

## Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Greenough Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Name</b>	Greenough BFAC Meeting	<b>Meeting No.</b>	1 / 2019
<b>Meeting Date</b>	Monday, 11 March 2019	<b>Meeting Time:</b>	7.00pm
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Cape Burney Bush Fire Brigade Station 5 Hull Street, Cape Burney		
<b>Committee Members</b>	Cr Jerry Clune, Chair Cr Robert Hall Cr Michael Reymond Murray Smith, Emergency Operations Officer, Chief Bush Fire Control Office Rob Roffey – Captain/FCO, Cape Burney Brigade Neil Johnstone – Captain/FCO, Moonyoonooka Brigade Mark Teale - Captain Waggrakine Brigade Brendan McCann – Captain/FCO, Walkaway Brigade	<b>By Invitation</b>	DBCA, DFES, VFRS
		<b>Apologies</b>	Ian Grant – Captain/FCO, Eradu Brigade Darryl Hamersley – FCO Walkaway Len Hamersley – FCO Walkaway
		<b>Distribution</b>	Attendees, Councillors

### 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting at 7pm. Apologies were noted as above.

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1. Minutes of the Meeting held 17 September 2018, as previously circulated were accepted as true and correct.

2.2. Review of actions from previous meeting – Refer to Action Register.

### 3. REPORTS

#### 3.1. Captains Reports

##### Cape Burney

7 call outs to date. 1 near miss. Assisted Geraldton Career Fire & Rescue Service (2), pole top fires (2), car fires (2), and bush fire (1).

Experienced some issues with appliance – noise of auxiliary pump, preventing communication between the crew while on the truck. This has been reported to DFES fleet for investigation and resolution.

##### Moonyoonooka

Very quiet fire season.

##### Waggrakine

Currently have 34 members, 19 firefighters, 3 probationary recruits, 6 cadets, 6 support members

20 callouts, including 13 bush fires.

Members have been deployed to fires in Dongara, Wiluna, and Norseman.



The brigade has attended Relay for Life and Waggrakine Family Fun Day community events.

The Minister for Emergency Services and the FES Commissioner visited the station. Capital nominations have been submitted with the City for the training room and re-sealing of the carpark.

**Walkaway**

No harvest fires or illegal burn offs.

**Eradu**

No report

**3.2. Fire Control Officer Reports**

No reports submitted.

**3.3. Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Report**

Capital nominations (CGG/DFES) made for the following:

- Refurbish of Cape Burney BFB training room. (CGG)
- Carpark/training area for Waggrakine BFB. (CGG)
- Training room for Waggrakine BFB (DFES)
- Automated Weather Stations )CGG)
- Light tanker for Cape Burney BFB (DFES)
- Bulk water carrier (DFES)

Increased ESL by \$5k – Brigade Shirts (Operational Grant)

Additional funding was sought to replace the Waggrakine and Cape Burney laptop and data projector – both declined - DFES advised this is to be taken from the operational grant.

Investigating options for additional supply tanks in areas where there is limited access to water.

Training programs in development for new members.

**4. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**4.1. New Coordinator Emergency Management**

Wayne Ellis replaces Brendan Wilson (Brendan has accepted a position with DFES as the District Emergency Management Advisor).

**4.2. Alignment of Restricted Burning Times and Prohibited Burning Times.**

The City of Greater Geraldton is working towards aligning the Restricted Burning Times and Prohibited Burning Times between the City of Greater Geraldton, the Shire of Northampton and the Shire of Chapman Valley.

**Committee Recommendation**

The Greenough BFAC support the proposed alignment of Restricted Burning Times and Prohibited Burning Times as distributed (Version 3). The Greenough BFAC also recommends that the Shires of Irwin, Mingenew, Morawa and Yalgoo and Murchison are invited to align their Restricted Burning Times and Prohibited Burning Times to provide continuity across the region.

