



# 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;*
- *Make recommendations to the Council regarding development works on the site;*
- *Make recommendations to the Council regarding the Saleyards Annual Budget; and*
- *Monitor the performance of the Saleyards and report back to the Council.*

A meeting of the Saleyards  
Advisory Committee was held in the Canteen,  
Mount Barker Regional Saleyards, Mount Barker WA 6324  
9.00am Tuesday 20 October 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Sheedy".

Paul Sheedy  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

#### Committee Members

*Cr J Moir, Cr L Handasyde, Cr M O'Dea, Cr J Oldfield, Mr M Skinner – Industry Representative – 210/19, 252/19*

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**Membership**

Cr J Moir (Presiding Member)

Cr L Handasyde

Cr M O'Dea

Cr J Oldfield

Mr M Skinner

Cr S Etherington (Deputy for any member)

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**1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

9.00am The Presiding Member declared the meeting open.

**2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES**Members Present

Cr J Moir – Presiding Member  
Cr L Handasyde – Deputy Presiding Member  
Cr M O'Dea  
Cr J Oldfield  
Mr M Skinner

Staff

Mr P Sheedy, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Mr J Fathers, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr G Moore, Saleyards Manager  
Mrs E Henderson, Assistant Saleyards Manager

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr J Oldfield**

**That the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee, held on 25 August 2020 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, Sport and Cultural Industries via a letter dated 19 October 2020, giving permission for Cr J Moir and Mr M Skinner to participate in the discussion and limited decision making at the Saleyards Advisory Committee on matters relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the meeting held on 20 October 2020.

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

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**5 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS****5.1 MANAGER'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2020****Covid19 Update**

Stage Four restrictions are still in place at the saleyards. That is, access to the saleyards is not yet open to the general public. Access is only granted to saleyards staff, Shire employees, agents and their staff, genuine buyers with orders to fill, transporters and all industry specific personnel such as DPIRD welfare and compliance officers. This also includes vendors who are selling on the day. We have denied access to those who are just following the market, having a day out, or those who follow the sale hoping to pick up the No Commercial Value cattle/or heavily discounted cattle.

These people who fall into this bracket still have the opportunity to inspect the cattle prior to the sale and make arrangements with their agents to purchase on their behalf if their type of cattle come up for sale.

This situation will come under review on or around 24th October when the state government reviews the social distancing rules moving from Phase 4 to phase 5.

**Fourth Agent Application**

An application has been received from AWN Livestock Pty Ltd for approval to sell within the facility. AWN states as follows:

*'AWN Livestock Pty Ltd commenced operations in Western Australia earlier this year and have been granted approval to operate at Katanning and Muchea saleyards.'*

*I am writing to you to request a road map on how AWN gain approval to operate in the Mt Barker saleyards.'*

The manager and assistant manager have had lengthy discussions on AWN's application to request selling access within our current roster. There are some serious concerns in relation to a number of issues.

Without major infrastructure additions or improvements we don't believe the facility is designed or capable of servicing more than three selling agents. Further information will be provided at the meeting.

Nevertheless, there is a process for dealing with such applications and it is intended to seek comment from the current agents.

**West Coast Livestock**

W.C.L have yarded cattle at every sale since a meeting was held with WCL representatives. Except for one occasion where a major rain event had forced the closure of local roads; it must be noted that all numbers were well down for this particular sale week.

**Weaner Season**

It is anticipated that the facility will move to twice weekly sales on or around 19 November 2020. Further discussion with agents will be required before dates can be confirmed.

