



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
9.00am Tuesday 31 January 2017

Rob Stewart
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Cr J Moir, Cr B Bell, Cr J Oldfield, Mr M Skinner – Industry Representative – 226/15

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS.....	1
2	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	1
3	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST.....	1
4	ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER.....	2
5	REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.....	3
5.1	MANAGER'S REPORT – 1 DECEMBER TO 24 JANUARY 2017.....	3
5.2	SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 DECEMBER 2016.....	6
5.3	ALMA BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 2017 - ATTENDANCE BY MR M SKINNER	8
6	GENERAL BUSINESS.....	10
6.1	PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.....	10
7	NEXT MEETING.....	10
8	MEETING CLOSURE.....	10

Membership

Cr J Moir

Cr B Bell

Cr J Oldfield

Mr M Skinner

Cr L Handasyde (Deputy for any member)

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

9.02am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

Members Present

Cr J Moir (Presiding Member)
Cr B Bell (Acting Presiding Member following Cr Moir's departure)
Cr L Handasyde (Deputy Member)
Cr J Oldfield
Mr M Skinner

Visitor

Cr M O'Dea

Staff

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

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr B Bell, seconded Cr J Oldfield:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 6 December 2016 as circulated, be taken as read and adopted as a correct record.

CARRIED

3 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 Elders' Employee
Extent:	100 head of cattle and work part time for Elders Rural Services

9.03 Cr J Moir withdrew from the meeting.

Mr M Skinner

Type:	Financial/Indirect Financial Interest (Section 5.60 (A) and 5.61 LGA)
Nature:	Cattle Farmer
Extent:	400 head of cattle

9.03 Mr M Skinner withdrew from the meeting.

4 ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER

The Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for the position of Acting Presiding Member.

Cr B Bell was nominated for the position of Acting Presiding Member and he indicated his willingness to accept the position. There being no further nominations, the Chief Executive Officer declared Cr Bell elected unopposed to the position of Acting Presiding Member.

5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – 1 DECEMBER TO 24 JANUARY 2017****SALE DATA**

- Total sale numbers 20,701 head.
- There have been no cattle eligible for MSA sales in this time.
- 150 cattle have received replacement NLIS tags over this time.
- 10 animal has been put down, six to pet food four to tip.
- 329 bales of hay have been fed out over this time.
- There have been 1,510 cattle processed for Private/Shipper Weigh.

GENERAL BUSINESS**2016**

- On 1 December weaner sales started. An animal escaped off the Esperance truck. Police were notified as it went across the highway and into the blue gum plantation on the other side of the highway. It reappeared Friday evening at about 8.30pm and with the help of Police and Paul's Pet Food we were able to get it back on site and destroyed.
- On 7 December, Stewart attended an Animal Welfare Review in Perth being part of the Australian Standards for Animal Welfare. Stewart was the only attendee from the saleyards sector. All others were either RSPCA, Department of Parks and Wildlife and Perth rangers.
- On 13 December Simon returned to work after fracturing his finger.
- On 15 December the Christmas BBQ was held which was well attended.
- On 16 December Primaries had its Breeders Sale after the trade sale. A total of 232 animals were on offer all sold on the day. Heifers made \$2,200.00+ and cows made \$2,000.00+.
- On 19 December Elders had its Breeders Sale on Monday which had 558 head. Heifers made \$2,500+ with cows fetching \$2,100+ and cow calf units \$3,000+.
- On 20 December the Saleyards Advisory Committee held the first of its agents meetings with Elders. General feedback coming from yards was it was a very productive meeting. Thoughts are that this should be an annual thing.
- On 21 and 22 December all troughs were cleaned and emptied. We had to replace one concrete trough under the new roof due to a crack.
- We broke for the Christmas break and returned to work on 28 December to fill concrete troughs and selling pens and spray the ponds. Also private weighs were held on 28 and 29 December.

