



## **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  
Saleyards Canteen, Mount Barker WA 6324,  
8.30am Tuesday 11 November 2014

**Rob Stewart**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### Committee Members

*Cr J Moir, Cr B Bell, Cr L Handasyde - 248/13*  
*Mr M Skinner – Industry Representative – 21/14*

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**Membership**

Cr J Moir – Presiding Member

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Mr M Skinner

Cr J Oldfield (Deputy for any member)

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

8.30am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

## 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

### Members Present

Cr Jeff Moir (Presiding Member)  
Cr Brett Bell  
Cr John Oldfield (Deputy for Cr Len Handasyde)  
Mr Michael Skinner

### Apologies

Cr Len Handasyde

### 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 B Bell, seconded Cr J Moir:**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee held on 16 September 2014 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

## 4 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 letters dated 15 April 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 2014.

Mr J Fathers read aloud the letters, copies of which is attached to these minutes.

## 5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

### 5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT –17 SEPTEMBER TO 31 OCTOBER 2014

#### SALE DATA

- Sale numbers total 6,709.
- There have been no cattle eligible for MSA sales in this time.
- 46 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.
- Seven animals have been put down or removed.
- Six bales of hay have been fed out over this time.
- There have been 23 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

- The cattle market price is very strong at the moment with producers capitalising on good competition among buyers. This is showing positivity within the industry and reflects in our above average throughput for this time of year.
- Consensus of opinion is that 'slaughter type' cattle that arrive around January are going to be very limited this season which should mean prices will continue to improve.
- We had 28 people visit from the Albany East Probus club for morning tea and a tour of the yards. They were supposed to be here for approx 1 hour, but they enjoyed the experience that much that they stayed for 2½ hours. They were Quite surprised at how the whole process happens and had no idea that the Shire of Plantagenet had a facility like this. They were all worried about coming to a dirty environment but were amazed at how clean the place was.
- Recently, one of Mitchell's Transport drivers was hit by an animal and knocked unconscious whilst loading his truck. This happened on the ramp of his truck, and we ended up with two ambulances here. The driver had a bad gash to the head and severe concussion. He was taken to Mount Barker Hospital but was then transported to Albany Health Campus and spent 24hrs in hospital. He is now back at work.
- Fire breaks have all been sprayed as well as the ponds and pond banks and immediate surrounds. We also now have our exemption letter from the CEO for vehicle or harvest movement ban on hot days.
- One of the recently aerators burnt out a bearing, so Think water Albany attended and fixed the problem. The aerator was back working in four days. We also had an electrical malfunction in the control box that Mount Barker Electrics has now fixed.
- We have replaced a number of fly screens on doors in the office block.
- We have replaced the bump board on receival ramp 2 with a Surefoot rubber product. (The same supplier as the soft floor matting) Stewart and Cr Handasyde saw this same product at the ALMA conference last month. We have enough product to do five ramps, but we are waiting for feedback on the first one before going ahead.

- Approximately 110mm of rain fell between the 18th October and 24th October which has put a lot of pressure on the pond levels. We are still well within our licence guidelines (the rainfall was most welcome on wash down day, and it has filled our white dam).
- New signs have now arrived, although two site plan signs are incorrect and are being sent back for alterations. They will go up over the next few weeks in time for weaner season.
- Have spoken to Mettler Toledo again re load cell replacement on both weighbridges. Their suggestion is, because they are still both functioning ok, is to leave them for this year, and they will check out the operations of both weighbridges when calibration takes place in mid November 2014. Probably need to carry allocated funds over into 2015 and readdress the issue mid year.
- Rachel attended the Perth Royal show and did well in the Beef cattle section of lead and judging.
- Erika will be busy again around show time, taking a week off for the festivities (work really).
- Stewart is flying to Sydney on 12 November returning on 14 November to attend the Saleyards Managers Association of Australia Meeting. While there, he will do the Weighbridge User certification course which has been offered by this body. There will also be a course on the Humane Destruction of Livestock. Both of these courses will be of benefit to our operation at the yards.
- On 4 December there is a Fit to Load seminar/training day for vendors run by Megan Harrod, Regional Officer Livestock Biosecurity Network. Some of the speakers include Myles Nye-Chart, Vet at Mount Barker Veterinary Hospital, Kim McDougall Harvey Beef and Mike Talbot of Livestock Road Transporters Assoc.
- At this stage, it is expected that double sales will start on 4 December with big numbers predicted.

