such as the high cost of satellite calls.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That the CEO prepares a submission to the review on the Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme, based on Council's previous recommendations, once the review commences later in the year.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Whitmarsh****Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That the CEO prepares a submission to the review on the Satellite Phone Subsidy Scheme, based on Council's previous recommendations, once the review commences later in the year.

Carried/Lost**For: 5****Against: 0****17.4****Staff Housing Request**

File:	9.1
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Staff Housing Request

Matter for Consideration:

Request for extensions to unit 4b Kurara Way.

Background:

A letter has been received from Trevor and Leanne Hipper, who live at 4b Kurara Way, asking council to consider building an extension onto the property to include an extra bedroom and larger lounge/dining area.

Comment:

The unit at 4b Kurara way is very small and is probably not really suitable for a couple to be living in full time, especially when family or friends come and visit, however the costs to build an extension could be considerable.

The proposed 2013/2014 budget does include an amount for a new staff house this year and council may prefer to offer Trevor and Leanne the first option on a new house rather than change the existing one. If council are prepared to consider extending the existing property the CEO can get some plans and costings done to allow Council to consider the matter further.

There was discussion on the request. The general consensus of Council was that they did not want to build an extension onto the existing property.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

To be determined

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

The proposed 2013/2014 budget does include an amount for a new staff house this year and council would like to offer Trevor and Leanne the first option on this new house once it has been commissioned.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:**Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

The proposed 2013/2014 budget does include an amount for a new staff house this year and council would like to offer Trevor and Leanne the first option on this new house once it has been commissioned.

Carried**For: 5****Against: 0****18. ADMINISTRATION****18.1 Grants Commission Visit**

File:	3.4
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	WA Grants Commission

Matter for Consideration:

Notification of a visit by WA Local Government Grants Commission

Background:

The Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission (the Commission) is a statutory body established by State legislation, the *Local Government Grants Act 1978*.

Its principle function is the making of recommendations to the State Minister for Local Government on the allocations of "General Purpose Grants" amongst all local governments in WA. These General Purpose Grants are the State's cash entitlement for financial assistance from the Commonwealth Government, paid in equal quarterly instalments for a financial year, under the Australian law, *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. The distribution of Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants is for local government purposes, to achieve equitable levels of services, by reasonable effort.

Comment:

The funding provided to local governments is allocated on the basis of horizontal equalisation, to ensure that each local government in the State is able to function at a standard not lower than the average standard of other local governments. All local governments are entitled to receive at least the minimum grant. That minimum grant cannot be less than 30% of what the local government would receive if all grants were allocated on a per capita basis.

The Grants Commission is required to keep up with the changing face of local government to ensure that its methods reflect the operations of the industry. As part of this process, the Commission visits approximately 30 local governments each year to hold Public Hearings. This visiting programme provides a valuable opportunity for local governments to inform the Commission of the issues they are facing. The Commission also receives submissions from local governments each year seeking modifications to the grant determination process so that it will reflect their needs more effectively.

The Commission completed its review of the methodology used to calculate General Purpose Grants in the first quarter of 2012.

The commission has advised they will be visiting Murchison to hold a public hearing at 4pm on Tuesday the 3rd September. This is the same day as our First Aid Training but as the hearing is not until 4pm it should fit.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Grants Act 1978.

Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

The CEO to prepare a submission for a funding application under the 'Special Project Funds for Bridges' for submission to the Grants Commission upon their visit to the settlement.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Squires

The CEO to prepare a submission for a funding application under the 'Special Project Funds for Bridges' for submission to the Grants Commission upon their visit to the settlement.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

18.2 Crosslands Road Train Agreement

File:	4.62
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Crosslands letter & Agreement termination

Matter for Consideration:

Notification of termination of the Road Train Permit Agreement by Crosslands Resources.

