



Western Australia

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,  
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,  
On Friday **15th June, 2012**, commencing at 10.15 am.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS .....3

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....3

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

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....3

    4.1 Standing Orders .....3

5. NEXT MEETING.....3

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE.....3

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS .....3

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....3

    8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 18th May 2012.....3

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION.....4

10. ACTION LIST .....4

11. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST .....5

2. REPORTS OF OFFICERS.....6

    12.1 Monthly Plant Report for May 2012.....6

    12.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor.....7

    12.3 Tender for a Small Truck (Plant Maintenance Person).....8

    12.4 Re-Schedule of Date for Road Inspection.....9

13. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS .....9

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED .....9

    14.1 Shire President.....9

    14.2 Councillors.....9

    18.1 Kalli Road–Deviation South of Kalli Homestead and Native Title and Aboriginal Heritage Acts 10

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES .....10

16. FINANCE.....10

    16.1 Financial Activity Statements 31st May 2012.....10

    16.2 Accounts Paid during the period since the last list was adopted/endorsed by Council 12

    16.3 Two Council Chambers/Office Equipment items on the Budget .....12

    16.4 Capital Purchases During 2012/13 Not Provided for in the Budget .....13

    16.5 Counter change .....14

    16.6 Fuel Prices at the Murchison Road House.....14

    16.7 Department of Local Government Funds Available ex the Discontinued RCG 15

    16.8 Write Offs.....15

    16.9 Differential Rates 2011/12 Rates to be Quashed then Re-Adopted with Ministerial Approval 16

17. DEVELOPMENT .....17

18. ADMINISTRATION.....17

    18.1 Already considered – see page 10. ....17

19. NOTICE OF MOTION .....17

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT .....18

21. URGENT BUSINESS .....18

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.....19

23. MEETING CLOSURE.....19

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

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 10.15 am.

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

### **Elected Members:**

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

### **Staff:**

Mr JN (Neil) Warne, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Brian Wundenberg, Works Supervisor 10.14 am to 12.05 pm  
Ms Dianne Daniels, Deputy CEO 2.05 pm to end of meeting.

### **Apologies:**

None

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

Nil.

## **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

### **4.1 Standing Orders**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

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

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

*Councillor Squires left the meeting 10.34 am*

**CARRIED 4-1**

*Councillor Squires returned to the meeting 10.36 am*

## **5. NEXT MEETING**

The scheduled date for the next ordinary meeting is 20th July, 2012.

## **6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

None.

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

The Shire President advised that there would be one matter to be discussed behind closed doors.

## **8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 18th May 2012**

#### **Background:**

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

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:****Moved: Councillor Halleen****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

**CARRIED 6-0****9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

The Shire President made the following announcements –

The Period since the last meeting of Council seems to have been very busy.

1. The announcement in relation to the Australian bid for the SKA was well received by everyone concerned and has received a lot of media attention. I think the outcome was the best we have expected given the strong bid from South Africa and the thinking of some delegates on the International Bid Selection committee. I would like to thank the Deputy President, Councillor Foulkes-Taylor and Emma for making themselves available to attend the official function to recognise the favourable decision (that at least 50% of the SKA would be built at the Boolardy MRO Site in the Murchison Shire) at Government House last Friday evening.
2. The negotiations with Ms Jenny Goodbourn in relation to her appointment as CEO have been concluded and the contract document is available today for signature following the formal motion of Council to make the appointment.
3. The negotiations and contract to officially appoint Dianne Daniels as Deputy CEO have also been concluded and the contract signed. The period is for three years. Dianne's official date for the commencement of her new role was 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2012.
4. Since the last meeting the staff have compiled and mailed the 2011/12 rate assessments. Council is aware of the difficulties which prevented these being mailed at the usual time of about early September.
5. Advice received and on the agenda for today is the process to resolve the differential rates problem and also the Kalli Road deviation around the homestead problem. It will be good to be able to progress the recommended remedies with a view to putting these problems behind us.
6. The staff tell me the Auditors to audit the 2010/11 years accounts cannot come until mid-July which is a disappointment but apparently nothing can be done to speed this up. Tenders have been called for audit services for the three years from July, 2012.

