

# Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison, on Thursday **24 February 2022**, commencing at 12 Noon.

Note: meeting was conducted in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions.

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ATTACHMENTS

### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.04pm.

### 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### **Present**

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

Cr A Whitmarsh

Cr Q Fowler

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Cr S Fowler

Cr G Mead

Staff

Bill Boehm - CEO

Steven Cosgrove - Community Manager DCEO

William Herold - Works Manager

### 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 18 December 2021

### **Background**

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

### Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 December 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

### **Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 December 2021 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried For 6 Against 0

### 4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor Impartiality Interest Item 18.2, Financial Interest Item 21.3 Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Impartiality Interest Item 18.2, Financial Interest Item 21.3

Cr G Mead Financial Interest Items 21.1 and 21.3

### 5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

# **6 STANDING ORDERS**

#### Matter for Consideration

It has been customary practice in the interests of a productive meeting in relation to the Conduct of Members during debates for the Council suspend Standing Orders 8.2 (Limitation on Number of speeches) and 8.3 (Duration of Speeches) under Local Law 2001. To facilitate this, the following recommended resolution is required.

#### Recommendation

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

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

#### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

#### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh Seconded: Cr G Mead

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 6 Against 0

### 7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

### **8 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 24 March 2022

# 9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

# 10 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

### 11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

- 21.1 10M Mining Proposal
- 21.2 Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support Flood & Flood Related Works
- 21.3 Main Roads WA SKAO Route Maintenance

### 12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

### 13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Between 11.00am and 11.40am, prior to the Meeting, representatives from 10M addressed and briefed Council on their proposed mining operations

### 14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

#### 14.1 Shire President

09.02.21 Attended Zoom Meeting with Murchison Country Zone regarding the zones response to Local Government Reforms

### 14.2 Councillors

Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

- 09.02.21 Attended Zoom Meeting with Murchison Country Zone regarding the zones response to Local Government Reforms
- 24.01.22 Attended SKA Stakeholders Meeting. Report as follows

SKA Stakeholder Meeting 10am - 11.30am Jan 24, 2022

Led by Ben Scandrett, the new Exec Manager SKA (taken over from David Luchetti)

Brief update on project – Switzerland recently joined and SKAO working with other member countries on their contributions and work packages.

Anthony Holzwart- contracted to govt but not within the dept – he sits separately but alongside the procurement team. Reckons this project takes the cake for complexity! There has been good collaboration between the local stakeholder agencies and businesses. 50+ people attended an industry forum last week- positive feedback. It's an ongoing exercise to draw out partial scope capability. Tier 1 companies have access to templates and capability statements from local companies to help them access who they need.

#### **SKA Construction Update 1**

- Establishing SKA Australia
  - Legal entity now (an Inter-governmental Organisation – established by treaty)
  - $\sim$  Staff in Geraldton (1: 4 more in next month building to  $\sim 55$
  - Staff in Perth (5; building to ~ 65)
    - Leasing temporary Engineering Operations Centre while permanent one developed
  - Vehicles! (First February 2022)
- New countries joining up
  - Switzerland (January 2022) the 8<sup>th</sup> country to formally join
  - 8 more going through internal "ratification" of treaty
- About a third of total major procurements for SKA are in tender or have been placed
  - Covers both South Africa (SKA Mid) and Australia (SKA Low)
  - Primarily Infrastructure and Software orientated so far
  - Spread over member countries
    - All countries interested in Industrial and R&D contracts
    - Long term much maintenance likely to be Australia focused

### **SKA Construction Update 2**

- Current 4 open Infrastructure related tenders
  - C1 Spatial's tracks, power and fibre (~ 240km) around SKA
  - ~ C3 Buildings Central Processor Facility and 36 Remote Facilities
  - C6 Construction Camp ~ 200-person temporary camp
  - ~ C7 Main entrance road and airstrip
  - On site commencement
    - Contract award and land access dependent
    - Current estimate (June) July 2022
- Contracts vary from ~ 12-month delivery to 6 years
- Upcoming procurement opportunities

Package	Market Survey Open	ITT Close	Contract Award
Antenna Deployment	July 2022	Nov 2022	Feb 2023
Power & Signal Distribution	Done	May 2022	Aug 2022
Power Station	Early Q3 2022?		

Other opportunities for service, subcontracting later this year

#### Ant Schinkel -

Sarah Pearce- SKA Low telescope director- recently moved to WA

- Recruitment- Working with CSIRO and SKAO to recruit in Perth and Geralton
- 18 new staff in Gero this year- mainly engineering but also admin, finance, health and safety
- 12 new staff in Perth this year. Admin for 150 staff over coming years mostly employed by CSIRO
- Looking at renting a commercial building to house staff in Gero (50 staff) until a permanent Engineering Operations Centre is built. Accommodation in Gero is a big issue.

Joanne Fabling – CEO of Midwest Chamber of Commerce mentioned that she has heard concern at the lack of an all weather airstrip at Boolardy.

