



Western Australia

Unconfirmed Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire
Council,

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
On Thursday 25 August **2011**, commencing at 11.00 am.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 11.00am.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Elected Members:

Councillor S A Broad, Shire President
Councillor M W Halleen, Deputy Shire President
Councillor B M Seaman
Councillor R E Foulkes-Taylor
Councillor D A McTaggart

Staff:

Mr M C Sully, Chief Executive Officer
Mrs J Sully, Admin Officer (Minutes)

Apologies:

Councillor P R Squires

Note: President Broad acknowledged the attendance of CSIRO representatives at the Forum preceding this meeting.

Note: President Broad advised that he had some business to conduct behind closed doors.

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor **Seconded: Councillor Seaman**
That the meeting move behind closed doors.

CARRIED 5/0

Note: Mr Mike Sully and Mrs Joyce Sully left the Chambers at 11.03am.

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor **Seconded: Councillor Halleen**
That the meeting move from behind closed doors and resume normal proceedings.

CARRIED 5/0

Note: Mr Mike Sully and Mrs Joyce Sully returned to the Chambers at 11.54am.

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

OC Standing Orders

Moved: Councillor Halleen **Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down for the duration of the meeting:

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

CARRIED 5/0

5. NEXT MEETING

The scheduled date for the next ordinary meeting is 16 September 2011.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Halleen tendered his apology for the September 2011 Ordinary Council meeting.

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

22.1 Matter of a Confidential Nature

8. CONFIRMATION OF FLYING MINUTES

Flying Minute 27.07.2011 Works Supervisor – New Vehicle

File:
 Author: Mike Sully, Chief Executive Officer
 Interest Declared: Nil.
 Date: 27 July 2011
 Attachments:

Matter for Consideration:

This report recommends that a new vehicle be purchased for use by the Works Supervisor.

Background:

In February 2011 Council traded in a 2005 Toyota Landcruiser utility and purchased a 3 tonne truck for the maintenance crew. The Landcruiser was also frequently used as a pool vehicle by employees.

Since the sale of the Landcruiser employees who do not have a designated vehicle are experiencing difficulty in accessing a vehicle and valuable time is being lost while a vehicle is being sought.

Additionally, Ross Collins has been employed to carry out repairs and maintenance to Council’s plant and equipment and frequently requires a vehicle to get to where the plant or equipment is located and carry an extensive array of tools and spare parts to undertake any necessary work.

A solution that has saved time and funds is to allow Ross to use the vehicle currently designated to the Works Supervisor. This vehicle was chosen as it is set up as a mobile workshop. However, the Works Supervisor is also required to travel to external worksites to assess works progress, supervise staff and contractors, undertake road inspections and plan works programmes. To enable the Works Supervisor to carry out these duties it was necessary to hire a suitable vehicle.

Comment:

The vehicle hired for the Works Supervisor is costing \$1,100 each week. Since January 2011 the Works Supervisor has mainly been involved with supervising the road repairs undertaken since the Severe Rainstorm events of December 2010 and February 2011 which have attracted \$7.4 million in flood damage funding to the Shire.

As the Works Supervisor will remain involved in working on and supervising the road repairs for at least the next four to five months it would be advantageous to purchase an additional vehicle through flood repair funding instead of continuing to hire one.

The Works Supervisor has already been able to save Council approximately \$102,000 of unnecessary expenditure on flood damage repair funding by monitoring the selection and use of plant and equipment by contractors. He has requested that Council consider purchasing a Toyota Landcruiser Tray Back vehicle as the most reliable vehicle for the terrain that he regularly travels within and is suitable for towing fuel trailers and accommodation caravans.

Consultation:

Brian Wundenberg Works Supervisor
Geraldton Toyota

Statutory Environment:

The conditions for use of Flood damage funding includes the purchase of capital equipment that is used to carry out necessary flood damage repair work.

Strategic Implications:

Nil.

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Geraldton Toyota has provided quotes for the supply of suitable vehicles with the capacity to tow equipment trailers and accommodation trailers and include the necessary Occupational Safety and Health and communications accessories. The quotes are:

2011 4 WD Toyota Landcruiser single cab, tray back, V8 diesel motor	\$55,000
2011 4 WD Toyota Hilux single cab, tray back, 4 cylinder diesel motor	\$40,741 ex GST

Voting Requirements:

Absolute majority.

OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

That Council accepts a quote from Geraldton Toyota for the supply of one 2011 4WD Single cab Toyota Landcruiser V8, including OSH and communication accessories, for a cost of \$55,000.

LOST 5/0

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

That Council accepts a quote from Geraldton Toyota for the supply of one 2011 4WD Toyota Hilux single cab, tray back, 4 cylinder diesel motor, for a cost of \$40,741 (ex GST, and on road costs)

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 5/0

Note: Council’s decision differed from the Officer’s Recommendation as they agreed that both are quality vehicles, but there are significant savings to be made on the purchase of a Toyota Hilux.

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

9.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 22 July 2011

Background:

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

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

<p>COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:</p>
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Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 22 July 2011 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED 5/0

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil.

11. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

12.1 President

- President Broad will provide a report on the Local Government Convention.
- President Broad provided a brief overview of the recent State Council meeting he attended.

12.2 Councillors

Cr Seaman

- **Local Government Convention 2011.**

Hello All

I appreciate that being a Shire of Murchison Councillor allowed me to attend the WA Local Government Association conference 2011.

Attending the WALGA conference together, as a full contingent of Shire of Murchison councillors also enabled us to work and learn together as a whole. We return to our community with the confidence that we work together well, and serve in the best interest of all and illustrate the leadership that is expected of us.

The Shire of Murchison council and community is going through some major changes, and this year’s Theme “Localism, leading the way” was very apt.

OPR (Oakagee Port and Rail) and SKA (Square Kilometre Array international bid) are two examples of major changes and growth in the region.

Mr Fisher, Currently Australian Ambassador to the Holy See ([Latin: Sancta Sedes](#), "holy chair" is the [episcopal jurisdiction](#) of the Catholic Church in Rome, in which its Bishop is commonly known as the Pope.) on posting in Rome, who was one of many presenters. Mr Fisher opened his presentation stating that the “SKA will be the biggest and best scientific project in Australia”...without stating that it is also within the “Shire

of Murchison". By being at the conference, we as a group were able to present a positive and human aspect to SKA, not just the science.

As usual, we were offered some very interesting and inspirational presenters. Each was obviously chosen for their skills in showing leadership and their ability to initiate creative thinking within the area that they represent.

I doubt any councillors will ever complain about cold ears during the "Murchison Winters" after listening to a very dry, but humorous presentation by Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Bt OBE, who is heralded as a "national Treasure" in the UK and listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the Greatest Living Explorer.

He related how he sawed off his own frost bitten fingers while awaiting amputation and skin grafts. His fingers needed to dry out, but his wife found his fractiousness unbearable over the 6 month waiting period, so he sorted it!! Phew.

I did find that some of the presentations were "City centric", but this seems to be a battle that all regional councils consistently face. It is also another wake up call to enable us to work towards enticing people to our region.

We have many outstanding leaders in our community, and this year being another election year, I hope that anyone who is interested in entering local government gives it serious thought.

We have so many capable people in the Murchison, and everyone can make a difference.

Thankyou
Cr Bridget Seaman

- Attended WARRAG meeting on 16 August, together with the CEO. Found the meeting frustrating and am amazed how much is still to be done and that there has been no consultation.
- Astrofest was a fantastic success. The Committee did a great job. Sandy was fantastic as MC and Priscilla a wonderful organiser. The fire was a little scary, but it was great to see people sitting around it. Thanks to Rossco for running the bar.

Cr McTaggart

- Astrofest was an interesting experience. The speakers were impressive although above the heads of a number of attendees. The fire was an issue for some people. I believe that Astrofest should not be held every year.

Cr Foulkes-Taylor

- Report of WALGA Convention

I have just attended the West Australian Local Government (WALGA) Convention in Perth in my role as a Councillor for the Shire of Murchison. The Convention was held at the Perth Convention Centre on the 4th, 5th and 6th of August. Various speakers from all sorts of fields presented during the three days, and the following are some of my thoughts on a few of them, plus a couple of other observations.

