



## 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 Saleyards Canteen, Albany Highway, Mount Barker WA 6324, 9.00am Tuesday 1 March 2011.

**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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**Chairperson:**

Cr M Skinner

**Membership**

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr S Grylls

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9.02am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

## 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

### Members Present

Cr M Skinner (Presiding Member)

Cr L Handasyde

Cr S Grylls

### Apologies

Cr B Bell

### Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

### Visitors

Bob Pumphrey – Landmark

Harry Carroll – Landmark

Charlie Staite - Landmark

Terry Zambonetti – Primaries of WA

## 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr S Grylls:**

**That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 14 December 2010 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

## 4 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

A Financial Interest was disclosed by Cr M Skinner

Nature and Extent of Interest: Farming - 400 head of cattle

### **Authority to participate pursuant to Section 5.69 (3) (a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 1995**

Approval has been received from the Department of Local Government via letter dated 10 December 2010, giving permission for Cr M Skinner and Cr J Moir to participate in matters relating to the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards until 31 December 2011.

Mr J Fathers read aloud the letter, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

## **5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

### **5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – 1 DECEMBER 2010 TO 31 JANUARY 2011**

#### **SALE DATA**

Total numbers for December were 9,145, January 12,522 and February to date 4,893 totalling 26,560 head. There have been no MSA cattle in this time.

219 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

16 animals have been put down or removed.

1513 bales of hay have been fed out.

A total of 2576 cattle have been processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Early December was mainly sale related although the Christmas party was held on 16 December 2010 which was well patronised.

The week we finished, all dirt pens on the eastern side were cleaned out, and all troughs were cleaned and left to dry out. Everyone finished work on 23 December 2010.

The Elder's breeder sale scheduled for the 4th January was cancelled.

We all came back to work on the 4 January 2011 to fill water troughs and mow lawns, do private weighs etc.

We purchased 200 small square bales of oaten hay from Owen Sounness at \$8.00 per bale for the Landmark Blue Ribbon breeder's sale. This was sold on at \$12.00.

We had the biggest vealer sale on 13 January 2011 with 3,100 head going through.

On 17 January 2011 Steve and Stewart completed their skid steer training course, both passing.

The new pump for the irrigator was connected on 24 January 2011 and was set up and ready to go the next day. It has been programmed to start and stop by time and it usually runs for approximately seven hours per day which is pumping out 140 kilolitres over one run.

The skid steer has been serviced, with no major issues.

All RCD's have been tested and electrical equipment has been approved by Mt Barker Electrics. No issues.

There was a vealer found wandering down by the tree nursery at the back of the ponds, It was found to belong to LSS having escaped off the back of a truck three weeks earlier. It has been returned to the owners.

Amanda Brown resigned from her duties at the yards, as of 11 February 2011, and at this stage Erika has indicated she will clean through the quiet period.

We had two police officers from the Fraud Squad out of Perth look over the sales and introduce themselves.

The last of the double sales finished on 11 February 2011.

The 1st single sale started on 17 February 2011 with 665 head being sold.

The trade sale on 11th February 2011 saw RSPCA seize an animal which had an inward growing horn in its head, approx 1". The vet was called to remove the horn, then the animal was right for sale, except vendor of animal wasn't the rightful owner. The police were called and the case is now ongoing. Another two animals have surfaced on the unlawful vendor's property, which do not belong to him, so Stewart, Ray Parry and Steve Player went to catch and scan animals which are now seized under the ranger's protocol and are at the Saleyards pending further information from the Dept of Agriculture.

All of the dirt pens have been cleaned with the aid of Mt Barker Hire's skip bins.

The 10 year anniversary plans are well under way, with everything in hand for the BBQ on 10 March at 12pm.

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr S Grylls:**

**That the monthly report of the Saleyards Manager be received.**

**CARRIED**

## 5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 JANUARY 2011

**File No:** CA/126/1  
**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Proposed Meeting Date:** 1 March 2011

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### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to review the preliminary financial position of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards (GSRCS) for the period ending 31 January 2011.

### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

There are no statutory implications for this report.

### **CONSULTATION**

There has been no consultation in relation to this report.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications for this report.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report identifies the current operating position of the GSRCS.

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications for this report.

### **OFFICER COMMENT**

A spreadsheet showing the current position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall YTD operating expenditure is \$324,309, which is \$34,216 below YTD budget. Operating income is \$515,426, which is \$150,345 above YTD budget. The majority of expenditure budget items are below YTD budget and there are no over-expenditures of major concern.

### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr S Grylls:**

**That the report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, relating to the current financial position of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards, be received.**

**CARRIED**

## **6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 MEETING WITH AGENTS**

It is intended to meet with agents to discuss proposals for additional yard space. In addition, given the impending receipt of \$2.3 million from the State Government, the matter of the \$1 per cattle contribution from agents towards repayment of the debt should be raised with them. The administration considers that agreements with the agents should be updated and revised to reflect that the \$1 should continue, but it should be put towards necessary infrastructure improvements or a reserve fund for such items (subject to getting agents to agree to this proposal).

*The Chief Executive Officer, Rob Stewart provided background on the loan payout from the State Government and indicated that the Shire had excess funds of some \$150,000 for capital improvements. He also spoke about the desire to retain the \$1 per head contribution previously for loan repayments, which is now proposed to be directed towards maintenance and capital improvements.*

*The agents attending the meeting were generally agreeable with the proposal for the continuation of \$1 per head contribution, as long as it was quarantined for capital improvements, although the proposal would need to be referred to their respective head offices for a final decision.*

*The Chairman indicated that there were a number of proposals for the allocation of the excess State contribution and the grants funds being sought, including additional yard space, roof over the northern section, hay shed and environmental works.*

*The Saleyards Manager, Stewart Smith tabled plans for new dirt yards on the western side of the saleyards, incorporating extra room for receivals cattle, large storage yards for transit cattle and after sales bull pens. The agents in attendance were very satisfied with the proposals and confirmed that this should be the first priority.*

*The Committee requested the administration to submit long term financial projections for the saleyards, with a view to making a formal proposal to agents on a renewal of their agent agreements, incorporating a continuation of the \$1 per head contribution.*

### **6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

The state of play with regard to environmental issues is as follows:

A copy of the Shire's 2010 Annual Environmental Report has been enclosed. This was forwarded to the DEC on 31 January 2011, in line with the licence requirements. The Executive Summary of Charles Williams' analytical report includes the following statement:

*'In an effort to address the points raised in DEC letter (DEC ref L7407/1998/7) in relation to nutrient levels in irrigation and ground water and to improve waste water management and treatment process onsite advice has been sought and obtained from a suitable consultant (ECOLAB).*

*A meeting and inspection took place onsite late last year with representatives from ECOLAB conducting an inspection and site assessment with the stated objective being to reduce loadings up stream and closer to the source point therefore exporting lower levels of loadings to the surface ponds and ultimately irrigation and groundwater.*



*Accordingly a number of options are being considered with the intention being to conduct actual field trials on a number of options available.*

*As an example one option under consideration is to improve the physical process of solids removal at the screening phase possibly by improved settling and this may be achieved by enzymatic addition or by the use of coagulants.*

*Further analytical data is still required in order to facilitate the selection process.'*

The Committee will recall that it recently resolved that the Shire's environmental consultant, Charles Williams be requested to work with the administration to make a case for the overflow system and contoured infiltration drain to remain in place for emergency and major rainfall events and that a request be put to the DEC for an amendment to the licence to reflect this. This matter has been discussed with Mr Williams. Whilst he considered it was not a matter to be raised in the annual report, he will be including it in the mix of issues to be investigated and for a case to be put to DEC in this regard.

*The Committee noted the intention to invite the Shire's environmental consultant, Charles Williams to the next meeting of the Committee to discuss progress in this regard.*

### **6.3 TRUCKWASH FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Some information has been extracted from the Avdata truckwash system in regard to use of the truckwash over the last 12 months, including numbers of customers and trucks to use the facility, income from customers and national charge rates, which has been enclosed for information.

The analysis includes estimates of the expenditure on the truck wash over this time, although this is somewhat an estimate as we have not been keeping records of the meter readings at the truckwash for the full period. The truckwash is not separately metered and Avdata base their records on minutes and pulses rather than volumes used. The analysis shows that the Shire is more than meeting its direct costs for the truckwash.

*The Committee noted the results of this analysis.*

### **6.4 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

- Proposed trip to Muchea to inspect environmental works.
- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Need for energy audit / additional power requirements.
- Joint advertising campaign with agents for vealer sales.

## **7 NEXT MEETING**

TBA

## **8 MEETING CLOSURE**

10.45am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

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**CONFIRMED: CHAIRPERSON** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_