



MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, ABEL STREET BOYUP BROOK ON TUESDAY 23 June 2020 AT 7.00pm

1 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Cr Richard Walker - Shire President
Chris Smith - CEO
Daly Winter - Community Emergency and Regulation Manager
John Ritson
Ron Bingham
Wayne Girando
Tristan Mead
David Inglis
Brad Fairbrass
Michael Giles
David Fortune
Ross Parker
Marcus Gifford
Michael Hester
Charles Caldwell
Brad Skraha
Ronald Tuckett
Colin Connop
Jamie Forbes
Ben Creek
Chris Sousa
Glenn Mead
Darren Chapman

Apologies

Chris Coole
Paul Goerling
Dave Muir
Wayde Robertson
Nick Bagshaw
Hayden Bock
Brooks Evans
Brian Cailes
Rob Inrovigne

2. ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER

5.12. *Presiding members and deputies, election of*

- (1) *The members of a committee are to elect a presiding member from amongst themselves in accordance with Schedule 2.3, Division 1 as if the references in that Schedule —*
 - (a) *to “office” were references to “office of presiding member”; and*
 - (b) *to “council” were references to “committee”; and*
 - (c) *to “councillors” were references to “committee members”.*
- (2) *The members of a committee may elect a deputy presiding member from amongst themselves but any such election is to be in accordance with Schedule 2.3, Division 2 as if the references in that Schedule —*
 - (a) *to “office” were references to “office of deputy presiding member”; and*
 - (b) *to “council” were references to “committee”; and*
 - (c) *to “councillors” were references to “committee members”; and*
 - (d) *to “mayor or president” were references to “presiding member”.*

2.1 ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER

The Committee called for nominations

Cr Richard Walker nominated.

MOVED: Michael Giles

SECONDED: Tristan Mead

No further nominations received for Presiding Member.

Cr Walker was declared elected Presiding Member
Carried.

2.2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDING MEMBER

The Committee calls for nominations

Cr Helen O’Connell nominated.

MOVED: Michael Giles

SECONDED: Ron Bingham

No further nominations received for Presiding Member.

Cr Helen O’Connell was declared elected Deputy Presiding Member. **Carried.**

3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS/MEMBERS

Chief Fire Control Officer

Tristan Mead nominated.

MOVED: Ron Bingham

SECONDED: David Inglis

No further nominations received for Chief Fire Control Officer.

Tristan Mead was declared elected Chief Fire Control Officer. **Carried.**

1st Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer

Ben Thompson nominated.

MOVED: Tristan Mead

SECONDED: Ron Bingham

No further nominations received for 1st Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer.

Ben Thompson was declared elected 1st Deputy Chief Fire Control. **Carried.**

2nd Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer

Ron Bingham nominated.

MOVED: Brad Fairbrass

SECONDED: Tristan Mead

No further nominations received for 2nd Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer.

Ron Bingham was declared elected 2nd Deputy Chief Fire Control. **Carried.**

Communications Officer

David Fortune nominated.

MOVED: David Inglis

SECONDED: Ben Creek

No further nominations received for Communications Officer.

David Fortune was declared elected as Communications Officer. **Carried.**

Fire Weather Officer

Brad Fairbrass nominated.

MOVED: Tristan Mead

SECONDED: David Fortune

No further nominations received for Fire Weather Officer.

Brad Fairbrass was declared elected as Fire Weather Officer. **Carried.**

Deputy Fire Weather Officer

James Johnston nominated.

MOVED: Tristan Mead

SECONDED: Ron Bingham

No further nominations received for Deputy Fire Weather Officer.

James Johnston was declared elected as Deputy Fire Weather Officer. **Carried.**

Training Officer

No nominations received.

Position vacant.

Two delegates from each Brigade

David Inglis and **Darren Guazzelli** were declared elected as delegates from the *Benjinup Brigade*.

Brooks Evans and **Anthony Hallett** were declared elected as delegates from the *Chowerup Brigade*.

Tristan Mead and **Wayne Girando** were declared elected as delegates from the *Dinninup Brigade*.

John Ritson and **James Johnston** were declared elected as delegates from the *East Boyup Brook Brigade*.

