



SALEYARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

SECTION 5.9(2)(a) LGA 1995

Committee Brief

- *Make recommendations to the Council regarding the strategic direction of the Saleyards;*
- *Make recommendations 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 recommendations 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
9.45am Tuesday 22 May 2018

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr J Moir, Cr B Bell, Cr L Handasyde, Cr M O'Dea, Mr M Skinner – Industry Representative – 225/17

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| ITEM | SUBJECT | PAGE NO |
|------|--|---------|
| 1 | DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS..... | 1 |
| 2 | RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES | 1 |
| 3 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES..... | 1 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST..... | 1 |
| 5 | REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS..... | 3 |
| 5.1 | MANAGER'S REPORT – 21 MARCH 2018 TO 15 MAY 2018.... | 3 |
| 5.2 | SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 APRIL 2018..... | 5 |
| 5.3 | CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - AUSTRALIAN LIVESTOCK MARKETS ASSOCIATION EXPO | 6 |
| 6 | GENERAL BUSINESS..... | 8 |
| 6.1 | PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION..... | 8 |
| 7 | OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS / VOTING..... | 9 |
| 8 | NEXT MEETING..... | 9 |
| 9 | MEETING CLOSURE..... | 9 |

Membership

Cr L Handasyde - Presiding Member

Cr B Bell - Deputy Presiding Member

Cr J Moir

Cr M O'Dea

Mr M Skinner

Cr J Oldfield (Deputy for any member)

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9.45am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIESMembers Present

Cr L Handasyde (Presiding Member)
Cr B Bell (Deputy Presiding Member)
Cr J Moir (9.45am to 10.35am)
Cr M O'Dea
Mr M Skinner (9.45am to 10.35am)
Cr J Oldfield (Deputy for Cr J Moir – 10.35am to 10.36am)

Visitor

Cr J Oldfield (9.45am to 10.35am)

Staff

Mr R Stewart, Chief Executive Officer
Mr J Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr S Smith, Saleyards Manager
Mrs E Henderson, Assistant Saleyards Manager

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Mr M Skinner, seconded Cr B Bell:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 27 March 2018 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Part 5 Division 6 Local Government Act 1995

Cr J Moir

Type: Financial/Indirect Financial Interest (Section 5.60 (A) and 5.61 LGA)
Nature: Cattle Farmer and Employee of Elders
Extent: Sell cattle through the Mount Barker Saleyards on average six times per year. Average number of cattle held is 80 head.
Part time employee of Elders in a non-managerial position.

Mr M Skinner

- Type: Financial/Indirect Financial Interest (Section 5.60 (A) and 5.61 LGA)
- Nature: Hold equity in a farming enterprise of which my son owns/farms approximately 400 head of cattle.
- Extent: Son sells cattle through the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards approximately 8 times per year.

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 29 March 2018, giving permission for Cr J Moir and Mr M Skinner to participate in the discussion on matters relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards until 30 April 2019.

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

The Chief Executive Officer advised councillors that he had met with representatives at the Department of Local Government and Communities about getting a relaxation of the authority to enable members to take part in the decision making of the committee. The Shire was requested to write directly to the Director General in this regard.