**Morning Tea**

*Council adjourned for morning tea 10.55 am*

*Council resumed at 11.12 am with all Councillors present.*

**10. ACTION LIST****List ex December 2011**

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Emergency Management Plan	Meeting held Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> June with various agencies Murchison Council Chambers.	Process continuing

**List ex March 2012**

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Surrounds CEO's Residence	Remove old water tank. Decorative front fence.	To be removed soon. Leave until input from new CEO

**List ex April 2012**

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	New schedule of fees and charges	To be considered with the 2012/13 budget July 2012	Incomplete

**List resulting from 18<sup>th</sup> May meeting**

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Quotes for small truck	Invitation to provide a quote mailed to several vehicle dealerships.	For consideration this meeting
2.	Kalli Road roadworks Aboriginal Heritage Act	Seek further info from Land Equity Legal	Request sent
3.	Report on Outside Staff work roster	Report	For this meeting
4.	Beringarra-Pindar Rd Dust problem 3 areas	Write to CSIRO seeking a financial contribution	Letter prepared for proposed meeting
5.	Improve shade house south of Road House	Shire Staff to do	Incomplete
6.	Low level wall Sports Club	Estimate cost (Works Supervisor)	Completed. Cost available. Meeting of Crosslands Fund to be arranged.
7.	Concrete front of Motel Units	Shire staff to do	Incomplete On the list
8.	Regional Component CLGF	Advise Council's preferred distribution arrangement to Shires of MK and GU	Completed
9.	WALGA Delegates	Advise WALGA of Conference voting delegate	Completed
10.	Murchison Freight Service	Call tenders for the service	Completed
11.	City of Greater Geraldton	Write to City of GG SKA Location etc as per minutes	Completed
12.	Differential rates 2012/13	Advertise intention to levy differential rates 2012/13	Completed
13.	Regional Collaborative Group	Write to GU enquire why decided to withdraw from the RCG and advise LG Dept Council looks forward to receiving funds for MU reports.	Completed

Plus

The 2011/12 rates have been assessed and mailed (Dianne and Sharon), the Deputy CEO contract finalised and tenders have been called for audit services July 2012 to June, 2015.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:</b>
---

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**  
That the Action List be accepted.

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

**CARRIED 6-0**

**11. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None

**2. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

*The Works Supervisor attended 10.14 pm*

**12.1 Monthly Plant Report for May 2012**

HEAVY PLANT			Start	End	Total		
Plant Item	Year	REGO	Hours	Hours	Total	Service	Ownership
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	8079	8255	176		
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	4176	4338	162		
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	4091.4	4194	102.60		
Komatsu Dozer	1997		7660	7758	98		
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	447.1	483	35.90		
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	1150	1286	136		
Bomag M/Tyre Roller			151	233	82		
Cat 938G Loader			3103	3123.4	20.40		

Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU000	243912	246858	2946		
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	104126	109910	5784		
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00	156300	157625	1325		

Generator 2-110kva	2011		1664	1993.6	329.6		
Generator 1-110kva	2011		2319	2730.4	411.4		
Maintenance Genset			17008	17420	412		
Construction Genset			5444	6025.8	581.8		

Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	45468	47984	2516		
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	124456	128646	4190		
Toyota Prado	2010	MU0	45210	49421	4211		
Holden Rodeo	2008	MU 167	150000	152880	2880		
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	121079	122889	1810		
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	43372	46889	3517		
Toyota P/T Vehicle	1986	MU 1017	21079	21080	1		

Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	191660	191799.3	139.30		
Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	40627	44709	4082		
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663	35822	37441.3	1619.3		
No. 2 float	2001	MU2004	14965	15227	262		
30000lt Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	10321	12014.	1693		
Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658					
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005					
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003	12282	12511	229		
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009					

New Holland Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1421	1439.6	18.6		
Forklift			11677.3	11690.9	13.6		
Caravans							
Various small plant							
Ride on Mower - JD			116	127	11		

Councillor Squires asked that it be noted in the minutes that the grader machine hours worked during May were most commendable. Councillor Squires also expressed the view that all work completed by Council's construction and maintenance crews over the current financial year was of a high standard. He said he wished to express a 'well done' to the Works Supervisor and all machine operators.

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

### **CONSTRUCTION CREW**

The construction crew finished the Sanford River and Murgoo sheeting job on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June. New signs have been put in place on a slight angle to hopefully minimise glare from the signs at night.

While crew were on the Sanford-Murgoo sheeting job, some private works were completed for Murgoo clearing a fence line for 2 ½ days by Sandy on the dozer.

