



GREAT SOUTHERN REGIONAL CATTLE SALEYARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

SECTION 5.9(2)(a) LGA 1995

Committee Brief

The duties of the committee shall be to:

- *Make recommendation to the Council regarding the strategic direction of the Saleyards;*
- *Make Recommendation to the Council regarding the Environmental Action Plan for the Saleyards;*
- *Bring to the attention of the Chief Executive Officer, industry matters regarding the cattle industry that may not be readily available to persons external to that industry; and*
- *Make recommendation to the Council regarding development works on the site.*

An Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle
Saleyards Advisory Committee was held in the
Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker WA 6324,
1.00pm Monday 1 February 2010.

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr B Bell, Cr M Skinner, Cr L Handasyde, Cr S Grylls 11/10

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Membership

Cr B Bell

Cr M Skinner

Cr L Handasyde

Cr S Grylls

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

1.00pm Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Mr Stewart called for nominations for the position of Presiding Member.

Cr Skinner was nominated for the position of Presiding Member and he had previously indicated his willingness to accept the position.

Cr Handasyde was nominated for the position of Presiding Member however he declined to accept the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Mr Stewart declared Cr Skinner elected unopposed to the position of Presiding Member.

Cr Handasyde was nominated for the position of Acting Presiding Member for the meeting and he had indicated his willingness to accept the position.

There being no further nominations, Mr Stewart declared Cr Handasyde elected unopposed to the position of Acting Presiding Member for the meeting.

3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Members Present

Cr L Handasyde (Acting Presiding Member)

Cr B Bell

Cr S Grylls

Apologies

Cr M Skinner

Observers

Cr K Clements

Cr J Moir

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr S Grylls:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 22 September 2009 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2009 TO JANUARY 2010

Sale Data

(1/10/09 – 22/1/10)

Total numbers including MSA since October 2009 have been 27,338 head. (October - 4629 November - 4727 December - 7414 and January - 10,568).

273 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

Four animals have been put down or removed.

420 bales of hay have been fed out over this time. (October – 13 November – 15 December – 78 and January 314).

There have been 2473 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh. (October – 5 November – 101 December – 960 and January – 1407).

General Business

October

Jodie Elson commenced work on the 14 October assisting with the weigh bridge and office work.

We have completed all the fencing, including the internal fence for the hay paddock and attachment of gates.

Delivery pens were graveled in October.

Repairs to the soak pump were completed in October. This was due to ants getting into the main power source.

Receival pen gates had the last link welded at 90 degrees as a safety precaution to prevent cattle getting out.

November

Main private weigh season commenced.

Mettler Toledo came and calibrated the weigh scales, which were all fine.

Change over and upgrade of the main computer.

More dirt pens were cleaned.

Hay was cut on the 9th and 72 bales were baled on the 23rd. All carted and stacked.

Stewart attended a five day Occupational Health and Safety course in Albany.

Adverts for the commencement of the double sales was put into the Farm Weekly, Great Southern Herald and Albany Advertiser.

December

Start of the double sales – Vealer on the Thursday and Trade on the Friday.

Christmas party was held on the 17 December. Good turnout and everyone seems happy with how the double sales are progressing.

Trough cleaning and yard maintenance and wash down is taking about five days to complete.

January

5 January 2010 was the Elders Breeders sale – all went well apart from prices being down.

On Saturday 9 January 2010 all the Bull Pens were put up for the Bull sale.

Tuesday 12 January 2010 was the Landmark Breeder and Bull Sale. All went well again.

On Wednesday 13 January 2010 the Bull Pens were pulled back down and stacked in the shed.

Greasing of weighing gates has been completed.

General Comments

The Eastern States buyers have been present and buying. This has increased the workload for looking after and managing these cattle until they are shipped east.

John Barden, the Livestock Compliance Officer from the Department of Agriculture and Food has been regularly attending the sales checking on compliance (ear notches, NLIS tagging and NVD's). A number of cattle have been sent home for non compliance. This has decreased the amount of tagging we have to do.

There seems to be an increase in transit animals (ie private kills). We need to address the fees on these animals, especially at this time of the year when yard space is vital.

We are using a lot of scheme water at the moment, due to the hot weather and large holdings.

All parties involved with the sale yards seem to be happy with no complaints.

During discussion, the Saleyards Manager, Mr Smith advised that the efforts of the Stock Squad was having results with the need for NLIS tags almost halving compared to last year. Mr Smith also advised that a lot of cattle were currently heading to the eastern states. Hay supplies had also almost finished mainly due to the number of transit animals being received and there would therefore be a need to buy some more hay. Mr Smith outlined some issues with transit animals not going through the Property Identification Code (PIC) process, which had now been resolved.

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Fathers advised that the Committee had previously agreed that it would be appropriate to hold a function at the yards in March 2010 to recognise its ten years of operation. Mr Smith was making the necessary arrangements. In addition, a grant application was being prepared for GSDC funding of a roof over the dirt pens on the northern side of the yards. However, Mr Smith was having problems getting a formal quote from an appropriate contractor to support this application.

Discussion ensued and the Committee agreed that it should review fees and charges at its next meeting, with further consideration to be given to an equitable fee for transit animals.

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr S Grylls:

That the report of the Saleyards Manager, for the months October 2009 to January 2010, be received.

CARRIED

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – MARKET SOUNDING PROCESS

Market sounding documentation from the Department of Agriculture has previously been forwarded to Councillors for discussion. Councillors are requested to bring this information to the meeting. The Department will be holding a workshop on Monday 1 February 2010 from 3.00pm to 6.00pm in the Committee Room to assist the Shire in developing its position on the market sounding process.

During discussion, the Committee considered its position with regard to the forthcoming market sounding process.

2.46pm Cr J Moir withdrew from the meeting.

6.2 APPOINTMENT OF ADVISOR(S) TO THE COMMITTEE

At its meeting held on 19 January 2010, the Council resolved that no objections be raised to the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee co-opting an advisor(s) to the Committee with no voting rights. It is suggested that this matter be considered by the Committee.

During discussion, the Committee considered that it could consider the appointment of persons to advise on certain issues from time to time, although there was no specific need to do so at present. It was also noted that the Committee should meet with agents in due course in relation to possible changes to fees and charges.

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr S Grylls:

That no appointments to the position of advisor be made at this time.

CARRIED

7 NEXT MEETING

To be advised. To be held at the Saleyards.

8 MEETING CLOSURE

2.55 pm The Acting Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED:
CHAIRPERSON _____ **DATE:** _____ / _____ / _____