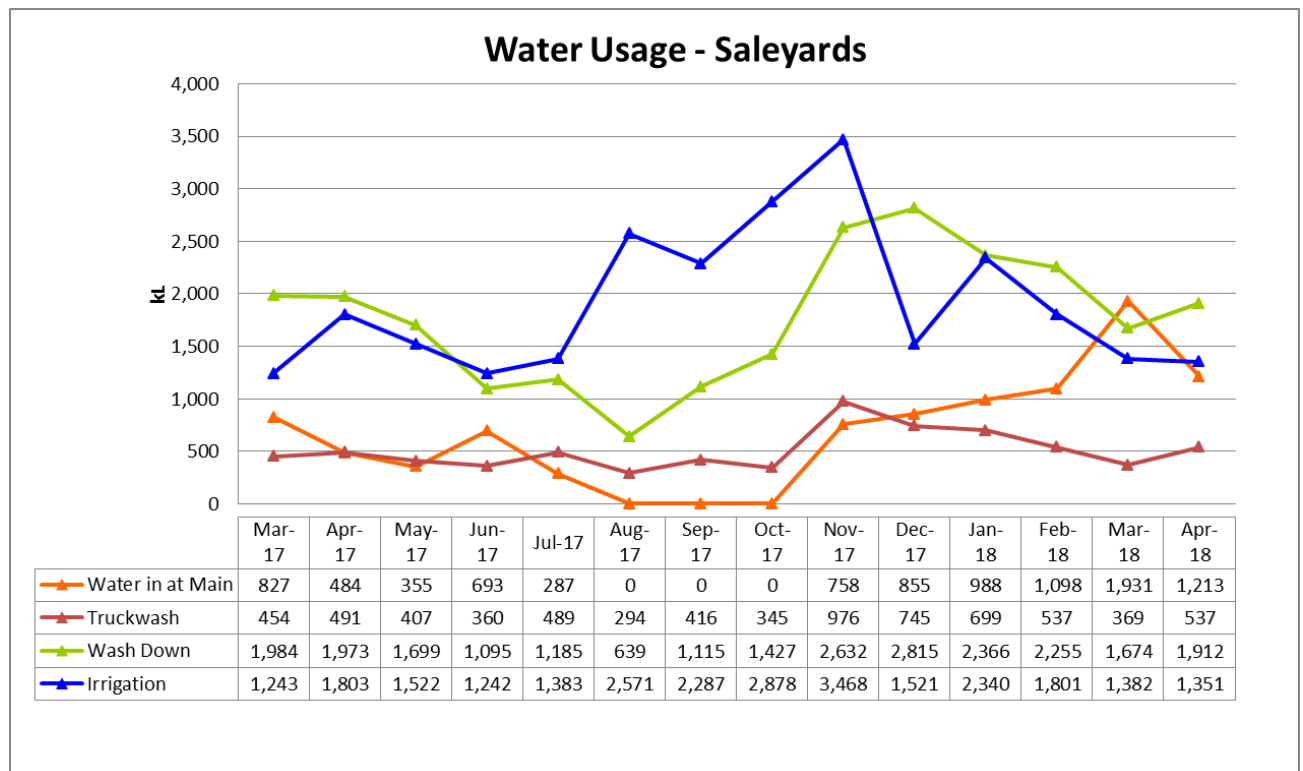
5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – 21 MARCH 2018 TO 15 MAY 2018****SALE DATA**

- Total sale numbers 13,620 head.
- There have been no cattle eligible for MSA sales in this time.
- 115 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.
- 11 animals have been put down, 7 to pet food, 4 to tip.
- 88 bales of hay have been fed out over this time.
- There have been 321 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- On 20 and 21 March, the Gate 2 Plate field day was held at Willyung Farms which was well attended on both days. The top performing cattle were doing 2.1kg gain per day and there were over 200 people in attendance. Schools Challenge the second day saw 93 students from seven schools attend with Narrogin Agricultural college winning and Cunderdin Agricultural School run second.
- On Thursday 22 March, a number of tour groups attended through the yards. They were Friendship Force from Albany who are retired farmers group (25 head), Cunderdin Agricultural College (12 students and teachers) and Mount Barker Community College (20 students and teachers).
- On 28 March the new work utility arrived.
- On 28 March, all concrete troughs were emptied due to the Easter break, with plenty of time for algae to die. They dried again on the Anzac week with no sale being scheduled.
- On 5 and 6 April, Albany Irrigation and Drilling were onsite to test bore for ground water with hydrologist Ruji Fedowsian. Three bores were identified as possible water sites with one very promising. The first bore was to 10 metres where the drillers hit granite so was stopped with this bore having an estimated recharge of 18 litres per minute (ms\m:170). The other two bores turned out to be unsuitable due to poor water yield.
- On 28 April all manure was removed off site.
- On 1 May, the MSA audit was conducted by Colin Tonkin. It was a very positive review.
- On 8 May, Stewart, John and Rob travelled to Katanning Saleyards to workshop the possibility of attracting an ALMA conference to WA. There is to be a follow up meeting in Mount Barker 21 May with Rod Bushell and Andrus Budrikis to speak further.
- On Friday night 25 May is the Gate 2 Plate Gala dinner with the winners to be announced.

