

Western Australia

Minutes for the Special Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council, Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison, On Wednesday 29th March 2017 commencing at 12:58 pm

PURPOSE:

To elect Office Bearers To review/adopt Strategic Community Plan To discuss the Annual Road Inspection

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

As the President Halleen resigned effective immediately following Item 8.1 of the Special Meeting of Council on the 28/03/2017, the CEO is to preside at this meeting until the office is filled and if necessary, the Deputy President position is filled.

The Chief Executive Officer opened the meeting at 12:58 pm

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Deputy President Rossco Foulkes-Taylor Cr Miles Williams Cr Andrew Whitmarsh Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor

CEO – Dianne Daniels DCEO – Peter Dittrich Works Supervisor – Brian Wundenberg

3. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

3.1 Election of President

File: 4.1

Author: Dianne Daniels – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 28th March 2017
Attachments: Nomination Form

Matter for Consideration:

A President is to be elected from within Council for a term of office to expire at or after the next ordinary elections (21 October 2017), when elections for President will once again be held.

Background:

The Local Government Act prescribes that Council is to elect a President as the first matter dealt with at a meeting to be held within 21 days of an extraordinary vacancy in that office. That extraordinary vacancy occurred today, 28th March 2017.

Comment:

Nominations are to be lodged in writing to the CEO, indicating consent of the nominee, prior to or at the Meeting (Nomination form attached).

Councillors will cast their vote by secret ballot, votes will be counted and the CEO will declare the results. If there is equality of votes between 2 or more candidates, then the meeting is to be adjourned for not more than seven days. Nominations may be withdrawn or further nominations may be made before or when the meeting resumes. If the second round of voting results in a tie, then the CEO is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Statutory Environment:

Schedule 2.3 — When and how mayors, presidents, deputy mayors and deputy presidents are elected by the council

Division 1 — Mayors and presidents

1. Terms used

In this Division —

extraordinary vacancy means a vacancy that occurs under section 2.34(1);

office means the office of councillor mayor or president.

2. When council elects mayor or president

- (1) The office is to be filled as the first matter dealt with —
- (a) at the first meeting of the council after an inaugural election or a section 4.13 or 4.14 election or after an ordinary elections day; and
- (b) at the first meeting of the council after an extraordinary vacancy occurs in the office.

(2) If the first ordinary meeting of the council is more than 3 weeks after an extraordinary vacancy occurs in the office, a special meeting of the council is to be held within that period for the purpose of filling the office.

3. CEO to preside

The CEO is to preside at the meeting until the office is filled.

4. How mayor or president is elected

- (1) The council is to elect a councillor to fill the office.
- (2) The election is to be conducted by the CEO in accordance with the procedure prescribed.
- (3) Nominations for the office are to be given to the CEO in writing before the meeting or during the meeting before the close of nominations.
- (3a) Nominations close at the meeting at a time announced by the CEO, which is to be a sufficient time after the announcement by the CEO that nominations are about to close to allow for any nominations made to be dealt with.
- (4) If a councillor is nominated by another councillor the CEO is not to accept the nomination unless the nominee has advised the CEO, orally or in writing, that he or she is willing to be nominated for the office.
- (5) The councillors are to vote on the matter by secret ballot as if they were electors voting at an election.
- (6) Subject to clause 5(1), the votes cast under subclause (5) are to be counted, and the successful candidate determined, in accordance with Schedule 4.1 (which deals with determining the result of an election) as if those votes were votes cast at an election.
- (7) As soon as is practicable after the result of the election is known, the CEO is to declare and give notice of the result in accordance with regulations, if any.

5. Votes may be cast a second time

- (1) If when the votes cast under clause 4(5) are counted there is an equality of votes between 2 or more candidates who are the only candidates in, or remaining in, the count, the count is to be discontinued and the meeting is to be adjourned for not more than 7 days.
- (2) Any nomination for the office may be withdrawn, and further nominations may be made, before or when the meeting resumes.
- (3) When the meeting resumes the councillors are to vote again on the matter by secret ballot as if they were electors voting at an election.
- (4) The votes cast under subclause (3) are to be counted, and the successful candidate determined, in accordance with Schedule 4.1 as if those votes were votes cast at an election.

