

# COMBINED SHIRE OF EAST PILBARA LEMC Minutes

## Combined Shire of East Pilbara Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Meeting

Friday 9 August 2024 at 1030hours

Newman Shire Chambers & TEAMS

### 1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/INTRODUCTION

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather today, the Nyiyaparli (Nee-ya-bar-li) people, and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. I would also like to acknowledge the Martu people as the Custodians of Jigalong which sits in Nyiyaparli County. I pay my respects to their leaders, past, present and emerging.

### 2.0 ATTENDANCE

Cr Anthony Middleton	Shire of East Pilbara
Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks	Shire of East Pilbara
Christopher Scanlan	Shire of East Pilbara
Chris Kolvic	Rio Tinto
Hanna Roets	BHP
Peter Cameron	DFES
Connie Reed	SES
Mick Davis	KJ's
Shirwani Nair	Shire of East Pilbara
Anna Page	RAMS
Darryl Harding	Fortescue
Nabil Abd Al Fattah	WACHS
Amanda Williamson	Newman VFRS
Cr Lee Anderson	Shire of East Pilbara
Dave Olney	Shire of East Pilbara
John Wheelock	DPIRD
Brenden James	Rio Tinto
Nellie Sandy	WACHS
Megan Ewing	BHP
Clint Colclough	Fortescue
Craig Daniels	Shire of East Pilbara
Julian Santamaria	Tjambu Tjambu
Scott McDonald	WAPOL
Leanne Johnston	Kimberly Pilbara Cattleman's Association
Brett Dann	Main Roads
Tino Meinen	Marble Bar Police
Debra McMillan	Dept. Communities
David Basil	Shire of East Pilbara
Sas Hennings	WACHS
Jo Eades	Shire of East Pilbara

### 3.0 APOLOGIES

Matt Reimer	DFES
Malcolm Somers	Shire of East Pilbara
Gemma Lacey	Shire of East Pilbara

Nicole O'Neill	Shire of East Pilbara
Terry Mellor	Rio Tinto
Reuben Campbell	Atlas Iron

#### 4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Marble Bar Wednesday 8 May 2024

Moved: Cr Lee Anderson                      Seconded: Christopher Scanlan

Nullagine Thursday 9 May 2024

Moved: Christopher Scanlan                      Seconded: Wendy McWhirter-Brooks

Newman Friday 10 May 2024

Moved: Christopher Scanlan                      Seconded: Anthony Middleton

#### 5.0 TABLED DOCUMENTS

Emails sent to all LEMC members regarding the new Australian Warning System implemented by DFES on the 15 July 2024. Links for training provided.

Peter Cameron – DFES added that the system has gone live. The biggest change for us is the cyclone warning updates. This change is to be aligned with the rest of Australia. DFES will visit the Nullagine and Marble Bar during October for awareness.

#### 6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Newman Airport Emergency Exercise – Monday 29 July 2024

#### 7.0 STANDING ITEMS

7.1. Post-incident reports

Shirwani Nair – incident at the Nullagine Airport. Nullagine is a non-certified airport and is a gravel landing area. In the early hours of the morning a RFDS plane didn't do a fly over before landing and hit a pregnant cow that was on the air strip. The aircraft was damaged and there were no injuries. Cleanup was completed quickly to ensure the strip was serviceable. RFDS only do flyovers during the day, however now the attending nurse or ambulance will do a drive around prior to landing. Fencing will be re-done over the next few weeks.

Sas Hennings – WACHS – would like a copy of the changes to the procedures.

7.2. Post-exercise reports

Shirwani Nair – 29 July 2024 the Newman Airport Emergency Exercise was conducted. A briefing will be held and invites to the teams meeting will be sent out in due course.

7.3. Funding nominations and application progress

NIL

7.4. Review LEMA arrangements

NIL

#### 8.0 PRESENTATION

John Wheelock from DPIRD

Conversations around feral and domestic pigs and biosecurity. Conversations about the level of risk to Australia and the response preparation. Multiple requests for copies of this presentation.