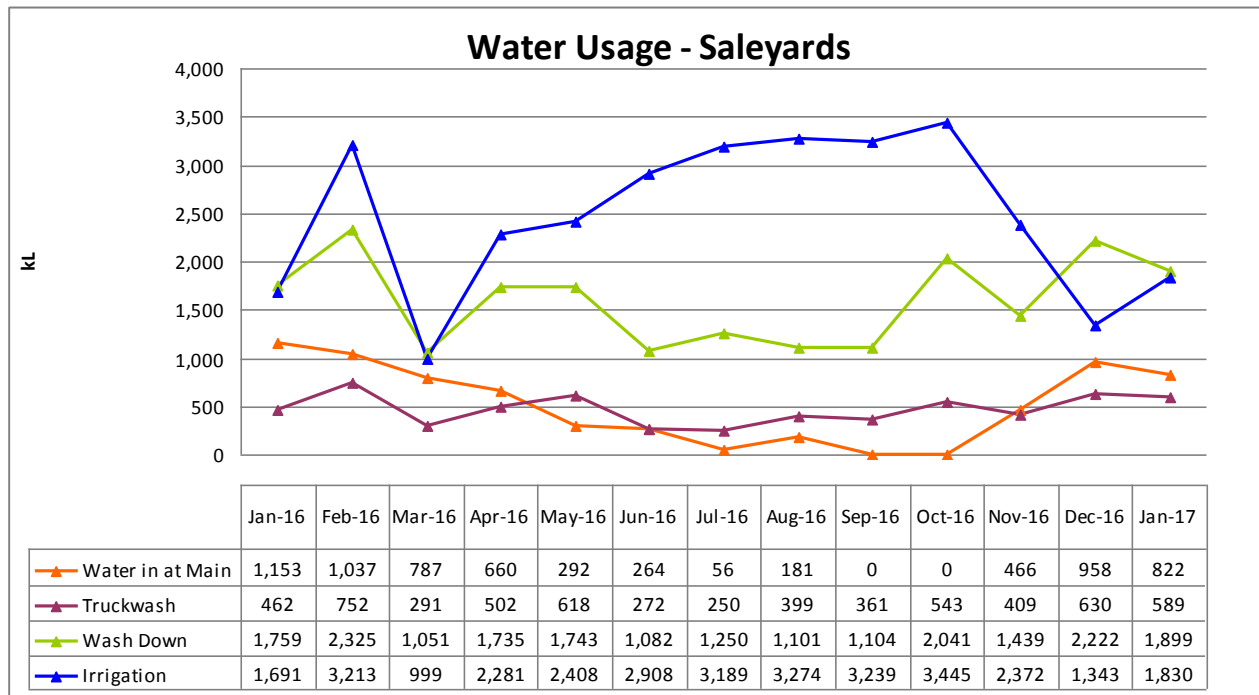
2017

- On 2 January all weaners started arriving for Landmark's Black Angus Special sale. Total numbers were 2,118 animals with an average price of \$1,224.00 per head.

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- On 5 January a weaner sale was held and Gate 2 Plate animals also started to arrive which all went according to plan. A total of 59 teams were all on site by Friday morning. Regional Men's Health also attended with a stand to give free health checks to anyone who wanted one.

Problems were experienced with the weighbridge and a scanner miss scanning animals. We are unsure what the problem was, maybe a loose wire or connection. Stewart did some work in the scan boxes and all seems to be working now.
 - On 7 January the Gate 2 Plate Challenge field day was held. All competition animals were weighed and presented in their teams in the selling pens. The day went very well although attendees were back on last year's numbers. We had a number of sponsors attend with stands and merchandise. Sponsor feedback was positive with a number of sales for them from the day. Lunch was put on by the Gate 2 Plate Committee with proceeds to Regional Men's Health who also attended and gave a talk and was on hand for individual consultations.
 - On 9 January the new computer in Weighbridge B was installed. It is up and running with no major issues. The Gate 2 Plate competition animals left for the feedlot via Zambonetti Transport.
 - On 14 January the bull group attended to help erect the bull pens in preparation for Landmark Blue Ribbon Bull sale on Tuesday. All manure and excess dirt was removed from site.
 - On 16 January all breeder cattle were delivered and fed. A total of 665 breeders with average price \$2,538.00 per head, with top heifer price being \$3,340.00+. Top cow price was \$3,160.00+ and cow calf unit was \$2,700.00+.
 - 18 January the Saleyards Advisory Committee held the second of its agents meetings with Landmark. Feedback from agents was very positive and needs to be done annually.
 - On the 19 January weaner sale there were four attendees from the Muchea Livestock Selling Complex. They came to have a look at the operation over the two days, looking for new ideas to take back to Muchea. They were very impressed with our operation and extremely impressed with the good relationship we have with agents. Also that day we had the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Hon Mark Lewis and his entourage including Rick Wilson and Ross Woodhouse from the Liberal Party. They were very impressed with the facility overstaying there scheduled short visit by more than an hour.
 - On 20 January we had problems with the new computer not automatically reading the Mettler Toledo scanner. Weights were manually entered to not disrupt the sale, with Brodie from Pre-Emptive strike calling in on Monday to fix the problem, with the computer thinking the weighbridge was a computer mouse.
 - On 20 January Stewart had a meeting with all three agents regarding the prime sale scheduled for Friday 27 January. It was decided to cancel this sale due to lack of cattle and buyers.
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- The week beginning 23 January mainly involved clean up and maintenance with a number of gates being fixed with broken chains and all troughs dropped an cleaned and left dry (and a well earned break from sale activities for staff).
- The latest water usage graph is shown below.



OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr J Oldfield:

That the report of the Saleyards Manager, relating to current activities at the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.

CARRIED

5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 DECEMBER 2016

File No: CA/126/1
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 31 January 2017

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to review the financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the period ending 31 December 2016.

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 31 December 2016 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall year to date (YTD) operating expenditure is \$523,207.00, which is \$60,643.00 below YTD budget. There are no significant operating variances. Overall YTD operating income is \$292,742.00, which is \$34,900.00 above YTD budget. Weigh and Pen Fees are \$22,523.00 above YTD budget.

In regard to capital expenditure items, the following information is provided:

- Outloading Ramp Bugle Modification – Complete (payment will be reflected in January Financials);
- Bitumen Repairs – The Manager Works and Services will be scheduling works in with other bitumen works, probably February 2017;
- Additional Water Source – On hold for the Committee to review the hydrologist's report;
- Roof over Northern Dirt Pens – Roof complete. Approved water tank on order, expected February 2017;
- New Generator – Investigations done, purchase expected in February / March 2017;
- New Irrigator – No progress at this stage;
- Office Water Purification – Complete;
- Transfer Aerators to Pond 2 – Awaiting proof of concept. Discussion held with environmental contractor for report to support DER works approval;
- Chemical Dosing Equipment – Equipment on order, expected in February / March 2017.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr J Oldfield:

That the report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, relating to the current financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, be received.

CARRIED

5.3 ALMA BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 2017 - ATTENDANCE BY MR M SKINNER

File Ref: N40325
Responsible Officer: Rob Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Author: John Fathers
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 31 January 2017

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to authorise Mr Michael Skinner to attend the Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc. (ALMA) Board meeting to be held in Brisbane on 23-24 February 2017.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on 15 September 2015, the Council resolved to nominate Mr Michael Skinner to the board of ALMA. Mr Skinner was successfully appointed to the Board at ALMA's annual general meeting in September 2015. Mr Skinner is the Industry Representative on the Council's Saleyards Advisory Committee.

Mr Skinner was previously authorised to attend the ALMA Board meetings held in Brisbane on 26 - 27 November 2015 and Darwin on 26 - 27 May 2016.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There are no statutory implications for this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Accommodation for an estimated two nights will be approximately \$500.00. Air fares to and from Brisbane will be approximately \$750.00 and travel / incidental expenses are estimated at \$160.00.

ALMA will cover the cost of accommodation for one night and breakfast the following day. In addition, each board member's sponsor organisation can place a claim to ALMA for up to \$2,000.00 per financial year. At this point in the financial year, the Council has not used any of this amount, so the cost of this trip will be fully reimbursable.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications do not apply for this report and it is the opinion of the author that policy development is not required.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Strategic Community Plan 2013-2023 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

ALMA has previously advised that it would expect the Shire's representative to attend two of the four meetings per year. Mr Skinner is of the view that it would be appropriate to endorse his personal attendance at this meeting.

ALMA is currently finalising the agenda and venue.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Cr J Oldfield, seconded Cr L Handasyde:

That it be a recommendation to the Council:

That:

1. Mr Michael Skinner be authorised to attend the Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc. Board meeting to be held in Brisbane on 23-24 February 2017; and
2. The expenditure be initially charged to Budget Item Saleyards – Conferences and Training – 21320.0029 and recouped from the Australian Livestock Markets Association Inc.

CARRIED

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 for 2015/2016 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 has now 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 6 December 2016, members requested that a copy of this report be provided for the next meeting, so that the cost benefit of the likely water yield can be examined. The report is attached for information.

During discussion at the meeting held on 31 January 2017, members considered that it was worthwhile to undertake drilling to assess the yield.

- 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.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 9 December 2014, the Committee agreed that need for an independent power supply to run the sale and provide water to cattle was becoming more important. The Committee requested the Saleyards Manager to investigate options for a suitable on-site generator. The Saleyards Manager has made some initial enquiries.
- At its meeting held on 3 March 2015, the Committee noted the intention to investigate and provide advice to the Saleyards Advisory Committee in regard to options for the purchase and / or lease of a skid steer loader, with such advice including a history of the current machine, most appropriate machine and a cost benefit analysis of leasing versus other procurement / trade-in options. Some preliminary enquiries have been made and one machine tested. An ideal machine has not yet been identified.
- During discussion at the meeting held on 21 June 2016 regarding advertising signage, the Committee considered that this matter be held over until the new roof has been constructed, with a view to determining advertising opportunities that may be realised on the new structure.

7 NEXT MEETING

28 March 2017

8 MEETING CLOSURE

9.52am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER _____ **DATE:** ____/____/____