



Shire of Pingelly
Shire of Wandering
Joint Local Emergency Management Committee

Minutes

Tuesday 8 June 2021

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1. OPENING & ANNOUCEMENTS

Meeting opened at 10:03am – Pingelly Shire President – Cr Bill Mulroney welcomed everyone.

2. ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES

LEMC Members in Person

Cr Bill Mulroney	Shire President, Pingelly – Chair
Cr Ian Turton	Shire President, Wandering
Barry Gibbs	Executive Manager of Technical Services, Shire of Wandering
Paul Dennison	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Mick Dowdell	Pingelly SES
Vanessa Ward	Executive Assistant, Shire of Pingelly

LEMC Members via Zoom

Jo Spadaccini	District Emergency Service Officer – Wheatbelt, Department of Communities – Emergency Services Unit
Adam Smith	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Drew Richardson	Community Paramedic St John Ambulance

APOLOGIES

Julie Burton	Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Pingelly
Belinda Knight	Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Wandering
Jason Macander	OIC Pingelly Police Station
Darryn Watkins	Director Technical Services, Shire of Pingelly
Neville Blackburn	District Emergency Service Officer – Great Southern, Department of Communities – Emergency Services Unit
Angela Channon	Department of Communities
Jason Carrall	Community Emergency Services Manager
Jennifer Dunn	Principal, Wandering Primary School
Sheryl Squires	Administration Officer Technical Services, Shire of Pingelly

VISITORS TO THE MEETING

Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the LEMC meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 were confirmed.

Moved: Cr Ian Turton

Seconded: Barry Gibbs

Carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a. LEMC MOU with Beverley, Brookton, Pingelly and Wandering:
Barry advised that he now has a copy of the MOU. He will send out a copy to all members and an item will be tabled at the September meeting.
Discussion also occurred around inviting Corrigin to join the MOU as they shared the CESM with these shires.

The Shire of Corrigin be approached to see if they wish to be included in the LEMC MOU with the Shires of Beverley, Brookton, Pingelly and Wandering.

Moved: Mick Dowdell

Seconded: Barry Gibbs

Carried

- b. Telecommunications failure during power interruptions:
Wandering Shire Office has now had WIFI installed with a battery backup that would be available for the general public to use in the event of a black out. It was advised that the battery installed at the Telstra tower only has a battery life of 3 hours. There was a possibility of a generator back up but still in talks with Telstra. There was some discussion around the possibility of having solar panels installed with battery banks that could be used in the event of a significant black out.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Inward:

Stand Alone Bushfire Plan Wandering Primary School has submitted. Barry to follow up with Pingelly Primary School for theirs.

Emergency Contact Number from Public Transport Authority. It was noted that the PTA also covers school buses as well as the Transwa services

Moved: Cr Ian Turton

Seconded: Mick Dowdell

Carried

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 AWARE Training:

As you may be aware an application for AWARE grant funding was submitted and successful in receiving a grant for an Evacuation and Recovery Exercise training. This has been scheduled for Wednesday 1 September at the Pingelly Recreation and Cultural Centre. Nominations are limited to 15 people.

So far 2 nominations have been received:

- Jo Spadaccini
- Barry Gibbs

A separate email will be sent to all members asking for nominations.

Barry expressed his thanks to Julie for being instrumental in obtaining this grant. He also noted that it was important to meet the deadlines associated with this grant.

- Paul Dennison advised that he will be returning to his position in Bunbury and that Blake Halford

6.2 Shire of Wandering:

- Barry advised that the Shire of Wandering had recently purchased 2 Satellite phones for the Chief Bushfire Control Officer and also the Deputy.
- It was noted that the contact details for the Wandering Primary School had been updated

6.2 Pingelly SES:

- Cr Bill Mulroney also advised that the Pingelly SES now have a Satellite phone.

6.3 Shire of Pingelly:

- Shire of Pingelly CEO Julie Burton leaves the Shire of Friday 18 June. A new CEO will be advised when an appointment has been made.

6.4 Department of Fire and Emergency Services:

- Adam advised that they had recently held their quarterly Forum in Narrogin and Cranbrook. Adam to compile a summary from the forums and send out the all members

- Pingelly/Wandering 5 year review was due 2022
- DFES have Evacuation plan template available
- State policies are now out for public consultation

6.5 St John Ambulance:

- Drew advised that the recent Wooroloo fires it was a test for St John with the Covid restrictions. This process has now been tightened up and Specialist assistance from the city will be available if needed from now on.
- There is also plans for a Paramedic to be stationed at Narrogin in the near future.

