



Western Australia

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the Murchison Shire Council,
Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
On Thursday **15th March, 2012**, commencing at 10.26 am.

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 10.26 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 (11.52 am – 2.05 pm)

Apologies:

None

The Shire President announced that Mr Barry Turner of the CSIRO was expected early in the meeting.
Mr Turner attended at 10.29 am.

The Shire President welcomed Mr Turner and said Council was always pleased to hear of progress at the MRO site.

Mr Turner said the ASKAP project was proceeding and the other thing exercising the minds of everyone was the SKA decision expected to be announced on 4th April, 2012.

Equipment for the 28th ASKAP antenna had been moved to the MRO site, there are 8 to go, 14 have been built and 8-9 are 'getting close'.

Almost all on-site infrastructure has been constructed including roads and buildings to house electronic equipment. Ninety six bores have been drilled as part of a cooling system for the buildings in addition to a cooling tower.

Radio interference testing is continuing. A high level of expertise and accuracy has been applied/achieved in the installation of the antennas. The power source is still being developed, Horizon Power is to build this.

Of special interest to Council is a new road usage/maintenance agreement yet to be negotiated for the period commencing 1st July, 2012 – road usage by CSIRO on the Beringarra-Pindar road is expected to be somewhat reduced in the future. The end of the construction phase is intended to approximate the end of the 2011/12 financial year.

Mr Turner said a public on-site Field Day would be arranged on completion of the ASKAP. This was not possible during the construction phase.

A number of matters were raised by Councillors which Mr Turner responded to.

The President thanked Mr Turner for his attendance and said Council too was waiting, with much interest, for the 4th April SKA decision.

Mr Turner left the meeting 11.21 am

Cr Seaman left the meeting 11.22 am. and returned at 11.24 am

Alteration of the Order of Business.

Resolved that Item 18.2 of the agenda be considered immediately after Item 8.1

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

4.1 Standing Orders

Moved: Councillor Mc Taggart

Seconded: Councillor Halleen

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

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

CARRIED 6-0

5. NEXT MEETING

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

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Moved Cr McTaggart

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That leave of absence be granted to Councillors Halleen and Squires for the next meeting of Council scheduled for 20th April, 2012,

CARRIED 6-0

7. NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

The Shire President indicated that he intended to discuss one matter behind closed doors at the close of the meeting.

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 17th February, 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 Seaman

Seconded: Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 17th February, 2012 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings subject to the report on Page 13 Item 14.2 reading-

'Councillor Seaman reported having attended a WARAG (West Australian Regional Stakeholders Advisory Group) chaired by Steve Douglas'

CARRIED 6-0

Councillor Squires declared an interest in Item 18.2 and left the meeting at 11.30 am

Councillor Seaman declared a proximity interest in 18.2 and remained present in the meeting.

18.2 CSIRO – Ongoing Possible Additional Maintenance Beringarra-Pindar Road.

Background:

Letter from CSIRO Mr Ross Stevens Manager property Resources to CEO Murchison December 2011 and recently followed up by Mr Stevens as under.

‘Please find a draft Road Maintenance Agreement in respect to the Pindar-Beringarra Road and the additional works that may be required to the road in relation to the MRO site. The draft provides for an arrangement for ‘up to ten years’ or such other later date.

The Road maintenance Agreement is intended to replace the current road maintenance agreement between the Shire of Murchison and CSIRO which is for the construction phase of the ASKAP project.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposed agreement with you to ensure it meets both the Shire’s and CSIRO’s requirements.’

A copy of the draft made available as an addition to the agenda.

Interest Declared:

Councillor Squires disclosed a pecuniary interest and Councillor Seaman declared a proximity interest in this item.

Statutory Environment:

Road agreements of this kind are well within Council’s legislative boundaries.

Financial Implications:

Expenditure incurred will be recovered from the CSIRO.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Seaman

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the information relating to Shire provided at CSIRO expense ‘additional’ maintenance on the Beringarra-Pindar Road be received and in the interests of simplicity the CSIRO be advised that an extension of the existing agreement which seems to be working well for say the next five (5) years to 2017 would seem appropriate.

