



## 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,  
8.00am Tuesday 14 August 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

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## **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 (Arrived at 8.08am)

### 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 L Handasyde:**

**That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 12 June 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 JUNE TO 31 JULY 2012**

#### **SALE DATA**

Total sale numbers from 1 June 2012 to 31 July 2012 were 5,580 head (June 3,026; July 2,554)

There have been no MSA cattle in this time.

A total of 61 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

Two animals have been put down or removed.

Twelve bales of hay have been fed out over this time.

There have been 127 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS.**

Some alterations have been carried out to the crush. Commander Agquip attended and repaired front gate that wasn't supplied correctly.

On 25 June 2012, Stewart, John and Erika attended a mediation between RSPCA, Department of Agriculture and Vendors Della Vedova, regarding the eight bulls which were destroyed last July after the sale. Notes were made on each of the processes and how it could have been done better by all. The Shire has agreed to a request from the RSPCA for the Department of Agriculture to undertake a voluntary audit of animal welfare processes.

Rubber has now been attached to the inside of the in-gate of both weighbridges. This aids in the removal of cattle off the weighbridge as they can only see one way out.

We have now had feedback from Dave Saunders, Support Services Manager Western Australian Meat Industry Authority, regarding Muchea throughput for the last financial year. Total cattle numbers were 86,582 made up of 77,759 Live Weight and 8823 Appraisal cattle.

Upgrades have been completed to all computers with the new Livestock Exchange Saleyards program.

Following an advertisement for a vacant casual position to undertake mainly weighbridge operations on sale days, we had 12 applicants. Two were interviewed with Charlie Hick being the successful applicant. Charlie is a beef farmer from Narrikup so has extensive knowledge of cattle, and he started on 12 July 2012.

Milton Maisey a long time employee of Landmark and a staunch supporter of the yards since they were built, passed away last fortnight. During the busy season Milton would camp on site, affording a good level of security within the process of sale day. He will be sadly missed.

Councillor Brett Bell and Stewart attended the Australian Livestock Markets Association conference in Bowral in NSW and whilst there inspected Goulburn Saleyards and Moss Vale Saleyards. A verbal presentation will be made at the meeting, with question time and photos.

An issue raised while in the eastern states was the need to join ALMA (Australian Livestock Marketing Association). This will give us a national voice within the saleyard industry, and it is a leg in the door to be eligible for Federal Funding if ever needed. Also ALMA could be an avenue for advice and support if ever needed (in a legal sense). An amount of \$3,000.00 has been put into the budget for this, which was waiting on final confirmation from the Committee.

Erika had one week's leave, so is all refreshed for another 12 months. Erika, Simon and Charlie looked after the yards while Stewart was away for the week. All went well.

We are waiting on a quote for the servicing of the rainwater pumps, which supply the water to the troughs and office block. These really need a service before busy season.

A total of 700 Surefoot mats have been ordered, at a cost of \$79,400.00 (plus GST). These will arrive in two 20 foot containers landed at Fremantle. We then need to get these two containers from Fremantle to Mount Barker, unloaded and then returned within 10 days. Saleyard staff will lay the mats when they get here. The 700 mats will cover six receival ramps, around the two paint boxes and 80 selling pens.

Numbers remain firm and at this stage weekly sales will continue.

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

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr C Pavlovich:**

**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 – 30 JUNE 2012

**File No:** CA/126/1  
**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Proposed Meeting Date:** 14 August 2012

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### **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 30 June 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 end of year position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall end of year operating expenditure is \$533,376.00, which is \$93,106.00 below budget. Operating income is \$614,179.00, which is \$3,060.00 below budget. The surplus to be transferred to the Saleyards Reserve is recommended to be \$82,375.00 (made up of the operating savings and over-budget capital income) as compared to the \$76,268.00 predicted in the 2012/2013 budget.

### **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

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

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr M Skinner:**

**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**

A formal works approval for the aerators at the Saleyards has now been received from the DEC. At this stage, the equipment has been transferred to the saleyards site and the pontoons have been semi assembled.

Four footings have now been put in place on the banks of the south west pond. Two tonnes of concrete have been poured in each footing, which will take 20 days to dry. The pump shed will be extended and Mt Barker Electrics will come and install power for the aerators.

Charles Williams has also recently taken some additional samples to support before and after reporting of results to DEC.

### **6.2 2012 ALMA CONFERENCE**

The Saleyards Manager will provide a report on the Australian Livestock Markets Association (ALMA) Conference, held on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th July, 2012 at Peppers Craigieburn Resort, Bowral, NSW and the associated site visits.

*The Saleyards Manager, Stewart Smith and Cr Brett Bell provided a verbal report in regard to the outcome of the conference and site visits. It was advised that the Shire had once again requested to become a member of ALMA.*

*During discussion, 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.*

### **6.3 MINISTER REFUSES APPEAL AGAINST LICENCE CONDITION**

The Minister for the Environment has refused the Shire's appeal against the licence condition relating to prevention of vegetation growing on pond banks (see attached).

### **6.4 NUTRIENT IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

In accordance with the new licence condition, a revised Nutrient Irrigation Management Plan has been prepared and sent to DEC (See attached – excluding attachments)

### **6.5 LETTER OF WARNING FROM DEC**

The attached letter of warning has been received from DEC in regard to the non-compliance issues associated with the 2011 annual environmental report. No enforcement action is intended, although the Shire does need to ensure that no further instances of loading rates exceeding licence limits occur. In this regard, mid year samples have been taken and irrigation is taking place on when required to keep the pond water levels below the required level.



## 6.6 MEETING WITH SOLICITOR IN REGARD TO AGENTS CONTRACTS

The Chief Executive Officer, Deputy CEO and Cr Michael Skinner met with solicitor John Woodhouse on Thursday 2 August in regard to agent agreements. It was recommended to the Shire that the existing contracts run to the end of their current end date (15 years from January 2000). A contract variation should be entered into to reflect a small number of issues that need to be updated. Following the expiry of the agreements, a new agreement should be entered into. A more detailed description of the advice will be provided at the meeting.

## 6.7 MEDIAWIZ ADVERTISING PROPOSAL

A proposal has been received from MediaWiz for advertising at the saleyards. This was something that Cr Skinner, Deputy CEO and Saleyards Manager saw when on the last interstate trip. There is no cost to the Council and an opportunity for income. This matter is presented for consideration.

*During discussion, the Committee generally considered that a simple advertising proposal involving local firms could be developed. However, it was considered worthwhile to invite this firm to make a presentation to the Committee.*

## 6.8 SALEYARDS STRATEGIC PLAN

*During discussion, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer advised that the development of the Saleyards Strategic Plan would be delayed until November 2012, due to other work commitments.*

## 6.9 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Saleyards Signage.
- Saleyards Strategic / Business Plan.
- Saleyards Name Change – Council Report.
- Membership of ALMA

## 7 NEXT MEETING

TBA

## 8 MEETING CLOSURE

9.05am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

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