



## **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,  
12.30pm Tuesday 24 February 2009.

**John Fathers**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### *Committee Members*

*Cr K Forbes, Cr M Skinner, Cr S Grylls*

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**Chairperson:**

Cr M Skinner

**Deputy Chairperson:**

**Membership**

Cr K Forbes - Rocky Gully / West Ward - Shire President

Cr M Skinner - East Ward

Cr S Grylls - Rocky Gully / West Ward

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

12.35 pm The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

## 2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

### Present

Cr M Skinner Presiding Member  
Cr S Grylls

### Leave of Absence

Cr K Forbes, AM

### Staff

Mr J Fathers Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr S Smith Manager – Saleyards  
Mr E Howard Environmental Health Officer

## 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

*Moved Cr M Skinner, seconded Cr S Grylls*

***THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee Meeting, held on 25 November 2008 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.***

**CARRIED**

## 4 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 and Regional Development via letter dated 14 November 2008, giving permission for Cr K Forbes AM, Cr M Skinner, Cr B Hollingworth, Cr J Moir and Cr D Nye-Chart to participate in matters relating to the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards until October 2009.

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 - JANUARY 2009**

#### **Sale Data**

(1/12/08 – 31/1/09)

Total December numbers including MSA were 5,511 head. (excluding Special Sales)  
109 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

Two animals have been put down or removed.

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

476 cattle gone through Private/Shipper Weigh.

Total January numbers were 11,961 head. (excluding Special Sales)

211 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.

Six animals have been put down or removed.

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

1,914 cattle gone through Private/Shipper Weigh.

Landmark has held three Dispersal Sales over this time.

#### **Token Stud Dispersal 9/12/2008**

200 Stud Murray Grey Cows, Heifers & Bulls

Top Price **Cow** \$1,250; **Bull** \$1,800; **Heifer** \$775

Average **Cow** \$636; **Bull** \$1,325; **Heifer** \$604

#### **RA & KA Bentink Herd Dispersal 16/12/2008**

926 Cows, Heifers; Vealer Steers & Vealer Heifers

Top Price **Cow** \$960; **Heifer** \$790; **Vealer Steer** \$602; **Vealer Heifers** \$600

Average **Cow** \$737; **Heifer** \$600; **Vealer Steer** \$525; **Vealer Heifers** \$461

#### **Mindaree Grazing Herd Dispersal 30/1/2009**

400 Cows, Heifers & Bulls

Top Price **Cow** \$1,200; **Bull** \$2,800; **Heifer** \$700

Average **Cow** \$927; **Bull** \$1636; **Heifer** \$640

#### **Elders South Coast Classic Weaner Sale 27/1/2009**

875 head were yarded

Top Price **Vealer Steer** \$631; **Vealer Heifers** \$471

Average **Vealer Steer** \$482; **Vealer Heifers** \$351

#### **Elders and Landmark Breeder Sales and the Blue Ribbon Bull Sale**

##### **Blue Ribbon Bull Sale 13/1/2009**

70 Bulls up for auction 52 sold

Top Price **Inlet Views Simmental** \$6,500

Average \$3812

##### **Landmark Breeders Sale 13/1/2009**

1,204 Cows & Heifers

Top Price **Cow** \$1,160 – MJ & RM Coffey; **Heifer** \$1320 – RG Woodward & Co

Average **Cow** \$932; **Heifer** \$827

**Elders Breeders Sale 20/1/2009**

591 Cows & Heifers

Top Price **Cow** \$880 – Mt Barrow Pty Ltd; **Heifer** \$1120 – Quarram Grazing

Average **Cow** \$717; **Heifer** \$788

**General Business**

(1/12/08 – 18/2/09)

The bobcat broke down on 1 December was out of action for two weeks while being repaired. We had the use of one of the Depot over this time.

The hay was baled on 3 December with a total of 71 bales. The new bales are 4x3x4' which has reduced the time spent carting and feeding out and made it easier for storing. These bales are the equivalent to ten small square bales.

More repairs were made to the truckwash on 15 December as we were having problems with the capacitor.

The RSPCA were here on 7 January due to a complaint made in regards to an animal we dealt with a week earlier with a broken leg.

We started having problems with the connection between the office and the weighbridge on 13 January and have yet to find the cause of the power surge that is causing all the problems.

Stewart attended the Animal Welfare Standards Training day in Midland on 30 January.

The Department of Agriculture attended the sale on the 12 - 13 February taking manure samples for worm counts.

A Beef Productivity Group meeting for the Plantagenet Shire area was held on site on 10 February.

The exhaust fan in the kitchen is currently being replaced after it recently stopped working.