All plant has been brought into the depot for maintenance (2-3 days) before we start on the 7km construction and sealing job on the Carnarvon Mullewa Road from Twin Peaks intersection to just north of Billabalong Station. Crew will move camp and plant down to Billabalong by Wed/Thur 13/14<sup>th</sup> June.

### **MAINTENANCE CREW**

John and Glen have moved from their maintenance schedule at Byro to Billabalong and started grading from south boundary (Carnarvon-Mullewa) working back to Twin-Peaks Road. From there they will grade New Forrest Road to west boundary and all roads in the south area.

- ❖ McNabb-Twin Peaks
  - ❖ Twin Peaks-Wooleen
  - ❖ Meeberrie-Wooleen
  - ❖ Errabiddy Bluff
  - ❖ Butchers Track
  - ❖ Butchers -Muggon
- Working their way back up to top boundary.

### **Roads Graded this month:**

- ❖ Milly Milly to Byro intersection
- ❖ New bypass road around Mt Narryer
- ❖ South boundary on Carnarvon Mullewa Road to Twin Peaks intersection.
- ❖ Crew Currently on New Forrest Yallalong Road.

### **FLOOD DAMAGE CREW**

Wadjers crew have completed repairs on Mt Wittenoorn-Wooleen Road and Boolardy Wooleen Road leaving only Mt Wittenoorn Road to go.

All gravel has been carted by 4<sup>th</sup> June in this area.

We still have money left on Butchers and Butchers-Muggon Roads.

Greydon will commence carting with the assistance of Paul Squires dozer and loader on this road on 12<sup>th</sup> June (weather permitting)

### **PLANT**

Iveco Prime Mover MU 00 going well with the help of Sandy McTaggart (electrical assistance)

Iveco 6 wheeler has a new gear box in shed to be installed.

All new brake and backing plates have been put into the side tippers.

New hydraulic pump in vibe roller MU77

New track rollers in dozer.

New upright freezer in construction caravan (Will/Colleen)

### **STAFF**

Paul Smart is now working on the water truck with the construction crew. Glen is working with John until Neil Combe returns. The Maintenance crew will then consist of John and Neil.

### **Staff Social Club**

Glen, Stuart Broad, Trevor & Leanne, Jock & Kaz, Brian & Shaz and Peta & Barry all enjoyed a weekend at Shark Bay. A bus was hired from Highway Auto Barn to transport crew. Accommodation was at the Heritage Resort and Mac-Attack provided the fishing charter. We got our quota of fish in ½ day, leaving the jetty at 8.30am and returned by 12.30pm with a full load of fish and time for a hot shower and a counter lunch.

Staff arrived back in settlement 2.30pm, cleaned all fish and invited everyone from the settlement to a BBQ of fresh fish at the community sport complex. Despite last minute cancellations and bad weather forecasts, a great weekend was had by all and we are looking forward to planning the next trip.

### **Report on Outside Staff Work Roster**

The trial outside staff work roster is working well with a three day Friday to Sunday weekend to coincide with pay weekend and on the in between weekend from late Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Back to work on Monday morning.

Although at this time of the year we are in a period of shorter hours of daylight the staff have not encountered any problems working up the extra hours to compensate for a return trip to the Settlement for the Sunday off.

All members of the staff have commented positively on this trial work roster including those who had some hesitation about the idea initially. To be able to come home, see their family, attend to mini jobs at home, launder their work clothes and replenish tucker boxes. This extra concession of the Sunday back in the settlement seems to be very much appreciated and I think everyone is much fresher on the job during the second half of the fortnight.

The cost to Council is restricted to the cost of the vehicles to and from the Settlement once each fortnight. There could be a bit of time lost in the middle Monday morning start up but I think this is compensated by everyone being 'freshened up' and ready to give the job a good go by a day back in the Settlement.

As to the rule where either the construction crew or maintenance crew camp out this is generally when the job is 80kms from the Settlement. At any closer distance the job can be run from Settlement. Recently with the job at Murgoo the distance was border line and the job could have been run from the Settlement but no one objected to camping out which enabled this job to be completed very efficiently without daily travel to/from the Settlement.

Although not covered here the current policy about the work roster is now out of date. The CEO and Deputy CEO have noted that the policy refers to the construction crew only (no mention of the maintenance crew) and refers to Australian Workplace Agreements which are almost a thing of the past with only one active employee left with an AWA – and one on long term workers compensation. Both of these expire in November 2012.