Anthony Holzwart said he's heard concern that the access road is too narrow.

Johnathon Rogers- Site Establishment leader- trying to get the ducks lined up to hit the ground running once the ILUA is signed. Having regular meetings with the Wajarri now and negotiations progressing well apparently. The main thing they are currently working on is the Cultural Heritage Management Plan in order to line up with the new ACH Act. He's confident they can get it all done in time to line up with the construction timeline. Rebecca Wheadon- CSIRO now has a mandatory vaccine policy. She introduced Andrew.

Ken Buchan- DPLH mentioned outstanding issues relating to Kalli Stn. Their work is all dependant on the ILUA being signed.

Adam Murszewski – asked about progress of fibre cable. A. prelim design done and Aarnet and CSIRO working on detailed design. Will be followed by heritage and environmental clearances. Still a heap of work to do.

Cr A Whitmarsh

24.01.22 Attended SKA Stakeholders Meeting

### 15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

#### 15.1 Audit Committee

File: 2.2

Author: Steven Cosgrove – Community Manager DCEO

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 15.1.1 Audit Committee Meeting Recommendations

### Matter for Consideration

Amongst other things one of the objectives of the Audit Committee is to receive the Annual Compliance Return for the period 1 January to 31 December in each that is presented to the Audit Committee for review. The Audit Committee is to report to the Council the results of that review. The Compliance Audit Return is to then be adopted by Council and the certified copy is to be sent to the Director General of the Department of Local Government & Communities by 31 March of the following year.

A copy of the Audit Committee Meeting Agenda and Attachments for the meeting on 24 February 2022 including the Compliance Audit Return had been separately circulated.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

#### **Committee Recommendations**

Moved: Cr Q Fowler Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That the Audit Committee

- 1 reports to the 24 February 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council that the Compliance Audit Return 2021 has been completed and.
- 2 recommends that Council adopt the Compliance Audit Return 2021 as presented.

Carried For 3 Against 0

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh Seconded: Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

That Council adopt the Compliance Audit Return 2021 as presented to the Audit Committee Meeting held on 24 February 2022.

### 16 WORKS

### 16.1 Works Report

File:

Author: William Herold – Works Manager

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: Nil

The works crews returned to work on January 28 and picked up where they had left off prior to the Christmas break.

#### Construction

The construction crew have been busy with the finishing touches to shoulders, drains and a general tidy up of the section along the new seal on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. By the time Council meets they will have made a start on the next section. First job will be the installation of 450mm culverts on the southern end of the hill we will be blasting later in the year. The construction crew also have a new crew member, Michael Hodder who has replaced Peter Troy.

# Maintenance Crew

Neil spent the first 2 weeks working on his own doing a tidy up of batters and drains along the Carnarvon Mullewa Rd. from the settlement south as far as the Ballinyoo Bridge. Finding a new crew member to join Neil is a work in progress at this point in time. The recent rain has caused a re-think in the maintenance program. Neil who has been joined by Glen Whitehurst from Walladar for now, have made a start on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd just south of Parkers Hill. They will do a patch grade as far as the Cockney Bill intersection, and then revert back to a full maintenance grade and patch up of severely scoured sections from the MRO intersection to Nookawarra.

### Seal Job

Finally, I can report that this job has been completed. Unfortunately, I cannot say it went off without a hitch. The end result, however, looks more than acceptable.

#### 10M Mine

10M will be presenting a proposal to Council prior to the commencement of the February meeting.

### Semi Water Tanker

The semi water tanker has reached the end of its life. Discussion with the plant committee has resulted in the works manager looking for a skeleton trailer to build the tanks, pump, and sprays onto. At the same time a dolly and flat top trailer will also be sourced.

#### Recommendation

That the Works Report be noted.

### **Voting Requirements**

### Simple Majority

**Council Decision** 

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr G Mead

That the Works Report be noted.

Carried For 6 Against 0

### SKAO Roadworks

As part of and following discussion of the Works Report a potential issue with respect to the SKAO Projects' proposed internal roadworks arose. It appears that this internal road is proposed to be designed and constructed in such a manner much like that which occurred at the MRO Observatory which had seen major disruption to the natural drainage of the area through building up the road well above the natural surface leading to a number of adverse consequences. The Works Manager also indicated that part of the proposed location was in a flood plain and that any redirection or disruption of flows could have an adverse impact for the nearby Boolardy-Kalli Road.

Councillors were concerned that previous lessons and requests to avoid such an outcome appear to have not been learnt and that it is appropriate that these concerns be formally raised with the SKAO Project Manager.

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That the CEO write to the SKAO Project Manager formally raising Councils concerns over the proposed SKAO internal road design, including the possible impact on Council Boolardy-Kalli Road, and requesting that the design be amended to accord with Councils Road Policy and other examples of good local design practice.

### 16.2 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Update

File: 12.39

Author: Bill Boehm Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 16.2.1 Murchison Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd CGG Request & Attachments

16.2.2 Greater Geraldton Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Reply

16.2.3 Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd - 3 Year Rolling Construction Program

February 2022 Update

16.2.4 Murchison Shire Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Synopsis

### **Matter for Consideration**

Update of progress in the strategic development and construction works on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road.

