



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,
9.00am Tuesday 25 September 2012

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr B Bell, Cr L Handasyde, Cr C Pavlovich, Cr M Skinner 238/11

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Membership

Cr M Skinner – Presiding Member

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr C Pavlovich

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9.32am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Members Present

Cr M Skinner (Presiding Member)

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr C Pavlovich

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

Mrs Erika Henderson, Assistant Saleyards Manager

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 14 August 2012 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 9 January 2012, 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 2012.

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 AUGUST TO 18 SEPTEMBER 2012

SALE DATA

Total sale numbers from 1 August to 18 September 2012 were 2,784 head (1,944 and 840)

There have been two MSA cattle in this time.

A total of 15 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

One animal was put down.

Thirty-eight bales of hay have been fed out over this time.

There have been 80 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- The aerator pontoons have all been put together, wired up and placed in the south west irrigation pond, with everything working fine. John O'Loughlin from Patrick Charles Pty Ltd NSW has been over and inspected the completed works, and was very pleased with the job done. A considerable amount of time has been spent with the aerators and extensions to the shed to house electrics for aerators and to cover the diesel pump.

The pumps have been going since 10 September. Usually when you start aerators of this sort the water colour is black. The water colour in our pond is chocolate brown which John was very pleased with and which should mean a very positive and speedy outcome for ponds.

Charles Williams took a sample prior to start up. The process now is that the aerators will be run for two weeks, and Charles will then take a follow up sample for comparison and this will give us some comparative data, prior to adding the enzymes.

- All of the pond areas have been sprayed, so no weeds are growing on dam banks.
- The computer in Primaries' office has been replaced, at their cost. Also, Primaries have now met with Department of Agriculture Compliance Officer, John Barden regarding animal welfare and 'Fit to Load' rules. Stewart and Erika also attended this talk, at the invitation of Primaries.
- The bolts on the auctioneer's walkways have been tightened and, where necessary replaced. This has made quite a difference in structural noise and are quieter to walk on.
- Mitchell's pens have had manure scraped up and sold to Great Southern Sands. There was approximately four truckloads totalling \$1749.00 in income.
- Stewart and Simon have now completed a snatch strap course, mainly used for pulling dead animals off trucks.
- New numbers for the dispersal ramps and side ramp have been ordered, together with more magnetic numbers for pen allocations. Numbers for dispersal ramps were requested by the trucking companies for ease of cattle dispersal.

- We are still getting a lot of cattle coming in with non compliance earmarks; nine one week and 32 the next week.
- The compressors have had their six monthly service, with no problems.
- The sale scheduled for 6 September was cancelled due to lack of nominations.
- The agents had a meeting with Chief Executive Officer, Rob Stewart, on 10 September, particularly to query the progress in regard to additional yard space.

In this regard, earthworks should commence on 18 September with all topsoil in the south west corner of the complex removed and taken to the tip, and replaced with gravel in readiness for new yards. That work is being done by the works crew.

Water troughs will be sought from Newmans concrete in Albany, at a cost of approx \$5,000.00 (plus GST). These troughs will have large outlets for ease of cleaning. Once the gravel is in place we will put in pipes and water troughs in readiness for the steel panels.

- Landmark (Harry Carroll and Charlie Staite) had a dispute over the sale roster for the sale on 13 September, as they believed that they should have been first sale after the cancelled sale the week before. As I explained to them, the sale roster worked on the same principle as last year when we went to fortnightly sales. A missed sale doesn't automatically roll over to the next week's roster.
- A yearling escaped off the top deck of the Esperance truck that we had to recapture and put back in yards.
- The catchment sumps at the end of the selling pens which catch all washdown water and manure have been cleaned.
- The soft floor mats arrived in Perth on 17 September. They will probably be here by the 24th - 25th of the month. Total of 33 tonne (700 Mats).
- Washdown, greasing of gates and general maintenance (lawn mowing) is on track as usual.
- In line with the budget allocation, security cameras have been ordered from Powell Security in Albany.

During discussion, the Saleyards Manager advised of a recent incident relating to the entry into the saleyards of an animal with a broken horn. The Committee considered that a formal procedure needed to be developed in relation to the care of sick and injured animals while on the site.

The Chief Executive Officer also advised that he had recently undertaken an occupational health and safety inspection of the site and everything was found to be in order.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr M Skinner:

That the report of the Saleyards Manager, relating to recent activities at the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards, be received.

CARRIED

5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 AUGUST 2012

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 25 September 2012

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review the updated financial position of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards (GSRCS) for the period ending 31 August 2012.

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 year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$101,034.00, which is \$11,319.00 below YTD budget. Operating income is \$43,478.00, which is \$12,473.00 below YTD budget. The majority of expenditure budget items are below YTD budget and there are no over-expenditures of concern. Operating Income is below YTD budget, particularly for pen fees, although this is to be expected with the relatively low throughput to date.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr C Pavlovich, seconded Cr L Handasyde:

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 PROGRESS ON AERATORS

The aeration equipment has now been fully assembled and put onto the water (see photos). John O'Loughlin attended the site on Tuesday 11 September to commission the equipment. The aerators will run on a pre-determined cycle for an initial two week period, following which Charles Williams will take some samples for comparative analysis.



6.2 PROGRESS ON AGENTS' AGREEMENTS

A draft deed of variation for the agent's agreements has now been received from solicitor, John Woodhouse (see attached). Copies have been forwarded to agents for their consideration.

6.3 BIO-DIGESTER PROPOSAL

The Chief Executive Officer would like to discuss a proposal in regard to the Shire being a test site for bio-digestion equipment.

The Chief Executive Officer prepared a memorandum dated 19 September in this regard. The Committee had no objections to the proposal being further developed.

6.4 ADDITIONAL SAMPLING AND DEC LICENCE COSTS

The attached letter has been received from DEC in regard to a requirement to sample all potential contaminants discharging to land or water prior to the next licence renewal in February 2013. This will result in some additional sampling costs and potentially higher licence costs.

This is a pre-emptive exercise which DEC is undertaking in order to ascertain if holders of Environmental Protection Act licences are causing contamination which would not normally be picked up in routine sampling under those licences.

6.5 MEMBERSHIP OF ALMA

At its meeting held on 14 August 2012, the Committee requested the administration to report back on the relevant costs (including per head costs) and obtain copies of recent minutes of the Association for information.

Copies of two recent minutes of the Association have been enclosed. The joining fees are 0.04c per cattle throughput. Assuming an average of around 70,000 cattle per year, this would equate to 2,800.00 (plus GST).

COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the proposal to join the Australian Livestock Markets Association be endorsed and such membership be reviewed on an annual basis.

CARRIED

6.6 BIOSECURITY AND AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT ACT 2007 – REGULATORY REFERENCE GROUPS

The attached correspondence has been received from the Department of Agriculture in regard to draft Identification and Movement of Stock and Apiaries Regulations 2012. The Saleyards Manager will be reviewing the changes to the legislation, however the Committee may care add feedback in order to prepare a submission.

During discussion, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer requested members of the committee to make any comments direct to him that may be included in a submission. The Chairman noted that the Shire should be careful that the saleyards is not to be used as a quarantine area for diseased stock.

6.7 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Saleyards Signage.
- Saleyards Strategic / Business Plan.
- Saleyards Name Change – Council Report.
- Agents Agreements.
- MediaWiz Advertising Proposal.
- Procedure for dealing with sick and injured animals.

7 NEXT MEETING

TBA

8 MEETING CLOSURE

10.10am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER _____ **DATE:** ___ / ___ / ___