Background:

We currently have an agreement with Crosslands Resources regarding the maintenance of the Beringarra-Cue Road which they sealed for access to their Jack Hills Mine. Jim Netterfield and Peter Spalding had a meeting with the CEO and Deputy CEO on the 2nd July to give an update on the current status of the project. Mitsubishi is still 100% owner of the port and rail project, all studies and reports have been completed and they are ready to go ahead. However they still need a partner and at the moment everything is on hold as the port and rail is not going ahead and they have been unable to attract any Chinese interest. There have been considerable staff cuts and there are more still happening. Peter and a few others will be all that remain soon – and will be based out on site. Jim Netterfield who is the Chief Operating Officer will be finishing up at the end of September and would like to get the agreement sorted out prior to his leaving. The stage 1 of the mine ceased in January 2012 and there has been no ore haulage since March 2012. The mine is now in care and maintenance and even if it does proceed in the future they will not be hauling ore by road anymore.

Comment:

Under the termination clause of the agreement there are several points they have to adhere to. Notably 10.2(d) which says that they shall re-seal all chip-sealed sections of the Roads within 90 days of the termination, failing which the shire may undertake the re-seal of the road and be reimbursed.

The first thing which needs to be done is for a joint inspection of the road to be undertaken to see the current state of the road and what needs to be repaired. As the road runs through the Shire of Cue as well as the Shire of Murchison the CEO has been in contact with John McCleary, CEO of Cue, to discuss the best approach to take. Both councils have previously said that they would not be in the position to maintain the road as a sealed road and that as sections of the pavement fail it would have to be changed back to gravel. We have asked Greenfields to undertake the road inspection and they have arranged to do it on the 24th July. Mark Salt from Main Roads will also be at the inspection as they are aware of the fact it may revert to gravel and are keen to be kept up to date with any developments. Greenfields will do a detailed scope of works and put a cost estimate against it.

We need to decide whether or not we are interested in maintaining the road to a sealed standard. If not then we may agree that there is not much work to be done to the road and instead negotiate with CRL for some form of payment in lieu of the works. Cue has indicated that this may be their approach. In this case, it will still be useful for us to have the indicative pricing from Greenfields.

Main Roads may push for the road to be maintained and handed over at the standard nominated in the agreement. I spoke with Bernie Miller regarding the road and he said that after all the money that has been spent on it, it would be a shame for it to go back to gravel. He feels that if a full seal was done, with the volume of traffic now using the road, it could last for ten years and by that time the mine might be proceeding and although they would not be carting ore by road they would still require a sealed road to access the site. However there are a lot of problems with the actual construction of the road and council may feel that the money spent on a reseal could be better used somewhere else.

This 85km section of the road has been maintained by Crosslands since 2006 but with the termination of this agreement will once again come back under the responsibility of the shire and will need to be included in the road maintenance programme.

There was discussion on this item. It was felt that it might not be wise to spend funds on applying an additional chip seal if the condition of the underlying road is not good enough to support it and the money that this would cost might be better negotiated and spent on other projects.

Statutory Environment:

S3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s.55 (20) 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:

To be determined

Consultation:

Michael Keane, Greenfields Technical Services

Recommendation:

That Council enter into negotiations with Crosslands Resources regarding the termination of the Crosslands Road Train Agreement.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That Council enter into negotiations with Crosslands Resources regarding the termination of the Crosslands Road Train Agreement.

Carried	For: 5	Against: 0
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18.3 Beringarra-Pindar Road

File:	12.24
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Beringarra-Pindar Road

Matter for Consideration:

RAV Classification of the Beringarra-Pindar Road

Background:

Back in November 2012 Main Roads carried out an inspection of the Beringarra-Pindar Road at the request of the Shire. This was with a view to getting a RAV classification on the road. Subsequently Main Roads submitted a report outlining problems with the road including the Nookawarra Airstrip and various corners, floodways, grids and creek crossing that would prevent any RAV classification. There have been several letters since trying to find a suitable way to approach these issues so that trucks are able to operate on this road but so far no positive outcome. At the last meeting council asked for an item to be included in this meeting so the matter could be discussed again.

Comment:

The latest response from Main Roads is attached. We had suggested that maybe they would consider a classification for part of the road as they have with the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. For example from Pindar to Nookawarra or Pindar to the ASKAP/MRO turnoff. However Main Roads have said that the grid and sight distance issues commence almost from the start of the road and that with these problems it would not be possible to approve the road for a RAV 9.

They have advised that the final decision rests with Heavy Vehicle Operations and the most they would approve would be Network 4 combinations (prime mover, semi trailer towing 5 axle dog trailer up to 27.5m) and this is only because of the low volume of traffic that uses the road.