Mayor Tim Shadbolt from the NZ city of Invercargill (way down the bottom of the South Island) gave a very entertaining yet insightful speech about their city's woes of a dwindling population, and the council's many attempts to halt this trend. Some of their attempts include;

- Him appearing on the NZ version of "dancing with the stars", and he reckoned this really helped "put Invercargill on the map", and also helped reduce what he called the "cringe factor" ie locals feeling almost embarrassed about where they lived.
- Starting their own local TV station so, as he put it, "the buggers had to talk about us then because we were financing them."

- A covered cycling velodrome was built and is the best in NZ (he admitted it's actually the *only* covered velodrome in NZ) and that is now used by the NZ cycling squad as one of their training bases.
- Almost by sheer chance Invercargill has become home to a community of “genetically pure” pigs from an island several hundred kilometers south of there, and these pigs are now at the forefront of the world research into combating diabetes.
- The council spending many millions of dollars upgrading their airport to international standard in the hope that Invercargill may become a drop in spot for east/west flights in the Southern Hemisphere. In Mayor Shadbolt's words, this has been a real dud.
- A state of the art aquatic centre has been built, and the council has also been promoting Invercargill as a place to pursue zero-fee higher education.

These programs have been carried out over many years, and recently surveys have shown that the population drain has finally come to a halt.

Tim Shadbolt's address was pretty humorous and upbeat, but contained a very relevant theme for many WA country shires, and that was to enthusiastically continue to strive for ways to strengthen our communities, and encourage locals to be proud of where they live.

Social Commentator Bernard Salt presented some of his observations on population shifts, public perceptions and attitudes etc. He made reference to the fact that there is overwhelming evidence that Australia's social and economic future and its population growth is very strongly tied to the Asian and Sub Continental regions. Councils should be aware of this changing demographic and make provisions for future society needs, such as providing services and housing. Upon hearing this, I looked around the theatre, and of the three hundred odd faces in the crowd I could only make out two of Asian appearance so it would seem the large Asian influence is not really coming through local govt ranks yet.

Current Australian Ambassador to the Holy See, and former deputy PM, Tim Fischer was introduced and he commented that he always seemed to get beaten about the head by West Australians when he came across the Nullarbor from the East to share his wisdom, so he thought this time he would fly in directly from Rome (where he is currently posted) to see if he had more luck. While fairly entertaining, I found his speech a bit of a ramble (but a very good ramble) in which he sort of jumped from one subject to another briefly touching on Trade, Leadership, Training, Lateral thinking, and as a local govt how we should embrace our adversaries as well as our supporters so no intelligence is underutilized. His main passion was for railways and trains of any kind, commenting that with some sensible planning and commitments to capital expenditure on railway, Australia would benefit both socially and economically for years to come. The comment that stuck in my mind was that, “a steel wheel on a steel track has one seventh of the friction of a rubber tyre on bitumen.”

Mathew Taylor, the CEO for the Royal Society for the Encouragement of the Arts in the UK, gave a pretty dreary and uninspiring presentation with a theme of making our local authorities sustainable into the future. My favourite part of his presentation was when he was using his training as a sociologist to trawl up plenty of complicated words to explain a concept and he made a joke at his own expense..... “What do you get if you cross a Sociologist with someone in the Mafia? Someone who will make you an offer you can't understand.”

During a survey of all the delegates, a couple of interesting facts emerged. Over 80% of the delegates were from regional and rural areas, ie not from the metro area, and I was surprised to learn that at the age of 43 I was in a group of only 6% of all those that attended who were under 45 years old.

Overall I found the presenters of a very high standard and nearly all had a message that one could relate back to our own council.

I appreciate the opportunity to have attended the Local Government Convention as a representative of the Murchison Shire

Compiled by
Councillor Rosco Foulkes-Taylor
August 15, 2011

- Thanks to the Astrofest committee. I have a few suggestions for another time.

- Local Government was relevant for the Regions this year.
- Will be chairing the Vermin Barrier Fence meeting on Wednesday. We have fencing, but no funds to erect the fence.