- From 21 May to 12 June Erika is on leave, 1 June to 25 June Natalie is away, 18 June to possibly 20 July Stewart is away on leave. Rachel Williams is coming back to fill in the gaps where needed on weighbridge, troughs washdown etc.
- The 2018 ALMA conference will in Casino (northern NSW) on 25-26 July.
- Cattle numbers remain strong for this time of year, possibly due to no rain, no feed and good prices. This will impact numbers in the spring.
- The latest water usage graph is shown below.



During discussion, members noted that the water flow from the test bores might not be sufficient to make installation of a bore worthwhile. Costs were sought for a solar pump and Airwell pump. It was agreed to await the report from hydrologist, Ruhi Ferdowsian, which will provide more advice in this regard.

5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 APRIL 2018

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 22 May 2018

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review the preliminary financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the period ending 30 April 2018.

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 30 April 2018 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$816,754.00, which is \$117,746.00 below YTD budget. Depreciation is \$96,897.00 below YTD budget, due to modifications to valuations and remaining useful lives.

There is one significant variance, being facility operating costs which is \$27,016.00 above YTD budget. This is largely as a result of electricity costs due to additional power usage over period of triple sales. The lighting in the new roof will also have increased electricity usage. Water costs have also impacted.

Water Corporation costs total \$12,377.88 to date in 2017/2018, whereas they were \$7,909.68 in 2016/2017. Further, electricity costs are \$44,713.36 so far in 2017/2018, whereas they were \$16,877.95 in 2016/2017.

Overall YTD operating income is \$643,182.00, which is \$26,865.00 above YTD budget. Weigh and Pen Fees are \$25,610.00 above YTD budget.

During discussion, the Deputy CEO advised that the current fees in the draft budget were slightly higher than the previously proposed 2% increases, in order to prevent the problems with rounding. The current fee increase equated to approximately 3%. Members were agreeable with this proposal.

Discussion ensued in relation to the amount of solids getting into the ponds. It was suggested that contact be made with the local liquid waste firms to see if they might want the solid material.

5.3 CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - AUSTRALIAN LIVESTOCK MARKETS ASSOCIATION EXPO

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 22 May 2018

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek authority for a councillor, to attend the 2018 Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc (ALMA) Expo.

BACKGROUND

The 2018 ALMA Inc AGM and Conference (Expo) will be held in Casino NSW from Tuesday 24 July to Thursday 26 July 2018. The Assistant Saleyards Manager, Erika Henderson has also registered her interest to attend.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The registration for the conference is \$550.00 and accommodation for five nights will be approximately \$900.00. Air fares to and from Brisbane will be approximately \$800.00. Other costs will apply depending on how attendees get to and from Casino, plus airport parking, meals and taxis.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policy No. CE/CS/1 applies. This policy notes that elected members shall receive reimbursement of expenses while attending 'Conferences and Training Sessions specifically authorised by the Council.'

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Strategic Community Plan 2017-2026 provides at Outcome 3.5 (Appropriate infrastructure that supports sustainable economic development) the following Strategy:

Strategy 3.5.5:

'Manage and maintain the Saleyards to ensure that the facility is successful and self-sustaining'

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Strategic Community Plan.

OFFICER COMMENT

The annual ALMA Conference is a key event on the livestock industry calendar. It provides a forum for the livestock industry across the nation to share ideas, knowledge and information.

