



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.*

A Special Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards
Advisory Committee was held in the
Committee Room, Lowood Road, Mount Barker WA 6324,
11.30am Tuesday 29 November 2011.

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr B Bell, Cr L Handasyde, Cr C Pavlovich, Cr M Skinner 238/11

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 MEMBERS' INTERESTS	1
5	REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS	3
	5.1 PURCHASE OF AERATION EQUIPMENT – SALEYARDS PONDS	3
6	GENERAL BUSINESS	6
	6.1 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION	6
7	NEXT MEETING	6
8	MEETING CLOSURE	6

Membership

Cr M Skinner

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr C Pavlovich

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

11.37am 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

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr L Handasyde:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 8 November 2011 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Committee noted to the decision at its meeting held on 8 November 2011 in regard to a recommendation to the Council that the fee for putting ear tags on untagged bulls be increased to \$50.00. The Committee considered that this matter could wait until the budget deliberations for 2012/2013.

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 10 December 2010, 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 2011.

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr L Handasyde:

11.48am That the meeting be adjourned until 11.55am.

RESUMPTION

11.55am The meeting resumed.

Members Present

Cr M Skinner (Presiding Member)

Cr B Bell

Cr L Handasyde

Cr C Pavlovich

Staff

Mr Rob Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

Mr John Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stewart Smith, Saleyards Manager

5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

A Financial/Indirect Financial Interest was declared by Cr M Skinner. Nature of interest – farming 400 head of cattle.

11.56am Cr M Skinner withdrew from the meeting.

5.1 PURCHASE OF AERATION EQUIPMENT – SALEYARDS PONDS

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 29 November 2011

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to endorse a reallocation of funds to enable the purchase and installation of two aerators for the settlement ponds at the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on 27 September 2011, the Council resolved to adopt an environmental strategy for the saleyards. One of the short term actions was to further investigate and install aerators and progressively clean up ponds 3 and 2 then 1.

Other short term strategies were to:

- Investigate soft floor and reduce water use;
- Further investigate and implement enzyme additives;
- Re-configure the ponds to be 1 then 2 then 3 in series.

The Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards Advisory Committee met with environmental consultant, Charles Williams on 8 November 2011 to discuss the progress in regard to Stage 1 of the Shire's environmental strategy and in particular the supply of aeration equipment for the ponds.

The Committee was supportive of purchasing two aerators, subject to confirmation of electrical setup costs and that there is sufficient available power on site to run the units 24 hours a day on non-sale days.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There is no specific section of the Local Government Act 1995 that deals with the re-allocation of funds however Section 6.2(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 governs budget requirements for local governments.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Consultation has taken place with the Shire's environmental contractor, Charles Williams from West Coast Laboratories, John O'Loughlin from Patrick Charles Pty Ltd, suppliers of the aeration equipment and Norm Burren from Mount Barker Electrics in regard to the electrical requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The adopted 2011/2012 budget includes a sum of \$50,000.00 for capital environmental improvements at the saleyards. The operating budget also includes a sum of \$40,000.00 for sludge removal. Assuming the aeration equipment and addition of enzymes is successful in eliminating, or at least reducing the sludge in the ponds, this latter amount should not be required, and may be fully or partially reallocated to the former account.

The costs of the supply and installation of two aerators by Patrick Charles Pty Ltd will be as follows (excluding GST):

• Two Aspiro Plus aerators (\$17,650.00 each)	\$35,300.00;
• Mounting and anchoring equipment	\$ 2,000.00;
• Electrical cables from aerator motors to lagoon edge	\$ 400.00;
• Delivery to site	\$ 1,000.00;
• Supervision and commissioning	\$ 2,500.00;
• Total	\$41,200.00.

Mount Barker Electrics has been engaged to advise in regard to the electrical requirements. Norm Burren has advised that there is a sufficient power supply near the ponds (80 amps) to run the aerators and pumps on non sale days, but running them on sale days would not be possible. It is therefore proposed that they be run 5-6 days per week, when there will be no electrical draw from sale activities.

There is a requirement for a significant amount of electrical work to commission this equipment, which is as follows (excluding GST):

• Installation of control cabinets	\$ 5,810.46;
• Supply of underground services	\$ 4,929.96;
• Supply of pontoon connections	\$ 2,231.55
• Total	\$12,971.97.

The total cost of this project is therefore \$54,171.97, which is \$4,171.97 over the current capital budget. It is recommended that a sum of \$5,000.00 be reallocated from operating budget item Sludge Removal to capital budget item Environmental Improvements. While there are potentially other allocations for the remainder of the Sludge Removal money, these can be explored and a decision made at a later date.

The Saleyards Advisory Committee has noted that the additional power and enzymes will have some impact on ongoing operational costs, however this was likely to reduce somewhat over time, when an equilibrium situation is reached.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications for this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Strategic Plan does not mention the saleyards specifically, however protection of the environment is a recurring theme in the document.

OFFICER COMMENT

From the site visits and advice from Klen International, the use of aerators and enzyme additives seem to be an effective and cost effective way of encouraging bacterial

action and maintaining ponds in good order. The reduction in water throughput into the ponds is also critical to reduce volume in ponds and amount of nutrients to be treated.

Environmental contractor Mr Williams has confirmed that, in his view, the combination of aeration and enzymes would provide the best and most cost effective solution to achieve the results and flexibility required. The proposal for the supply of two aerators was considered to provide an optimum solution. Mr Williams has confirmed that the supplier, Patrick Charles Pty Ltd had a good track record in this regard and favourable reports had been received from WAMMCO and Fletchers International Exports.

Subject to the Committee’s endorsement, it is proposed to submit this report as a late item to the Council meeting to be held on 29 November 2011.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr C Pavlovich, seconded Cr B Bell:

That it be a recommendation to the Council:

That the adopted 2011/2012 Annual Budget be amended as follows, to enable the purchase and installation of two aerators for the settlement ponds at the Great Southern Regional Cattle Saleyards:

Account	Description	Original / Amended Budget (\$)	New Budget (\$)	Net Cash Amount (\$)
51457.0253	Saleyards – Environmental Improvements	(50,000)	(55,000)	(5,000)
21322.0379	Saleyards – Other Expenses – Sludge Removal	(40,000)	(35,000)	5,000

CARRIED

11.57am Cr M Skinner returned to the meeting.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

- Greater use of chlorinated water.
- Energy audit / additional power requirements.
- Membership of Australian Livestock Manager's Association.
- Saleyards Signage.
- Saleyards Strategic Plan.
- Progress of Environmental Strategy.

7 NEXT MEETING

TBA

8 MEETING CLOSURE

11.58am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

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