### Background

In February 2020 Council essentially made major policy changes which have significantly changed the strategic approach to the development of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. This has led to amongst other things the following progress.

- Shaping Main Roads WA 2030 and 2040 Regional Roads Strategy for the Road.
- ~ Completion of significant lengths of dual lane wide seal roadworks
- Maximizing the effective use of additional funds that have arisen as part of the Federal Governments and Council's COVID-19 response, and supplemented by Council funds and Council's funding success through Main Roads WA Regional Roads Group Funding
- Development of a Three-Year Rolling Roadworks Program
- Upskilling of our Works Crew's capability and capacity

### <u>Update</u>

The following update is provided.

# Road Widening Options

The Works Manager in conjunction with Greenfield Technical Services' confirmed that the most cost effective and long-term beneficial approach to widening of the road is to reconstruct the existing pavement by resheeting it with an overlay of 150mm of gravel and using a pavement stabiliser to mix up the gravel, existing sealing, and pavement in an homogenised fashion and then place a two coat seal. In floodway sections cement is also added to the process with an additional prime undertaken prior to the seal being added. This treatment is what is being planned and programmed.

Potential alternative would be to excavate the shoulders, prepare the pavement and put a single coat seal in place on the widening strips followed by a final seal / reseal over the widened pavement. This option was explored but rejected for the following reasons

- increased costs and time to dig out and box widening areas
- difficulty in compacting in tight spaces abutting the existing seal thereby creating a potential point of weakness
- ~ variable nature of the existing seal
- ~ additional quantities of gravel required in a location with restrictive sources
- the unknown nature if the quality of the existing pavement. As an example, the average life of one section of pavement between the Twin Peaks-Wooleen Road is currently theoretically 24 years.

In any event the stabilised pavement will significantly increase the strength of the pavement and potentially allow heavier loads into the future.

### City of Greater Geraldton

At the October Council Meeting Council resolved to

"Write to the City of Great Geraldton to formally advise the City as to the work that Council is undertaking to upgrade the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, highlighting the importance of this road to the Murchison Shire and region, and requesting that the city include seal construction projects on this road within their City as part of future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions"

A copy of the formal letter and the City of Greater Geraldton's recently received response is attached.

In summary the City have advised that with respect to Murchison's request to include seal construction projects on this road within future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions the City of Greater Geraldton have advised that unfortunately, this is not the currently a high priority for the City. The City have advised that they have a list of road improvements for Regional Road Group submissions that do not include the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road.

In addition, the City has advised that they are aware of the recently released Federal Remote Roads Pilot Grant Funding opportunities for upgrade of remote roads and have advised that unfortunately they will not be putting in a submission.

In the circumstances, it seems that there is a lack of appreciation by the City of the impacts locally. Does this mean that in 10 years' time a gravel section of road that is subject to closure still exists? This also ignores the financial contributions that Council and Murchison residents actually make to business and operations located within the City. As a regional entity, one wonders what their responsibility is to the broader region with all its tourism and economic considerations and that impact on the City and vice a versa.

It acknowledged that the City of Greater Geraldton has the absolute right to make its own decisions, but that doesn't necessarily make that decision right; especially when it affects others.

A considered response is considered warranted.

### Roadworks Program - Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Element

At the August 2021 Council Meeting a preliminary rolling Three-Year draft works program was discussed and adopted, noting that "actual budget allocations will be handled separately." Amongst other things the program

- was developed to with the overall purpose of the three-year program is to ensure a sustainable works program provide on more than on a year-to-year basis but still provide a degree of flexibility
- fit within existing and known funding sources
- ~ maximise use of new LRCIP funding
- recognising that it will still require some tweaking and amendment from time to time particularly with respect to the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road but provides a sound way forward.

With respect to the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road a range of changes have resulted in the tweaking of the 2021/22 Works Program. An updated portion of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road section is attached.

In summary the following changes have occurred

- 1 In November 2021 Council was advised that we were successful in achieving funding for two Main Roads Projects for 2022/23 rather than one. This means that the 2023/24 Project would be brought forward by one year.
- 2 The works program in this section involving construction and sealing has been successfully completed with our Works Crew, again performing admirably.
- In moving forward with the first part of LRCIP Phase 3 Works it became apparent that it would be desirable to maximise the benefit of the works crew's current relocation by not having to remobilize part way through a works project, simply because the next adjacent job was programmed for the 2022/23 year.

Accordingly. approval was sought and obtained from Main Roads WA to bring forward these works with the initial 40% progress funding also to follow through.

The Works Manager has also been pursuing options to have the Beringarra-Cue Road seal to gravel conversion undertaken by contractors thereby freeing up our works crew who can utilise their expertise without affecting the overall roadworks program.

