



South West Country Zone Minutes

21 April 2023

**Bridgetown Tennis Club
6 Nelson Street
Bridgetown**

Table of Contents

1.	OPENING AND WELCOME	3
1.1	Acknowledgement of Country	3
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES.....	3
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	5
4.	ANNOUNCEMENTS	5
5.	GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS.....	5
5.1	Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes and Talison Lithium.....	5
5.2	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)	5
5.3	Future Presentations	5
6.	MINUTES	6
6.1	Confirmation of Minutes from the South West Country Zone meeting held Friday 15 February 2023 (Attachment 1)	6
7.	ZONE BUSINESS	6
7.1	2025 Election Priorities	6
8.	WALGA BUSINESS	7
8.1	WALGA Status Report	7
8.2	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda	8
8.3	2023 Local Government Honours Program	10
9.	AGENCY REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS	11
9.1	WALGA President's Report	11
9.2	South West Development Commission	11
9.3	Regional Development Australia – South West.....	11
9.4	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	11
9.5	Australia's South West.....	11
9.6	National Emergency Management Agency	11
10.	FINANCIAL REPORT	12
10.1	Financial Report	12
11.	EMERGING ISSUES.....	13
12.	DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS	13
13.	CLOSURE.....	13

South West Country Zone

Meeting to be held at

Bridgetown Tennis Club, 6 Nelson St, Bridgetown

Commencing at 9.00am, Friday 21 April 2023

Minutes

The Chair, President Cr Tony Dean, opened the meeting at 9:07am

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

We, the South West Country Zone of WALGA acknowledge the Nyoongar people, the Traditional Custodians of this land, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Shire of Augusta Margaret River	Ms Stephanie Addison-Brown, Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Boyup Brook	President Cr Richard Walker
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	President Cr Jenny Mountford Mr Tim Clynch, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
City of Bunbury	Cr Tresslyn Smith (Deputy) Mr Gary Barbour, Director Sustainable Communities non-voting delegate
City of Busselton	Mayor Grant Henley Mr Tony Nottle, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Capel	President Cr Doug Kitchen Gordon MacMile, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Collie	President Cr Sarah Stanley Mr Stuart Devenish, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Dardanup	President Cr Michael Bennett Mr, André Schönfeldt, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate

Shire of Donnybrook Balingup	Ms Kira Strange, A/Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Harvey	President Cr Paul Gillett Ms Annie Riordan, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Manjimup	Hon President Cr Paul Omodei Mr Brian Robinson, A/Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Nannup	President Cr Tony Dean Mr David Taylor, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
WA Local Government Association Secretariat	Cr Paul Kelly, Deputy President Mr Tim Lane, Manager, Association and Corporate Governance (executive officer) Mr Tom Zaubmayr, Senior Media and Communications Advisor
South West Development Commission	Mr Ashely Clements, Director Regional Development
RDA South West	Mr Charles Jenkinson, Director Regional Development
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	Mr Murray Carter, Executive Director, Rural Fire Division
Talison Lithium	Mr Craig Dawson, General Manager Operations

Apologies

Shire of Augusta Margaret River	President Cr Paula Cristoffanini
City of Bunbury	Mr Mal Osborne, Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Donnybrook Balingup	Commissioner Gail McGowan Mr Ben Rose, Chief Executive Officer
Australia's South West	Catrin Allsop, Chief Executive Officer
Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	Mr Brendan McNally, Regional Manager Peel-South West
South West Development Commission	Ms Mellisa Teede, Chief Executive Officer

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Attachments

The following are provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. South West Country Zone Minutes – 15 February 2023
2. State Election Advocacy Document – 2021
3. Federal Election Advocacy Document – 2022
4. WALGA President's Report
5. State Council Agenda link: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/cf1f29ac-ebb3-4544-91cc-95b1d631387e/State-Council-Agenda-3-May-2023.pdf>

5. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes and Talison Lithium

President Cr Jenny Mountford and Mr Tim Clynch, Chief Executive Officer

President Cr Jenny Mountford and Mr Tim Clynch, Chief Executive Officer, provided an update to the meeting on priorities and key projects.

Mr Craig Dawson, General Manager Operations, Talison Lithium, presented on the Greenbushes Lithium mine, including plans for future expansion.

5.2 Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

Murray Carter, Executive Director, Rural Fire Division

Mr Murray Carter presented to the Zone and provided an update on behalf of DFES.

5.3 Future Presentations

June 2023

1. Shire of Nannup (*note: subsequently changed to City of Busselton – refer item 12*)
2. South West Gateway Alliance – Nicole Walton, Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager

August 2023

1. City of Busselton (*note: subsequently changed to Shire of Nannup – refer item 12*)
2. Edith Cowan University – Professor Cobie Rudd, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Regional Futures) and Vice President

Date to be confirmed

- Bunbury Hospital Redevelopment and Redesign – Jeffrey Calver, Director Bunbury Hospital

NOTED

6. MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the South West Country Zone meeting held Friday 15 February 2023 (Attachment 1)

The Minutes of the South West Country Zone meeting held on Friday 15 February 2023 have previously been circulated to Member Councils and are provided as an attachment to this agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Grant Henley
Seconded: President Cr Michael Bennett

That the minutes of the South West Country Zone meeting held Wednesday 15 February 2023 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings with an amendment that the waste item in the status report is not 'complete'.