The end of this trial has been extended until next pay day 19<sup>th</sup> June and whatever the consensus is amongst the staff then we would like to be able to act on that decision.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:</b>
---

**Moved: Councillor Squires**

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

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

***CARRIED 6-0***

### ***WORKS MATTERS WHILE THE WORKS SUPERINTENDENT IS IN ATTENDANCE***

#### **12.3 Tender for a Small Truck (Plant Maintenance Person)**

**Background:**

The calling of tenders did not result in a satisfactory tender being received. We have now sought quotes and sent a circular to about 10 vehicle dealerships. The cut off date for submission of quotes is before this meeting. We are hopeful of receiving some suitable quotes.

**Interest Declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

Calling tender for work related vehicles is well within Council's legislative boundaries.

**Financial Implication:**

An amount of \$50,000 provided on the current budget. If no suitable vehicle is purchased from these quotes this sum will be included in the 2012/13 budget.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

<b>OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:</b>
----------------------------------

No recommendation as the date for the submission of quotes not closed at time of agenda preparation.



**COUNCIL DECISION:****Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**

That the Plant Committee with the Works Supervisor inspect the small trucks offered to Council for purchase with a view to selecting a suitable vehicle and that the Plant Committee have power to act on Council's behalf to make a purchase within the budget provision for this item taking into consideration that council will need to expend some funds adding the 'extras' to this vehicle.

No obligation exists to select a vehicle from those offered should a suitable vehicle not be amongst those available

**CARRIED 6-0**

**12.4 Re-Schedule of Date for Road Inspection****Background:**

This item was fully considered at previous meetings but deciding on a date suitable to everyone has proved difficult. There are two things to consider: Does Council wish to have the road inspection before the budget is finalised or is it more important to have the road inspection with the new CEO present.

**COUNCIL DECISION:**

That the annual road inspection be Monday and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2012, arrangements as previously discussed with the overnight stay Monday night at the Murchison Settlement.

**CARRIED 6-0**

Since the Council meeting it has come to notice that the '1080' Poison Accreditation day will be held in Murchison on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July which might mean some adjustment to these dates.

*The Works Supervisor left the meeting at 12.05 pm.*

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

None

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

The Shire President said he had not attended any meetings in recent times. He had been very busy with seasonal operation on the property.

**14.2 Councillors**

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor reported having with Emma attended the SKA announcement celebration function at Government House on Friday evening 7<sup>th</sup> June. This was an interesting evening with many people in attendance connected with the ASKAP and future SKA projects.

Councillor McTaggart reported having attended the FESA Fire Control Officers training day with FCO Reg Seaman and Works Supervisor Brian Wundenberg at Mount Magnet on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May. This was a most informative day.

Councillor Seaman reported having attended, and having been invited to Chair the Murchison Local Emergency Management Committee (in formation) meeting in the Council Chambers on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June. The CEO, Deputy CEO and Works Supervisor all attended plus Tex Mc Pherson from FESA who led most of the discussion, Sgt Darren Gill OIC Mullewa Police and Keith Shaw Office of Child Protection in Geraldton. It was a very positive meeting and we are 'on the way' to forming a LEMC and having an emergency plan.

**Order of Business**

The President said that unless there was any objection, for convenience, he would like to move the meeting to Item 18.1. No objection was raised by councillors.

**18.1 Kalli Road–Deviation South of Kalli Homestead and Native Title and Aboriginal Heritage Acts****Background:**

At the May meeting Council directed that the recommendation of WALGA to seek advice from Land Equity Legal be adopted. All information available was assembled and forwarded to Marcus Holmes of LEL. The CEO has telephone advice from Mr Holmes all of which is contained in his letter and attachments to Council. Just the letter is re-produced in the agenda attachments.

**Interest Declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

Councils are required to comply with the acts mentioned in the heading

**Financial Implications:**

Probably \$1,200 based on Mr Holmes' letter.

**Voting Requirement:**

Simple Majority

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

**Moved: Councillor Halleen****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the advice provided by Mr Marcus Holmes of Land Equity Legal in relation to the Kalli Road deviation near Kalli Homestead be accepted and a letter be prepared with the assistance of LEL and forwarded to the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation setting out Council's proposal to remedy the situation and every endeavour be made to resolve this matter expeditiously.

**CARRIED 6-0**

**Luncheon Adjournment**

*Council adjourned for lunch 12.49 pm*

*Council resumed at 2.05 pm*

**15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

None.