6.6 Department of Fire and Emergency Services

- Incident Management Training currently being held for CBFCO/DCBFCO and FCO's. Shires should be encouraging all personnel to attend prior to the start of the season. This training makes it easier when critical incidents occur.
 - Paul to send out training dates and synopsis of each training to all members.

6.7 Department of Communities Cyclone Seroja

Department of Communities is able to assist residents that have been impacted by the passing of the EX TC Seroja. Flyers has been included with my report to provide details of assistance available from the Department as well as other providers, which can be distributed to your community members who have been affected.

Evacuation Centre Audit

In the coming months I will be completing an audit on buildings that are listed in the Local Emergency Welfare Plans as evacuation centres to update details on building specifications and wind ratings (if available). During planning for TC Seroja there was concern around the capacity of centres to withstand the potential impacts of a direct hit or close passing of Seroja and if they would be safe to use as an evacuation centre.

The audit will commence with the northern Wheatbelt Local Governments and then move south over time.

Social Distancing (SD) in Evacuation Centres

In the event of an evacuation centre being required we will need to address the social distancing requirements in play at that time. This may involve looking at more than one facility to avoid overcrowding or requesting people to stay with family or friends if available (that also adheres to SD rules). The estimated capacity for each centre listed in the LEWP are being revised and will be shown in two sections. Non COVID and COVID capacities. I will have discussions with the Shires around this and what other resources are available if required.

A copy of the COVID – 19 Welfare Centre Guide (V1.02 23 December 2020) has been distributed to the Local Governments in the Wheatbelt in preparation should a Welfare Centre be required.

COVID status will be confirmed with Department of Health on activation and required actions will be notified at the time.

The key points:

- Travellers, visitors and tourists to leave the evacuation area **if safe to do so**
- Shelter in Place **if safe to do so**
- Shelter with family and friends **if safe to do so**
- Utilise commercial/alternative accommodation options **if available**
- Use welfare centres as a last resort

Facilities used for large scale COVID testing and Vaccinations

Any centres used for COVID testing will need to be deep cleaned prior to being used as an evacuation centre.

Department of Communities - Wheatbelt District - Contact arrangement for welfare support in emergencies.

In an emergency, if welfare support services are required during business hours, please contact the Department of Communities office listed in your LEWP or after hours contact Crisis Care on 1800 199 008 to activate Communities.

If you would like any further information please call my mobile 0429 102 614 or email me joanne.spadaccini@communities.wa.gov.au.

6.8 Pingelly Police:

Unfortunately I am now not able to attend today's meeting, sorry for the late notice but operational requirements have struck again.

We have had a number of missing/lost persons in the Mt Cooke area but apart from that I have nothing to add for the meeting.

**6.9 CESM Report
Shire of Pingelly.**

Completed my Mental Health First Aid course. This was very informative and highly recommend others to undertake the course.

Currently in process of organising and delivering BFB Skills Courses. This will take place over the next 6 months.

- FCO's
- Bushfire Safety and Awareness
- Firefighting Skills
- Farmer response (when Available)
- Bushfire Safety Awareness SES

Assisted Pingelly VFRS and Pingelly BFB with hazard reduction burn, (Green Waste Pile) at Pingelly Tip. This was a great success.

Application for Mitigation funding for works on Shire vested land has been completed and sent in for approval. Approx. \$220,000.00 has been requested which would be very beneficial to the Shire if accepted.

After successful meetings with ARC infrastructure planning went into place to start working with ARC to reduce the risk on the railway lines. Unfortunately, ARC have put all works on hold due to Management Change within the organisation. I will continue to liaise with ARC to try keep the program moving forward in a positive way.

Saturday 24th April assisted with community engagement event in Pingelly. Huge success and looking to holding more in the future hopefully in Brookton and Corrigin.

Successfully negotiated with DEFS to have an extra \$10,000 over expenditure for PPE for our volunteers from the ESL. This order has been placed and waiting for it to arrive.

Went on deployment to Geraldton to assist with TC Seroja. Was a busy week but enjoyed it and gained some good experience in working within a big Incident.

7. Next Meeting

14 September 2021 – 6pm @ the Shire of Pingelly Council Chambers

8. Close of Meeting.

Meeting was closed at 10.39am