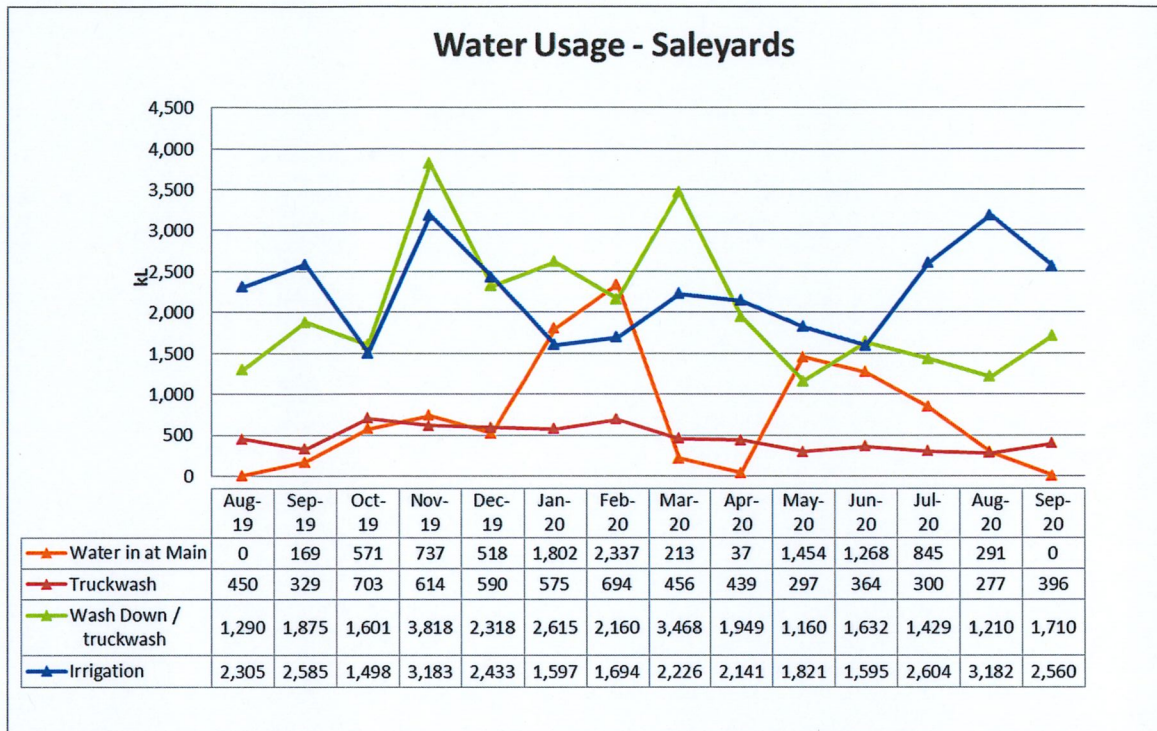


## Animal Welfare Regulations 2020

Note that the new Animal Welfare Regulations 2020 (Transport, Saleyards and Depots) have now been introduced.

## Water Usage

The latest water usage graph is shown below.



## VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

## OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

**Moved Cr J Oldfield, seconded Mr M Skinner**

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

**CARRIED**

*During discussion, the view was expressed that a way of dealing with an increasing number of agents was to require the agents with lowest throughput to work together and potentially share infrastructure such as loading ramps.*

## COMMITTEE DECISION

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Cr J Oldfield**

**That the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a draft policy position with regard to shared infrastructure and other relevant factors to mitigate occupational health and safety and other operating issues resulting from additional stock agents operating at the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards.**

**CARRIED**

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**5.2 SALEYARDS FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**File No:** CA/126/1  
**Responsible Officer:** Paul Sheedy  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Proposed Meeting Date:** 20 October 2020

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**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to review the financial position of the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards for the period ending 30 September 2020.

**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 September 2020 position of operating and capital budget items is attached for information. Overall operating expenditure is \$213,053.00, which is \$61,943.00 below the YTD budget. The cash total is currently \$61,953.00 below the YTD budget.

There is no expenditure on capital budget items at this stage.

Operating income is \$109,693.00, which is \$2,640.00 above YTD budget.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Mr M Skinner**

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

**CARRIED**



**6 GENERAL BUSINESS****6.1 SALEYARDS LUNCH ROOM EXTENSION AND ABLUTIONS BLOCK**

A site visit was held on 18 September 2020 to discuss this proposal. The consensus was that there is insufficient need from customers to proceed with the proposal as planned. The greater need was seen to be for a staff canteen, which is to form part of a small building addition to the south side. The administration could provide some better seating under the trees for the general public.

It is recommended that the sum of \$24,880.00 in Budget Item 51802.0253 be reallocated to a new budget item for an Ablutions Block and Staff Canteen. This sum will need to be augmented with additional funds when the plans and costings have been further developed.

In terms of the design of the new building, further to discussions at the August meeting and those on site, several design options have been developed for further consideration, as attached.

*During discussion, committee members indicated that the preferred concept option for a staff canteen / block was appropriate and noted that comparisons (and costs) for a modular option would be sought.*

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr M O'Dea, seconded Cr J Oldfield**

**That it be a recommendation to the Council:**

**That the 2020/2021 Annual Budget be amended as follows:**

Description	Account	Original Budget	New Budget	Net Cash Amount
Undercover area - Generator and Lunch Space	51802.0253	(\$24,880)	\$0	\$24,880
Ablutions Block and Staff Canteen	New	\$0	(\$24,880)	(\$24,880)
<b>Total</b>		(\$24,880)	(\$24,880)	\$0

**CARRIED**

**6.2 WASTE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM**

A background paper was presented to the August 2020 meeting on the proposals for a design for upgrades to the waste water treatment system for further consideration.