*The Deputy CEO Dianne Daniels attended the meeting 2.05 pm.*

**16. FINANCE****16.1 Financial Activity Statements 31st May 2012**

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels – Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
 Interest Declared: No interest to disclose  
 Date: 12th June, 2012  
 Attachments: Financial Activity Statements for 11 months to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012  
 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 11 months to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012.

**Background:**

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. Regulation 34 requires that local government report on a monthly basis and prescribes what is required to be reported.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government Act 1995

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

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 34 states:

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

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

### **Strategic Implications:**

Nil.

### **Policy Implications:**

Nil.

### **Financial Implications:**

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

### **Consultation:**

UHY Haines Norton

### **Comment:**

The Current Position at 31 May 2012 is a surplus of \$1,826,460 which includes the following Grant Funds: R4R 2010-2011 Individual Component Funding of \$575,452 (earmarked for the new seal SLK 199-206 scheduled for commencement mid June), R4R 2010-2011 Regional Component Funding of \$309,859 (earmarked for the new seal SLK 199-206 scheduled for commencement mid June) and R4R 2011-2012 Individual Component Funding of \$505,851, (earmarked for future sealing after completion of SLK 199-206).

The total of these funds, \$1,391,162, is currently sitting in the Short Term Municipal Account and any unspent will be restricted for expenditure in next financial year on the nominated projects.

The reseal at SLK 10-20 from the Settlement was completed efficiently and satisfactorily during May. \$264,088 of our 2011-2012 R2R Funding (earmarked for new seal) has been reallocated for expenditure on the reseal as it was in danger of being transferred to the 2013-2014 pool for re-allocating if not spent in this financial year. The other \$118,500 is still allocated to new seal SLK 199-206 as we are confident of being able to spend that amount in the given time-frame. This Roads to Recovery funding was received 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012.

This month we have again reviewed those expense accounts that are over budget by 10% or more and have inserted comments in the right hand column of the attached Income Statement by Program – Detail.

### **Rates**

2011 – 2012 Rates have been issued in sufficient time to receive the payment in this financial year, allowing rate payers the legislated 35 days until the rate becomes due and payable. We still have historical issues regarding the rates and will deal with them as rate payers draw our attention to them.

### **CSIRO**

CSIRO are disputing SOM Contribution Claim 6, with payment being withheld by them until agreement can be reached. We have been corresponding with CSIRO in an effort to resolve this quickly, however have been unable to meet since last Council Meeting. We are endeavouring to meet as soon as possible.

### **Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority.

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:****Moved: Councillor Seaman****Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That Council adopt the financial statements for the period ending 31st May 2012, as detailed in the agenda.

**CARRIED 6-0****16.2 Accounts Paid during the period since the last list was adopted/endorsed by Council**

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 12th June, 2012

Attachments: EFT &amp; Cheque Details for May 2012

**Matter for Consideration:**

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of May 2012.

**Background:**

Accounts paid are required to be submitted each month.

**Statutory Environment:**

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

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

**Strategic Implications:**

None

**Policy Implications:**

None

**Financial Implications:**

Payment from Council's Municipal Account

**Consultation:**

None

**Comment:**

Payments made during the month of May, 2012 as per attached schedule.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple majority

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:****Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That the accounts as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$1,836,804.80 being transfer of grants funds from Municipal Fund to Short Term Municipal Fund (interest bearing) account \$1,129,132 and \$707,672.80 ordinary creditors be passed for payment/endorsed by Council.

**CARRIED 6-0****16.3 Two Council Chambers/Office Equipment items on the Budget****Background:**

The two items on the budget are Television \$2,000 and Fridge-Atrium \$3,000. These items have not been purchased and the need for them is not clear. Could Council clarify the need for these two items and if so direct that they be listed on the 2012/13 budget and purchased early in the new financial year.

**Interest Declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

Equipment for the Council Chambers and office is well within Councils legislative boundaries.

**Financial Implications:**

As per budget

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**COUNCIL DECISION:****Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That the flat screen television for the Council Chambers, as provided for in the 2011/12 budget be purchased forthwith and the refreshments cabinet be considered for inclusion in the 2012/13 budget.

**CARRIED 6-0****16.4 Capital Purchases During 2012/13 Not Provided for in the Budget****Background:**

Over the 2011/12 Financial Year a number of capital items were purchased that were not provided for on the budget. Council is fully aware of these items however not all of them have been approved by a resolution of Council. The list of these items which as far as can be ascertained have not been approved by a Council resolution are-

Ride on Mower JDZ225	5,506
Road house Kitchen Equipment	7,638
1000S Kevrek Ute Crane	7,420
Diesel Steam Cleaner	5,600
Generator Sets	3,358
Laser level	2,700
Sea Container addition to Depot	2,500

**Interest Declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

Purchases not provided for on the budget should be approved by an Absolute Majority of Council.

