



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.*

A Meeting of the Saleyards
Advisory Committee was held in the
Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker WA 6324,
10.30am Tuesday 10 November 2015

John Fathers
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr J Moir, Cr B Bell, Cr J Oldfield– 226/15
Mr M Skinner – Industry Representative – 21/14

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Membership

Cr J Moir

Cr B Bell

Cr J Oldfield

Mr M Skinner

Cr L Handasyde (Deputy for any member)

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

10.30am The meeting was declared open.

2 ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER

The Acting Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of Presiding Member.

Cr Jeff Moir was nominated for the position of Presiding Member and he indicated his willingness to accept the position. There being no further nominations, the Acting Chief Executive Officer declared Cr Moir elected unopposed to the position of Presiding Member.

3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Members Present

Cr Jeff Moir (Presiding Member)
Cr Brett Bell
Cr Jon Oldfield
Mr Michael Skinner

Staff

Mr John Fathers, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

Apologies

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Erika Henderson, Assistant Saleyards Manager

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Mr M Skinner, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee held on 13 October 2015 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

A Financial Interest was disclosed by Cr J Moir

Nature and Extent of Interest: Cattle Farmer - 100 head of cattle; and
Elders Employee – Work part time for Elders Rural Services

A Financial Interest was disclosed by Mr M Skinner

Nature and Extent of Interest: Cattle Farmer - 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 and Communities via a letter dated 19 December 2014, giving permission for Cr J Moir and Mr M Skinner to participate in matters relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards until 31 December 2015.

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

6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

6.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – 7 OCTOBER TO 2 NOVEMBER 2015