CARRIED 5-0

Cr Squires returned to the meeting 11.42 am

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

The President did not make any announcements at this time.

10. ACTION LIST

List ex December 2011

This list has not been forgotten but less days since last meeting, days away for Council related meetings not in Murchison and current issues prevent this list receiving any attention.

List resulting from 17th February Meeting of Council:

No.	Item	Action	Status
1.	Write a further letter to JMG re Generators and \$6492 account.	Letter written	Completed
2.	Yamatji Maripa Aboriginal Community.	Write to WALGA for advice roadworks near Kalli Station.	Completed
3.	Improve surrounds CEO's residence.	Some items yet to tackled	Incomplete
4.	Radio Astronomy Dept of Commerce.	Advise that Carnarvon-Mullewa Road is the preferred route should the Murchison SKA site be approved.	Completed
5.	Alteration to the Budget	Official Budget altered to accommodate additional road works	Completed
6.	Murchison Freight Service	Write to Mr Grey and the Road House. Matter appears to be resolved.	Completed
7.	The RCG	Arrangement made to attend meeting at Gascoyne Junction on 7 th March, 2012	Completed
8.	Funding Ballinyoo Bridge R4R.	Letter to both Upper Gascoyne and Meekatharra Shires seeking their Regional Component of R4R 2012/13 funds to make up a \$M1 L.G. contribution.	Completed
9.	Air-con CEO Residence	Accept quote and get air-con installed. Ocean Air staff on the job 8 th , 9th March.	Completed
10.	Wangga Aboriginal Corporation	Permission to use Sports Club for Launch of Wajarri Dictionary on 29 th March	Completed
11.	Tender for road maintenance Beringarra-Pindar Road	Details of plant items the tender should be based on sought from CSIRO. Details very recently provided.	Incomplete

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Halleen
That the Action List be accepted.

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

CARRIED 6-0

11. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillor Squires had disclosed a pecuniary interest in Item 18.2 and Councillor Seaman had disclosed a Proximity interest in Item 18.2

12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

The Works Supervisor, Mr Brian Wundenberg attended the meeting 11.52 am

12.1 Monthly Plant Report – Works Supervisor

HEAVY PLANT			Start	End	MTD		
Total							
Plant Item	Year	REGO	Hours	Hours	Total	Service	Ownership
Cat Grader 12H	2005	MU 141	7759	7893	134		
Cat Grader 12M	2008	MU 51	3875	4008	133		
Volvo L110 Loader	2006	MU 65	3939	4013	74		
Komatsu Dozer	1997		7571	7643	72		
Cat Vibrating Roller	2005	MU 177	347.6	396	48.4		
John Deere Grader	2011	MU 121	847.6	959	111.4		
Bomag Multi Tyre Roller			New	81	81		
Cat 938G Loader				3009.4			
TRUCKS							
Iveco Prime Mover	2003	MU000	237984	240991	3007		
Nissan UD	2009	000 MU	98970	101166	2196		
Iveco Tipper	2004	MU 00	150471	153349	2878		
GENERATORS							
Generator 2-100KVA	2005		937	1260.3	323.3		
Generator 1-83KVA	2005		1144	1543.9	399.9		
Maintenance Genset			16295	16620	325		
Construction Genset			4536	4949	413		
Mitsubishi Canter	2011	01 MU	37043	40913	3870		
Mitsubishi Canter	2004	MU 140	117323	120295	2972		
Toyota Prado	2010	MU0	40385	41500	1115		
Holden Rodeo	2008	MU 167	146240	146716	476		
Isuzu DMAX	2009	MU 300	113280	116893	3613		
Toyota Hilux	2011	MU 1018	30020	35419	5399		
Toyota P/T Vehicle	1986	MU 1017	21079	21079	Not used		
TRAILERS & TIPPERS							
Side Tipper	2001	MU 2010	190603				
Side Tipper – Evertran	2009	MU 662	38986				
Tri-Axle Low Loader	2008	MU 663	32445				
No. 2 float	2001	MU2004	11055				
30000lt Water Tank	2005	MU 2024	8025				
Dog Fuel Trailer	1993	MU 658					
Dog Fuel Trailer	1972	MU 2005					
Dolly 1-Red	2001	MU 2003					
Dolly 2-Black	2000	MU 2009					
New Holland Ford Tractor	2006	MU 380	1368	13824			
Forklift			11648	11656.4	8.4		
Caravans							
Various small plant							
Ride on Mower - JD			72	93.5			

