



**LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

Meeting of the
Local Emergency Management Committee
held at the **Mount Barker State Emergency Service Depot**
5.30pm Tuesday 3 February 2009

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Present

Cr Ken Clements	Shire of Plantagenet (Chair)
Nicole Selesnew	Shire of Plantagenet
Keith Hart	Community representative
Eric Howard	Shire of Plantagenet
Wesley Beck	Mt Barker Community College
David Burcham	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Gill Toone	Mount Barker Red Cross
Sarah Evans	Department for Child Protection (DCP)
Sgt Allan Spicer	Mount Barker Police
Adam Smith	Fire & Emergency Services Authority (FESA)
Jeff Roach	State Emergency Service
Ray Parry	Shire of Plantagenet
Alanna Robbins	Plantagenet Cranbrook Health Service
Ewen Hill	St John Ambulance
Carrie Linster	Mount Barker Volunteer Fire & Rescue (MBVFRS)
	St John Ambulance – Mount Barker

Apologies

Rayona Evans	Shire of Plantagenet
Rosemary Ward	St John Ambulance – Rocky Gully

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved D Burcham, seconded K Hart:

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held 4 November 2008 be confirmed.

4 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Location / Address: N / A
Name of Applicant: N / A
Author: Nicole Selesnew
Date of Report: 22 January 2009

Local Emergency Management Committee Guide

The West Australian Local Government Association, in conjunction with the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA), has published the 'Your Community Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Guide'.

A copy of the guide is attached. It provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the LEMC's and guidance to people that find themselves with an active role on a LEMC.

Please take the time to read through the guide and bring along any questions to the meeting.

Community Emergency Services Manager

Shire staff and representatives met with Mr Merv Austic and Mr Russell Gould of FESA regarding the opportunity to jointly fund a Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) for the Shire.

The role of a CESM is to focus on the preparedness, prevention, response and recovery activities associated with a range of emergencies and to educate the community about the emergencies that threaten the district and how to respond in different situations.

FESA has a submission with the State Government seeking more funding for CESM positions throughout the state, to which they are expecting a response in April. If the submission is successful, FESA will decide where to appoint the CESM's.

The Council has also agreed to consider funding for the CESM position in the 2009 / 2010 budget.

The Committee discussed the Community Emergency Services role and the benefits for the LEMC and individual emergency services groups. Key points were volunteer recruitment and retention and community education opportunities.

5 GENERAL BUSINESS / MATTERS ARISING

Emergency Services Directory

The new Emergency Services Directory Map books are in draft format with a draft to be distributed prior to Easter. The maps include details such as roads, dams, railway lines etc and include aerial photographs in addition to the maps.

The map books will be distributed to all emergency services organisations.

Leavers Alive

FESA has produced a DVD of the Leavers Alive demonstration held at the Mount Barker Community College. The DVD goes for 9.5 minutes and is quality viewing.

ACTION:

Ewen Hill to display the DVD at the next LEMC meeting.

Stand Pipes

The automated stand pipes have been installed. The cards are being programmed and will be distributed to all of the Bush Fire Brigades.

Mount Barker Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service

Wesley Beck reported that the service has had a relatively quiet summer. The MBVFRS is liaising with the Community College to co-ordinate a trial evacuation.

Plantagenet/Cranbrook Health Service

The Health Service is working on an evacuation plan for reference. Alanna Robbins will forward a copy of the evacuation plan to St John Ambulance once completed.

ACTION:

Nicole Selesnew to forward a copy of the Draft Evacuation Plan to Allanna.

St John Ambulance

A report was received following the Manjimup bus crash incident which highlighted twelve areas that are requiring attention.

One pertinent point was labelling equipment that is used at an emergency, for example oxyvivas, blankets etc. as a lot of this equipment had been left over at the end of the bus crash incident that couldn't be returned as it wasn't clearly labelled.

The Mount Barker Branch may be eligible for a Community Paramedic Officer which is a non practicing paramedic based in the area who is responsible for community liaison, training, promotion and recruitment.

The Branch meets the necessary statistics for an officer however the proximity to Albany may be a detrimental factor.

St Johns aims to have the first seven Community Paramedic officers in place by July and twelve in place by December.

Building renovations at the Mount Barker depot have started, which should give up to 75% additional space.

A new Mercedes van (yellow and green variety) has been received. By this time next year the fleet will be up to date.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

The Bush Fire Season was quiet up to January. There have been six fires in the past weeks and in some instances, the police are investigating arson.

The SES took part in some water bombing training recently.

The Shire is installing a water tank at Karriok airstrip which can be used to refill water bomber planes until such time as a water carting truck arrives.

The Shires new SMS alert system has been used for harvest and vehicle movement ban notifications and has worked well.

Fire and Emergency Services Authority

Adam Smith notified the committee that the Red Cross is hosting some training on 16 and 17 February 2009.

Department for Child Protection

Department for Child Protection was activated for the Bridgetown fires, with fifty people registering through the evacuation centre. Assistance has been given to affected families.

State Emergency Service

The SES responded to flooding issues in November during the heavy seasonal rains.

SES members completed the recent water bomber refilling training.

The Service is initiating a recruitment campaign by distributing posters.

Ian Foote has resigned as Manager of the Unit.

Shire of Plantagenet

Fire hazard reduction work is progressing well. Work in Rocky Gully is due to start in the coming weeks.

The updated LEMC contact list will be distributed with the minutes.

The LEMC Arrangements are pending the finalisation of the Risk Management Strategies. Phil Jefferies offered to assist with this process.

The Kendenup Access Map is being updated by the surveyor and will be distributed on completion.

Mount Barker Police

The Mock Accident is now scheduled for 21 March 2009 commencing at 1.00 pm in Lowood Road, Mount Barker. Groups are to contact Allan Spicer by 17 February 2009 if they can not participate in the mock accident. Groups are encouraged to have promotional/publicity information available to distribute to the public.

ACTION:

Nicole to contact the Albany Advertiser regarding publicity options.

Wesley Beck to liaise with the Mount Barker Community College Media department regarding the filming of the event.

Nicole to arrange a sausage sizzle for Emergency Service volunteers after the mock accident.

6 NEXT MEETING

5.30pm Tuesday 5 May 2009 at St John Ambulance Hall.

7 MEETING CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 7.15 pm