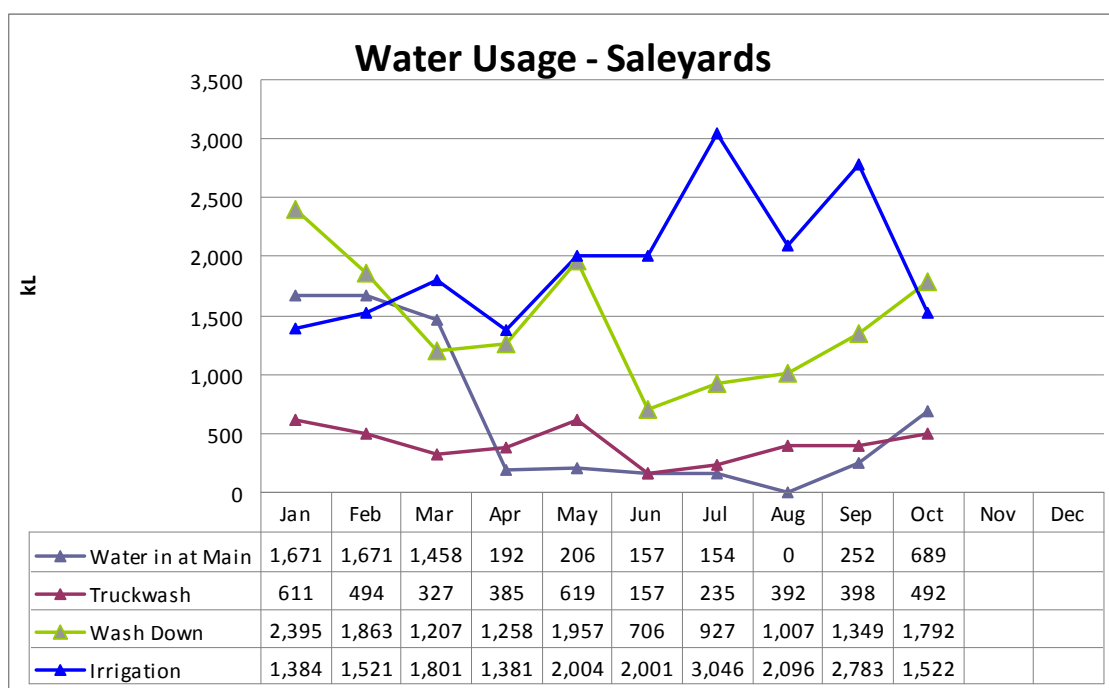
SALE DATA

- Total sale numbers 5,218.
- There have been no cattle eligible for MSA sales in this time.
- 49 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.
- Three animals have been put down or removed.
- 49 bales of hay have been fed out over this time.
- There have been 95 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- On 7 October, the Avdata upgrade was completed, with all working well.
- On 8 October, the prime sale proved to be a challenge with one agent having multiple difficulties throughout the morning, which resulted in them not being prepared for the sale. Subsequently all sale processes continued but the truck drivers were held up while the issues were resolved. (The issues included incorrect information entered into computer, NVDs not being presented by trucks, wrong vendor information against cattle, moving pens of cattle not documented well enough, office checks not done etc).
- On 12 October, the concrete water trough was positioned in the new bull pens. It has not been plumbed in as yet, but this will happen shortly. The pens are working well with plenty of room for eight bulls per pen.
- On 13 October, the pond area, paddock and compound were slashed for summer. The irrigation paddock has also had thistles slashed.
- On 20 October, Plantagenet Sheds & Steel fitted six receivals ramps with ramp extender pipe work to compensate for the gap made by the new rubber bump stops which we had fitted earlier in the year. This is to stop weaners from escaping from between the truck and the ramp.
- On 20 October, Jaguar Cabling (who has bought out Powell Security) was onsite to look at relocating security cameras located at the entrance of Saleyards. The idea is that the camera's will be moved to the southern side of the cattle grid to be able to take a photo of the entering vehicle from a 45` angle. This hopefully should alleviate the problem of headlights. This will be done at no extra cost, except the cost of digging and fill in the trench.
- On 23 October, the skid steer loader stopped working. The Shire's mechanic collected it for repair, however we had trouble sourcing a replacement at short notice, as we needed one as soon as possible for weighbridge calibration. We managed to hire a unit of Southern Haulage for three days. We are still waiting on parts for our skid steer and Southern Haulage' one has been returned.
- On 26 October, Mettler Toledo were on site for three days completing the weighbridge weigh scale cell upgrades. Both weighbridges were calibrated on the Wednesday with no issues and weighing of cattle for the sale went well on Thursday.

- On 27 October, the main light tower on the western side of the compound (which services the side loading ramp) was fixed. We had water issues with the cabling, and we think this may have happened when the main wash down supply pipe burst.
- On 28 October, I had a meeting with the three agents to discuss when it would be appropriate to commence double sales. This conversation was prompted after a lack of rain in the south west. Double sales will commence on 26 November, which is one week earlier than usual. All were in agreement. Also it was decided there would be no sale on the week of Christmas or in the week between Christmas and New Year. The last sale for the year will be the Trade sale on Friday 18 December. The first sale back will be the Landmark Special Black sale on Tuesday 5 January.
- On 29 October, we had no internet connection on the Thursday sale day which had been ongoing since the previous Monday. This made the sale process difficult as no checks could take place before the commencement of the sale and many corrections needed to be made, including three vendors who were not LPA accredited. We had to ferry the computer to John's office to transfer the sale and send out appropriate paperwork. An internet connection was re-established on Friday afternoon.
- On 30 October, Ruhi Ferdowsian (former Department of Agriculture) came out to the site explore possibilities in harvesting water on site.
- I have been exploring better ways of exposure for the Saleyards. I don't believe we have been getting bang for our buck through advertising in rural papers. I have made contact with GWN who put me onto a person in that field of expertise. He came out to view the Saleyards for possibilities within the TV sector.
- Gate 2 Plate nominations are now open. Last year's entrants were given early preference and general entries opened on Monday 2 November. We have already received a good number.
- The latest water usage graph is shown below.



OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

During discussion, members discussed the proposal undertake TV advertising and there was agreement that TV advertising was a more cost effective way promoting the saleyards to both buyers and sellers. The Committee requested the administration to provide a report on the options and budget implications.

Moved Mr M Skinner, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the report of the Saleyards Manager, relating to current activities at the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.

CARRIED

6.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 OCTOBER 2015

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
 Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
 Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 10 November 2015

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review the preliminary financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the period ending 31 October 2015.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There are no statutory implications for this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report identifies the current operating position of the Saleyards.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no strategic implications for this report.