I spoke with Bernie Miller regarding the issue and asked for clarification of the culpability of the shire should a truck be using the road and have an accident. He advised that the shire would not be liable. It is up to the operator of the truck to assess and confirm that the roads he is driving on are classified for his vehicle. The only party that could be held partly liable might be the company or person contracting the truck e.g. the pastoral company if they had contracted the truck to pick up or deliver feedstuff or stock. He also said that as the shire had asked for a road inspection to be carried out and was aware of the problems on the road and was working to address them they would be shown to be doing the right thing. He also said that it is HVO that police the roads in respect of truck operations and it would be highly unlikely that they would ever be monitoring the Beringarra-Pindar Road. The works supervisor has also received confirmation that whilst conducting road works the restrictions do not apply as long as the plant and vehicles are operating within the designated road work area.

At the last meeting council was keen to bring this item into the agenda again so that it could decide the next course of action and it was suggested that the upcoming local government week might be a good time to try and schedule a meeting with someone regarding the road.

There was discussion on the item. Cr Seaman said that looking at the report we need to work out a plan of action and stick to it. The proposed meeting Council was thinking of organising during local government week is no longer really viable. Cr Squires said we need to work out costings starting from the south and working north. Cr Halleen suggested it might be an idea to start with the worst grid first, leaving the line if sight problems until after. Cr Squires said it is the width of all the grids as well not just the line of sight and CR Broad thought that it would be preferable for the tender to address all grids i.e. from 1-9 rather than jumping about and missing some out. Brian Wundenberg, works Supervisor, said that we may be able to get a contribution towards the boundary grid from the City of Greater Geraldton.

Statutory Environment:

S3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s.55 (20) 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:

Bernie Miller, Regional Manager Mid West, Main Roads

Recommendation:

Council is to establish a programme of works to address the issues as detailed in the Main Roads WA report. Work to commence from the south boundary.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Squires

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

Council is to establish a programme of works to address the issues as detailed in the Main Roads WA report. Work to commence from the south boundary.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

18.4 Plant Replacement Program

File:	12.15
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	SOM Plant Replacement & Proposed Plant Changeover

Matter for Consideration:

Proposed plant replacement programme

Background:

As part of our integrated planning process and development of the Long Term Financial Plan it has been necessary to develop a ten year plant replacement programme. The last time this had been done was when the Forward Capital Works Programme was developed but the details had not been kept up to date.

Comment:

The CEO has worked with the works supervisor to formulate a proposed plant changeover schedule and a plant replacement programme showing projected costs over the next ten years. This has been circulated to all members of the Plant Working Group and a teleconference will hopefully have been conducted prior to this meeting to allow for detailed discussion on the proposed programme.

However as time is of the essence regarding budget preparation and finalisation of the Long Term Financial Plan this item needs to be considered by council at today's meeting.

The programme has been based on the proposed 2013/2014 plant replacement programme which was adopted for inclusion in the preparation of the 2013/2014 budget by council at the last meeting and information on existing plant, expected length of service and timing of major plant purchases.

Cr Halleen queried whether there was a serious problem with the bulldozer as this may affect the proposed programme. Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, advised that it appeared to only be the front engine seal that had gone and is that is all it is then it is Ok to leave as is in the proposed programme.

Council worked through the plant programme and made a couple of adjustments:
Plant # 03 Cat Grader – replacement moved from 2020/21 to 2021/22

Plant # 14 – No 2 float – does not need to be altered for the bulldozer so replacement removed from 2015/2016 as it should last 30 years.

Cr Seaman left the meeting at 4.50pm

Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO, left the meeting at 4.50pm

Cr Seaman returned to the meeting at 4.52pm

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Strategic planning for Council's items of plant and light vehicles forms a major part of the financial structure of the shire.

Consultation:

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor
Plant Working Group

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the .Shire of Murchison Plant Replacement Programme and Proposed Plant Changeover documents as amended.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Squires

That Council adopt the .Shire of Murchison Plant Replacement Programme and Proposed Plant Changeover documents as amended.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

18.5 Road Work Programme for 2013/2014

File:	12.9
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Nil

Matter for Consideration:

Construction crew road work programme for 2013/2014.