*During discussion, it was advised that Renata Paliskis-Bessell, Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Meat Industry Authority had scheduled a meeting in Mount Barker with the Shire President and Chief Executive Officer to gather further information in relation to the submission on the State purchasing or otherwise funding the saleyards.*

*In relation to the animal with the broken leg, the Committee stressed to the Manager that the agents should be reminded of the appropriate practice in this regard.*

*It was also requested that the purchase of a replacement bobcat be listed for consideration in the 2009/10 budget.*

## **5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 JANUARY 2009**

**File No:** CA/126/1

**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer

**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

**Proposed Meeting Date:** 24 February 2009

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### **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 31 October 2008.

### **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.

Most items are within reasonable range of the YTD budget. The survey of groundwater monitoring bores exceeded budget by \$400.00. Budget Item 'Computer Equipment Maintenance' is also tracking above budget by \$1,505.00, mainly due to recent problems with internet connections. Budget Item 'Environmental Services' is also tracking above budget by \$3,025.00. However, overall operating expenditure is well within budget. Insurance was approximately \$4,500.00 higher than budget. Operating Income is now only about \$5,000.00 lower than budget.

**Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

*Moved Cr S Grylls, 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**



### **5.3 GREAT SOUTHERN REGIONAL CATTLE SALEYARDS - ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE OF CANTEEN**

**File No:** CP/88/3

**Responsible Officer:** Rob Stewart  
Chief Executive Officer

**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

**Proposed Meeting Date:** 24 February 2009

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#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Council for the assignment of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards canteen from Classicz Pty Ltd (Plantagenet Hotel) to Wendy Marie Swainson.

#### **Background**

At its meeting held on 9 October 2007, the Council resolved *“that the tender from the Plantagenet Hotel for the lease of the Canteen at the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards at a rate of \$60 per sale day (inc GST), be accepted.”*

#### **Statutory Environment**

Pursuant to Section 3.58 of the Local Government Act (1995) a local authority, when disposing of property, shall comply with the provisions of that section.

#### **Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive Officer, Rob Stewart, the current lessees and the prospective lessee regarding this matter.

#### **Financial Implications**

There are no policy implications for this report.

#### **Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications for this report.

#### **Strategic Implications**

The management of the saleyards canteen to a high standard is very important in the overall marketing and presentation of the saleyards. The provision of quality foodstuffs in a clean and friendly environment is a critical factor to retaining and encouraging repeat business. This is consistent with Key Result Area 4 - Marketing of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Strategic Plan as adopted by the Saleyards Advisory Committee.

### **Officer Comment**

There are no impediments for the granting of authority for the assignment of this lease. The prospective lessee has submitted information in line with that sought in the tender process, which would indicate she is capable of providing the necessary service.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

*Moved Cr M Skinner, seconded Cr S Grylls*

*That it be a recommendation to the Council:*

*“That authority be granted to the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer to affix the Seal of the Shire of Plantagenet to the deed of assignment of lease between the Shire of Plantagenet, Classicz Pty Ltd and Wendy Marie Swainson relating to Portion of Lot 3 on Plan 19319 for the purposes of a Canteen.”*

**CARRIED**

## 5.4 SALEYARDS - ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

<b>File No:</b>	<b>CA/126/1</b>
<b>Attachment</b>	<b>2008 Annual Environmental Report - Saleyards</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>John Fathers Deputy Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>John Fathers Deputy Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Proposed Meeting Date:</b>	<b>24 February 2009</b>

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to present the annual environmental report for the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards, as prepared by Dr Susie Brown of Coffey Environments.

### **Statutory Environment**

The Annual Environmental Monitoring report has been prepared to satisfy Condition 8 of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Licence Number 7407/7. The reporting requirements as specified in the licence are:

#### ***'CONDITION 8 - ANNUAL REPORT***

**8** *The licensee shall provide the Director, by 31 January each year, an annual environmental report containing data collected between the previous 1 January to 31 December. The report shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to:*

- (a) monitoring data or other collected data required by any condition of this licence;*
- (b) the total number of animals held on site on a monthly basis;*
- (c) a discussion of the operation of the project, compliance with conditions and environmental performance to date; and*
- (d) an assessment of the data collected against any limits set in this licence.'*

Coffey Environments have already forwarded the Report to the Department of Conservation and Environment.

### **Consultation**

There has been no consultation in relation to this report.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications for this report.

### **Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications for this report.

## Strategic Implications

There are no strategic implications for this report.

