



GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES – 21 JULY 2016 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

***Mission Statement:** West Wimmera Shire Council will work in partnership with the community, business and government to develop and enhance a productive, healthy and safe community by providing leadership, services, advocacy and good governance*

HELD: Thursday 21 July 2016

LOCATION: Telopea Downs Hall

COMMENCEMENT: 3.30pm

IN ATTENDANCE:	
Councillors	Senior Management Group
Annette Jones, Mayor Ron Hawkins Bruce Meyer Richard Wait Warren Wait	David Leahy Chief Executive Officer Venkat Peteti General Manager Corporate & Community Services Robyn Evans General Manager Infrastructure Development & Works

***Vision Statement:** West Wimmera Shire delivers the very best experience and opportunity that rural living has to offer*



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APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Nil

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil

BUSINESS

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 June 2016.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 June 2016, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: Councillor Richard Wait

Seconded: Councillor Warren Wait

That the Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 June 2016, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried (5/0)

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

2.1 COUNCILLOR RICHARD WAIT

2.1.1 ROAD SAFETY CONCERNS CAUSED BY KANGAROOS

Council will be sending a delegation to the environment minister in the near future. It is an opportunity to gather evidence to present to the Minister surrounding road safety issues caused by Kangaroos in our Shire. Cr Wait would like Council to gather evidence from crash repairers and other sources to substantiate these concerns.

Cr Warren Wait commented Council should meet with DELWP in Horsham to understand their position prior to speaking with the Minister, as farmers apply for a permit to cull kangaroos. Opportunity to visit the abattoirs in Camperdown to gather further information to present to the Minister.



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2.2 COUNCILLOR RON HAWKINS

2.2.1 PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION REPORT INTO REGULATION OF AGRICULTURE

Cr Hawkins is aware that the Productivity Commission has released a report into the regulation of agriculture. The themes highlighted red tape, foreign investment and the affect on farming families, stringent native vegetation laws. Cr Hawkins would like Council to study the report and prepare a response.

CEO could receive comments from Councillors via email and prepare a response to the report.

Direction: that the CEO be asked to secure, study and prepare a precis of the Productivity Report and bring back to the August 2016 Councillor Forum for discussion.

CEO will distribute an electronic version to all Councillors.

2.2.2 REGIONAL FUTURES SUMMIT

Cr Hawkins apologised for not attending the Summit. He noted that the issue of using technology in the future was raised. Cr Hawkins asked how can Council progress the consideration and adoption of further use of technology in the sector.

Mayor: has previously moved a motion to request that the MAV investigate the use of technology for training/seminars. A written request was made, but no response was received. Could be a motion to the MAV State Council.

Reaffirm Council's previous position to advance the use of technology to overcome distance issues for training and seminars.

CEO: the Motion to State Council should be framed around the three to four hour sessions MAV offers in Melbourne CBD. These short sessions could be delivered via video conference, which will increase participation across regional and rural councils.

2.2.3 FEDERAL ELECTION

Cr Hawkins believes Council should write a letter to acknowledge the re-election of Mr Andrew Broad.



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2.3 COUNCILLOR ANNETTE JONES

2.3.1 STATUS UPDATE ON YOUTH COUNCIL

Cr Jones asked for an update on the status of the Youth Council. This is a motion of Council and it seemingly has not progressed.

GMCCS: An update from Youth Officer, Mel Jordan is scheduled to discuss this at the 3 August 2016 Forum. She is working on a Youth Strategy and is consulting with young people. Mr Peteti also noted funding has been applied for over three rounds of grants to progress this initiative, which have so far been unsuccessful.

Mayor: Council would appreciate regular updates.

MEETING CONCLUDED: 3.59PM

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY 18 AUGUST 2016
KANIVA COUNCIL CHAMBER**