CARRIED

6.1.1 Business Arising

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1 2025 Election Priorities

By Tim Lane, Zone Executive Officer

The next State Election will be held on 8 March 2025. The next Federal Election is also expected to be held during 2025.

It is suggested that the Zone commence discussions on electoral advocacy priorities during 2023, with a view to producing an advocacy document by mid-2024. The previous advocacy documents are provided as attachments to this agenda for information:

1. 2021 State Election Advocacy Document
2. 2022 Federal Election Advocacy Document

Suggested timeframe:

April 2023	Initial discussions and concepts
June-September 2023	CEO Discussions regarding initial ideas and requests
October 2023	Local Government elections
November 2023	Zone Workshop – Prioritisation
February 2024	Consideration of first draft advocacy document and refinement
April 2024	Consideration of second draft
June 2024	Final consideration of draft document if required

Initial discussion on priorities is sought at this meeting to provide initial guidance to CEOs, who will then meet mid-year to generate and refine ideas.

ACTION

The Zone discussed potential regional priorities:

- The Zone discussed that member Local Governments would undertake further discussions on regional priorities at Council level
- The Zone noted that there would be differences between advocacy approaches for the State and Federal elections
- Issues raised include:
 - Agri-business precinct, which links to issues associated with aviation and freight
 - Treatment and prevention of mosquito borne diseases
- Timeline amended, as per below:
 - To be completed by the February 2024 meeting, ahead of the both the State Budget and the 2024 ALGA National General Assembly
 - For the CEOs to present a draft at the August 2023 meeting
- Amended timeline:

April 2023	Initial discussions and concepts
June-July 2023	CEO Discussions regarding initial ideas and requests
August 2023	Zone Workshop – Prioritisation
October 2023	Local Government elections
November 2023	Consideration of first draft advocacy document
February 2024	Final consideration

8. WALGA BUSINESS

8.1 WALGA Status Report

By Tim Lane, Zone Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Status Report for February 2023 which contains WALGA's responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
1 March 2023 State Council Agenda Item 7.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People	That WALGA abstains from forming an advocacy position on constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People through the enshrining of a Voice to Parliament.	State Council Resolution That WALGA: 1. Supports respectful conversations about constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the Voice to Parliament. 2. Requests that the Commonwealth Government ensure that Local Governments and communities are kept informed on the proposal.	April 2023	Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039
26 August 2022 Zone Agenda	That the South West Country Zone request WALGA to:	Following the Renergi presentation to the Environment Policy Team and MWAC meeting on 26 October 2022,	Ongoing	Nicole Matthews

Item 7.2 Renergi Waste Processing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt a position that supports the utilisation of emerging waste processing technologies; and 2. Advocate to the Minister for Environment to review the regulatory framework surrounding environmental approvals and operational obligations to allow new, alternative treatment processes and technologies that will reduce landfill reliance by improving resource recovery rates, including the processing of FOGO and un-separable, co-mingled material. 	<p>further consideration was given by both groups at their December meeting to the Zone motion. Additional feedback from the Shire of Collie and Renergi was provided to the Policy Team and MWAC to inform their recommendation.</p> <p>That the Environment Policy Team and MWAC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not support WALGA adopting a position that supports the utilisation of any particular waste processing technologies. 2. Notes that as part of the current Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Reform process, WALGA will advocate to ensure that the regulatory framework does not disadvantage new technologies which meet environmental and human health requirements and have the potential to assist Local Governments to meet the targets specified in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy. 		Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039
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RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Paul Gillet
Seconded: President Cr Sarah Stanley

That the South West Country Zone WALGA April 2023 Status Report be noted.

CARRIED

8.2 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda

BACKGROUND

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and as part of the consultation process with Member Councils circulates the State Council Agenda for input through the Zone structure.

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: [1 March 2023 State Council Agenda](#)

The Zone can provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

7.1 Best Practice Governance Review – Feedback on Governance Model

That:

1. This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and
2. Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:
 - a. Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report; and
 - b. Refine the constitution to address inconsistencies and other issues while maintaining the current governance model.

7.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Child Safe Awareness Policy Template

That State Council:

1. Supports the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template being provided to Local Governments to assist with their implementation of Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission (Child Safety Officers in Local Government); and
2. Notes the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' commitment to providing ongoing support and resourcing assistance to Local Governments to assist with implementation of the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template and other relevant actions relating to child safeguarding, through the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit.

7.3 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Advocacy Position

That State Council endorse the following position on Abandoned Shopping Trolleys:

The Local Government Sector advocates for State Government to consult with the Sector and prioritise legislative reforms that require retailers to contain shopping trolleys within shopping centre property boundaries, inclusive of enforcement and modified penalty mechanisms that are a realistic economic imperative for retailers to comply with containment requirements.