## Officer Comment

The overall summary of the report states that groundwater analytical results show relatively consistent physico-chemical properties of groundwater during the year, in contrast to more substantial variation in nutrient levels between June and December monitoring rounds. Groundwater levels are calculated on the basis of new survey data, and confirm that groundwater flows towards the southeast at the site.

Surface water samples indicate varying concentrations of nutrients during 2008. Results from the SW1 location, representing irrigation water nutrient levels, have an average of 50mg/L total nitrogen, and 9mg/L total phosphorus.

The daily irrigation volumes are collated to provide monthly irrigation volumes for the site. This information, together with data for total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and BOD is used to calculate the applied nutrient loading rate for the portion of the irrigation area that was utilised. The loading rates for the 6ha irrigation area have been calculated as 27.9kg/ha/yr of nitrogen, 2.2kg/ha/yr of phosphorus, and 38.6kg/ha/year BOD.

All of these indicators are within the licence parameters.

In March 2009 the site licence is up for renewal. Upon licence renewal, the monitoring requirements should be reviewed to ensure that ongoing monitoring complies with licence requirements.

In conclusion, Coffeys states that *"The current site licence commenced on 3 March 2006, and runs through to 1 March 2009. With regards to the conditions set by the licence, the following comments are made:*

- *Condition 1: Wastewater at the site is sent to the treatment ponds, and subsequently irrigated to a portion of the designated irrigation area, as required. (Section 5).*
- *Condition 2: Data available for irrigation volumes and nitrogen, phosphorus, and BOD concentrations in SW1 indicate that the site complied with the loading rates specified. (Section 7).*
- *Condition 3: The irrigation area has been managed as specified. (Section 6).*
- *Condition 4: Solid waste at the site is stored on bunded hardstand, with any runoff directed to the wastewater treatment system, consistent with this condition. (Section 5).*
- *Condition 5: Flow monitoring and recording of irrigation volumes has been undertaken. (Section 6).*
- *Condition 6: The specified sampling locations have been sampled during 2007, in consultation with Australian Standard 5667.1:1998, and analysed by a NATA-accredited laboratory. (Sections 3 and 5).*
- *Condition 7: This report is submitted in fulfilment of this condition.*

*Based on the information in this report, the following points should be considered for 2009:*

- *Undertake ammonia-N analysis for bores MB5, MB6, and MB7, preferably during the December monitoring round.*
- *Review the extent to which groundwater down-gradient of the ponds is affected by increased nutrient levels at the end of 2009. The desludging of one treatment pond during 2008 may lead to an improvement in groundwater quality as the ponds operate more effectively. Elevated results may also reflect historical use of the irrigation raceway*
- *Undertake a mid-year review of the nutrient loading rates. If total phosphorus levels exceed 20mg/L in SW1, the site may exceed its annual loading limit, if irrigation rates are not managed.”*

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

*During discussion, the Committee requested that Coffeys be asked if nitrogen could be added to the paddock for fertiliser, to increase the hay crop yield. Coffeys should also be asked to provide indicative costs in relation to the three recommendations on page 19 of the report.*

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

***Moved Cr M Skinner, seconded Cr S Grylls***

***That the 2008 environmental report for the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards, as prepared by Coffey Environments, be noted and endorsed.***

**CARRIED**

## **6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 WASTE WATER RE-USE PROJECT**

Some additional information has been received from Coffey Environments on the Water Reuse Proposal (see attached). Abco has not provided a great deal of information, although Kate McCormack believes they could do the job. Kate has given them until the end of the week to provide proper detail. It is recommended that consideration be given to a preferred tenderer and this be advised to the department of Local Government and Regional Development for release of grant funds.

***Moved Cr M Skinner, seconded Cr S Grylls***

***That:***

- 1. Further information be sought from Abco in relation to their proposal.***
- 2. Subject to the outcome of Part 1 above, a letter be sent to the Department of Local Government and Regional Development seeking approval for RIFP grant funds to be redirected to the waste water re-use project.***

**CARRIED**

### **6.2 ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SALEYARDS**

A copy of this recent publication has been enclosed for members' information.

*During discussion, the Committee again considered that the agents should be reminded of their responsibilities on proper animal welfare practice. The manager also advised that it was intended to attend a training course on gun control.*

### **6.3 COUNTRYMAN ARTICLE – 'YOUR MISSING MILLIONS'**

A copy of a recent article in the 'Countryman' relating to the fears for the money coming from the sale of the Midland saleyards has been enclosed for members' information.

## **7 NEXT MEETING**

To be advised.

## **8 MEETING CLOSURE**

1:40 pm The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

**CONFIRMED: CHAIRPERSON\_\_\_\_\_DATE:\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_**