12.2 Works Report – Works Supervisor

CONSTRUCTION CREW

Construction Crew have now finished the Wreath Flower road works, with only the rehab of gravel pits and road furniture to be erected to complete this job. Jeremy did have a slight accident in the last week and I spent 2 ½ days with the crew on the grader in his absence whilst he went to town to be assessed. No bones broken, some swelling and bruising to his hand but he is now back with the crew.

Camp and equipment is now shifting to Yuin to complete the approach to the new re-alignment on the south side of the Greenough River crossing. This new alignment has been pegged with thanks to Rossco Foulkes-Taylor for the assistance of his loader and his help on the 10th March.

MAINTENANCE CREW

The maintenance crew are on the Beringarra Pindar road 30km north of top shed. They will be moving up to the Nookawarra-Mileura intersection towards the end of this week.

Roads graded this month:

Boolardy Kalli road completed
Beringarra Pindar road 75% completed.

FLOOD DAMAGE CREW

The remaining flood work will be completed by new contractors Wadjers Alliance instead of Northcoast.

The Wadjers crew will work the same as our road crew - 10 days on and 4 days off. They will commence next week on Tuesday the 20th on my return from break.

Work will commence on the completion of Butchers Track and then will move up to the by-passes at Curbur if the approval for these works is received from MRD by then.

PLANT

A considerable amount of money has been spent on the Iveco prime mover (\$23,000). This truck may need to be considered for replacement in next year's budget

Purchase of new more modern generators may also need to be considered in next year's budget.

The new Bomag is going OK, has had a few teething problems, but all sorted.

GRIDS

I am still in the process of trying to organise the 3 new grids to be replaced and we now have an additional grid that requires some repairs at Woolleen. This will be repaired as soon as possible.

STAFF

We have a full crew apart from Neil who is still on workers compensation. (Apparently his leg is taking a lot longer to heal and he still has the cage on at this stage).

A compliment has been received again on the appearance of our settlement. This time by the ladies of the Murchison Arts Council, so a thank you to our gardeners Trevor and Leanne and our cleaner Stacey.

The only other staff issue relates to Jeremy's minor accident as mentioned above and safety measures will be adopted to avoid similar accidents occurring.

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Halleen

That the Works Supervisor's Plant and Works Reports be received and adopted.

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

CARRIED 6-0

Plant Report

Council expressed support for the suggestion by the Works Supervisor that the Plant Report be based on calendar months i.e. the report on each plant item be from the first to the last day inclusive of the month previous to the Council meeting – February Plant Report presented to the March meeting of Council.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION WHILE THE WORKS SUPERVISOR IS IN ATTENDANCE

A. Adjustment to the 2011/12 Works Programme

Background:

Earlier this financial year it was decided that the section of bitumen on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road between 10 and 20 Kms south of the settlement needed to be re-sealed prior to winter 2012. This job however was not included on the 2011/12 budget. Apparently it was unofficially decided that the works programme could be adjusted to cater for this job. At the March meeting (at which time I did not know about this re-sealing job or how it was intended to finance it) Council made some adjustments to the works programme including it seems the deletion of some jobs which would have gone towards this re-sealing job. To fit this re-sealing job estimated to cost \$280,000 (GTS are currently calling tenders on Council's behalf for this job) into the budget and include the new jobs Council included at the February meeting some further adjustment is required as under:

Decided at the February Meeting-

Delete jobs to the value of	\$265,000
Include new jobs to the value of	\$128,000
Unallocated – decide where to allocate at March meeting	\$137,000

To fund the Carnarvon-Mullewa sealing job estimated to cost \$280,000

Allocate \$137,000 (from above) to the Carnarvon –Mullewa re-seal	\$137,000
Plus-	
Delete E 122293 Bunding Various roads	\$112,000
Reduce E 122296 Re'hab gravel pits from \$50,000 to \$19,000	\$ 31,000
Total for re-sealing job Carnarvon-Mullewa Road	\$280,000

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

Consideration of road works is within the scope of the L G Act

Financial Implications:

No adverse effect on the current budget. Council is adjusting the budget to allow for works of greater priority.

Voting:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Squires

Seconded Councillor Halleen

That the works programme portion of the budget be further modified to fund the re-sealing of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road bitumen between 10 and 20 kms south of the Murchison Settlement estimated to cost \$280,000 as under –

Allocate \$137,000 unallocated from adjustments made in February 2012	\$137,000
Delete E 122293 Bunding Various Roads	\$112,000
Reduce E 122296 Re'hab gravel pits from \$50,000 to \$19,000	\$ 31,000
Total estimate for re-sealing 10 kms Carnarvon Mullewa Road	\$280,000

CARRIED 6-0

B. Regional Road Group Allocations 2012/13**Background:**

Memo from Robyn Duncan Mid West RRG resume' as under

I have recently received advice that the indicative allocation to the Mid West regional road group is set to increase. If this does occur it will mean that the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road project will receive the full grant amount in 2012/13 of \$298,333 towards a project to cost \$447,500 with the Shire contributing \$149,167. If Council does not wish to accept the total funding proposal then the minimum funding of \$100,000 will apply with council contributing \$33,333 total road project of \$133,333.

The upshot is that for an extra contribution of \$115,834 Council will receive an additional \$198,333 to build an extra \$314,167 of road. Summary as under-

Proposed if grant increases

RRG	Shire	Total
298,333	149,167	447,500
Existing		
100,000	33,333	133,333
Extra		
198,333	115,834	314,167

Statutory Environment:

Council is able to negotiate road funding

Financial Implications:

None

Voting:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Seaman**Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**

That in the event that the RRG road funding allocation increasing as indicated (RRG Secretariat advice) Council accept the additional funding for the 2012/13 Carnarvon-Mullewa Road project being a RRG grant of \$298,333 supported by a Shire of Murchison contribution of \$149,167 for a total project sum of \$447,500 and on advice that these additional funds are available these figures be included in the 2012/13 budget.

CARRIED 6-0

C. Crosslands Resources Ltd – Extension of Road Train Permit, Road Maintenance Etc**Background:**

The current agreement with Crosslands expires 30th June, 2012.

Crosslands write-

As we since discussed Crosslands intends to use the road in relation to the expansion of Jack Hills post the current agreement term. Accordingly, Crosslands wishes to further the term of the agreement.

To facilitate the extension Crosslands and the shire agree that the terms of the Agreement be further extended on the same terms and conditions, including the requirement that Crosslands pays the fees set out in Schedule 4 of the Agreement. The new termination date of the Agreement expires on 30th June 2016.

If you agree with this proposal, please sign below where indicated as your confirmation and return a signed copy of this letter.

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

Road Agreements are well within Council's legislative boundaries.

Financial implications:

The same as the existing arrangements

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Mc Taggart

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council approve of the extension of the existing Road Train Permit Agreement incorporating road maintenance and other matters to 30th June, 2016 and that Acting CEO sign the 'extension' document and return it to Crosslands.

CARRIED 6-0

D. McNabb Conservation – Road Works

Letter from Mr A D McNabb delivered by hand to the Acting CEO 1.50 pm 8th march 2012.

Note that this is prior to the close of tenders for road works and sealing on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road.