Cr Halleen

- Was unable to attend Astrofest, but the positive feedback has been overwhelming.
- Attended Local Government Convention – report to follow. The visit to the ABC studios made a welcome change from listening to speakers.

13. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil.

14. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil.

15. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Note: This item was deferred until after lunch.

16. FINANCE

16.1 Financial Activity Statements for July 2011.

File:

Author: Mike Sully, Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date:

Attachments: Financial Activity Statements for July 2011
Balance Sheet
Income Statement Detail
Income Statement by Nature & Type
Income Statement Summary

Matter for Consideration

Council to consider adopting the monthly financial statements for July 2011.

Background

Amendments to the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 that were gazetted on 20 June 2008 and became effective from 1 July 2008 have resulted in regulations 34 and 35 relating to monthly financial reports and quarterly/triennial financial reports being repealed and substituted with a new regulation 34. The new regulation 34 requires that local government report on a monthly basis and prescribes what is required to be reported with the intention of establishing a minimum standard across the industry.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

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

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
Regulation 34 states:

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

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

Sub regulations 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 prescribe further details of information to be included in the monthly statement of financial activity.

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

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

Consultation

UHY Haines Norton

Comment

Nil.

Voting Requirements

Simple majority.

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 31 July 2011, as attached.

CARRIED 5/0

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor McTaggart

That \$349 remaining in trust for the LCDC Roderick River project be forwarded to LCDC.

CARRIED 5/0

16.2 Accounts Paid during the month of July 2011.

File:
Author: Mike Sully, Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date:
Attachments: EFT & Cheque Detail for

Matter for Consideration:

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of July 2011.

Background:

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996
Reg 13(1)–Requires that where the Chief Executive Officer has delegated power to make payments from the Municipal or Trust funds a list of accounts paid is to be prepared each month.

Strategic Implications:

None

Policy Implications:

None

Financial Implications:

Payment from Council's Municipal Account

Consultation:

None

Comment:

Payments made during the month of July 2011 as per attached schedule.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor McTaggart

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule be passed by Council.

CARRIED 5/0

Note: The meeting broke for lunch at 1.08pm and resumed at 2.10pm with all previous attendees present.

Note: Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor joined the meeting at 2.10pm.

15. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

15.1 Monthly Plant Report

15.1.1 Monthly Plant & Works Report

File:
 Author: Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor
 Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
 Date: 17 July 2011
 Attachments:

Matter for Consideration:

To view the plant operation for the month of June/July and an update on works carried out.

Background:

HEAVY PLANT			Start	End		MTD	Total
Plant Item	Year	REGO	Hours	Hours	Total	Service	Ownership
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	6961	7103.7	142.70		
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	3109	3221.7	112.7		
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	3240	3545	305		
Komatsu Dozer	1997			7244			
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	112	137.3	25.3		
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	183	287	104		

TRUCKS

Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU000	220887K	223854K	2967		
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	90108	91814	1706		
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00		25673			

GENERATORS

Generator 2-100KVA	2005				xxxxxxxxxx		
Generator 1-83KVA	2005		40608				
Generator 13KVA (Const)	2005		4149				
Maintenance Genset			14676.16	15338.7	662.54		
Construction Genset				4274			

LIGHT VEHICLES

Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	12102K	16615K	45123K		
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	99829K	101679K	1850K		
Toyota Prado	2010	MU0	20159K	23748k	3589k		
Holden Rodeo	2008	MU 167	136553K	138412K	1859K		
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	100536K	101893K	1357K		
Toyota PTV	1986	MU 1017					

TRAILERS & TIPPERS

Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	185744K	187858K	2114K		
Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	31505	33272	1767		
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663	24465K				
30K Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	3154K	3510K	356		
Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658					
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005					
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003					
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009					

TRACTORS & VARIOUS SMALL PLANT

New Holland	2006	MU 380					
Forklift			11556				
Caravans							
Various small plant							
Cobra Multi Tyre Roller							
Ford Tractor			1235	1261	26		

Ride on Mower			4476	Metre	broken		
Patient Transfer Vehicle			20939	20939	0		

15.2 Works Supervisor Report - July/August 2011

Construction Crew

Construction crew are now working on the 4km north of the settlement. A considerable amount of fill has gone into the low lying areas and about 2 ½ km of gravel has been carted in ready for spreading.

