



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 at the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards, 9.00am Tuesday 19 October 2010.

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr B Bell, Cr M Skinner, Cr L Handasyde, Cr S Grylls 11/10

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Chairperson:

Cr M Skinner

Membership

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr S Grylls

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9.05am 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

Apologies

Cr S Grylls

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer
Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager
Mr Eric Howard, Environmental Health Surveyor

Visitors

Mr Charles Williams

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 7 September 2010 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 and Regional Development via letter dated 17 December 2009, 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 2010.

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 – 20 AUGUST TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

Sale Data

Total numbers since 19 August 2010 have been 4304. Remainder of August 894 head and for September we've had 3410. There have been no MSA cattle in this time.

Seventy-six cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time. 5 animals have been put down or removed. 167 bales of hay have been fed out over this time. Sixty cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

General Business

The Irrigator has been running well when we've been able to keep it going. The dam levels are about 300mm below the overflow. The new irrigation pump has been purchased. It is not in place yet as we are waiting on Plantagenet Concrete to put a slab and bunding down.

A lot of hay has been fed out. More has been purchased from Kendenup at \$5 per bale. We have been holding a lot of cattle that have been purchased and going to the Eastern States. These cattle are being moved when trucks are available.

All the dirt pens have been gravelled and are looking good. Two wash down pipes have broken in selling pens and these have been repaired. A number of chains have been replaced on the weigh bridge lift gates. A lot of general maintenance and repairs has been carried out.

We've had a few problems with the computers going down. Livestock Exchange has done a major upgrade on all the computers.

A steel trip tray has been mounted on my ute.

Two new employees are due to start this month, Erica Henderson and Darryl Elson.

A lot of water samples have been taken from the ponds and the wash down pit for Charles Williams and Eric Howard. This is to get an understanding of the nutrient readings. Tiger snakes have been plentiful. One under the soft drink vending machine was removed and buried, along with others found close by and else where.

A couple of animals fell out of an Eastern States bound truck on the Porongurup road. One of these had a broken leg and had to be put down. The other has now been tracked down and is in someone's paddock, bruised but okay.

During discussion, the Saleyards Manager advised of an incident that occurred during the month involving a seller from Manjimup who had allowed 42 out of 354 cattle to come through with no ear tags. There was no evidence of tags having been in the animals, which took about five hours to process instead of 1.5. The agent has been charged the increased price of \$30.00 per head. The Committee supported the manager's stance in this regard.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the monthly report of the Saleyards Manager be received.

CARRIED

5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 19 October 2010

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to review the preliminary financial position of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards (GSRCS) for the period ending 30 September 2010.

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 YTD operating expenditure is \$157,382, which is \$14,481 below YTD budget. Operating income is \$88,251, which is \$3,080 below YTD budget. Many expenditure items have not yet been spent against. Insurance expenses were \$4,492 over budget. Grounds maintenance is currently \$9,384 over budget mainly due to a \$12k water bill. This was a result of an above average need for scheme water use and also a leak was identified.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

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 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT AUDIT

A letter has now been received in regard to the non-compliance issues detected by the Department of Conservation and Environment (See attached). A suitable response will be prepared.

6.2 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The Shire's environmental contractor, Charles Williams and the Shire's Environmental Health Surveyor will be on hand to assist in discussions on environmental proposals. A number of proposals have been proposed to date, which are included on an email to DEC, copy attached.

DEC have since advised in relation to the planting and irrigation of Blue Gums on the eastern side of the ponds, as follows:

'A brief response to your query:

Any change or expansion to the current irrigation area will require a works approval application and licence amendment

The planting of trees does not require approval from DEC but the irrigation of wastewater to land or trees would.

Any new wastewater disposal (irrigation) area would also require some form of formal approval from DEC (depending on proposed storage and volumes irrigated may require a works approval to construct and license to operate) whoever is in control of the land where the waste is to be stored and irrigated would need to apply.

A Nutrient Irrigation Management Plan (NIMP) would need to be prepared to manage the new irrigation areas.

Feel free to give me or Cassie a call to discuss the process further.

I suggest we have a scoping meeting where you can elaborate on the plan and location further and we can give more through and accurate advice as this can be fairly complicated where the new site does not abut the sale yards.'

During discussion, Mr Williams advised that it may be possible to source aeration equipment on a trial basis. This may help to arrest or reverse the trend of rising nutrient levels. Depending on the results, this may negate the need for a fourth pond. It was advised that the DEC licence requires water samples for BOD loadings to be taken from one of the primary ponds, which seems strange given the irrigation water comes from the secondary pond. This would be followed up with the DEC within the next annual report.

Mr Howard commented that the current configuration of two primary ponds is not efficient and the sludge build up in one of those ponds is likely to be a contributing factor to the higher readings. Discussion ensued in relation to the need for some form of silt trap or compartmentalisation in order to decrease suspended solids entering the ponds.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr M Skinner:

10.05am That the meeting be adjourned until 10.45am.

CARRIED

An inspection of the sullage ponds area was undertaken.

RESUMPTION

10.45am The meeting resumed.

Attendance

Members Present

Cr M Skinner (Presiding Member)

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

Mr Eric Howard, Environmental Health Surveyor

Visitors

Mr Charles Williams

COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr B Bell:

That:

- 1. The intention of Mr Charles Williams to source some aeration equipment for a trial on the sullage ponds be noted;**
- 2. Approval be given for Mr Charles Williams to seek advice from a waste water engineer on a mechanism for removal of suspended solids within the waste water before it enters the sullage ponds and to work towards a design and costings for improvements to this system; and**
- 3. The Department of Conservation and Environment be kept informed of the progress of these matters.**

CARRIED

6.3 OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- Estimate of finalisation of agent contributions (See attached spreadsheet and example lease document – see clause 3.2). Based on some assumptions, it is estimated that the \$1.00 per head agent contributions should cease around the end of 2015, unless new agreements can be reached.

- Timing of vealer sales.
- Proposed trip to Muchea to inspect environmental works.
- 10th anniversary celebrations to be combined with Christmas Party.

6.4 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION / BUDGET DELIBERATION

- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Use of kike as a suitable perennial.
- Need for energy audit / additional power requirements.

7 NEXT MEETING

To be advised.

8 MEETING CLOSURE

11.00am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED:
CHAIRPERSON _____ **DATE:** ____ / ____ / ____