#### 9.0 AGENCY REPORTS

9.1 Peter Cameron – DFES

The vacant position of AO De Grey should be filled by September.

9.2 Connie Reed – SES

SES have done a few resupplies to communities due to rain and flooding. SES will have some AWS pamphlets and information at the upcoming Fortescue Festival. The Western Desert trip is in two week's time.

Conversations around what resupply consists of and the freight and transport costs and subsidy's and the price increases in communities.

- Peter Cameron also mentioned work being done on the local isolations plans for communities and towns.
- 9.3 Amanda Williams – Newman VFRS  
A busy first month of the year with about 20 jobs so far.
- 9.4 Scott McDonald – WAPOL  
Reviews of our Emergency Management plans are due. Focusing on crime prevention. Stats still show motor vehicle thefts with keys being left in cars and/or doors left unlocked. Thanks to those who assisted with the crash at the end of Newman Drive and Great Northern Highway. The inter-agency collaboration was great and the investigation is still on-going.
- 9.5 Tino Meinen – WAPOL  
Been away for a few months over the quiet season. Nothing further to add.
- 9.6 Sas Hennings – WACHS  
Hospitals are seeing an increase in respiratory illnesses including influenza, Covid-19 and whooping cough. Reminder to communities and staff for hand hygiene and vaccines. Staff involvement in drills and emergency exercises with external partners. WACHS will also be reaching out for engagement in upcoming table tops and drills.
- 9.7 Megan Ewing – BHP  
Conversation with WAPOL if the vehicles with keys left in are BHP vehicles. Megan asked how volunteer numbers are looking.  
Amanda Williams – VFRS - 20  
Connie Reed – SES – 8  
Hanna Roets – St John – need mid-week daytime volunteers  
BHP are doing a big residential push and have welcome packs for new people with information on volunteering opportunities included.  
Amanda Williams asked about FIFO employees being able to join as volunteers. Megan to follow up as may be a fatigue issue.  
Sas Hennings would like volunteer information to provide to staff and also asked about volunteer training and ability to respond when working in rotations in the Pilbara.  
Amanda Williams provided that DFES training could be completed, then the volunteer would need to be registered at each brigade.  
Scott McDonald asked Megan about the vacant houses in Newman. Megan provided that the Vice President of External Affairs visited to look at that issue and hope to have an announcement shortly.  
Shiwani Nair asked Scott McDonald if WAPOL are still conducting airport patrols throughout the night. Scott McDonald will revisit this.
- 9.8 John Wheelock – DPIRD  
DPIRD will have an on call officer for the Kimberley and Pilbara commencing early September until March each year and will be available between 7am and 8pm.
- 9.9 Debra McMillan – Dept of Communities  
Debra is now in the position of Regional Coordinator for Emergency Relief. Debra will soon be visiting the Pilbara evacuation centres and stores and hopes to meet some stakeholders.
- 9.11 Darryl Harding – FMG  
Movements within EM and will send through the contact updates.
- 9.12 Chris Kolvik - Rio Tinto  
Hope Downs 4 previously had an issue with vehicles being stolen but now have a no key policy and IVMS system.
- 9.13 Christopher Scanlan – Shire of East Pilbara  
Fire season has started, the team operate the Nullagine Bush Fire Brigade. The trucks from Nullagine and Jigalong were brought to Newman for servicing, auditing and equipment checks. Nullagine truck was returned last week and ongoing discussions if and when the Jigalong truck will go back to Jigalong. The Bush Fire Risk Management Plan is in final draft and will be going to up to the office of Bush Fire Risk Management in the next week or two. In the next few months the Ranger team will be joining up with Newman VFRS to do some training. Recovery still on-going from TC Ilsa with Disaster Relief funding organisation focusing on Yarri-Muccan and Cape Keraudren that is still waiting for repairs that may take another 6 months.

Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks added that Warrawagine Station needs to be added to that recovery list as property was damaged and works are still on-going.

Christopher acknowledged Paul Maddern as DFES Area Officer who finished in June. During May Paul and Christopher conducted a community trip for 8 days visiting communities also with DBCA visited mine sites. Was a great opportunity to meet various groups and people and look at fire mitigation plans.

9.14 Anna Page – RAMS

Currently doing our Emergency Plan reviews for Newman and the Post-Incident one. The Marble Bar emergency plan isn't required by CASA and this will be changed to a response plan.

9.15 Brett Dann - Main Roads

Main Roads have been swapping over the road status boards throughout the Pilbara region. These are just about all online that will enable Main Roads to update them remotely. Also looking for contacts within the Pilbara before the wet season begins.

Christopher Scanlan – EM Directory provides all contact details.

9.16 Mick Davis - KJ's

KJ's have just done an Annual Report where we have done around 130,000 hectares of burning and something like 1,300 individual burns averaging around 250 hectares each. Keen to keep working with the communities for slashing and fire reduction. KJ's also has a bit of food that goes in and out of communities and are often seeking a bit opportunity to see if those roads are open to continue Martu delivering on country work.

Several committee members requesting Mick's email address.

## 10.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 David Basil – SoEP

David updated the committee that he has developed a grader program/system.

Mick Davis added that KJ's are using the road all the time and can provide road reports. David is interested in road reports and has ideas of how to get this program developed further.

Connie Reed mentioned the road between Kiwirrkurra and NT are Shire roads and need to be maintained for tourists and supplies going to the communities.

Christopher Scanlan added that graders were out there in May.

Sas Hennings added that from a Health perspective Kiwirrkurra doesn't sit with the Pilbara profiles.

Julian Santamaria added that while there were graders, they stopped 30km away from community and that section of road is terrible. Kiwirrkurra sits within the Goldfields region for most things like Health, Education and Police, however conversations between Kiwirrkurra, entities, DoC about no longer providing services in Kiwirrkurra and if that is the case then it will make more sense for Kiwirrkurra to talk to the Pilbara branches of those departments which will probably happen over the next few years.

10.2 Christopher Scanlan - SoEP

Conversations in relation to remote communities and which LEMC they sit with in relation to response.

10.3 Christopher Scanlan - SoEP

An update on the evacuation centre for Newman is now the Recreation Centre and we are in the process of moving the supplies back.

10.4 Connie Reed – SES

Connie asked Christopher about the fire trailers out at communities, the ones requiring maintenance.

Christopher mentioned that during the community trip in May the trailers were seen and had discussions with DBCA and DFES around grants or programs to put a light tanker in those communities and train staff in the communities how to use the equipment. Once the DFES AO position is filled discussions can resume.

Peter Cameron added the trailers are for mitigation and not firefighting.

Mick Davis asked about graders on the roads around the communities for mitigation prior to the next season.

Christopher Scanlan confirmed that is the intent with internal conversations taking place.

Action Items

DFES	October visit for AWS to Marble Bar and Nullagine
John Wheelock	Share presentation
Shirwani Nair	Provide RFDS procedure updates to Sas Hennings
Megan Ewing	Fatigue information for BHP staff to volunteer
Jo Eades	Update Directory with Mick Davis contact information
David Basil	Share grading program once completed
Jo Eades	Move Communities to Newman LEMC

**11.0 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETINGS:**

Meeting closed: 1159hrs  
Next Meetings: Marble Bar 6 November 2024  
Nullagine 7 November 2024  
Newman 8 November 2024

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*"To enhance the quality of life in the Shire of East Pilbara by working cooperatively with the public and within the framework of State Legislation and the Shire of East Pilbara Policies and Local Laws to proactively enforce the laws and provide for a safer environment."*

Item 13.2.1 Appendix 1