



Shire of Irwin Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Meeting

to be held in the Council Chambers

Thursday, 22 July 2021

at 2.00pm

Minutes

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

(please sign the attendance register on arrival)

Members

Cr M T Smith	Shire of Irwin President & Presiding Member
C McCartney	Paramedic, St Johns Ambulance
M Moerman	DFES Area Officer Midlands
Cr H Wells	Shire of Irwin Councillor
R Clarke <i>(via teleconference)</i>	DFES

Staff

Mr S Ivers	Chief Executive Officer
Mr M Teale	Community Emergency Services Manager
Mrs N A M'Leane	Development & Executive Officer

Apologies

B Cassidy	Officer in Charge Dongara Police
P Herbert	Main Roads WA
T Pavelka	DEMHS
J Henriques	Parks and Wildlife Service
J Gardener	DFES
J Calver	Dongara District High School
Cr G S Eva	Shire of Irwin Councillor
Mr G Crabb	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr K Shaw	Department of Communities

3 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1

COMMITTEE DECISION 010721:

MOVED: S Ivers

SECONDED: M Teale

That the Minutes of the 24 March 2021 LEMC Meeting, as previously circulated, be adopted as true and accurate recording of that meeting.

3.2

COMMITTEE DECISION 020721:

MOVED: S Ivers

SECONDED: C McCartney

That the Minutes of the 09 April 2021 LEMC Meeting, as previously circulated, be adopted as true and accurate recording of that meeting.

3.3 Action Items from previous minutes

3.3.1 PPE Stocks for Rec Centre Evacuation Centre

M Teale advised the stocks for the Rec Centre a proposed Evacuation Centre need to be suitable for various emergencies and natural disasters, not just a cyclone for example. Further action required to determine equipment and documentation required.

3.3.2 DDHS as possible second Evacuation Centre

M Teale advised further consultation is required with relevant agencies to determine if Dongara District High School is a suitable site. Follow up:

- Site to be included in Emergency Arrangements; and
- Is backup power available.

3.3.3 LEMC Exercise

M Teale advised the Development of a Business Plan is in progress to ensure the exercise is relevant to the current LEMC.

3.3.4 WHS Legislation impacts on Volunteers

S Ivers advised the Shire are implementing new software to assist with compliance of the new WHS Legislation requirements, Feedback from DFES on original action item. Mitigate risk for volunteers.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PERSON PRESIDING

The Shire President welcomed Mark Teale back to the Shire of Irwin as the Community Emergency Services Manager for Irwin and Coorow.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Identify real, perceived or potential conflicts of interest experienced by any member in relation to the items on the agenda. These should be declared now and if possible raised with the chairperson prior to the meeting to determine the appropriate way to manage the conflict.

Nil.

6 CORRESPONDENCE IN

Nil.

7 CORRESPONDENCE OUT

Nil.

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Upcoming Community Events

Denison Sprint and Midwest Show & Shine – Sunday 26 September (long weekend).

- St John Ambulance & Local Volunteer Fire Brigade have been engaged to assist at the event.
- Agencies can you this event as an opportunity to promote awareness and have recruitment tents.
- Take into consideration that there will be lots of people travelling to and from town during this period.

8.2 Amendments to LEMA/Contact Details

- Reminder to advise M Teale of any officer changes within your agencies.
- Dongara Police Officer in Charge (OIC)– Brett Cassidy has moved on, Neil Boozanier is the new OIC.

8.3 Agency Updates

Shire of Irwin

- Welcome back to Mark Teale, the Shire President and CEO wished him all the best in the return to the CESM role.

Mark Teale – Current Focus

- Cyclone Seroja Recovery.
- Bushfire Mitigation. Working with agencies to manage land we don't have tenure over.
- Bushfire Planning efficiencies.
- Building awareness around local mining companies, facilitating meetings, building relationships and a support agency.

St John Ambulance (SJA) – Cathy McCartney

- Carrying on with COVID-19 awareness, training has resumed as normal.
- Members are getting vaccinations, volunteer requirement, compulsory or not.
- SJA attending the Sprint and will be holding a stall to raise awareness. Paramedic attending, Cathy will be covering another event.
- SJA have purchased a generator for the sub centre to improve their response and resources during a power outage etc.
- Mingenew Expo is coming up on the 11-12 August, SJA attending.

DFES – M Moerman

- Cyclone Seroja had a big impact on "Business as Usual" operations within DFES. Lots of focus and resources have been redirected to assist in the recovery efforts.
- Catching up on training courses etc.
- New members elected to positions at the Town & Irwin Brigade.
- Budget allocation for upgrades at the Town Station (\$500,000). Meeting with finance team to finalise budget details. Project for minor works out for tender. Toilet showers and raise shed height.

8.4 COVID-19 Discussion

Captured in agency updates.

8.5 Cyclone Seroja Debrief and Feedback

K Pollitt managed the local situation well when Cyclone Seroja was approaching. The Shire received positive feedback regarding the frequent and up to date information shared on Social Media and through Telstra Integrated Messaging platform.

M Teale requested members share their experiences through Cyclone Seroja and how it impacted operations within their agencies. Members raised the following:

- Surprising how different communities responded to the alerts in the lead up to the Cyclone hitting, Shire of Irwin and surrounding communities had quite a casual approach. Driving around town, business trading while on yellow alert. Sitting in front on glass doors/windows as seen on the news in Kalbarri.
- The Shire of Irwin provided support to the Shire of Mingenew by sending operations staff over to assist with clean-up post cyclone.
- Minimal damage to in the Shire of Irwin, no property damage in town, trees down to the north and east.
- Impacts post Cyclone were felt by the Shire or Irwin and were a learning tool to determine what communication improvements can be made for the future.
- It was noted by SJA that at an Evacuation Centre it would be appropriate to have a separate room identified for patient treatment.
- Feedback from Kalbarri residents is that they would evacuate should the weather event present itself in the future.
- SJA have purchased a generator since the Cyclone, it was a big issue for their agency not being able to communicate and charge their radios.
- Acknowledged the local BP fuel station for allowing ambulance crews to skip long queues to fuel up vehicles.
- Cyclone has raised conversations around building codes and engineering requirements for the region.
- Shire of Irwin noted damage caused at the Irwin Recreation Centre when the generator was connected, almost all RCD's were blown.
- M Moermon of DFES provided some statistics;
 - 16 Local Governments Impacted by Seroja
 - 173,000 square kilometers
 - 2437 rapid damage assessments completed
 - 11,000 residential properties damaged
 - 5,600 insurance claims to date
 - 190 million dollars in damage
 - 90% of primary produces reported damage, loss of 363,000 million estimated.
- The Shire passed on an acknowledgement to Western Power for their efforts in the restoration of power to the region.

M Teale identified the requirement to nominate an officer to the Local Recovery Coordinator Role, officer training available.

9 SETTING OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

9.1 The below dates have been accepted by the Committee at the meeting held 24 March 2021.

- September Meeting to be postponed until December due to June's meeting being held end of July.

Supported committee members present.

- Wednesday 1 December, 2021
- Wednesday 2 March, 2022

- Wednesday 1 June, 2022

10 CLOSURE