7.4 Speed Management Reform Advocacy Position

That the Speed Management Advocacy Position as follows, be endorsed:

1. *That WALGA supports Local Governments wishing to manage travel speeds, including speed limit changes, as a means of achieving the many health, social and environmental benefits for communities.*
2. *That Main Roads WA (MRWA) retain the overarching authority for speed limit setting/zoning.*
3. *That Main Roads WA speed zoning policies and processes be reformed so that Local Governments are more influential in the determination of speed limit decreases or increases for local roads.*
 - a. *This will include applications that are deemed to be approved when the application:*
 - i. *is based on assessments by competent Local Government practitioners,*
 - ii. *contains evidence-based identification of the benefits,*
 - iii. *contains preliminary designs for infrastructure safety upgrades associated with applications to increase speed limits, and*
 - iv. *includes an engagement strategy for managing community and stakeholder expectations.*
 - b. *Allows for Main Roads WA to decline an application, within a mutually agreed timeframe, on the basis that it:*
 - i. *does not meet the above criteria, and*
 - ii. *provides specific evidence for declining the application.*
4. *The WALGA seeks to work with Main Roads WA and other stakeholders, to develop a speed management guide for Local Governments.*

7.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 to 2027/28

That the State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 – 2027/28 be endorsed.

Policy Team Reports

- 8.1 Environment and Waste Policy Team Report
- 8.2 Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report
- 8.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report
- 8.4 People and Place Policy Team Report

Matters for Noting / Information

- 9.1 2023 Policy Priorities
- 9.2 Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Review Project
- 9.3 Submission to the Independent Review of WA's COVID-19 Management and Response
- 9.4 Submission to the DWER E-waste to Landfill Ban Consultation Paper
- 9.5 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)
- 9.6 March 2023 Economic Briefing

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Michael Bennett

Seconded: President Cr Sarah Stanley

That the South West Country Zone:

- 1. Supports all Matters for Decision except Item 7.4 as listed above in the 1 March 2023 State Council Agenda,**
- 2. Amends 7.4 (3) (a) (iv) to read: *includes an engagement strategy for managing community and stakeholder expectations, and provides a greater weighting for community views on speed changes.***
- 3. Notes all Policy Team Reports, Matters for Noting as listed in the 1 March 2023 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

8.3 2023 Local Government Honours Program
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The annual Local Government Honours Program affords significant public recognition and celebration of the outstanding achievements and lasting contributions made by Elected Members and Local Government officers to their respective Councils, the WA Local Government sector and the wider community.

Nominations for the 2023 Honours Program are open now.

There are six awards in the 2023 Program:

1. Local Government Medal
2. Life Membership
3. Eminent Service Award
4. Merit Award
5. Local Government Distinguished Officer Award
6. Young Achievers Award

Nominations will close at **5:00pm on Friday, 9 June** and the awards will be presented as part of the WALGA Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 18 September.

For more information or to submit a nomination, visit the WALGA website or contact Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance, on 9213 2036 or via email at honours@walga.asn.au.

NOTED

9. AGENCY REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

9.1 WALGA President's Report

Cr Paul Kelly, Deputy President, provided a brief update to the Zone on behalf of the WALGA President.

9.2 South West Development Commission

Ashley Clements, Director Regional Development, provided a brief update to the Zone.

9.3 Regional Development Australia – South West

Director of Regional Development, Charles Jenkinson, provided a brief update to the Zone.

9.4 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Brendan McNally, Regional Manager Peel South-West was an apology for the meeting.

9.5 Australia's South West

Chief Executive Officer Catrin Allsop was an apology for the meeting.

9.6 National Emergency Management Agency

Sam Ramsay, NEMA, was an apology for the meeting.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

10.1 Financial Report

	Budget FY \$	Actual YTD \$	Comments
Opening Cash Balance	12,748	12,748	
Income			
Subscription Income	7,200	7,200	12 @ \$600 each
Total Income	7,200	7,200	
Expenses			
Bank Charges	72	43	12 months @ \$6
Total Expenses	72	43	
Closing Cash Balance	19,876	19,905	

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Grant Henley
Seconded: President Cr Michael Bennett

That the Financial Report be received.

11. EMERGING ISSUES

11.1 Recognition of Service – Mr Andrew Campbell

The Zone recognised the contribution of Mr Andrew Campbell and presented a plaque to be passed on to Andrew.

President Cr Paul Omodei acknowledged Mr Campbell's contribution to the Shire of Manjimup and the broader Local Government sector.

12. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS

12.1 Future Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for 2023 are listed below.

MEETING DATE	HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Friday 23 June 2023	Busselton
Friday 25 August 2023	Nannup
Friday 24 November 2023	Capel

12.2 Next Meeting

MEETING DATE	HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Friday 23 June 2023	Busselton

13. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:10pm.