Mr McNabb did not furnish a tender for the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road job but wishes to draw Council's attention to several matters in relation to this job and the calling of tenders. A copy of Mr McNabb's letter attached to the agenda.

For the consideration of Council

The letter was Received

E. Tender for Road Works and Sealing Carnarvon-Mullewa Road

Background:

Tenders, called by GTS on Council's behalf, closed 8th March, 2012 and are being assessed by GTS. On receipt this information will be advised to Council.

Interest Declared:

There could be.

Statutory Environment:

Consideration of road works tenders are well within Council's legislative boundaries.

Financial Implications:

The budget for this project is a little over \$800,000. The tenderers have been asked to tender on 5.2 kms with an extra sum to 'go further'. Council is not bound to accept a tender. A tender accepted must represent, in Council's opinion, value for money.

A report was received from Greenfields Technical Services detailing the tenders received.

These ranged, for just 5.2 kms of construct and seal roadway from (excluding pre construction work by GTS and Shire Project Management) \$919,460 to \$2,622,839.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded Councillor Halleen

That all tenders be rejected – no tender be accepted and that GTS be asked to advise all tenderers accordingly.

CARRIED 6-0

F. Re-seal 10 kms Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Between 10-20 kms South of Settlement

Background:

Earlier this financial year it was decided to proceed with the re-seal of 10 kms between 10 and 20 kms south of the Murchison Settlement Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. This work is considered to be urgent. The scope of the work is-

Full Service geotextile-reinforced 10mm single coat seal over existing sand seal.

Tenders, called by GTS on Council's behalf, closed 8th March, 2012 and are being assessed by GTS. On receipt this Information will be advised to Council.

Interest Declared:

None

Statutory Environment:

Road sealing is well within Council's legislative boundaries.

Financial Implications:

This project, considered to be imperative to proceed with before winter, was not included in the 2011/2012 budget. Adjustments to the budget – See Item 12.2 A this agenda - will allow this project to proceed. An early estimate of the cost is \$280,000.

A report was received from Greenfields Technical Services detailing the tenders received.

An abridged summary of tenders received as under-

Bitumen	
Boral Asphalt	\$357,316
Fulton Hogan	\$566,950
Bitumen Surfacing	\$239,316
Aggregate	
Winchester	\$58,100
Holcim	\$44,765

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded Councillor Mc Taggart

That the tender for the re-seal of ten kms of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road between 10 and 20 kms south of the Murchison Settlement as per specifications provided submitted by Bitumen Surfacing /Holcim as under-

Bitumen	\$239,316
Aggregate	\$. 44,765
TOTAL	\$284,081

be accepted subject to clarification of Council's understanding that no further costs in relation to accommodation charges etc.in excess of the tender sum will be charged to Council.

CARRIED 6-0

Luncheon Adjournment.

Council adjourned for lunch 12.50 pm

CSIRO Officers Antony Schinckel and Douglas Bock joined Council for lunch.

Council resumed at 1.50 pm with all Councillors and the Works Supervisor present.

Construct and seal 199-206 SLK Carnarvon-Mullewa Road

Council considered the options available for the completion of this job.

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved Councillor Halleen

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council, using its own resources with the hire of some additional plant and operators (for all or part of the job) undertake the project of the construction and sealing of the 199 – up to 209 SLK Carnarvon-Mullewa Road, the length of the job to be as far as the budget will allow, and this job be commenced after Council's roadworks commitments on the Beringarra-Pindar road are complete and the Works Supervisor be asked to draw up a programme for the April meeting of Council for the completion of this job including projected requirements for the hire of additional plant and operators for this project.

CARRIED 5-1

The Works Supervisor left the meeting 2.05 pm.

At 2.06 pm the Shire President welcomed CSIRO Officers Mr Antony Schinckel and Mr Douglas Bock to the meeting.

Mr Schinckel followed on from the information given earlier in the meeting by Mr Turner. There was a possibility of obtaining a dish sometime in the future for re-erection in Murchison as part of an interpretive centre. The proposed field day visit to the MRO could include a naming event for the antennas and the buildings using both Wadjjarri and European names.

