



## **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 Saleyards  
Advisory Committee was held in the  
Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker WA 6324,  
10.00am Tuesday 17 September 2013

**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

10.00am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

## 1 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

### Members Present

Cr Michael Skinner (Presiding Member)  
Cr Brett Bell  
Cr Len Handasyde  
Cr Chris Pavlovich

### Staff

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager  
Mrs Erika Henderson, Assistant Saleyards Manager

## 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr C Pavlovich:**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee held on 9 July 2013 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.**

**CARRIED**

*The Deputy Chief Executive Officer provided an update on discussions with LGIS in regard to insurance for the facility.*

## 3 DECLARATION 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 3 January 2013, 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 2013.

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

## 4 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

### 4.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – 1 JULY TO 31 AUGUST 2013

#### SALE DATA

Total sale numbers was 4,800 (244 transit cattle).

There have been no MSA cattle in this time.

A total of 41 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

Seven animals were put down or removed.

A total of 52 bales of hay have been fed out over this time.

There have been 260 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

- Stewart was away on holiday for six weeks, leaving on 22 July and returned to work on 2 September.
- A trial of lime rubble has now been carried out in D pens and some R pens. We have not yet seen any big improvements to water logging.
- An irrigation pipe butt weld came away and Thinkwater Albany repaired it. We have also had problems with the irrigation meter being restricted by cattle hair on the impeller. Thinkwater has been up a couple of times to clean the meter. Some thought will be given to options for another type of meter, although any meter will require ongoing calibration in line with the licence.
- Security cameras are now installed and fully operational.
- The diesel pump radiator was re-cored in brass as it has rusted out.
- The new utility has been received, with the original tipper fitted.
- Work has started on cleaning out dirt pens.
- Eyerite signs have measured up replacement numbers for selling pens.
- Some problem cattle came in from east of Albany on a Saturday and Sunday in August. They were fed and watered and private weighed on the following Wednesday, and moved on.
- The shipment of soft floor mats has now been received. We are waiting on the pins to start laying.
- The office and weighbridges have now had their six monthly RCD test. Two power points were fixed which were not protected (air conditioner power point)
- Charlie and Rachel have done a good job on keeping weeds at bay around the ponds area. For this time of year, the ponds water levels are extremely low.
- The mains water pipe under Albany highway blew a leak on 23 August. The Water Corporation fixed it one week later.
- Murdoch University students recently called in for a visit.

- In the Prime sale during the week of 5 September, six animals had to be destroyed. Three of these came in from Esperance, the problem being transport issues. The other three came in from Manypeaks in a line of 20 cows. All were in good condition when received, but when the agent commenced drafting, it was obvious that there was a bigger issue.

These animals were separated and put on dirt, and quite some time was spent on the phone to the Department of Agriculture Vets in Albany on whether to feed and what procedure to follow. Subsequently these animals were withdrawn from the sale and left overnight on feed and water.

The agent was notified and the vendor was also made aware by the agent and all agreed to wait and see at first light on Thursday. Three were destroyed and the vendor contacted Mount Barker Vets for further advice. These animals stayed until Friday afternoon, after being fed silage and pellets by the vendor. This was all under advice from the vet.

We also had a heifer from the sale trying to calve in Mitchell's pens. It was not fit to load, so the vet was called to pull the calf. The vet bills will be the vendor's responsibility.

*During discussion, members noted the efforts to trial lime rubble in some of the pens. It was suggested that shredded green matter be also trialled in the future.*

**4.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 AUGUST 2013**

**File No:** CA/126/1  
**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Proposed Meeting Date:** 9 July 2013

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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 August 2013.

**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 Saleyards.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no strategic implications for this report.