Background:

At the close of last month's meeting the works supervisor handed out a proposed work programme for 2013-14 for councillors to consider and comment on.

Comment:

In the draft budget there is an amount of \$952,860 allocated to road construction jobs. The works supervisor prepared a list of works that could be undertaken this year. The jobs are presented in a workable format i.e. with a flow on effect from one job to the next to prevent excessive mobilisation and de-mobilisation of the Construction Crew and look to address issues noted in the January road inspection undertaken by council. So far only Cr Foulkes-Taylor has commented on the proposed works:

During the last Council meeting, we resolved to have a look at the Works Supervisor's proposals for next year, and send in any thoughts or comments we had.

Overall I reckon the road plan seems pretty practical, and it gives me a sense that while the crew moves along it actually completes some overdue jobs, rather than sort of jumping from one area to another which has happened on occasions.

Without any rough time estimates, I am just presuming that Brian feels the plan could be completed in the 2013/2014 financial year.

It looks like a well thought out financial year starting plan, and if no major weather event turns things upside down, would be a really good list of work to attempt to complete.

Regards

Rosco

Council now need to consider the programme of works and whether they wish to adopt it.

Council discussed the proposed programme and found it to be a sound plan of works to be undertaken.

Statutory Environment:

S3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s.55 (20) 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:

Works to be completed within the amount allocated to road construction jobs in the 2013/2014 budget.

Consultation:

Brian wundenberg, Works Supervisor

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the road work program for 2013/2014 as presented.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That Council adopt the road work program for 2013/2014 as presented.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

18.6 Request for Leave - CEO

File:	4.20
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	CEO
Date:	8 th November 2012
Attachments:	Nil

Matter for Consideration:

Request for three days leave for the CEO on 5th, 6th & 7th August 2013.

Background:

Per the CEO's contract all leave has to be approved by council prior to the leave being taken. Under the executive leave section it says 'CEO shall be entitled to paid executive leave up to a maximum of ten days per calendar year for any reason if the leave is approved by council and deemed not to impact negatively on

the operations of the shire and delivery of services. The shire shall consider the application after receiving a written request in advance, stating the dates wanted for the leave to be taken and the reasons.'

Comment:

The Chief Executive Officer would like to request three days Executive Leave from Monday to Wednesday the 5th to 7th August. Local Government Week is on the 8th & 9th so the CEO would have had to travel down to Perth on Wednesday 7th anyway. The CEO is currently sorting out some family deceased estate issues and needs to travel to Dawesville in connection with this. Taking these three days will allow her to travel down at the weekend and spend a few days at Dawesville prior to the LG convention. As there is already the need to travel to Perth for Local Government Week it would make good sense to fit this additional bit in rather than have to do a separate trip.

So far Executive Leave taken has been 2 days at Christmas, 1 day in January, 2 days in May (Dawesville) and 1 day in June – total 6 days.

Cr Seaman said she hoped that following the CEO review this Executive Leave section would no longer have to come before council for approval. The CEO advised that the section would be looked at during the review with a view to removing or amending it.

Statutory Environment:

s.7.1.2 of the Chief Executive Officer's contract.

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That Council approve the request for three days Executive Leave for the Chief Executive Officer for the 5th, 6th & 7th August 2013

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

That Council approve the request for three days Executive Leave for the Chief Executive Officer for the 5th, 6th & 7th August 2013.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