When the 4km are finished there, due to Northcoast utilising two of our caravans we will work on the Meeberie Wooleen road, Wooleen Boolardy road, Wooleen Mt Wittenoom road up as far as Curbur (50km radius of settlement) until caravans are available again.

Construction crew have also carted in gravel around the settlement to lift the roads in preparation for future sealing. This will also give our settlement roads more stability when it rains.

Sandy McTaggart (semi retired) has been giving us a hand for the last week. William and Colleen continue with the construction crew and are doing a great job. Jeremy Clayton commenced work on Monday 15th and he and his family now occupy the big house. (Thank God we now have a qualified construction grader operator). The 3 bedroom house (previously Danny & Vicki's) is now the only house not permanently occupied and this will be used for contractors etc needing accommodation. (8 single beds in house)

Maintenance Crew

Maintenance crew have completed a quick run around and are now proceeding to concentrate on a full maintenance grade on the flood affected roads that have been reinstated.

Mick Wall has been assisting Paul up until a week ago when John Daniels started as a new maintenance grader operator. Mick is now assisting Trevor around the settlement and helping with preparations for the Astrofest which is this weekend (20th Aug). They have both been very busy making sure everything is ready.

Trevor has even put his hand to a little art work bringing out some hidden talents and making up a sign on the main road advertising the Astrofest.

The settlement is looking great and we often get comments from tourists travelling through or staying at the park saying how wonderful it all looks.

Ross is keeping very busy in the workshop and has saved us a lot of time and money with his mechanical and welding skills.

Grid Tender

The grid tender has been awarded to local contractor Greydon Mead (Walladar) and he should be ready to commence works within the next week.

I have completed a grid run around the Shire and taken photos and assessed each grid. The grids have been rated on importance of works required. A full report has been completed and will be supplied to contractor.

Flood Damage Crew

Since the last report contractors were only on Butchers track for a very short time when we got rain. There was then a two week period when it continued to rain so we were unable to recommence works. It was then decided to move the crew to Beringarra Byro road as according to Simon it never rains there in August. Unfortunately they were only there a few days when it rained again so another couple of days lost. Happy to say that contractors are now back on site and all looks clear for the near future. They should be starting at Nookawarra on Monday or Tuesday.

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the Works Supervisor's report be accepted.

CARRIED 5/0

Note: Councillor Seaman asked the Works Supervisor to pass on thanks to Trevor and Mick for the preparation work they carried out prior to Astrofest and also to Sharon and Peta for cleaning the club rooms.

17. DEVELOPMENT

Nil.

18. ADMINISTRATION

18.1.250811 Murchison Settlement Freight Service

File:
 Author: Mike Sully, Chief Executive Officer
 Interest Declared: Nil.
 Date: 16 August 2011
 Attachments:

Matter for Consideration:

This report requests that Council review the quotes that have been received for provision of a weekly freight service from Geraldton to Murchison Settlement for a twelve month period.

Background:

The Shire of Murchison provides funds for the provision of a weekly freight service from Geraldton to Murchison Settlement. The purpose of the freight service is to transport the freight requirements including; general freight, chilled and frozen goods, for the Shire, Shire employees, Murchison Roadhouse and Shire residents at no cost to the service users.

The freight contract has previously been negotiated on an annual basis to allow the Shire to regularly review a range of options including; contractor performance, cost variations and vehicle specifications.

Comment:

The following advert was placed in the Geraldton Guardian on Friday 22 July 2011 and Friday 29 July 2011:

SHIRE OF MURCHISON

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FREIGHT DELIVERY TO MURCHISON SETTLEMENT

Interested parties are invited to submit an expression of interest into providing a freight delivery service to the Murchison Settlement once a week for a period of 12 months from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.