**Financial Implications:**

The value of these items have the potential of contributing to an end of year deficit however the total outlay of this list is not great and becomes part of the overs and unders against the budget.

**Voting Requirement:**

Absolute Majority

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:****Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor****Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That the list of items purchased during 2011/12 not provided for on the budget as under, not all of which were purchased with prior Council approval,

Ride on Mower JDZ225	5,506
Road house Kitchen Equipment	7,638
1000S Kevrek Ute Crane	7,420
Diesel Steam Cleaner	5,600
Generator Sets	3,358
Laser level	2,700
Sea Container addition to Depot	2,500

be declared authorised expenditure.

**CARRIED WITH AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6-0**

**Policy – Purchase of Capital Items**

**COUNCIL DECISION:**

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

That the Acting CEO develop a draft policy in relation to the purchase of capital items for consideration by Council at the July meeting of Council.

**CARRIED 5-1**

**16.5 Counter change**

**Background:**

The accounts tell us we are supposed to have \$100.00 counter change. Since the Deputy CEO and Administration Officer have commenced here this has not been sighted or found. A couple of months ago a fresh issue of \$100.00 change was arranged. Council needs to write off the previous \$100.00 change which cannot be accounted for.

**Interest Declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

A Council resolution is required to write off Council funds or assets destroyed.

**Financial Implications:**

A loss of \$100.00

**Voting Requirement:**

Simple Majority

**COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That Council write off the sum of \$100.00 counter change that cannot be accounted for (not sighted or located by existing staff on commencement of duties here) and endorse the issue of a fresh sum of \$100.00 counter change.

**CARRIED 6-0**

**16.6 Fuel Prices at the Murchison Road House**

**Background:**

The fuel prices at the Road House have been set at a price approximately the same as Geraldton prices. Fuel prices fluctuate up and down a bit but mainly due to the difficulty in altering the price the price at the road house has remained the same for quite some time. Equipment which will enable the price to be altered ‘remotely’ from the shire office has been obtained and is about to be installed. This leads us on to the need to have a policy on Road House fuel prices.

Currently (5<sup>th</sup> June) the cost of fuel to Council is

Diesel	127.0	plus delivery of 5.5	=	132.5
Petrol	128.8	plus delivery of 5.5	=	134.3

Currently fuel is retailed at the Road House as diesel 152.0 cpl and petrol 152.0 cpl.

This is for diesel 19.5 cents and for petrol 17.7 cents above Council’s cost price or 14.7% (D) and 13.1% (P) above cost price.

Retail fuel in Geraldton on 7<sup>th</sup> June (440 Road House NWC Hwy) was 155.9 for both diesel and petrol.

A suggestion is that Council have a policy of so many cents/ltr above cost price or a % above cost price and that whenever a delivery to the road house takes place the price is adjusted based on that delivery price.

To keep both diesel and petrol the same price could we decide to add say 23 cpl to the cost price of diesel (or whatever Council might decide – say 25 cpl) and charge that amount for both diesel and petrol.

**Interest declared:**

None

**Statutory Environment:**

Council is required to apply business principles to any trading concern.

**Financial Implications:**

Council should not retail fuel at a loss. A small profit should dictate the minimum price considered. A higher price could result in a little more profit but could reduce sales.

**Voting Requirement:**

Simple majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council support the installation of equipment which will allow the fuel prices at the Murchison Oasis Road House to be adjusted from the Shire Office and that Council's policy in relation to the retail price of fuel be that the amount of .....(between 23 and 25 cpl) be added to the cost of diesel and this price apply to both diesel and petrol and this adjustment be made after each delivery of diesel to the road house based on the price to Council of that delivery.

**This recommendation was not adopted in its entirety as Council decided it should retail fuel at the least expensive price with Council covering all costs only.**

**COUNCIL DECISION:**

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Halleen**

That Council support the installation of equipment which will allow the fuel prices at the Murchison Oasis Road House to be adjusted from the Shire Office and that the staff report to Council at the July meeting the costs associated with running the fuel service (which should be recovered in the per litre price at the bowser) and from this an amount be set to add to the cost price to the Council of fuel thus establishing Council's retail fuel price.