A full conference program is attached. Mr Michael Skinner has attended the last three expos in his capacity as an ALMA Board member. Previous attendees have benefitted and the knowledge gained from exposure to industry trends has resulted in improvements at Saleyards.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. A councillor be nominated to attend the Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc Expo to be held in Casino NSW from 24 July to 26 July 2018.
2. The expenditure be charged to Budget Item Saleyards – Conferences and Training – 21320.0029.

During discussion, Cr O'Dea was nominated to attend.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 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 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 provided a report in this regard, which provides some drilling options. The Saleyards Manager will arrange for the drilling tests to be carried out. During discussion at the meeting held on 31 January 2017, members considered that it was worthwhile to undertake drilling to assess the yield.

Refer to the Saleyards Manager's report for further information.

- Agents Agreements – The new agreements have now been sent out to agents. Draft procedures have been developed and form an addendum to the new Agents Agreements. The agreements with Elders and Landmark have now been executed.
- At the meeting held on 14 November 2017, Mr Skinner advised that the Shire of Dubbo was installing new moulded bar soft floor matting into 220 new pens. It was requested that we attempt to get a sample of the new matting, which may be appropriate for the paint box areas.
- At the meeting held on 30 January 2018, a query was raised about the Shire's obligations in respect to new Chain of Responsibility laws and how this might relate or conflict with animal welfare requirements. Some direction was sought in this regard.
- Following the discussion at the meeting held on 14 November 2017, at the meeting held on 30 January 2018, Mr Skinner advised that Katanning Saleyards Manager has endorsed the idea of advocating for the 2019 ALMA conference to be held in WA and he will raise that with the Shire of Katanning administration. The Shire of Katanning could cater for it (Dome Hotel). There would be a focus on cattle and sheep. It was suggested that an ideal date would be later than normal, say late September 2019. Depending on the interest, Mr Skinner suggested that a joint working group be formed with the Shire of Katanning to co-ordinate.

This matter has been discussed with Kate McGilvray - Executive Officer at ALMA and Andrus Budrikis from the Shire of Katanning and a meeting between Shire representatives has been held with a view to putting together a joint expression of interest.

- During discussion at the meeting held on 30 January 2018, a query was raised in respect to the proposed irrigator, in particular whether it would be suitable for irrigating a crop. The suggestion was made that it may be beneficial to produce a crop which could effectively export nutrients off the property. It was also suggested that expressions of interest could be called for the waste water, which possibly could be utilised for nearby agricultural uses. It was agreed that a first course of action would be to identify the tenure of adjoining land. Information will be provided at the meeting.

During discussion at the meeting held on 27 March 2018, it was noted that while waste water would need to be suitably treated, the Committee sought advice on what the compliance requirements would be for transporting water and implications for a landholder.

- During discussion at the meeting held on 27 March 2018, the view was expressed that additional water tanks should be installed to harvest as much water as possible. The administration was requested to provide advice on what has overflowed since the new roof and tank was installed, and what is the cost benefit of additional tanks, given what we know at the moment.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 27 March 2018, the Committee requested pricing for modular and permanent toilet options, for consideration in 2019/2020.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 22 May 2018, the Committee requested that the recent press release regarding animal welfare be advertised in the Farm Weekly.

7 OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS / VOTING

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

Cr J Moir and Mr M Skinner withdrew from the meeting at 10.35am.

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr J Oldfield:

That:

- 1. That the report of the Saleyards Manager, relating to current activities at the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.**
- 2. The report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, relating to the current financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.**
- 3. It be a recommendation to the Council that:**
 - a. Cr M O’Dea be nominated to attend the Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc Expo to be held in Casino NSW from 24 July to 26 July 2018.**
 - b. The expenditure be charged to Budget Item Saleyards – Conferences and Training – 21320.0029.**

CARRIED

8 NEXT MEETING

To be advised.

9 MEETING CLOSURE

10.36am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER _____ DATE: ___/___/___