REQUIREMENTS:

*Once a week delivery Geraldton - Murchison Settlement
 Pick up in Geraldton
 Cold & frozen freight
 Cost per delivery*

*For further details please contact Mike Sully on 99637999. Expressions, in writing, can be sent by email to ceo@murchison.wa.gov.au, or posted to Shire of Murchison PO Box 61 Mullewa WA 6630. Closing date **5 August 2011 at 4.00pm.***

Mike Sully
 Chief Executive Officer

Four quotes have been received up to Monday 15 August 2011, they are in order received:

Contractor	Weekly Cost	Annual Cost	Truck Size	Cold Storage
Grey's Freight Service	\$1,150	\$59,800	5 Tonne	Freezer & cooler
Murchison Mail & Freight Service	\$1,300	\$67,600	8 Tonne	Freezer & cooler
Highway Auto Barn	\$1,725	\$89,700	Various	Cooler
Robert Young	\$1,490	\$77,480	6 Tonne	Cooler

Several contractors made phone and/or email enquiries but did not supply a quote although the closing date for quotes was extended to 15 August 2011.

Council should give some regard to vehicle size when considering the service that can be provided by contractors. With regard to vehicle size it is worth noting that the current freight contractor used a 5 tonne truck during the 2010/2011 financial year and there were two occasions when the contractor requested that those two weekly freight requirements be brought out to the settlement in two loads, due to the amount of freight exceeding the vehicle's limits. The Shire was charged for the four trips.

Statutory Environment:

Nil.

Strategic Implications:

The Shire of Murchison Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014 Section 4 Community Service states:

“Continued development of the freight service to the community”

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Council's 2011-2012 draft budgets includes sufficient funds to allow for the continuation of the freight service

Voting Requirements:

Absolute Majority.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor McTaggart

That Council accept the quote from Murchison Mail and Freight Service for the provision of a weekly freight service from Geraldton to Murchison Settlement from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.

LOST 3/2

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Halleen

Seconded: Councillor McTaggart

That Council accept the quote from Grey's Freight Service for the provision of a weekly freight service from Geraldton to Murchison Settlement from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 5/0

Note: Council changed the motion as they believe that Grey's Freight has a proven track record for freight delivery to Murchison.

18.1.260811 MRO Boolardy Road Access

File:
Author: Mike Sully, Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: Nil.
Date: 17 August 2011
Attachments:

Matter for Consideration:

This report recommends that Council nominate the following route as the Shire's preferred road access route to and from the MRO Boolardy site for SKA and ASKAP employees and official visitors and all equipment and supplies delivered by road transport:

- Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, Meeberrie-Wooleen Road, Meeberrie-Mt.Wittenoom Road, Wooleen-Boolardy Road and Beringarra-Pindar Road.

Background:

The Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO) located on Boolardy Station is currently the site for the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder project (ASKAP) and will become the central core for the International Square Kilometre Array antennas (SKA) project if the Australian bid for the SKA project is successful. The decision on the location of the SKA will be announced in February 2012.

Successful location of the SKA project within the Shire of Murchison will have numerous positive opportunities for the Shire and its residents. However a number of issues will need to be addressed by the Australian SKA project team for the bid to be successful. One immediate issue that impacts directly on the Shire of Murchison is the road access to the Boolardy site.

The Australian SKA project team, headed by personnel from CSIRO, has requested that Council nominate its preferred road route to the Boolardy site if the bid is successful, and provide advice about the work and cost that would be required to bring the preferred access route up to a safe, all-weather standard. This information is a critical part of the bid.

Comment:

The road upgrade cost estimate was requested by the Australian bid team in early August 2011. However, the bid is required to be finalised by 4 September 2011 which does not allow sufficient time for Council to make a decision and then arrange for an appropriately qualified road engineer to provide a cost estimate before the deadline.

The Commonwealth Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) are providing resources towards the Australian bid for the SKA and have offered to fund the cost for an engineer to produce an indicative cost estimate as soon as possible so as to meet the bid deadline.

Following discussion with personnel from CSIRO, Steve Douglas from the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC) and Michael Keene from Greenfield Technical Services it was agreed that until Council determines its preferred road route to the MRO site, there would be a number of advantages to Council when considering future development if the indicative upgrade costing was undertaken on the Carnarvon-Mullewa road route.

Greenfield Technical Services (GTS) has been providing advice to Council regarding a variety of road issues over a number of years and has been asked to undertake the cost estimate. GTS has extensive knowledge and understanding of the Shire road system and is able to provide the cost estimate within the very short time frame.