Doug Bock introduced himself, he had worked for two years with CSIRO mainly on their ASKAP project and had been involved in radio astronomy for about 12 years mainly in the USA.

Both gentlemen said they would like to be involved in local events including the Astrofest.

The Shire President expressed appreciation for their visit and keeping Council up to date with the MRO.

Mr Schinckel and Mr Bock left the meeting at 2.29 pm.

Councillor Seaman left the meeting at 2.30 pm and returned at 2.32 pm.

13. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

None

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

The Shire President announced that he had been keeping in touch with Ms Lydia Highfield in relation to the appointment process for a new CEO. Lydia had been requested to seek additional reference checks for some selected applicants.

The President had attended the recent WALGA State Council meeting. There are nine new State Councillors. He has been appointed to a newly created Mining Communities Policy Forum.

Two important issues of note facing WALGA were Constitutional Recognition and Services to Aboriginal Communities. A final comment was that Mrs Moira Girando recently retired Shire President of the Shire of Coorow had been made a Freeman of the Municipality – Shire of Coorow.

Councillor Seaman left the meeting at 2.47 pm and returned at 2.49 pm.

14.2 Councillors

Councillor Halleen mentioned the potential fire hazard caused by the amount of fuel throughout the Shire and the continuing hot weather and said perhaps Council should consider extending the Prohibited Burning Time period.

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor reported on the visit to the Shire of Upper Gascoyne with Councillor Seaman and the Acting CEO on 7th March. The Regional Collaborative Group is now up and running with RSM Bird Cameron being appointed the consultants to prepare the strategic and financial plans for the two Shires Upper Gascoyne and Murchison utilising funds made available via the Local Government Department. The thrust of the RCG was co-operation and resource sharing and not amalgamation. A lot of information was made available by the Local Government Department representatives, Caroline Tuthill and Mark Glasson.

Councillor Squires reported on his attendance at the contractor's information day for the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road tenders. His report on this day had been e mailed to all councillors by the Acting CEO.

Councillor Seaman had attended a meeting of the WARAG (~~SKA promotion~~) on 20th February. It was a difficult meeting and covered matters including the future Chair of the group and the use of roads where activities increased the use of certain roads and how the upkeep can be financed.

Councillor Seaman added to the comments by Councillor Foulkes Taylor about the satisfactory outcomes of the 7th March RCG meeting at Gascoyne Junction.

The Shire President, Councillor Broad, left the meeting 3.25 pm

The Deputy President occupied the Chair.

The Senior Finance Officer Dianne Daniels attended the meeting 3.26 pm

The Shire President returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair. The Deputy President resumed his seat 3.28 pm

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16. FINANCE

16.1 Financial Activity Statements to 29th February 2012

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Senior Finance Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 10th March, 2012

Attachments: Financial Activity Statements for 29th February, 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 29th February, 2012.

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:

Summary of Financial Results

The Current Position at 29 February 2012 is \$753,374 so a strong improvement on 1 July 2011 brought forward, which was a deficit of \$16,639 and also an improvement on January's \$596,919.

The Net Result for February is a deficit of \$83,609, which is an improvement on prior months, but still well short of the Annual Budgeted \$33,831 surplus. However, rates have not yet been raised and this will be addressed in another Item on the agenda. Shire of Murchison has budgeted for income of \$327,473 from rates, so once we have raised those, our position against budget will be a lot healthier. Please refer to the graph of Income/Loss against Budget for each month of this financial year for the Net Result trend.

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

CSIRO

As requested, please find below the status of our transactions with CSIRO/Squires Resources for the maintenance of the Pindar-Beringarra Road as at 29 February 2012:

Under the terms of the Deed of Covenant between CSIRO and the Shire of Murchison, CSIRO agreed to make an initial contribution of \$200,000 (plus GST). If those funds were expended prior to the expiry of the

Construction period, CSIRO agreed to pay on invoice for agreed works done in accordance with the road inspections carried out by MSC and CSIRO.