- The above actions also meant that all of the LRCIP Phase 3 would not be required for reconstruction works and could be utilised to commence stabilisation widening and floodway improvements for various sections of narrow seal between the Twin Peaks-Wooleen Road and the current works location.
- The resultant changes will mean effectively that these construction works on the Carnarvon- Mullewa Road will straddle two financial years, with sealing works programmed for late 2022.

### Murchison Roads Planning and Design Planning Project

Greenfields Technical Services have been engaged to assist in undertaking an overall costing for the upgrade and widening of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Part of this work involved designing the gravel section through the City of Geraldton. In light of recent advice from the City the extent of work originally proposed to be undertaken will be scaled back.

Meanwhile we have been engaged Acil Allen to prepare the actual business case

#### Main Roads WA SKA Route Maintenance

An update from Main Roads WA is expected by the Council Meeting

#### Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program

On 2 November 2021, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, announced the Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program. The Australian Government is providing \$150 million of funding for projects under the new program, which targets road improvements for regional communities, and addresses significant deficiencies on key regional and rural roads that limit community access, pose safety risks and impact the economic development of the surrounding area.

Applications for funding are invited from state, territory and local governments. The length of road in the project application is to be of significant length, with program objectives targeting projects of 20 kilometres or more as an indicative guide.

In response, an application is being lodged to stabilise and widen the existing 4.0m seal to 7.2m width, and where appropriate install floodways, for a section of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road between the Twin Peaks Wooleen Road and the Murchison Settlement. This section was chosen as in the normal course of events it may be beyond Councils financial capacity whereas other section to the south can probably be undertaken through normal funding channels, with the Geraldton Section not being the Shires responsibility.

Funding is on an 80:20 basis over a three-year period of the program. Estimated Cost \$4.85million made of \$3.88m Program Grant and \$0.97m Council. Extent of works are as follows:

Works	Length km
Reconstruct Widen Stabilise and Seal	36.830
Reconstruct Widen Cement Stabilise and Seal	1.300
Reconstruct Stabilise Box Out and seal S Curve and VC Sections	1.790
Retain Wide Seal. No works required	14.780
Total	54.700

Given the likely demand and extent of funding available it is expected to be difficult for Council but in any event, it is important to try. Whilst our contribution is significant it needs to be put into context in that, the reseal works alone, we will be required to undertake over the next 5-10 years are estimated to cost around \$2.0m

The application is quite detailed and as part of its preparation it became important to provide a detailed Synopsis of the route and works proposed along its length to amongst other things how much other work we undertake. A copy is attached.

### Strategic Implications

Vision Statement Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse

and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.

Economic Objective 1 To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to

stay in the area.

Strategies

Maintenance and Upgrade of

Environmental Objective 2

Road Network

To develop, maintain and improve an efficient road system to support the transport

requirements associated with the pastoral and mining industries and tourism.

To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the

environment.

### **Policy Implications**

6.1 Roads

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

#### Roadworks Program

Bringing forward a portion of the 2022/23 Main Roads Program will straddle the expenditure components between each financial year. This will be covered by the 40% progress payment which although received in 2021/22 will be accounted for in 2022/23

#### Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program

Estimated Cost \$4.85million made of \$3.88m Program Grant and \$0.97m Council. Whilst our contribution is significant it needs to be put into context, that in the reseal works alone we will be required to undertake over the next 5-10 years are estimated to cost around \$2.0m

### Consultation

Works Manager, Josh Kirk (Greenfield Technical Services), Kim Ingle, Dave Pearson and Janet Hartley-West (Main Roads WA)

### Recommendation

That Council resolve as follows:

- 1 That Council note the Chief Executive Officers Carnarvon-Mullewa Update Report
- 2 That Council note the variations to the 2021/22 roadworks program and make the appropriate amendments to the 2021/22 budget
- That Council prepares an appropriate response to the City of Greater Geraldton in relation to its decision to not include seal construction projects on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road within future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions and not put a submission for funding under the Federal Governments Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

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Moved: Cr G Mead Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That Council resolve as follows:

- 1 That Council note the Chief Executive Officers Carnarvon-Mullewa Update Report
- 2 That Council note the variations to the 2021/22 roadworks program and make the appropriate amendments to the 2021/22 budget
- 3 That Council prepares an appropriate response to the City of Greater Geraldton in relation to its decision to not include seal construction projects on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road within future Main Roads WA Mid-West Funding submissions and not put a submission for funding under the Federal Governments Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program.

### 17 FINANCE

### 17.1 Accounts Paid since the last list was presented to Council

File: 4.37.1

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for December 2021 and January 2022

#### Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 13 requires that if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, then the CEO is to prepare a list of accounts paid by the CEO for each month and present this to the next ordinary meeting of the Council after the list has been prepared and have this list recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

A list of payments presented in accordance with *Regulation 13* of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* made since the last report to Council is attached.