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**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**

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**5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 OCTOBER 2014**

**File No:** CA/126/1  
**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Proposed Meeting Date:** 16 September 2014

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**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to review the financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the period ending 31 October 2014.

**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 2014 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$352,008.00, which is \$75,442.00 above YTD budget. There are no significant variances, except for Depreciation - Land & Buildings which is \$117,024.00 above YTD budget. There is an increase in depreciation on many of the Shire's buildings due to land and buildings revaluations, which became effective at 1 July 2014. No capital expenditures have been made to date.

Overall year to date (YTD) operating income is \$127,893.00, which is \$18,740.00 below YTD budget. Weigh and Pen Fees are \$9,067.00 below YTD budget although reflect the current level of throughput and is not unusual for this time of year.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Mr M Skinner:**

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

**CARRIED**

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 EXERCISE ODYSSEUS – REPORT TO PARTICIPANTS**

The attached report has been received from the Department of Agriculture and Food in regard to the Exercise Odysseus – the national livestock standstill.

### **6.2 AGENTS' AGREEMENTS - UPDATE**

The draft agents' agreement and draft addendum has now been sent to lawyers Haines Robinson for review, in particular to update these documents with the latest legalese and incorporating suggestions from the administration. The draft agreement and addendum (which incorporates pre-sale and sale day procedures) are attached for information and comment by the Committee.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Mr M Skinner:**

**That the draft Agents' Agreements be noted.**

**CARRIED**

### **6.3 GENERAL UPDATES**

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer provided an update to the Committee on a number of issues:

- A Saleyards webpage has now been established as part of the Shire's website.
- New safety signage has been received, two of which will need to be redone. The signs will be installed by Shire staff.
- An induction sheet has now been prepared for use at the Saleyards. This has been signed off by the LGIS Regional Co-ordinator, John Appleyard.
- A new Saleyards pamphlet has been prepared, which incorporates advice on restricted areas, as recommended by risk consultant Margaret Hemsley.
- There has been a spike in nitrate/nitrite in recent pond water tests, although the spike seems to be trending downwards now. The analytical chemist is continuing to monitor this matter.
- Landcorp is considering the development a high level concept plan for the Yerriminup Estate which would propose to use the Saleyards entrance as the main entrance for the estate to keep costs down.
- The Shire has been encouraged to submit an application for GSDC Regional Grants Scheme funding for a roof over the Saleyards. Following a discussion by the Committee on the roofing requirements, it is intended to have a concept plan drawn and ballpark construction costs determined to support the application.

### **6.4 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 2014/2015 has been included for an additional water source.



- Saleyards Strategic / Business Plan – Both completed.
- Agents Agreements – Primaries agreement signed by both parties. Landmark Deed of Agreement signed by both parties. Elders Agreement not yet received back. Not likely to be received until a new agreement drafted and discussion with agents about \$1.00 contribution.
- Concept design for Saleyards roof – Discussion to be held in regard to expectations at the meeting to be held on 11 November.
- Standard Operating Procedures – Draft procedures have been developed (see attached). It is expected that these will form an addendum to the new Agents Agreements.
- Signage Updates – Quotations have now been sought for the preparation of the signs which will be installed by Saleyards staff. An order has been issued to Jason's Signmakers.
- 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, expected to be in late 2015.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 19 August 2014, members noted Cr Handasyde's comments within his report on the ALMA Conference that it will be increasingly more and more important to secure a position on the ALMA Board in order to have the inside running on the National Issues. It was agreed to give further consideration to this matter.

## 7 NEXT MEETING

9 December 2014.

## 8 MEETING CLOSURE

9.55am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

**CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_