**CARRIED 6-0**

**16.7 Department of Local Government Funds Available ex the Discontinued RCG**

Letter of confirmation that the Upper Gascoyne-Murchison Regional Collaborative Group is to be discontinued and both Upper Gascoyne and Murchison Shires are now classified as being 'reform impeded' and therefore both qualify for funds ex the source RCG's were funded from for

Asset Management Report  
Strategic Community Plan  
Long Term Financial Planning

The total for the Shire Murchison is believed to be 50% of \$267,000 = \$133,500 (not yet confirmed).

The Regional Business Plan is no longer being funded.

This for information, no Council decision required, Travis Bate of RSM Bird Cameron of Geraldton has this information. Negotiations will proceed with him for these reports/plans to proceed.

***This information was received***

**16.8 Write Offs**

**Background:**

There are four amounts requiring writing off where the accounts say a credit (cash) has been received but no credit appeared on Council's bank statement.

These are two 'deposits of \$36.00 each and one of \$66 during the 2010/11 financial year described by Haines Norton as "Undeposited Funds". That is amounts were taken into account but no money was banked to equal these amounts.

Two x \$36 + 1 x \$66 = \$ 138.00

Rates 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009 \$1503.00. Similar story to above \$1,503.00

Total to be written off: no cash banked to = receipts. **\$1,641.00**

### **Statutory Environment:**

The Act allows Council to write off funds.

### **Financial Implications:**

A loss of \$1,641.

### **Voting:**

Simple majority

<b>COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S</b>
-----------------------------------

### **Moved: Councillor McTaggart**

That Council approve of the amount of \$1,641 being written off where bank statement records confirm that no funds were deposited for receipts issued in previous financial years and the necessary adjustments be made in Council's accounts.

### **Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**CARRIED 6-0**

## **16.9 Differential Rates 2011/12 Rates to be Quashed then Re-Adopted with Ministerial Approval**

### **Background:**

This long administrative procedure is in the final phase of allowing our (and other Council's) 2011/12 differential rates imposed without Ministerial Approval to be quashed and then allowing an application to be made for Ministerial Approval to allow the differential rates as provided for in the budget to be imposed. Advice of the procedure we are to follow from this point – the State Administrative Tribunal having cleared the way for this procedure- was received on 8<sup>th</sup> June, some 15 pages. A very short summary of what we are required to do is as under-

1. Be a party to a minute of consent orders between the Minister and Council to quash the affected rates
2. Council to then apply to the Minister to impose the differential rates as per the 2011/12 budget
3. Draft recommendations to be prepared for submission to a Council meeting to adopt approved differential rates for 2011/12
4. Council to adopt these recommendations as minutes to alter the previously adopted budget.

### **Statutory Environment:**

This process is strictly in accordance with Local Government Act and the State Administrative Tribunal Procedures.

### **Financial Implications:**

No loss of revenue. The loss has already been imposed by rates being levied nine months late. There has been a cost in time and effort getting this to this point.

### **Voting Requirement:**

Rates motions are by an Absolute Majority so I think this should be by Absolute Majority also.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:</b>
---

### **Moved: Councillor Squires**

That the advice from the Local Government Department in relation to the procedure required to impose 2011/12 differential rates with Ministerial Approval be received and this procedure be followed and Council direct the Acting CEO to sign the Minute of Consent Orders (between the Minister and the Shire) forthwith being the first requirement of this procedure and once the previously adopted rates have been quashed

### **Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**



(resulting from the Minute of Consent Order) application be made to impose the differential rates and the remaining requirements be proceeded with as expeditiously as possible.

**CARRIED WITH AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 6-0**

## **17. DEVELOPMENT**

None.

## **18. ADMINISTRATION**

### **18.1 Already considered – see page 10.**

## **19. NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following notices of motions have been received - (in order of receipt)

*Councillor Squires had given notice of his intention to move*

### **Motion:**

“That Council rescind the slogan “The Shire with No Town” as this is thought to be a negative identity statement/slogan for the Shire of Murchison and adopt a more positive slogan/statement for the Shire of Murchison and that with input from the Murchison Community that public opinion be sought via the Monologue/community email for a new identity slogan/statement.”