During discussion at that meeting, members noted that there has not been excessive expenditure on removing waste from the ponds in recent years. However, it was considered preferable to progress with improvements to the waste water treatment system to reduce as far as possible any future expenditure, reduce the risk of damaging the ponds due to excavator use, reduce wear on irrigations systems and improve the effectiveness of bacterial breakdown of solids. Indicative costs were sought on the two bay and six bay options of the recommended solution.

In the meantime, contact was made with WSP consultants and we are advised that the report author, Dr Danny Burkett has left the firm. I spoke to another staff member to see if he could suggest a way forward to get a high level indicative estimate for the proposal (Not a full QS, which would potentially cost upwards of \$5,000.00 for an undeveloped proposal). I am still awaiting advice on this.

In the meantime, Cr Handasyde has formulated a different proposal involving silt traps, which clearly has some merit and that the questions raised by Cr Handasyde should be discussed before progressing any further.

*During discussion, Cr Handasyde discussed his proposal and other options were also put forward. It was noted that there will be a cost to doing anything and the difference it will make is unknown. It was suggested that a small committee working group be established to examine the options in more detail. It was further suggested that there may be some benefit in inviting UWA to use this 'real life' scenario for a research project.*

#### **COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr L Handasyde, seconded Mr M Skinner**

**That a working group comprising Cr L Handasyde, Cr J Oldfield and the Saleyards Manager be appointed to investigate and report to the Saleyards Advisory Committee on options for improvements to the Saleyards waste water treatment system.**

**CARRIED**

#### **COMMITTEE DECISION**

**Moved Cr M O'Dea, seconded Cr J Oldfield**

**That the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a proposal for university student research into options for improvements to the Saleyards waste water treatment system.**

**CARRIED**

#### **7 NEXT MEETING**

8 December 2020 (Saleyards).

#### **8 MEETING CLOSURE**

10.13am The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed.

**CONFIRMED: PRESIDING MEMBER\_\_\_\_\_DATE:\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_**



**Department of  
Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries**

Our ref PL1-7#04; E2034476  
Enquiries Alex Botar  
Phone (08) 6552 1405  
Email Legislation@dlgsc.wa.gov.au

Mr John Fathers  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Shire of Plantagenet  
PO Box 48  
MOUNT BARKER WA 6324

Dear Mr Fathers

I advise that I have approved your request to allow Cr Jeff Moir and Mr Michael Skinner to fully participate in the discussion and decision making on matters relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards at the meeting of the Saleyards Advisory Committee (Committee) of 20 October 2020.

My decision to approve your request is made on the basis that the Committee is not afforded any decision making ability (apart from procedural related decisions) and that all matters for decisions relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards are referred to Ordinary and Special Meetings of the Council.

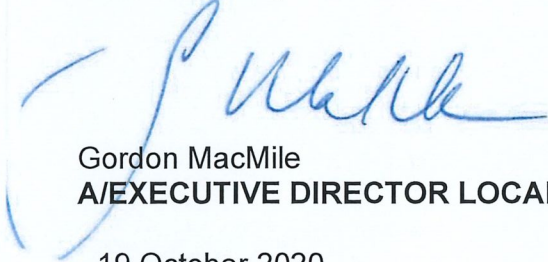
This approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. The approval is only valid for the Committee meeting of 20 October 2020;
2. The approval is not valid for any matter of the Committee that may lead to expenditure from general revenue in excess of that advertised in the Annual Budget. However, if Council considers that Cr Moir or Mr Skinner should be allowed to participate in Committee discussions that may lead to expenditures in excess of those indicated in the Annual Budget, then Council should seek a further approval and provide reasons for the request;
3. Cr Moir and Mr Skinner must declare the nature and extent of their interests at the Committee meeting when the matter is considered, together with the approval provided;
4. The CEO is to provide a copy of this letter of approval to Cr Moir and Mr Skinner;
5. The CEO is to ensure that the declarations, including the approval given and any conditions imposed, are recorded in the minutes of each Committee meeting, when the relevant matters are considered; and
6. The approval granted is based solely on the interests disclosed by Cr Moir and Mr Skinner made in accordance with the application dated 14 September 2020. Should other interests be identified, these interests will not be included in this approval and the financial interest provisions of the Act will apply.

Please note that this approval does not extend to Cr Moir's participation in matters relating to the Mount Barker Regional Saleyards considered at Council meetings. This would be subject to a further request for approval under the Act.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Alex Botar, Legislation Officer via the details provided above.

Yours sincerely



Gordon MacMile  
**A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

19 October 2020