19. NOTICE OF MOTION

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Activity
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17 th June	Meeting with Mark Halleen & Works supervisor regarding upcoming Polocrosse event
18 th June	Spoke to Mrs Tomkins regarding proposed work to extend west end of airstrip. Not acceptable by them so will proceed with alternative of ripping strip and closing eastern end.
18 th June	Meeting with Peter Smith – (Ranger) regarding Cat Act implementation. Subsidised vet visit will be in October spend day at Pia and overnight here to make most of their visit.
18 th June	Evening - PWG meeting via teleconference.
27 th June	WALGA Focus Group – Geraldton, followed by a meeting with Travis at RSM re Long Term Financial Plan and then Astrofest Committee meeting – joined Priscilla and Robin at their office in CSIRO centre
2 nd July	DCEO and I had a meeting with Jim Netterfield and Peter Spalding of Crosslands regarding the Beringarra Cue Road. Jack Hills mine is now in care-and-maintenance and they are intending to terminate the existing Road Train Permit Agreement. (Item earlier today)
4 th July	Meeting with the works supervisor to develop a proposed plant replacement programme to assist with asset planning and development of the Long Term Financial Plan
8 th July	Discussion with Steve Douglas over Ballinyoo Bridge and queries from MWIP, followed up possibility of WA Grants Commission Special Project Bridge Funding as back-up in case of 13/14 regional CLGF grant not being forthcoming.
9 th July	Worked through draft Long Term Financial Plan as provided by Travis to verify figures and provide further cross reference to proposed budget.
10 th July	Workshop with Dianne, DCEO, and Brian, Works Supervisor, to work through costings for proposed 2013/2014 budget.

Recommendation:

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Squires	Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh	
That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.		
Carried	For: 5	Against:

21. URGENT BUSINESS

Council Decision:		
Moved: Councillor Halleen	Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh	
That council deal with one urgent item.		
Carried	For: 5	Against:0

21.1 Ballinyoo Bridge

File:	12.6
Author:	Jenny Goodbourn – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	19 th July 2013
Attachments:	Ballinyoo Bridge Business Case - Amended

Matter for Consideration:

Amendments to the Ballinyoo Bridge Business case and consideration of contingency funding proposals.

Background:

Back in December 2012 Council approved the Ballinyoo Bridge Business Case, so that it could be forwarded to the appropriate funding bodies to support our grant applications. This was done with a proposal being submitted in respect of the CLGF regional funding for 2012/13 (a further one to be submitted this September for the 2013/2014 component) and to the MWIP as one of their flag ship projects. These business cases were submitted back in January and are both currently being assessed. The regional CLGF application was acknowledged on the 4th June:

Your Regional Group application will now proceed through the assessment process and you will be notified as lead Shire of its status in due course.

Last week I was advised that the Mid West Development Commission had several questions regarding the proposal that had been raised during processing by the Department of Regional Development:-

Item 2.8 Summary of Options

Option D as outlined in the business case not identified as an option in the BG&E report attached to the business case. Please clarify how this option was identified and how it was determined it would cost 50% more than the preferred option? Referred to Main Roads for answer – received.

Item 2.10 Budget and Operational Funding

Can documentation of the cost estimations prepared by Main Roads endorsed by an appropriate signatory be provided? Referred to Main Roads for answer – received

Due to the uncertainty regarding CLGF 13-14 funding, can an alternate source of funding or potential for the project to be scaled back be identified? To be discussed by council

Please provide details of the management structure of the project and associated costs (this question has been raised as there is no project management cost itemised in the budget – a note explaining the proposed project management structure and why it's not included as a line item in the budget will suffice. Likewise if a project management costs are included in the budget – in the Engineering Supervision component for example – then this simply needs to be clarified) Confirmed this is the case.

Please provide evidence that ongoing maintenance for the new bridge forms part of the Shire's forward planning. Done – same as with the previous one for the last 80+ years

Item 2.12: Risk Assessment

Evidence needs to be provided of how the Shire will manage any cost overruns/funding short falls of the projects (this question is linked to the above operational questions regarding project management and potential scaling of the project. To be discussed by council

Will any heritage approvals / land clearing permits be required? No – heritage council issues addressed and no clearing as bridge is going in exactly same location as existing one.

Comment:

I have been able to answer the points raised with assistance from Bernie Miller of Main Roads but Steve Douglas has suggested that we need to update the business case to reflect the answers received and the clarifications so an amended business case is attached for councils' consideration.

One of the main areas of concern that has come up since the original submission back in January is the uncertainty surrounding the CLGF regional funding availability in 2013/2014. We have still not received any 2012/2013 monies although we are in July 2013 and there is a growing worry that the 13/14 monies may not eventuate. This represents some \$771,875 of the project and we need to consider contingencies should this funding not be available. Obviously if the 12/13 funds should not be available or the MWIP contribution then the project would not be able to proceed but should it just be the 13/14 CLGF component then the shire may wish to consider alternative funding sources.