Suggested slogans;

- \* Murchison – Home of the SKA
- \* Ancient lands to the stars beyond – Murchison
- \* Where the outback begins (was the slogan prior to about 2005)
- \* Community input
- \*\* Note – not to be limited to just 3 suggestions, as much community input as possible

### **Background:**

That although Council’s current slogan/statement “The shire with No Town” has served us well in that it is believed we are the only Shire in Australia with no gazetted townsite within its boundaries, it doesn’t reflect the uniqueness of our region e.g.; ancient lands/pastoral industry etc and the fact we should promote them. Also in light of last week’s announcement that the SKA project will go ahead in the Shire of Murchison will put the whole world’s focus on us. Our Shire of Murchison identity slogan/statement needs to reflect all of the above.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION:</b>
--------------------------

### **Moved Councillor Squires**

### **Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

“That Council rescind the slogan “The Shire with No Town” as this is thought to be a negative identity statement/slogan for the Shire of Murchison and adopt a more positive slogan/statement for the Shire of Murchison and that with input from the Murchison Community that public opinion be sought via the Monologue/community email for a new identity slogan/statement.”

**MOTION LOST 5-1**

*Cr Seaman had given notice of her intention to move*

### **Motion:**

- “1. That the Shire of Murchison encourage all members of the community to submit ideas for a new ‘Shire of Murchison tagline’
2. To encourage maximum participation, the Shire should run this in the form of a competition that includes very clear guidelines including examples from other organisations’

### **Background:**

Taking into account the ‘Shire of Murchison’s’ current Strategic Plan 2009-2014

- Our Vision: Working together to preserve the special character of the Shire, providing diverse and sustainable lifestyle opportunities and economic activities.

- Our Role/Mission: To develop and foster a sense of pride, safety and well being in the community of Murchison by enhancing our services and facilities and by providing responsive, innovative management of our natural, social and built environment.

The current Shire of Murchison tagline being “The shire without a town” does not reflect the strategic plan or current evolving state of our community.

There is the possibility that “the shire without a town” has negative connotations, while the shire is trying to attract more families to our community.

The Shire of Murchison needs to show that it encourages new ideas and innovation and a shared sense of inclusion.

The Shire of Murchison needs all stakeholders to be motivated to support change as this is crucial for success.

A revision of the Current Tagline would be a positive step forward in our changing social and economic environment.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION:</b>
--------------------------

**Moved: Councillor Seaman**

**Seconded: Councillor Squires**

1. That the Shire of Murchison encourage all members of the community to submit ideas for a new ‘Shire of Murchison tagline’
2. To encourage maximum participation, the Shire should run this in the form of a competition that includes very clear guidelines including examples from other organisations.

With the permission of the mover and seconded of the motion the following section was added to the motion-

The competition to be judged by Council, Councillors and spouses of Councillors and Council Staff and spouses of Staff be not excluded from entering.

**CARRIED 6-0**

## **20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT**

All effort since the last meeting of Council has been from the CEO’s desk.

## **21. URGENT BUSINESS**

### **The Shire Radio Communication System**

Council considered information made available in recent days from Laurie Maddren Communication Consultant for Mt Barker Communications in connection with a proposal to upgrade council’s radio communication system.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION:</b>
--------------------------

**Moved: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

**Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

That Councillors McTaggart and Squires with the Acting CEO and Deputy CEO arrange, as soon as practicable, a telephone discussion with Mr Laurie Maddren of Mt Barker Communications to consider his proposals for the upgrade of Council’s communications system and provisional quote for this work.

**CARRIED 6-0**

### **Appointment of Chief Executive Officer**

This matter had been mentioned in the Shire President’s Announcements. Item 9.

<b>COUNCIL DECISION:</b>
--------------------------

**Moved: Councillor Halleen**

**Seconded: Councillor McTaggart**

That the action of the Shire President in finalising the contract with the CEO-elect in conjunction with Ms Lydia Highfield of WALGA’s Workplace Solutions be endorsed and Council now appoint Jennifer Ann Goodbourn as Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Murchison, for a five year term commencing Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 and the Shire President be authorised to sign and seal the contract document relating to this appointment.

**CARRIED 6-0**

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

**Moved: Councillor McTaggart**

That Council move behind closed doors 4.19 pm.

**Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

***CARRIED 6-0***

**Council Discussion**

**Moved: Councillor Squires**

That Council move from behind closed doors 4.30 pm.

**Seconded: Councillor Seaman**

***CARRIED 6-0***

Council briefly discussed a matter relating to Local Government Week.

**23. MEETING CLOSURE**

The Shire President closed the meeting at 4.32 pm.