



LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee
held at the
Court House, Mount Barker Police Station
5.30pm Tuesday 7 May 2013

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr S Etherington, Cr A Budrikis, (Resolution No.251/11), Mrs N Selesnew Mr E Howard, Sgt Al Keogh, Mr M Wills, Mr W Beck, Mr B Cross, Mr R Clarke, Ms R Waud, Ms A Robbins.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Present:

Cr Sue Etherington (Chair)	Shire of Plantagenet
Eric Howard	Shire of Plantagenet
Jeff Drage	Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
Barry Cross	Mount Barker State Emergency Service
Nicole Selesnew	Shire of Plantagenet
Adam Smith	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Wes Bailey	Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)
Murray Wills	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Dave Wright	St John Ambulance
Wesley Beck	Mount Barker Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service
Sgt Alan Keough	West Australian Police

Apologies:

Bryn Gladwin	St John Ambulance
Alanna Robins	Plantagenet Cranbrook Health Service
Ruth Godden	Plantagenet Cranbrook Health Service

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Jeff Drage, seconded Eric Howard

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee held 5 February 2013 be confirmed.

CARRIED

4 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Location / Address: N / A
Name of Applicant: N / A
Author: Nicole Selesnew
Date of Report: 2 May 2013

Joanne Weekes – Community Emergency Services Manager

On 20 May 2013 we'll be welcoming our new Community Emergency Services Manager, Joanne Weekes.

Jo has a strong emergency services background coming from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) where she's worked as a District Support Officer and District Manager.

Jo also has a lot of 'hands on' experience with the State Emergency Service from managing the Albany unit through to delivering training and running operations at emergency events. She has also supported major fire operations through the DFES office.

Jo's contact details will be:

E-mail: cesm@sop.wa.gov.au

Mobile: 0447 091 159

Office: 9892 1149

Amalgamation of Emergency Services Legislation

The DFES is reviewing the emergency services legislation to develop a single comprehensive Emergency Services Act. It is proposed to amalgamate the *Fire Brigades Act 1942*, the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*.

The Shire made a submission to the Legislation Review Team which included the need to ensure protection for volunteers, to retain bush fire brigade services with Local Government and to enable Local Government's the ability to declare an area indefensible.

A copy of the Shire's submission is attached. If any agency would also like to contribute to the review, please contact Nicole Selesnew with your comments.

5 GENERAL BUSINESS / MATTERS ARISING

Mount Barker Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

The Brigade has had a relatively quiet year with little to report. The Annual General meeting is scheduled for June 2013.

West Australian Police

Most activity has been crime related, with little to report regarding emergency management activities.

Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

A reminder that the LEMC Annual Report is due on 15 July 2013.

State Emergency Service (SES)

A quiet time for the service. Training in the use of abseiling/cliff rescue equipment ongoing. The Albany SES unit did a 'Roof Top Rescue' demonstration off the Mount Barker Recreation Centre roof during the April 'Have a Go' Expo.

Bush Fire Service

A relatively quiet summer. The biggest fire incident was at Pugh Rd involving the Mount Barker Volunteer Fire Rescue Service, DFES, Police, plantation companies, water bombers and 20 appliances.

St John Ambulance

Averaging 40 jobs per month. A new ambulance will be delivered to the Mount Barker Centre within the coming week, bringing the number of ambulances in the Shire to four in Mount Barker and one in Kendenup. The RAC Helicopter was used to airlift a patient, landing at Sounness Park.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)

DEC has a new burning approval process in place which is quite comprehensive and takes considerable time. The agency may be separated into two agencies – the regulatory side and the conservation side.

Mock Incident

A LEMC mock incident is being planned, to be held at the Mount Barker Community College. Proposed date is 1 June 2013. Jeff Drage and Sgt Al Keogh to progress the plans for the event, with Joanne Weekes (new Community Emergency Services Manager) to assist when she is available.

Use of Volunteer Stickers on Vehicles

Some Shires have implemented a 'volunteer sticker' which goes on vehicles and can enable people access through road closures. The Cranbrook Bush Fire Service is considering the strategy. John Tonkin, DFES, is sourcing some information regarding the stickers and implementation of the stickers.

Action: Joanne Weekes to follow up the sticker information from John Tonkin and provide the information for consideration at the next LEMC.

Bush Fire Service interaction with WA Police

Murray Wills spoke of the need to meet with the local Police Service prior to the fire season to do a 'meet and greet' and work through strategies involving road closures, communications etc.

Action: Joanne Weekes to organise a meeting in the lead into the 2013/2014 fire season.

LEMC Arrangements

The LEMC Arrangements and contact lists are due for review.

Action: Joanne Weekes to progress an update of the arrangements and liaise with Sgt Al Keogh regarding an update to the contact lists.

SEMC Policy 4.4

SEMC Recovery policy is being reviewed and comments sought. A copy is attached to the minutes for the LEMC's consideration. Please forward any comments to Joanne Weekes.

Test Recovery Processes

The need to test the LEMC's Recovery Process was discussed.

Action: Adam Smith to organise a 'Recovery' scenario for the August LEMC meeting, using the LEMC Mock Incident held in June as the scenario.

ATTACHMENTS

Shire submission to the Emergency Services Legislation Review

SEMC Policy 4.4 Recovery

6 NEXT MEETING

5.30pm Tuesday 6 August 2013 at the Shire of Plantagenet

7 MEETING CLOSURE

Meeting closed 6.05 pm.