Paul Goerling and **Michael Giles** were declared elected as delegates from the *Gibbs Brigade*.

Brad Skraha and **Nick Bagshaw** were declared elected as delegates from the *Kenninup Brigade*.

Brad Fairbrass and **Hayden Bock** were declared elected as delegates from the *Kulikup Brigade*.

Ben Creek and **Chris Coole** were declared elected as delegates from the *Mayanup Brigade*.

David Fortune and **Laurie Shine** were declared elected as delegates from the *McAlinden Brigade*.

Darren Chapman and **Jamie Forbes** were declared elected as delegates from the *Mickalarup/Dwalganup Brigade*.

Marcus Gifford and **Rob Introvigne** were declared elected as delegates from the *Nollajup Brigade*.

Charles Caldwell and **Wayde Robertson** were declared elected as delegates from the *Scotts Brook Brigade*.

Ronald Tuckett and **David Turner** were declared elected as delegates from the *Tonebridge Brigade*.

Collin Connop and **David Muir** were declared elected as delegates from the *Tweed Brigade*.

Brian Cailles and **Ross Parker** were declared elected as delegates from the *West Boyup Brigade*.

Gyula Bogar was declared the elected delegate from the *DFES Town Brigade*.

4 PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Chris Sousa – DFES Area Officer

The Presiding member introduced Chris Sousa, the new DFES Area Officer. Chris has been appointed to the role and has replaced Steve Ward who has been promoted into a new role within DFES Lower South West Office. Chris spoke about his work in his previous role as Community Emergency Services Manager for the Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes (14 years). Chris will be responsible for the DFES Town Brigades in Boyup Brook, Bridgetown and Nannup. He will also assist with training needs for each of those Shires. Chris offered his support for any training that our BF Brigades required.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Bush Fire Advisory AGM – 28 May 2019

MOVED: David Inglis

SECONDED: Ron Bingham

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory AGM held on the 28 May 2019 be confirmed as an accurate record.

Carried.

6 BUSINESS ARISING

6.1 2020 -21 Mitigation Activity Funding Planning Brigades submitted their list of Mitigation priorities to the Shire:

Most of the treatments submitted were not on land vested with the Shire and therefore were ineligible for consideration under the MAF guidelines. Of the 33 areas listed only 6 areas were eligible.

7 REPORTS

7.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer 2019/2020 Report

Tristan mead reported on the overall fire season.

- Willetts – Header Fire
- Connop Fire
- Martin Fire – Header
- Reid Fire – Haystack, started from a controlled burn.
- Fullers? Fire - ?
- Donnybrook Road – Couple of suspicious fires suspect marron fishing?

Tristan thanks the Fire Weather Offers for a fine job this year and he also thanked the other X-Ray team members for their support.

7.2 Training Officer Report:

No Report

7.3 Other Reports:

Nil.

7.4 Brigade autumn 2019 AGM Minutes as tabled by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

7.4.1 Brigade Meeting Minutes

MOTION

MOVED: David Inglis

SECONDED: Charles Caldwell

That the AGM Minutes of the Scotts Brook, Chowerup, East Brigade, Gibbs and Kulikup Brigades be received.

Carried.

8 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

8.1 Nil

9 GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 Appoint K Hales as dual fire control officer

MOTION

MOVED: Ron Bingham

SECONDED: David Inglis

That the request from the Shire of West Arthur to appoint Kim Hales as a dual fire control officers in the Shire of Boyup Brook is supported by the BFAC representatives present.

Carried.

9.2 Discussion - Relocation McAlinden 2.4 Truck to the Benjinup (Wilga Townsite)

The McAlinden 2.4 is due to be replaced in 2021 with a new 4.4 Rural Appliance. The Shire seeks input from local brigades to consider relocating the new appliance to Benjinup Brigade (Wilga Townsite) instead of housing it at its current location in

McAlinden. The unit is currently housed on private property (D & E Fortune).

There has been some discussion that residents at Wilga could be better positioned to crew the unit rather than rely on the few permanent local McAlinden volunteers. If the new unit is relocated to Wilga it will need to be housed somewhere, where it can be protected and secured. General discussion between delegated, X ray team members and Executive Officer ensued.