CSIRO (Inc GST)	
SOM invoices to CSIRO	\$1,348,050
Outstanding < 30 Days	<u>\$ 140,620</u>
Paid to Date	\$1,207,430

Squires Resources (Inc GST)	
Squires bills to SOM	\$1,218,126
Outstanding < 30 Days	\$ 124,995
Outstanding > 30 Days	<u>\$ 15,595</u>
Paid to Date	\$1,077,536

Please note that Council charges an industry acceptable Administration and Overhead Fee of 12.5% over and above the Contractors invoices and this is the difference between the amount CSIRO have paid SOM to date and the amount SOM have paid Squires Resources to date. This fee was discounted for the first three claim periods due to inadequacies in reporting in those periods.

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 29th February, 2012, as attached.

CARRIED 6-0

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

File:

Author: Dianne Daniels Senior Finance Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 10th March, 2012

Attachments: EFT & Cheque Detail for

Matter for Consideration:

Authorisation of accounts paid during the month of February 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 February, 2012 as per attached schedule.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded Councillor Halleen

That the accounts for payment as per the attached Schedule presented to this meeting totalling \$654,751.85 be passed for payment by Council.

CARRIED 6-0

The Senior Finance Officer left the meeting 4.02 pm.

17. DEVELOPMENT

Nil

Mr Darryl Grey – Grey's Freight Service

At this stage Mr Darryl Grey attended the meeting 4.04 pm.

Mr Grey thanked Council for allowing him to attend and to bring Council up to date with aspects of the freight service to Murchison he is contracted to provide for the Shire.

Mr Grey covered the period during which he encountered some problems prior to him acquiring his new refrigerated truck and the period of improved service since. He said sometimes it was difficult to arrive in Murchison before sundown but he was trying to achieve this.

He said there has never been a restriction on the number of reasonable pickups for any one person or business. Any requests for pickups has to be reasonable.

Mr Grey and Council discussed the freight service generally.

The view of Council was the hope that the freight service would continue to provide a good service and any existing problems would be 'ironed out'.

Mr Grey left the meeting at 4.30 pm.

18. ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL

18.1 Fees and Charges

Background:

Council did not appear to adopt a schedule of fees and charges at the time of adopting the 2011/12 budget. We have the schedule adopted at the time of adopting the budget in 2010. The staff believe it would be appropriate for this schedule to be revised and a suggested schedule be produced for Council's consideration.

Interest Declared:

Nil

Statutory Environment:

Council is required to have such a schedule and review at appropriate times.

Financial Implications:

Very slight – some charges will vary from previous.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded Councillor Mc Taggart

That the staff prepare a recommended Schedule of Fees and Charges for goods and services provided by Council for consideration at the April meeting of Council.

CARRIED 6-0

18.2 See item - Page 5

18.3 Procedure Following Sufficient Funds for Ballinyoo Bridge Project

Background:

It is important that there is a strategy in place to follow in the event of sufficient funding being available, and advised in writing to Council, to enable the Ballinyoo bridge project to proceed without having to wait for a Council Meeting. This strategy is contained in the officer's recommendation.

Interest Declared:

None

Financial Implications:

The proposed strategy does not impose additional cost, just enables immediate action.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Seaman

Seconded Councillor Squires

That in the event of sufficient funding being available, and advised to Council in writing, to enable the Ballinyoo Bridge project to proceed the following strategy be adopted without further reference to Council-

The CEO prepare a draft announcement/public statement to the effect that the Ballinyoo Bridge project is to proceed and refer this to the Shire President for approval.

On approval this announcement is made available to the public.

BG&E Consulting Engineers are appointed as consulting engineers for the project.

BG&E are directed to prepare the bridge design taking into consideration all previous work to partially achieve this and in particular records held by MRWA in relation to Murchison River flood levels and design information held by MRWA Bridge Section. BG&E to liaise with MRWA in relation to this project and also obtain any necessary Native Title Approvals, clearances etc.