### Strategic Implications

None

### **Policy Implications**

None

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

Nil

# Consultation

Nil

### Recommendation

That the accounts since the last report to Council, as per the attached Schedule be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr Q Fowler Seconded: Cr S Fowler

That the accounts since the last report to Council, as per the attached Schedule be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

# 17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 December 2021

File: 2.6

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report December 2021

#### Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34 requires that local government report monthly and prescribes what is required to be reported. Council is required to consider and receipt the Monthly Financial Statements.

#### Comment

These statements are being presented to meet a statutory obligation to have each month's end and report presented within the following two months.

#### Budget/Financial Implications:

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

#### Consultation

Moore Australia

#### Recommendation

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 December 2021 as attached.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 December 2021 as attached.

# 17.3 Financial Activity Statements 31 January 2022

File: 2.6

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 17.3.1 Monthly Management Financial Report January 2022

#### Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34 requires that local government report monthly and prescribes what is required to be reported. Council is required to consider and receipt the Monthly Financial Statements.

#### Comment

These statements are being presented to meet a statutory obligation to have each month's end and report presented within the following two months.

#### Budget/Financial Implications:

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

#### Consultation

Moore Australia

#### Recommendation

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 January 2022 as attached.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr Q Fowler Seconded: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 January 2022 as attached.

Carried For 6 Against 0

President R Foulkes-Taylor adjourned the meeting for lunch at 1.01pm

President R Foulkes-Taylor re-opened the meeting at 1.40pm

### 18 DEVELOPMENT

# 18.1 Murchison Settlement Redevelopment

File 10.6

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: Nil

Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: Nil

#### Matter for Consideration

Brief Update of the Murchison Settlement Redevelopment Works.

### **Brief Update**

By way of a brief update the following progress has been implemented thus far since the last meeting.

### Shire - CSIRO Strategic Collaboration

Brief follow up advice and feedback with Dr Karen Cosgrove. It is expected a potential workshop can be arranged as an adjunct to the March Council Meeting

#### Murchison Roads Planning and Design Planning Project

Refer Item 16.2 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Update Report

### Murchison SKA Interpretive Experience Project

On 10 February 2022 I attended a Remote Teams Meeting on SKA Interpretive Experience Project. The design brief is virtually finalised and requires significant input from CSIRO and SKA amongst other things to determine what their overall objectives are and how these can be accommodated within Murchison and within the context of the overall Settlement and surrounding district. I also took the opportunity to view the current SKA interactive video produced in conjunction with CSIRO and SKA. It is very impressive.

### Communication Strategy

At a meeting with GRA Partners in West Perth prior to Christmas it was agreed to largely kick off the majority of their work post February. Meanwhile they have still been working through their networks and following a brief introduction from GRA arrangements are being made to potentially have the Hon Peter Foster MLC Member for Mining and Pastoral Region - WA Labor visit the Settlement.

### Caravan Park Ablutions Block

Still following up potential options

### Water Supply Review

Suitable consultants have been contacted and I am waiting a response

### Clean Energy Futures Fund Application

On 28 January 2022 we received advice from the Clean Energy Future Fund that our April 2021 application for the construction of solar power battery pack power supply for the Murchison Settlement was unsuccessful. I am pursuing feedback.

### Recommendation

That Council notes the Chief Executive Officer's Murchison Settlement Masterplan Redevelopment Brief Update Report

# **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

Carried

Council Dec	cision			
Moved: Cr	A Whitmarsh	Seconded:	Cr	S Fowler
That Council Brief Update F		Officer's Murchison	Sett	lement Masterplan Redevelopment

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor declared an interest in relation to Item 18.2 and left the meeting at 1.47pm

For

6

**Against** 

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Cr A Whitmarsh chaired the meeting

### 18.2 Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance Request

File 13.2.3

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: Nil

Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 18.2.1 Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance (SRPA) Request

18.2.2 SRPA Plan Summary 2021-202418.2.3 SRPA Business Case Feb 2021

#### Matter for Consideration

Consideration of a request from the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance (SRPA) for financial operational support.

#### Background

The Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance (SRPA) was established in response to the opportunities for funding that have emerged over the past few years, including the Federal Government's Future Drought Fund and the Southern Rangelands Revitalisation Project run by the Dept of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Prior to October 2020, Southern Rangelands pastoralists were unrepresented at a broad landscape level. SRPA is now beginning to meet the needs of the pastoral community in terms of attracting significant funding opportunities to rebuild agriculture and bring more prosperity to the regions. SRPA has identified that in order to have the significant impact we aim to deliver in the region, as a new organisation we require some financial support and would like to form a mutually beneficial and collaborative relationship with Shires in the Southern Rangelands to ensure that they can we maximise any funding opportunities.

The SRPA Management Committee is comprised of pastoralists representing the Southern Rangelands, with even representation across the three Regional Biosecurity Groups (Carnarvon, Meekatharra and Goldfields Nullarbor). Several of our committee members are also on their local shire councils.

SRPA aims to connect and support pastoral producers across the whole of the Southern Rangelands of Western Australia. Our vision is encapsulated in these four terms: Connected, Producer-Driven, Healthy Landscape, Better Business. Our Mission is "to lead change by sharing knowledge, and facilitating research and innovation based on industry needs".