**4.3. Triple Zero Reporting of Fires**

As per the Regional DFES Superintendent Instruction November 2018. The City should actively support education to the public to ring triple zero in an emergency, not CGG councillors, the City or WA Police. The City approached DFES to develop resources to educate the public and this information will be distributed in coming months

*Councillor [Signature]*



#### **4.4. Resignation from Cape Burney Fire Brigade**

The Greenough BFAC received a letter from Kevin White (FCO Cape Burney) advising his resignation. This was distributed to the members present. Cr Clune acknowledged and thanked Kevin for the significant contribution made to the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades.

#### **4.5. ESL Grant Process**

Russell Hayes (visitor to the Greenough BFAC, Waggrakine BFB member) raised concerns that the City is not receiving the full Emergency Service Levy (ESL) funds to which it is entitled. He requested that the current process is analysed and changes made, involving brigades in the budget process. Cr Clune to investigate.

#### **4.6. Retro-fit of Vehicles**

Waggrakine BFB requested feedback be provided to DFES on quality of work during retro-fit. Murray acknowledge this and advised it has been noted in feedback to DFES fleet services.

#### **4.7. Areas without Hydrants**

Waggrakine BFB has provided a list of areas without hydrants to the City and a process for rectifying this issue is under development.

#### **4.8. Night Burning**

Waggrakine BFB requested the City promote to the community that night burning is allowed in accordance with the Bush Fires Act, to prevent unnecessary callouts.

#### **4.9. Waggrakine Fire control Officer (FCO)**

Waggrakine BFB requested a second FCO for the Waggrakine/Moresby area. Murray advised next review date is October 2019 after all bush fire brigades have completed their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and submitted their FCO nominations to the BFAC's.

### **5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting in late September / October.

### **6. CLOSE**

Cr Clune thanked volunteers on behalf of DFES (and the City) for all their support during recent incidents across the state.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

*Journalist* *[Signature]*

**ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

ACTION NO.	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS
GBFAC-001	<p><b>Full Face Respirators</b></p> <p>Investigate possible trial of full-face respirators.</p> <p>Potential issues– maintenance, regulation of internal temperature of wearers, and ability to talk on UHF radios.</p> <p>Respirators distributed to Moonyoonooka, Cape Burney and Waggrakine brigades for trial during upcoming season (Three to each brigade).</p>	Murray Smith	Review in Feb/March 2019
GBFAC-002	<p><b>St John Ambulance Training Calendar</b></p> <p>Murray to liaise with St Johns to develop specialised training for bush fire members.</p> <p><b>Email sent (23/07/2019) to BFB captains on the DFES arrangements for first aid training.</b></p>	Murray Smith	<b>COMPLETE</b>
GBFAC-003	<p><b>Working with Children Checks and Police Clearances (updated 03/2019)</b></p> <p>Onus on Captain when interviewing applicants.</p> <p><b>Up to individual brigades to determine if Working with Children and Police Clearances are required. If brigades determine this is required, the City will reimburse brigades for the costs.</b></p>	Murray Smith	<b>COMPLETE</b>
GBFAC-004	<p><b>Current FCOs</b></p> <p>List of current Fire Control Officers to be distributed before season commences.</p>	Murray Smith	Review Oct 2019
GBFAC-005	<p><b>Weather Stations</b></p> <p>Produce and send updated map of weather stations. <b>To be distributed with next meeting agenda.</b></p>	Murray Smith	<b>COMPLETE</b>
GBFAC-006	<p><b>Fuel Load, north Side of Chapman River</b></p> <p>Waggrakine BFB have identified a high fuel load on the north side of the river, specifically Kultown Drive, Waggrakine.</p> <p>The City is aware of some high fuel loads in the Chapman River Regional Park and will be working on a program of mitigation with the City's Environmental Team and key CRRP stakeholders.</p> <p><b>City contractors have completed fire break slashing/mulching of break.</b></p>	Murray Smith	<b>COMPLETE</b>

GFAC-007	Mobile Repeater for Eradu 4.4 Eradu 4.4 to go to ML Communications on return from Perth to have CelFi mobile repeater fitted. <b>Mobile repeater has been fitted to Eradu truck. These will also be fitted to Moonyoonooka and Walkaway appliances.</b>	Murray Smith	<b>COMPLETE</b>
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*Completed*  
*Murray Smith*