Schedule 4.1 — How to count votes and ascertain the result of an election [s. 4.74]

- 1. The number of votes given for each candidate is to be ascertained.
- 2. If the election is to fill the office of mayor or president, the candidate who receives the greater or greatest number of votes is elected.
- 3. If the election is to fill one office of councillor, the candidate who receives the greater or greatest number of votes is elected.
- 4. If the election is to fill 2 or more offices of councillor, the candidates elected are —
- (a) the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes; and
- (b) the candidate who receives the next highest number of votes; and
- (c) the candidate who receives the next highest number of votes, and
- so on up to the number of offices to be filled.
- 5. If 2 or more candidates receive the same number of votes so that clause 2, 3 or 4 cannot be applied, the returning officer is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Nominations Received:

Cr M Williams nominated Cr R Foulkes-Taylor for the position of President. Cr R Foulkes-Taylor accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received.

Result of Election:

As no further nominations were received, the CEO declared that Cr R Foulkes-Taylor was elected unopposed to the position of President for the term ending October 2017.

President R Foulkes-Taylor made his Declaration of Office.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

Motion to accept urgent business

Recommendation:

That the meeting accept urgent business to discuss two items:

- 4.1 Election of Deputy President
- 4.2 Nominations/Delegations to SKA Route Working Group

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor A Whitmarsh Seconded: Councillor M Williams

Council accept items 4.1 Election of Deputy President and 4.2 Nominations/Delegations to SKA Route Working Group.

Carried: For: 4 Against: 0

4.1 Urgent Business - Election of Deputy President

File: 4.1

Author: Dianne Daniels – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose Date: 28th March 2017
Attachments: Nomination Form

Matter for Consideration:

The Deputy President is to be elected from within Council for a term of office to expire at the start of the first meeting of the council after the local government's next ordinary elections.

Background:

The Local Government Act prescribes that the office of Deputy President is to be filled as the next matter dealt with if a Deputy President is elected to be the President.

Comment:

Nominations are to be lodged in writing to the CEO, indicating consent of the nominee, prior to or at the Meeting (Nomination form attached).

Councillors will cast their vote by secret ballot, votes will be counted and the CEO will declare the results. If there is equality of votes between 2 or more candidates, then the meeting is to be adjourned for not more than seven days. Nominations may be withdrawn or further nominations may be made before or when the meeting resumes. If the second round of voting results in a tie, then the CEO is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Statutory Environment:

Division 2 — Deputy mayors and deputy presidents

6. Terms used

In this Division —

office means the office of deputy mayor or deputy president.

7. When the council elects the deputy mayor or deputy president

- (1) If the local government has an elector mayor or president the office of deputy mayor or deputy president is to be filled as the first matter dealt with —
- (a) at the first meeting of the council after an inaugural election or a section 4.13 or 4.14 election or after an ordinary elections day; and
- (b) at the first meeting of the council after an extraordinary vacancy occurs in the office.
- (2) If the local government has a councillor mayor or president the office of deputy mayor or deputy president is to be filled —
- (a) as the next matter dealt with after the mayor or president is elected at the first meeting of the council after an inaugural election or a section 4.13 or 4.14 election or after an ordinary elections day; and
- (b) subject to subclause (3), as the first matter dealt with at the first meeting of the council after an extraordinary vacancy occurs in the office.

(3) If at a meeting referred to in clause 2(1)(b) the deputy mayor or deputy president is elected to be the mayor or president, the resulting extraordinary vacancy in the office is to be filled as the next matter dealt with at the same meeting.

8. How deputy mayor or deputy president is elected

- (1) The council is to elect a councillor (other than the mayor or president) to fill the office.
- (2) The election is to be conducted in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the mayor or president, or if he or she is not present, by the CEO.
- (3) Nominations for the office are to be given to the person conducting the election in writing before the meeting or during the meeting before the close of nominations.
- (3a) Nominations close at the meeting at a time announced by the person conducting the election, which is to be a sufficient time after the announcement by that person that nominations are about to close to allow for any nominations made to be dealt with.
- (4) If a councillor is nominated by another councillor the person conducting the election is not to accept the nomination unless the nominee has advised the person conducting the election, orally or in writing, that he or she is willing to be nominated for the office.
- (5) The council members are to vote on the matter by secret ballot as if they were electors voting at an election.
- (6) Subject to clause 9(1) the votes cast under subclause (5) are to be counted, and the successful candidate determined, in accordance with Schedule 4.1 as if those votes were votes cast at an election.
- (7) As soon as is practicable after the result of the election is known, the person conducting the election is to declare and give notice of the result in accordance with regulations, if any.