#### Request

The attached letter of request and other supporting attachments outlines the background, aims and a summary of actions taken thus far of what this new fledgling organisation is attempting to achieve. To assist this to occur SRPA have requested Council to contribute an amount of \$20,000 per year for five years to help ensure the longevity of this important grower group which represents all pastoralists in our shire. SAPA have indicated that the financial contribution that we would make will be used to continue to employ an Executive Officer and a Project Officer as they grow into a self-sufficient Association.

#### Strategic Implications

Vision Statement Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and

sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.

Economic Objective 1 To develop the region's economic potential to encourage families and businesses to

stay in the area.

Strategies

Small Scale Support for

Vermin Control

The Pastoral industry is a key industry within the Shire. Vermin issues, in particular wild dogs, have the ability to impact on the ongoing viability of the Pastoral industry within the Shire. The Shire supports a range of measures in relation to vermin control.

Environmental Objective 2

To improve the sustainability of land use and improve the condition of the environment.

Strategies

Preparation of an evidence-based report to support off reserve remediation work, Policy on Road Drainage

including downstream dispersal.

Continuation of Bunding and Remediation of Old Roads

and Borrow Pits

Continuation of the Shire's current management practices in relation to bunding and remediation of old roads

Social Objective 3 To develop, co-ordinate, provide and support services and facilities which enhance the

quality of community life in the Shire by:

Supporting community groups.

Civic Leadership Objective 4

Regional collaboration where

possible;

Strategies Regional Collaboration To provide Good Governance to the Murchison Shire through:

Openness and transparency and enhanced consultation and public participation;

Work collaboratively with neighbouring shires, state and federal government and private enterprise to ensure the efficient and effective use of the Shire's scarce resources.

### **Policy Implications**

6.1 Roads

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

An amount of \$20,000 for 2021/22 with the same amount to be committed for the following four years. The size of the contribution is considered manageable over this period of time.

### Consultation

Nil

### Comment

Requests for a local governments financial support for Rangelands type organisations through Australia is not uncommon, especially where the local government such activities located within its Shire. SRPA fits within this mould and from all accounts has strong support and is sector driven with governments support

As an observation, Murchison Shire has a very strong ethos in ensuring that actions by Council are not just restricted to the normal road building actions that predominate Council budget expenditures. If that were not the case, then Murchison would still be operating as a Roads Board. Already Council provides significant support for the pastoral sector through actions such as bunding of roads, vermin bounties, environmental considerations in road construction etc but perhaps it's not articulated as it perhaps could be.

These actions are more or less encapsulated in Councils strategic community plan, which this request also covers. Perhaps this should be better articulated in the next version as the request has merit and in reality, is part our raison d'etre (reason for being).

### Recommendation

That Council supports the request from the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance for Council to contribute an amount of \$20,000 per year for five years to help ensure the longevity of this important grower group which represents pastoralism interests in our Shire and make the initial allocation of \$20,000 to its 2021/22 budget.

# Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

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Moved: Cr Q Fowler Seconded: Cr G Mead

That Council resolve as follows.

- 1 Council supports the request from the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance for an initial contribution of \$20,000 to help ensure the longevity of this important grower group which represents pastoralism interests in our Shire, and as a result, amends its 2020/21 budget to allocate this amount.
- Council defers consideration of future funding allocations pending a review of progress over the ensuing 12 months.

Carried For 4 Against 0

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor returned to the meeting at 2.03pm

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor resumed chair of the meeting

#### 18.3 Roadhouse and Caravan Park Statistics

File: 13.11

Author: Steven Cosgrove – Community Manager DCEO

Bill Boehm - Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date 20 February 2022

Attachments: 18.3.1 Snapshot Roadhouse Operating Statistics Dec 2021

#### Matter for Consideration

Snapshot of Roadhouse and Caravan Park Statistics

#### Background

The Shire of Murchison commenced operation of the Murchison Oasis Roadhouse and Caravan Park on 1 March 2021 with the current full time management team more or less commencing on 1 May 2021. Prior to that, the operation was managed for several years through a sub-lease arrangement. During this time occupancy statistics were provided on an annual basis, although this was not always undertaken. Whilst fuel sales were recorded there was never any detailed consolidated analysis undertaken.

#### Update

Attached is graphical snapshot of a range of statistics that provide updated occupancy statistics information from records we could obtain over the past five years. Fuel amounts are more accurate taken over a longer period of time.

Since taking over we have put in a system in place to record this data on a monthly basis at a more detailed level for use moving forward. This initial snapshot has not yet been undertaken at a detailed level.

Accommodation and Fuel statistics are a method for presenting high-level indicators, making them useful for use when developing budgets and assessing future funding opportunities and project development such as the current business cases that are to be developed in the next 6 months or so.