**OFFICER COMMENT**

A spreadsheet showing the 31 August 2013 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$141,912.00, which is \$11,123.00 below YTD budget. Operating income is \$48,305.00, which is \$4,329.00 below YTD budget. Most of the operating accounts are within or around budget figures, Salaries is currently \$3,203.00 above budget, somewhat due to staffing requirements while the Manager was on leave.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr C Pavlovich:

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**

## 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 5.1 VISIT BY IAN LOVEGROVE (ALMA)

As a reminder, Ian Lovegrove, Northern Field Manager, Australian Livestock Markets Association will visit the Saleyards on Thursday 3 October. The intention is for him to view the sale and then meet councillors and staff at 11.00am.

### 5.2 ALMA MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

An invoice has been received for \$2,524.16 (plus GST) for 2013/2014 membership of the Australian Livestock Markets Association. The Committee's endorsement of ongoing membership is sought (See attached letter) A copy of the draft Code of Practice has been received and copies can be made available if required (145 pages).

The following communication was also received from ALMA regarding the recent conference and possible representation on the Association. This matter is tabled for consideration.

*'Good morning Gentlemen,*

*Firstly I have to report that the Annual ALMA Conference and AGM was a huge success with an overall attendance of 90. We had some very interesting speakers, some excellent entertainment, good food and plenty of inter saleyard networking. You were thought of and it is unfortunate that you could not be there. Try very hard for next year.*

*Now gentlemen, I seek your support as I have been officially assigned to look after the saleyards in Western Australia, and I am proposing a visit as soon as I can make the necessary arrangements. Although I am of WA decent ( my dad was born there ), I am not familiar with the saleyards that operate there and I ask that you give me any and as much information on other yards in the form of names, owners, contact names with emails and phones. I will then make contact and plan my trip. Of Course, Plantagenet will be the core of the visit which will be planned to fit in with the best time for you. Your assistance in this matter would be very much appreciated.*

*Finally, it is that time of the year when I seek out the numbers that pass through your saleyards. Could you please advise the stock numbers that are actually sold as separate to the stock that are in transit ( spelling, weighing etc but not actually sold ), for the period July 2012 to June 2013.*

*There is one other thing. There is a vacancy on the ALMA Board and Western Australia is entitled to and would be welcome to that seat. The Board meets every three months in various Capital cities for ease of travel and each member is allocated \$2,000,pa towards the cost of travel. The meetings start at 1.00pm on a Thursday and finish at 1.00pm on a Friday, therefore necessitating only one overnight stay. I would be very pleased to advise the Board of your acceptance. The next Board meeting is on the 26th and 27th September in Melbourne.*

*I now await your advices on the stock numbers, other saleyard particulars and your decision on the seat on the Board.*

*That is enough for one email.*

*My best regards*

*Ian Lovegrove'*



*During discussion, members agreed to rejoin ALMA for a further twelve months. It was also agreed have a discussion about ALMA membership with Ian Lovegrove, with a view to a position being taken prior to the special Council meeting following the October election, where such an appointment would be made.*

*The Chairman suggested that it would be opportune to discuss opportunities and assistance that ALMA may be able to give to the Shire in securing a grant for roofing of the saleyards (northern dirt pens or entire yards). Discussion ensued about the need to provide some funding for the development of concept plans for roofing options in order to take advantage of grant funding if and when opportunities present themselves. It was agreed to keep the matter of the roofing of the yards on the matters outstanding list.*

### **5.3 CANTEEN LEASE**

For information, the tender for the lease of the canteen has been advertised. It is hoped to get a report to the October Council meeting. The bakery has indicated that they would be willing to carry on for a little while if we have any difficulties transferring to a new lessee. Mick from the bakery has again advised that, in his view the agents should be restricted from doing their free sausage sizzles. If this does continue, this will form part of the advice to tenderers.

### **5.4 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Saleyards Strategic / Business Plan.
- Agents Agreements.
- Procedure for dealing with sick and injured animals.

*During discussion, the Saleyards Manager confirmed that the procedure for dealing with sick and injured animals within the draft Code of Practice was workable and subject to some modifications would be adopted as an internal procedure.*

### **6 NEXT MEETING**

TBA

### **7 MEETING CLOSURE**

11.02 am      The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

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