9. Votes may be cast a second time

- (1) If, when the votes cast under clause 8(5) are counted, there is an equality of votes between 2 or more candidates who are the only candidates in, or remaining in, the count, the count is to be discontinued and, not more than 7 days later, a special meeting of the council is to be held.
- (2) Any nomination for the office may be withdrawn, and further nominations may be made, before or when the special meeting is held
- (3) When the special meeting is held the council members are to vote again on the matter by secret ballot as if they were voting at an election.
- (4) The votes cast under subclause (3) are to be counted, and the successful candidate determined, under Schedule 4.1 as if those votes were votes cast at an election.

Schedule 4.1 — How to count votes and ascertain the result of an election [s. 4.74]

- 1. The number of votes given for each candidate is to be ascertained.
- 2. If the election is to fill the office of mayor or president, the candidate who receives the greater or greatest number of votes is elected.
- 3. If the election is to fill one office of councillor, the candidate who receives the greater or greatest number of votes is elected.
- 4. If the election is to fill 2 or more offices of councillor, the candidates elected are —
- (a) the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes; and
- (b) the candidate who receives the next highest number of votes; and
- (c) the candidate who receives the next highest number of votes, and
- so on up to the number of offices to be filled.
- 5. If 2 or more candidates receive the same number of votes so that clause 2, 3 or 4 cannot be applied, the returning officer is to draw lots in accordance with regulations to determine which candidate is elected.

Nominations Received:

President R Foulkes-Taylor nominated Cr M Williams to the position of Deputy President. Cr M Williams accepted the nomination.

Result of Election:

As no further nominations were received, the CEO declared that Cr M Williams was elected unopposed to the position of Deputy President for the term ending October 2017.

Deputy President M Williams made his Declaration of Office.

4.2 Urgent Business – Nominations/Delegations to SKA Route Working Group

File: 14.11

Author: Dianne Daniels - Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose Date: 29th March 2017

Attachments: Nil

Matter for Consideration:

- Council to consider nominating members for a Working Group which will be tasked with managing the
 upgrade of the route to the SKA, including any Road Agreement between Main Roads and The Shire of
 Murchison during the route construction and route maintenance phases of the SKA build; and
- 2. Council to consider the Terms of Reference/Name for this Group; and
- 3. Council to consider delegations of authorities to this Group.

Background:

On the 23rd March 2017, representatives from Main Roads WA joined the ordinary meeting of council to update councillors on the status of the route to the SKA. Main Roads are aiming to have the 300km of road completed by 2019, with the Stage 1 construct only AS2124 contract to be awarded late 2017 or early 2018 and the Stage 2 maintenance contract to be awarded towards the end of the construction stage.

Comment:

It was suggested during the meeting that a Working Group be formed to identify issues and deal with them in a timely manner, with representatives from Council, Administration and Main Roads. Main Roads nominated Rebecca Redshaw – Project Manager and Chris Raykos – Project Director, to be their representatives and council discussed who they would like to be on the working group, but no formal selection was undertaken.

Council then need to consider Terms of Reference for the Working Group. Some suggested responsibilities are:

Finalise the route from the Shire of Murchison southern boundary to the SKA;

Document the upgrades to be undertaken in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered; Inform project scope in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered;

Establish a method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 1 construction phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor:

Establish method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 2 maintenance phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor;

Establish inspection regimes;

Establish cost neutrality for the Shire;

If Council delegates certain authorities to this Working Group, the further responsibilities could be:

Agree the upgrades to be undertaken in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered; Agree on the scope of works in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered.

Agree on a method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 1 construction phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor;

Agree on a method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 2 maintenance phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor;

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Nil

Recommendation:

That the Working Group for the SKA route Upgrade be called: (TBA)

That the following people be appointed to the above-named Working Group (TBA)

That the Terms of Reference for the above-named Working Group include:

Finalise the route from the Shire of Murchison southern boundary to the SKA;

Document the upgrades to be undertaken in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered;

Inform project scope in preparation for the Stage 1 contract to be tendered;

Establish a method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 1 construction phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor;

Establish method for delivering maintenance during the Stage 2 maintenance phase, specifying the responsibilities of the Shire and the responsibilities of the contractor:

Establish inspection regimes;

Establish cost neutrality for the Shire;

That the finalisation of the Terms of Reference for the above-named Working Group be delegated to the Working Group members; and

And that delegations of authority to the Working Group be finalised at the April 27 2017 ordinary meeting of council, once the Terms of Reference have been agreed between the Shire members and Main Roads.

Discussion

The CEO explained the need for the working group to be established to move the contract forward.