The data reflected in these graphs can also be used to benchmark fuel sales, service delivery, catering supplies, on a monthly, quarterly, and yearly basis. One example is the provision of fuel and associated sales. Fuel sales can be benchmarked to consider running costs and, the sale of petrol. Etc All this though requires more in depth work.

Conversely it is possible to factor in features 'affecting' travel numbers and sales volume. For example, the National Visitors Survey reports COVID-19 reduced travel volumes significantly. In the 2020 June quarter:

- border closures negatively impacted the interstate market
- ~ social distancing measures meant travellers had less opportunity to participate in a range of activities
- capital cities had greater losses in domestic overnight visits than regional areas
- average overnight trip spend was just \$385 per person. This was well down on the \$648 per person for the same guarter in 2019

https://www.tra.gov.au/data-and-research/reports/national-visitor-survey-results-june-2020/national-visitor-survey-results-june-2020

These types of data sets are helpful when demonstrating impacts of tourism development as will be considered in the forthcoming interpretive experience feasibility study and highlighting the nature of the Shire's operations and reasons when applying for funding. In terms of tourism, growing numbers of visitors may equate to additional or improved infrastructure, service delivery, and staff.

The attached graphs are in reality a catchup of the past. Analysis is still "work in progress" but provide a good start

**Statutory Environment** 

Nil.

**Financial Implications** 

Nil.

Consultation

Nick Drew Roadhouse Manager

### Recommendation

That Council note Roadhouse and Caravan Park Statistics Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

**Council Decision** 

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh Seconded: Cr G Mead

That Council note Roadhouse and Caravan Park Statistics Report.

Carried For 6 Against 0

# 19 ADMINISTRATION

Nil

# 20 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date 15 February 2022

Attachments: Nil

# General

The following update of activities is provided.

Date	Activity
16.12.2021	Performance Review Work. Meetings with Works Manager
17.12.2021	Meetings with Community Manager DCEO and Works Manager. Catchup Administration Work
18.12.2021	Council Meeting & Bush Fire Meeting
19.12.2021	Council Minutes Catch Up & Administration Work
20.12.2021 to 21.12.2021	TOIL
22.12.2021	Annual Leave. Meeting with Liz Vivian GRA in West Perth
23.12.2021 to 4.01.2022	Christmas New Year Break
6.01.2022 to 7.0-1.2022	General Administration Work
9.01.2022	Meeting with Colin and John Fitzgerald Kimberley Outback Tours
10.01.2022 to 11.01.2022	General Administration Work. Works and Roadhouse Fuel Review. Meeting with Works Manager
12.01.2022	General Administration Work. Finalise Works and Roadhouse Fuel Review. Meeting with Works Manager. Water Supply Consultants Brief. WALGA Telephone survey. Local Government Reform Submission
13.01.2022	Meetings with Works Manager. Meeting with Works Manager & 10M. Work on Grants Commission Return
14.01.2022	TOIL
17.01.2022	TOIL
18.01.2022	Finalise and send Grants Commission Return. Work on SKA Route, Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Program, Flood Superintendent RFQ and Political Engagement Strategy
19.01.2022	Position Descriptions Review. Meetings with Community Manager DCEO
20.01.2022	Position Descriptions Review.
21.01.2022	Position Descriptions Review. RTR and LRCIP Acquittal work. Attend WALGA COVID-19 Briefing Session remotely via Zoom. Meeting with Community Manager DCEO.
22.01.2022	Roadhouse Budget Work & Other Admin work
23.01.2022	LRCIP Quarterly Reports
24.01.2022	TOIL
25.01.2022	TOIL. Meetings with Main Roads WA in Geraldton involving .Kim Ingle and Dave Pearson (SLA Agreement) and Janet Hartley-West (Main Roads Funding)
26.01.2022	Australia Day Public Holiday
27.01.2022	Meeting / update with Works Manager. Meeting with Karen Cosgrove concerning CSIRO Project. Work on Flood Superintendent RFQ.
28.01.2022	LRCIP Program Work and Main Roads WA Project Progress Claim. Finalise and post Flood Superintendent RFQ.
29.01.2022	Work on 10M Mining Proposal & Councillor update request.