David Inglis, Benjinup Brigade FCO did not consider we would be better off by relocating the McAlinden unit to the Wilga area. He said similar volunteer issues would still occur if located in Wilga townsite.

MOTION

MOVED: Michael Giles

SECONDED: David Inglis

That the Boyup Brook Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the new McAlinden fire appliance be housed at the discretion of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and the housing location of all ESL Fire appliances units be reviewed annually.

Carried.

9.3 Accredited First Aid Training (HLTAID003 – Provide First Aid)

The Shire will arrange for a couple of First Aid Training courses for registered brigade volunteers for later this year or early next year. These courses will be free to our active volunteers. With the recent role out of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) for our ESL funded fire appliances it is important that we have volunteers that are trained to use these Defibrillators in case of an emergency.

The Shire will proceed with this planned training.

9.4 DFES Warnings

Discussion regarding warnings issued by DFES.

Tristan Mead expressed concerns that he received multiple calls regarding a Fire SMS Message sent out on 23rd of May by the Shire. In future SMS fire related messages will be reviewed and issued by the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

9.5 Kloppers Fire Appliance

Discussion regarding use of this appliance at big fire events.

Various brigade representatives have witnessed the high operational capability of this new appliance located in the Kojonup District. Impressed with the water

cannon setup and the elevated height capability of the cannon.

9.6 Funding of slip on units

Discussion regarding funding of slip on units.

Daly Winter advised that under the current Emergency Services Levy – Local Government Grants Scheme guidelines funding for slip on units is not available.

MOTION

MOVED: Michael Giles

SECONDED: Ron Bingham

That the Boyup Brook Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that a formal request be made from the Shire of Boyup Brook to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the Emergency Services Levy to fund Slip on Units for all Local Government Shires.

Carried.

MOTION

MOVED: Brad Skraha

SECONDED: Ben Creek

That the Boyup Brook Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the Shire of Boyup Brook seek support letters from other Shires regarding the Emergency Services Levy funding for Slip on Units for Brigades.

Carried.

9.7 Vehicle license fees.

Voluntary Emergency Services Response Vehicle Concession Application – Available from Government of Western Australia Department of Transport Driver and Vehicle Services.

This Concession can be applied to a range of vehicle types. E.G. Fire Engine, Fire Tender, Fire Trailer, Utility, Tractor Plant etc.

Eligibility – Owner of vehicles used exclusively as an eligible emergency response vehicle and operated solely by volunteers.

9.8 Fueling Fire Appliances

General discussion regarding the refuelling of Shire Appliances after hours and/or on weekends.

BFAC Executive Officer Daly Winter will investigate available options to meet the needs to refuel the West Brigade unit.

9.9 Discuss Burn Management with DBCA

Mickalarup Brigade (Darren Chapmen) – Extract from email received by the Shire.
“The biggest concern in our brigade is DPAW’s burning management. A lot of patches of bush are getting very dirty, we have some >30years. DPAW only seem to be doing a patch every second year or so and with the amount of bush blocks around here they will go over 20 years which will prove very dangerous. I have contacted DPAW on numerous occasions and they hear me out and say yes, we will get onto this but no burning or contact gets followed up. Mickalarup Brigade would like this followed up by the shire or x-ray team with DPAW.”

Darren Chapman outlined his dealing with DBCA in relation to discussions about burning various reserves in Boyup Brook. Although DBCA indicated follow up action would be taken, to date nothing has eventuated.

ACTION

The Shire will correspond with DBCA to outline concerns surrounding these parcels of land and to get an official response from them into anticipated action plans or possible timeframes or a burn schedule regarding these reserves.

9.9.1 Boyup Brook BFAC Chairperson Cr Richard Walker outlined an alternatives to prescribed burning to reduce fuel loads in forests. Speaking from personal experience Richard described how some mechanical works can be undertaken to reduce forest fuel levels and improve the actual forest health. This can be achieved in a sustainable and cost-effective means with full commercial utilisation of the resource removed. Additional benefits are minimising release of smoke and carbon into the atmosphere.

10 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 9:06 pm.