Arrangements be investigated to have a scale model of the existing bridge and approaches made.

The MidWest Development Commission and other stakeholder to be kept informed of progress.

and this be fully reported to the next meeting of Council.

CARRIED 6-0

19. NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor Foulkes-Taylor had given notice that it is his intention to move the following motion at the March, 2012 Meeting of Council.

“ That Council call tenders for the supply of a second hand, single cab, diesel, two wheel drive, 2.5 to 3.5 tonne tray back truck for use by plant maintenance person – the truck to be 2006 or newer, less than 150,000 km, have a bulbar and a spare tyre.”

Some Background:

Council has \$50,000 in the budget for the purchase of such a vehicle. The works supervisor is endeavouring to set up a fully equipped, Shire controlled service truck for use in the field.

Last financial year the machine operator general maintenance, plus outsourced servicing, had a budget of \$248,000, and by June 30th it had blown out to an actual \$543,000 (more than double).

Operating under the current system (which a fully equipped truck would allow us to continue and improve) we have spent \$137,000 to the end of January this financial year. Allow for the extra, specialized mechanical work that may have to be done in Geraldton under our new system, we are still heading towards a very big saving. Some vehicles in Perth of the kind Council seeks 2006 – 2008 \$34-35,000.

Interest declared:

Nil

Statutory Environment:

Purchase of Council plant is well within Council's legislative boundaries

Financial Implications:

\$50,000 is provided for this in the current budget.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor**Seconded Councillor McTaggart**

That Council call tenders for the supply of a second hand, single cab, diesel, two wheel drive, 2.5 to 3.5 tonne tray back truck for use by plant maintenance person – the truck to be 2006 or newer, less than 150,000 km, have a bull bar and a spare tyre.

CARRIED 6-0

20. CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Activity
22 nd February	With the Shire President, in the Council Chambers met with representative of Crosslands Resources namely Kobus Potgieter, Peter George who is retiring from Crosslands and Duncan Truman who is replacing him. Kobus gave a detailed overview of where the company was at in relation to the Jack Hills Iron Ore Project
29 th February	With Works Supervisor Brian Wundenberg attended Greenfields Technical Services 'field day' for intended contractors for the roadworks and sealing tender on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. It was well attended by contractors. Councillor Squires attended in his capacity as a Councillor. For the CEO it was an excellent day, the first time he'd been exposed to roadworks since arrival in mid-January.
1 st March	Attended the Murchison Zone CEO's meeting known as MEG held at Mount Magnet. The MidWest Development Commission provides the secretariat for this which is excellent support. A wide range of matters of common interest were discussed including the new Romans 2 Road Inventory System (guest speaker Graham Lantzke from WALGA) and new obligations on Councils to satisfy insurance requirements (guest speaker Kyle Waters from LGIS). This was a full day concluding at MM at 5.15 pm.
7 th March	With Councillors Foulkes-Taylor and Seaman attended the RCG meeting at Gascoyne Junction. Everyone who was expected attended the meeting. Good information was provided and all attendees now have a better understanding of what the RCG is all about. Cr Foulkes-Taylor flew Murchison's three delegates to/from Gascoyne Junction which was appreciated.

COUNCIL DECISION/OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

Seconded Councillor Seaman

CARRIED 6-0

21. URGENT BUSINESS

PROHIBITED BURNING TIMES

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council extend the Prohibited Burning Times for the Shire of Murchison by four weeks with the PBT expiring midnight Saturday 28th April, 2012.

Seconded Councillor Mc Taggart

CARRIED 6-0

22. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Moved Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

That Council move behind closed doors 4.58 pm

Seconded Councillor Squires

CARRIED 6-0

Council discussion.

Moved Councillor Halleen

That Council move from behind closed doors 5.01 pm

Seconded Councillor Foulkes-Taylor

CARRIED 6-0

23. MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting 5.02 pm