Discussion moved to the role of the working group. It was felt that the establishment of the working group was rushed and that there was a need to establish what Main Roads expected from the working group and if Main roads would cover the expenses relating to the working group. It was also felt that the City of Greater Geraldton should be contacted to identify any potential synergies. For the above reasons the officers recommendation was amended to the motion below.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor A Whitmarsh

1) That the following Council Members and staff be assigned to a Working Group to progress the SKA route upgrade, the terms of which are still to be decided:

Deputy President M Williams

Chief Executive Officer

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Works Supervisor

2) That before the above members participate in the Working Group that Main Roads Western Australia confirm the reimbursement of all costs incurred including sitting fees.

Carried For: 4 Against: 0

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

6. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

8. STANDING ORDERS

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor M Williams Seconded: Councillor A Whitmarsh

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

1. Limitation on the number of speeches

2. Duration of speeches

Carried: For: 4 Against: 0

9. DEVELOPMENT

9.1 Full Review of the Strategic Community Plan 2016-17 – 2026-27

File: 4.39

Authors: Dianne Daniels – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 28/03/2017

Attachments: Strategic Community Plan 2016/17 – 2026/27

Matter for Consideration:

Council to consider adopting the Shire of Murchison Strategic Community Plan 2016/17 – 2026/27 – this was left to sit on the table from the 23 March 2017 meeting.

Background:

In 2010, the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework and Guidelines were introduced in Western Australia (WA) as part of the State Government's Local Government Reform Program. All local governments were required to have their first suite of IPR documents in place by 1 July 2013.

Integrated planning and reporting gives local governments a framework for establishing local priorities and to link this information to operational functions. Three major parties are involved in the development of an integrated plan: the local government administration, the Council and the community. Each party has a unique role and responsibilities for effective and sustainable integrated planning and reporting, with the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 requiring each local government to adopt a Strategic Community Plan and a Corporate Business Plan.

A successful integrated planning and reporting process will deliver the following outcomes:

- a Strategic Community Plan that clearly links the community's aspirations with the Council's vision and long term strategy
- a Corporate Business Plan that integrates resourcing plans and specific council plans with the Strategic Community Plan, and
- a clearly stated vision for the future viability of the local government area.

The Shire's first Strategic Community Plan under the new Integrated Planning Legislation was adopted by an absolute majority of Council in May 2013, with a desktop review being undertaken and adopted by Council in June 2015. According to legislation, the Strategic Community Plan needs to be reviewed regularly to ensure that it is relevant to the Community. At minimum, a desktop review is required every two years and a full review every four and so we are now due for a full review.

Comment:

In October 2016, RSM were contracted to assist the Shire of Murchison with this full review of the Strategic Community Plan, after a competitive Request for Quote was publicised. Travis Bate, Principal of RSM, joined the October council meeting by teleconference and discussed his plans for progressing the review. A proposed community survey was reviewed and changes made to the wording to enable easier understanding by the broader community and the survey was distributed in late October. A community workshop was held on the 25th November where the original plan and desktop review were recapped and the results of the survey were summarised. The four areas of economic, social, environmental, and civic leadership were explored.

Unfortunately, we ran out of time during the workshop to rank the priorities that came out of the discussion and performance criteria were not explored. A survey was sent to participants in the week following the workshop asking them to rank the priorities. It was quite slow going getting the surveys back and so our aim of presenting a draft plan to the December meeting was not met.

Mr Bate progressed the plan with the second round of surveys received and worked with Council at the February 2017 meeting to ensure that only those priorities that are feasible are included in the plan and to rank them in order of importance.

A draft Strategic Community Plan 2016/17 – 2026/27 – March 2017 was taken to the 23 March 2017 Ordinary Meeting of Council for comment. There were some requested changes, which have been included in the attached version of the plan.

The updated plan will give Council sound guidance in its decision making for the next four years.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995

5.56. Planning for the future

- (1) A local government is to plan for the future of the district.
- (2) A local government is to ensure that plans made under subsection (1) are in accordance with any regulations made about planning for the future of the district.

Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Part 5 Division 3 19(c)

19C. Strategic community plans, requirements for (Act s. 5.56)

- (1) A local government is to ensure that a strategic community plan is made for its district in accordance with this regulation in respect of each financial year after the financial year ending 30 June 2013.
- (2) A strategic community plan for a district is to cover the period specified in the plan, which is to be at least 10 financial years.
- (3) A strategic community plan for a district is to set out the vision, aspirations and objectives of the community in the district.
- (4) A local government is to review the current strategic community plan for its district at least once every 4 years.
- (5) In making or reviewing a strategic community plan, a local government is to have regard to —
- (a) the capacity of its current resources and the anticipated capacity of its future resources; and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996
- (b) strategic performance indicators and the ways of measuring its strategic performance by the application of those indicators; and
- (c) demographic trends.
- (6) Subject to subregulation (9), a local government may modify its strategic community plan, including extending the period the plan is made in respect of.
- (7) A council is to consider a strategic community plan, or modifications of such a plan, submitted to it and is to determine* whether or not to adopt the plan or the modifications.
- *Absolute majority required.
- (8) If a strategic community plan is, or modifications of a strategic community plan are, adopted by the council, the plan or modified plan applies to the district for the period specified in the plan.
- (9) A local government is to ensure that the electors and ratepayers of its district are consulted during the development of a strategic community plan and when preparing modifications of a strategic community plan. (10) A strategic community plan for a district is to contain a description of the involvement of the electors and ratepayers of the district in the development of the plan or the preparation of modifications of the plan.

Strategic Implications:

Review of the Plan against Key Performance Indicators' is vital to ensure that Community aspirations are being met.

Sustainability Implications

Environmental

This is one of the four main themes of the Strategic Community Plan – to improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment. Reviewing the plan ensures that the Community is kept informed on the progress of environmental strategies detailed in the plan.

Economic

This is one of the four main themes of the Strategic Community Plan – to develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to stay in the area. Reviewing the plan ensures that the Community is kept informed on the progress of economic strategies detailed in the plan.

Social

This is one of the four main themes of the Strategic Community Plan – to develop, coordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the quality of community life in the Shire. Reviewing the plan ensures that the Community is kept informed on the progress of social strategies detailed in the plan.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

The Strategic Community Plan sets the direction for the Long Term Financial Plan and the Corporate Business Plan which inform the Budget.

Consultation:

RSM – Travis Bate Community

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the Strategic Community Plan 2016/17 – 2026/27 as presented.

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority

Council Decision:

Moved: Councillor Emma Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Councillor Williams

That Council adopt the Strategic Community Plan 2016/17 – 2026/27 as presented.

Carried: For: 4 Against: 0

10. ADMINISTRATION

10.1 Report on the Road Inspection Undertaken

File: 12.24

Author: Peter Dittrich - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose Date: 27th March 2017

Attachments: Road Inspection Itinerary

Matter for Consideration:

Matters arising from the Road Inspection Undertaken on the 28th & 29th March 2017

Background:

The Shire of Murchison undertakes an annual inspection of roads within the district. Works required on roads, crossing, bunds, drains and grids are diarised during the inspection for discussion and prioritisation into the works schedule for the following year.

Comment:

This years' inspection covered the roads as per the attached Itinerary.

Statutory Environment:

Nil

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Strategic Implications:				
Policy Implications:				
Financial Implications: Works prioritised from the road inspection will be included in the 2017-18 budget.				
Consultation: Works supervisor; Councillors				
Recommendation:				
The Works Supervisor to prioritise the list gathered on the road inspection and present it to the May meeting for Council consideration.				
Discussion President R Foulkes-Taylor expressed his thanks to the works supervisor for the comprehensive report. He reiterated that his passion for the roads, his concerns for the country and knowledge of water flows was refreshing.				
Deputy President M Williams expressed his thanks to Yuin for their hospitality. He further expressed his appreciation of the value of the road trip as it allowed for the review of prior improvements made and recognition of the areas that needed to be considered in future budgets. He further highlighted the need to consider the balance between asset preservation and asset creation.				
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor expressed her despair at the impact of water shadows whilst acknowledging the Works Supervisor's knowledge of the problem. It was suggested that a policy be developed, with Councils assistance, to assist future works supervisors to address the problem.				
Cr A Whitmarsh suggested that the Kaye Watson DVD relating to water be reviewed.				
The discussion moved to future priorities to be discussed at budget: - The Beringarra Pindar Road - a pull over bay near the wreath flowers - Murgoo alignments and associated bunding - Correction of reverse camber on corner on Murgoo.				
The discussion moved to the heavy maintenance program and any potential changes.				
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority				
Council Decision: Moved: Councillor A Whitmarsh Sec	Seconded: Councillor M Williams			
That the Works Supervisor prioritise works that were noted on the road inspection and present it to the May meeting for Council consideration.				
Carried: For	: 4	Against: 0		
11. MEETING CLOSURE The President declared the meeting closed at 2:12 pm				
These minutes were confirmed at the council meeting held o	1			

Signed...... Presiding Officer