

# Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Greenough

## Meeting MINUTES

<b>Meeting Name</b>	Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Greenough	<b>Meeting No.</b>	2/2021
<b>Meeting Date</b>	23 September 2021		
<b>Meeting Time</b>	7:00pm		
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Geraldton Civic Centre, Function Room, 63 Cathedral Avenue		
<b>Attendees</b>	Cr Jerry Clune – Councillor - Moonyoonooka FCO (Chair) Brendan McCann – Walkaway Captain/FCO Rob Roffey – Cape Burney Captain/FCO Neil Johnstone – Moonyoonooka Captain/FCO Mark Teale – Waggrakine Captain Ian Grant – Eradu Captain/FCO Bruce Garratt – Walkaway FCO Trevor Morrison – Waggrakine FCO Daryl Hamersley – Walkaway FCO Daniel Treasure – Moonyoonooka FCO Warren Treasure – Moonyoonooka FCO Chris Lee – Director Infrastructure Services Murray Smith – CGG Emergency Operations Officer Wayne Ellis – CGG EM Coordinator Mary Beer - Secretariat	<b>By Invitation</b>	<b>Chris Lee</b> , Director Infrastructure Services <b>Alex Espey</b> Volunteer engagement Manager <b>Alison Moroney</b> -Local Bushfire Volunteers Representative
		<b>Apologies</b>	Cr Bob Hall - Councillor Cr Critch Len Hamersley Nic Defries
		<b>Distribution</b>	All

### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Chair opened the meeting at 7:05 and welcomed all present and announced apologies.

Chair welcomed Alex Espey, Volunteer Engagement Manager and Alison Moroney, Local Bushfire Volunteers Representative.

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDED that the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Greenough held on 22 July 2021, be adopted as a true and correct record of Proceedings.

Mark Teale: Minutes from October 2019. Amendments made according to the tabled amendments. Asked why Motion 3 has lapsed. Chair advised Mr Teale to submit information to the Chair.

**MOVED by: Neil Johnstone**  
**SECONDED by: Trevor Morrison**

### 3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil to report.

### 4. AGENDA ITEMS

#### 4.1 City of Greater Geraldton Draft Bushfire Agreement

**Chris Lee**

- Explained the purpose and process of the new Bushfire Brigade Agreement (BFB) 2021. Consultants were involved and the recommendation was to separate the Bush Fire Local Law and the Bush Fire Brigade Agreement.
- The content of the new draft BFB Agreement has been extracted from the current Bushfire Local Law 2011 resulting in two separate documents. Once finalised will be distributed to members.
- The Draft BFB circulated to members at the meeting held 22 July 2021, incorporated the WHS Legislation which does not come into effect until December 2021. The new draft will not include the WHS legislation, once this legislation takes effect, the BFB will be reviewed.
- The same explanation was provided at the BFAC Mullewa meeting and was well received.
- A summary was provided to members regarding the affects and meaning of the WHS legislation.

**Alex Espey and Alison Moroney – Bushfire Volunteers Association**

- Spoke on WHS legislation has been implemented in the Eastern States for 10 years and is untested.
- The legislation is mandatory to be implemented State-wide. This legislation is required to be included in the BFB Agreement. Alex and Alison are seeking advice from DFES and State Solicitors Office in relation to this legislation to assist with answers for the Bush Fire Brigade.

Motion: Members agree on the new Draft Bushfire Brigade Agreement to be sent to Captains for review.

**MOVED by: Ian Grant**

**SECONDED by: Neil Johnstone**

#### 4.2 Terms of Reference

**Chris Lee**

- Terms of Reference (ToR) is due for review. There is an election for Councillors next month and all current Councillors will be disbanded and new Councillors elected. A Chair of BFAC is determined, New Committees are formed with a new Chair.

**Motion:** ToR to be reviewed once new Councillors and Chair elected. To be tabled at the next BFAC Greenough Meeting. Members all in favour.

**MOVED by: Committee**

**SECONDED by: Neil Johnstone**

### 5. AGENCY AND BRIGADE REPORTS

#### 5.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Report

- Thanked Brigades for their efforts, membership and assistance with significant works in relation to major fires, TC Seroja aftermath and other tasks over the last season.
- The City has applied for 335K mitigation funding to complete mitigation works around Geraldton and Mullewa areas.
- Mechanical services have been completed on bushfire appliances.
- Harvest Vehicle Movement Bans are likely to become more frequent on days forecast of bad weather with higher fuel loads. FCOs will be consulted on the process before issuing HVMB.

- New crew-cab Tatra fire truck in Mullewa South will be the first in the region. There have been delays in production.
- New design of light tankers to be rolled out. City has two light tankers to be replaced, this new layout will provide more storage room for kit bags.
- Members to ensure all fires are reported through 000.
- New fuel cards been placed on appliances.

#### 5.2 Coordinator Emergency Management

- Busy season with some major bushfires, floods and TC Seroja. Thanked everyone for their efforts.

#### 5.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Nil to report

#### 5.4 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Nil to Report

#### 5.5 Cape Burney Bush Fire Brigade

- Held AGM
- Leaders maintained their positions

#### 5.6 Eradu Bush Fire Brigade

- Fire 2 - Second unit will be back on the road. Should be back up to full strength.

#### 5.7 Moonyoonooka Bush Fire Brigade

- Eight incidents since last meeting in July 2021.

#### 5.8 Waggrakine Bush Fire Brigade

- Two incidents since previous meeting.
- 3.4 truck constant issues for the past two months. Wayne advised parts can only come from Japan. COVID delaying spare parts for the truck.
- Fire Station is overdue for replacement. Various issues such as Leaks, bugs etc. Would like it to be upgraded.

#### 5.9 Walkaway Bush Fire Brigade

- One incident
- Two new members
- AGM this Tuesday

## 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

### **Wayne Ellis**

- Water Tank program. DFES agreed for a grant of \$27K funding for four 4 tanks. Due to current costing being higher than previously thought, the City have asked DFES for an extension on the grant, awaiting response.

### **Ian Grant**

- Would like to approach a farmer whose property is close to the Geraldton-Mt.Magnet Road and locate the Eradu Fire truck at that property after the harvest period.
- To have a record in Mullewa of farmers that have large offset discs plough. Suggested to have a register with which farmers have certain what machinery for bushfire season.
- Raised review of Mullewa permits for FCOs **Murray** advised the City has aligned the permit dates with the Shire of Chapman Valley and Northampton to ensure continuity.

***Mark Teale***

- In the 2019 meeting there was a motion regarding an extra FCO. The Chair advised this was declined at Council.

***Rob Roffey***

- If the Burn Smart pamphlets could be put on display at the front of the CGG offices for the upcoming fire season.

***Cr Clune - Chair***

The Chair thanked Alex and Alison for attending the meeting to assist with clarification of the Bushfire Brigade Agreement in relation to the WHS Legislation.

**7. NEXT MEETINGS:**

MARCH 2022 – To be scheduled

SEPTEMBER 2022 – To be scheduled

**8. CLOSE OF MEETING: 8:05**