The decision to use the Carnarvon-Mullewa road route to gain an estimated cost for upgrading access to the MRO site does not restrict Council in any way in its choice of preferred road route, nor does it require Council to make a decision at this time. However, obtaining an updated cost estimate for replacement of the Ballinyoo Bridge will help Council in its deliberation regarding the bridge's replacement.

Consultation:

Michelle Storey CSIRO
 Steve Douglas Mid West Development Commission
 Michael Keene Greenfield Technical Services
 Cameron Slatyer Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

Statutory Environment:

Nil.

Strategic Implications:

The Shire of Murchison Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014 Section 6 Creating Opportunities states:

(6.1) *“Aggressively pursue economic development opportunities”*

Policy Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Michael Keene from GTS has advised that the fee for producing the cost estimate is \$35,000. The Commonwealth Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research has agreed to provide \$35,000 to Council to cover the cost.

Voting Requirements:

Recommendation 1 Simple Majority
 Recommendation 2 Absolute Majority.

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

1. That Council nominate the following route as the Shire’s preferred road access route to and from the MRO Boolardy site for SKA and ASKAP employees and official visitors and all equipment and supplies delivered by road transport:

Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, Meeberrie-Wooleen Road, Meeberrie-Mt.Wittenoom Road, Wooleen-Boolardy Road and Beringarra-Pindar Road.

CARRIED 5/0

Moved: Councillor Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

2. That Council accept the quote of \$35,000 from Greenfield Technical Services for the provision of a cost estimate to upgrade the Carnarvon-Mullewa road access route between Mullewa and the proposed SKA Boolardy site.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 5/0

19. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

- 25.07.11 Meeting with Russell Hayes FESA to discuss interview procedure.
- 26.07.11 With Works Supervisor interviewed two prospective grader drivers.
- 03-06.08.11 Local Government Convention - Perth
- 08.08.11 Sat on interview panel at FESA - Geraldton

- 16.08.11 WARRAG meeting – Geraldton
- 18.08.11 Attended Toolbox meeting
- 19.08.11 Pre Astrofest meeting
- 20.08.11 Astrofest
- 22.08.11 Budget meeting

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor
That the CEO Activity Report be accepted.

Seconded: Councillor Seaman

CARRIED 5/0

21. URGENT BUSINESS

Moved: Councillor Halleen
That Council accept late items to be heard.

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

CARRIED 5/0

Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor **Seconded: Councillor Seaman**
That Council donate \$1,000.00 to the Isolated Children's parent's Association Inc (WA) for Sponsorship the ICPA WA State Conference 2012.

CARRIED 5/0

Note: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor left the meeting at 4.25pm.

Moved: Councillor McTaggart
That the Draft Budget for 2011/2012 be accepted.

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 4/0

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

22.1 Matter of a confidential nature

Note: It was not considered necessary to go behind closed doors as Elected Members were aware of the latest developments in this matter.

23. MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.50pm.

ACTION LIST

2011

Item No	Originator	Action	Officer/Councillor	Schedule	Status
1	MSC June 2011 Council meeting	Finalise CBD Development Committee meeting	CEO	ASAP	To arrange c/tee meeting
2	MSC	Contact Shire of Shark Bay to make Butchers track a joint road of Regional significance	CEO	July 2011	To Do
3	MSC Nov 2010 Council meeting	Prepare report on implications of changing road hierarchy from Mt Wittenoorn/Meka Rd to Kalli Rd	CEO	Feb 2011	In Progress
4	MSC June 2011	Review Emergency M/ment plan	CEO	ASAP	In Progress Met with FESA. 9/6/11
5	MSC May 2011	Contact Northampton Shire re Yallalong Road not being maintained	CEO	ASAP	Shire of Northampton have agreed for SOM to grade road and charge costs to Northampton
6	MSC May 2011	Bush Fire Brigade – all units to be serviced and operational	CEO/MEMBERS	ASAP	In progress, Community meeting to be held 3/9/11
7	MSC May 2011	Relocate stables and stock ramp from near community centre	CEO/ELECTED MEMBERS	ASAP	In Progress