The funding options have been discussed previously but no actual council resolution made. There are various options we could explore:-

We consistently spend over a \$1 million a year on our road construction programme and could channel some of the funds into the bridge for the year required resulting in a reduced programme in road construction for that year.

Should Roads 2 Recovery be continuing we would have the funding from there towards the project (\$382,580 under the current funding round) but again we are still waiting to hear whether a new round of funding will be extended past the 2013/2014 financial year.

I have also explored the possibility of securing some funding from the WA Local Government Grants Commission – Special Project Funds for Bridges. These funds are for preservation type projects but will look at replacement of an existing bridge where it has reached the end of its economic life. Funding opens shortly and an application will be lodged to see if funding can be secured – it is possible that \$300-\$500,000 might be available.

Council has also discussed the possibility of taking out a Treasury loan to cover the project should all other avenues fail.

The latest RDAF round of funding has advised that the shire has an allocation of \$183,650 which could be used towards this project.

We need to formalise the possibility of these alternatives and get the amended business case into the M.W.D.C before the board meeting next week so that any question asked can be fully answered and evidence shown that these matters have been discussed.

Cr Seaman felt that Athena should be added into the 'Growing Prosperity' Section under point 2.3 of the Business Case.

Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor, left the meeting at 5.05pm

Brian Wundenberg, Works supervisor, returned to the meeting at 5.06pm

There was some general discussion regarding Athena's proposals regarding the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and how this might impact the proposed bridge. We will have to see if they proceed with the project before relying on any information on costing or plans they have proposed, but it will be good to consider other engineering and design advice from Liam.

Statutory Environment:

S3.53 of the Local Government Act 1995 and s.55 (20) 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:

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

This is a major project which will have financial implications on the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 budgets and the long term financial planning of the Shire.

Consultation:

Bernie Miller, Regional Manager Mid West, Main Roads

Steve Douglas, MWDC

Recommendation:

- 1) That the amended Business Case, as attached be approved by council.
- 2) That under section 2.7.1 this includes a new section regarding the contingency plans to source additional funding should the CLGF 2013/2014 funding not be available. In this event council to pursue any or all of the following options:-
 1. The Shire will make a submission to the WA Grants Commission for \$500,000 under their Special Projects Funds for Bridges. An application will be submitted prior to the September 2013 deadline. Feedback suggests there is a possibility of funding from this source. The remaining funds will come from Roads 2 Recovery funding or councils own funds.
 2. Two years of Roads 2 Recovery funding (2014/15, 2015/16) will be allocated to this project for the construction of the bridge. The Shire is aware the current Roads 2 Recovery program ends in 2013/2014 but is expecting a replacement programme of similar type / magnitude to replace it.
 3. Regional Development Australia has announced funding of \$183,650 for the Shire. This could be directed to this project.
 4. Ultimately, the Bridge is so critical to the Shire that it will take out a loan from Treasury to fill any funding gap.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Whitmarsh

- 1) That the amended Business Case, as attached be approved by council.
- 2) That under section 2.7.1 this includes a new section regarding the contingency plans to source additional funding should the CLGF 2013/2014 funding not be available. In this event council to pursue any or all of the following options:-
 - 1. The shire will make a submission to the WA Grants Commission for \$500,000 under their Special Projects Funds for Bridges. An application will be submitted prior to the September 2013 deadline. Feedback suggests there is a possibility of funding from this source. The remaining funds will come from Roads 2 Recovery funding or councils own funds.
 - 2. Two years of Roads 2 Recovery funding (2014/15, 2015/16) will be allocated to this project for the construction of the bridge. The Shire is aware the current Roads 2 Recovery program ends in 2013/2014 but is expecting a replacement programme of similar type/magnitude to replace it.
 - 3. Regional Development Australia has announced funding of \$183,650 for the Shire. This could be directed to this project.
 - 4. Ultimately the Bridge is so critical to the Shire that it will take out a loan from Treasury to fill any funding gap.

Carried

For: 5

Against: 0

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

23. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss the Shire President declared the meeting closed at 5.13pm.

These Minutes were confirmed at the council meeting held on Friday 16th August 2013.

Signed.....Presiding Officer