OFFICER COMMENT

A spreadsheet showing the 31 October 2015 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$346,362.00, which is \$49,446.00 below YTD budget. There are no significant variances, although it should be noted that the truckwash controller will come in over budget due to unexpected electrical connection works (\$1,200.00) and an uninterrupted power supply (\$1,500.00).

Overall YTD operating income is \$112,026.00, which is \$17,085.00 below YTD budget. Weigh and Pen Fees are \$7,955.00 below YTD budget as throughput has been impacted by wet weather and stock availability.

Amounts spent so far on the Saleyards Roof project are as follows:

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
1/07/2015	Maxwell Designs	Roof Design	\$6,531.82
29/10/2015	Opus Consultants	Tender Documentation (Part)	\$3,750.00
			\$10,281.82

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved J Oldfield, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, relating to the current financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.

CARRIED

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 LOADING RAMP MODIFICATIONS

The Shire's 2015/2016 budget includes an allocation of \$15,000.00 for modifications to one outloading ramp bugle. Councillors will recall that shifting the access point from one side to the other on each of the outloading ramps will reduce the time drivers have to spend with the animals and will make it easier to control the whole outloading process as all of the main gates will be on the same side.

It will also have the added benefit of increasing the size and shape of the bugles. The increased width will make it easier for particularly wide cows to enter the truck ramps. This should result in a more efficient flow of cattle, thereby making the process quicker, easier and safer.

The Committee has previously agreed that one access point be modified initially. Once completed, an examination of the effectiveness of the modification will be undertaken.

A quotation has been obtained from Plantagenet Sheds and Steel to undertake the work. A proposed design is attached for consideration.

During discussion at the meeting held on 10 November 2015, Committee members agreed with the proposals presented.

7.2 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- Greater use of chlorinated water / Water sustainability – At its meeting held on 27 May 2014, members agreed that the requirements specified in the letter from the Health Department of WA make the operation of the waste water re-use system unviable. A budget item for 2015/2016 has been included for an additional water source. A meeting has been held with a diviner / drilling contractor to seek a potential bore site. Ruhi Ferdowsian has now been engaged to provide supporting advice in this regard.
- Agents Agreements – The new agreements have now been sent out to agents.
- Standard Operating Procedures – Draft procedures have been developed and form an addendum to the new Agents Agreements.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 19 August 2014, it was agreed that some thought should be given to a public relations opportunity for the millionth animal to go through the saleyards.

At its meeting held on 28 April 2015, the Committee considered that a similar event to what has been done previously to promote the yards would be appropriate, with a plaque, speeches and sash around the 1 millionth animal. Some thought will need to be given to how the animal is chosen. Consideration should also be given to whether the throughput calculation is based on sale cattle only, as the current total includes private weighs and transit cattle. At this stage, it is expected that the milestone will be reached in March 2016.

- During discussion at the meeting held on 9 December 2014, the Committee agreed that need for an independent power supply to run the sale and provide water to cattle was becoming more important. The Committee requested the Saleyards Manager to investigate options for a suitable on-site generator. The Saleyards Manager has made some initial enquiries.

- At its meeting held on 3 March 2015, the Committee noted the intention to investigate and provide advice to the Saleyards Advisory Committee in regard to options for the purchase and / or lease of a skid steer loader, with such advice including a history of the current machine, most appropriate machine and a cost benefit analysis of leasing versus other procurement / trade-in options.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 21 July 2015, the view was expressed that there may be a need to discuss the condition of Mitchells Transport's yards, as the yards may require some maintenance or upgrading before the end of the next five year lease term. The Saleyards Manager was requested to provide comment on the condition of these yards for further consideration and it was also agreed to review the lease conditions in this regard.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 13 October 2015, it was suggested that the Shire should take the opportunity to educate and advise producers on common animal welfare issues. The Chief Executive Officer agreed that it would be appropriate to erect a sign at the saleyards, together with a mailout to all producers who have used the saleyards pointing out the expectations under the Code of Conduct and what will happen to cattle which arrive at the saleyards that are not fit to sell.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 10 November 2015, members discussed the proposal undertake TV advertising and there was agreement that TV advertising was a more cost effective way promoting the saleyards to both buyers and sellers. The Committee requested the administration to provide a report on the options and budget implications.

8 NEXT MEETING

8 December 2015.

9 MEETING CLOSURE

11.36am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

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