Date	Activity
30.01.2022	Work on Councillor update request.
31.01.2022 to 1.02.2022	Annual Leave
2.02.2022	Roadhouse Occupancy and Fuel Review Work. LRCIP follow up queries. Meetings with Community Manager DCEO and Works Manager. Telephone touch base intro with Travis Bate RSM
3.02.2022	Roadhouse Occupancy and Fuel Analysis Work
4.02.2022	Roadhouse Occupancy and Fuel Analysis Work. Remote Roads Application Query. Work on actual costs to maintain section of Carnarvon-Mullewa owing deferral of sealing crew. Roads Business Case work. Telephone discussions with Adam Murszewski.
5.02.2022 to 6.02.2022	General Admin Catchup. Work on personal Local Government Reform Submission in own time
7.02.2022	Road Project Estimate Work. Works Fuel Check. General Admin.
8.02.2022	Annual Leave Perth
7.02.2022 to 8.02.202	Annual Leave Perth Work on personal Local Government Reform Submission in own
10.02.2022	Annual Leave Perth. Remote Teams Meeting on SKA Interpretive Experience Project. Work on personal Local Government Reform Submission in own time.
11.02.2022	Annual Leave Perth. Work on personal Local Government Reform Submission in own timer
14.02.2022	Provide initial briefing with Travis Bate (RSM) at start of new engagement. Meeting briefings with Works Manager. Work on Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program Application. Roads to Recovery and LRCIP Work
15.02.2022	Briefing with Travis Bate (RSM). Work on Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program Application. Roads to Recovery Work
16.02.2022	Work on Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program Application.
17.02.2022	Work remotely whilst in Geraldton. Work on Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program Application & Council Agenda. Telephone discussions with Adam Murszewski MWDC. Separate meeting ion Geraldton with Rick Ryan (DFES) and Karen Grima (RDA/ GEO Region)
18.02.2022	TOIL. Work remotely whilst in Geraldton on Roads Pilot Upgrade Program Application & Council Agenda.
19.02.2022 to 21.02.2022	Council Agenda Work

# Recommendation

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

# Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision							
Moved: Cr	R Foulkes-Taylor	Seconded:	Cr	S Fowler			
That Council n	ote the CEO's Activity Report.						
Carried		For	6	Against	0		

### 21 ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Discuss the following items Pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(c) and s5.23(2)(e) Council is to discuss the following items behind closed doors

Note order of business was slightly altered from that outlined in the Agenda

- 21.1 10M Mining Proposal
- 21.3 Main Roads WA SKA Route Maintenance
- 21.2 Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support Flood & Flood Related Works

  Consideration of eQuotes for Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support DRFAWA
  Flood & Flood Related Works

#### Recommendation

That the meeting moves behind closed doors to discuss an item pursuant to LGA s.5.23(2)(c) relating to the following items:

- 21.1 10M Mining Proposal
- 21.3 Main Roads WA SKA Route Maintenance
- 21.2 Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support Flood & Flood Related Works

### Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority

# **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That the meeting moves behind closed doors to discuss an item pursuant to LGA s.5.23(2)(c) and (e) relating to the following items:

- 21.1 10M Mining Proposal
- 21.3 Main Roads WA SKA Route Maintenance
- 21.2 Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support Flood & Flood Related Works

Carried For 6 Against 0

Meeting was closed to the public at 2.10pm.

Cr G Mead declared an interest in relation to Items 21.1 and 21.3 left the meeting at 2.10pm.

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor and Cr E Foulkes-Taylor declared an interest in relation to Item 21.3 and left the meeting at 2:27pm

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor, Cr E Foulkes-Taylor and Cr G Mead returned to the meeting 2:30pm

### Motion to open the meeting to the public

#### Recommendation

That the meeting moves out from behind closed doors.

#### **Voting Requirements**

**Absolute Majority** 

**Council Decision** 

Moved: Cr A Whitmarsh Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That the meeting moves out from behind closed doors.

Carried For 6 Against 0

Meeting was reopened to the public at 2.37pm.

### **Decisions Disclosed from Closed Section of Meeting**

# 21.1 10M Mining Proposal

### Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr A Whitmarsh

That 10M's initial response following Councils letter dated 29.01 22 which outlined a raft of preconditions that were requested to be undertaken as a precursor to Council making a decision in relation to using Council's Roads as part of their Mining is deemed insufficient for Council to approve the initial trial.

Carried For 5 Against 0

# 21.3 Main Roads WA SKA Route Maintenance Agreement

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

#### **Council Decision**

Moved: Cr S Fowler Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That decision to sign the final addendum be delegated to a Working Group comprising Cr A Whitmarsh, Cr Q Fowler and Cr S Fowler and that they have the power to authorise the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to sign the addendum should it be deemed appropriate.

# 21.2 Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support Flood & Flood Related Works

<u>Voting</u>	Reg	uirem	<u>ents:</u>

**Council Decision** 

Simple Majority

Moved	: Cr	E Foulkes-Taylor	Seco	nded: Cr	S Fowler			
<ul> <li>Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor Seconded: Cr S Fowler</li> <li>That Council resolve as follows.</li> <li>1 That with respect to the eQuotes obtained for Provision of Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support for DRFAWA Flood &amp; Flood Related Works that the submission and eQuote from Greenfields Technical Services be accepted.</li> <li>2 That Council also notes that in accepting the submission and eQuote from Greenfields Technical Services for the Provision of Administrative and Engineering Supervision Support for DRFAWA Flood &amp; Flood Related Works, that the individual schedule of rates and qualitative assessment provide a good benchmark comparison for potential future civil engineering consultancy works undertaken via the WALGA Panel.</li> </ul>								
Carried			Fo	r 6	Against	0		
22 M	FETIN	NG CLOSURE					_	
The Shir	ne Shire President closed the meeting at 2.38pm.							
Minut	Minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 24 March 2022.							

**Presiding Officer** 

Signed.....