

## MINUTES

**LEMC MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2010  
AT FESA HOUSE  
79 NEWCASTLE ROAD, NORTHAM  
COMMENCING AT 10 AM**

### **1. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

#### **Attendance**

Bert Llewellyn	Chairperson	Shire of Northam
Mark Gubanyi		Northam Police
Mark Stuart		Northam Police
Jeanne Lawler		Main Roads WA
Yvette Grigg		FESA
Ulo Rumjantsev		Shire of Northam
Phil Steven		Shire of Northam
Felix McQuistan		Shire of Northam
Sandra Sutton		Northam Hospital
Alan Kietzmann		Dept Env & Conservation
Anne Foyer		Wheatbelt Public Health
Julie Brown		DCP / SES
Larry Bayley		Water Corporation
Derek Host		Water Corporation

#### **Apologies**

Terry Brooks, Harry Lauk, Linton Mincherton, Gerald Morey.

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 10am.

### **2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 December 2009 were acknowledged by the Chairperson.

**Moved: Julie Brown**

**Seconded: Ulo Rumjantsev**

**Carried**

### **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **4. UPDATES – MEMBER LISTING**

The separate sheets for Committee Members, and the broader list of Contacts were circulated by email prior to the meeting for updating. The amended listings are circulated with these minutes.

## 5. General Business

- 5.1 **Departure of Officer in Charge Northam Police** – The Chairman acknowledged the work of Peter McLean during his time on the Northam LEMC, and also Peter's comments in the Avon Advocate recommending the LEMC for their positive contribution to the community. The new OIC will be announced in the next 2-4 weeks.
- 5.2 **EM Arrangements** – The LEMC was discussed briefly. The document will go to DEMC for comment, then SEMC for noting. The LEMC gave support for the process. Comments into the document are to be received by the LEMC Secretary by the first week in April 2010. There have been minor changes made to the document, including making the Deputy Chair of the Recovery Committee being a person from the Local Government. Kim Reader will come off the contacts list because she may not be available on the day and people should contact the DCP office.
- 5.3 **Welfare Plan** – Mrs Julie Brown gave an update that the document is 85% complete, but has been delayed due to the Toodyay bushfires.
- 5.4 **Bushfire Management Plan** – Mr Felix McQuistan explained that the Plan has gone through BFAC and has been accepted by Council. It is a working document which will be updated periodically including the resource list.
- 5.5 **Airport Emergency Plan** – The Plan will be discussed by a LEMC sub-committee, proposed to be on 24 March 2010. The Shire and the Northam Aero Club have been working on the document.
- 5.6 **Toodyay Bushfires, Water Corporation** – As requested, Derek Host and Larry Bayley from the Water Corporation attended the meeting and gave a brief report on experiences during the Toodyay Bushfires and contingencies that are in place. The Water Corporation helped out a fair bit during the Toodyay fire. There are 20,000L water tankers available from Perth, that can be mobilised at short notice within WA. In Toodyay, there were up to 5 tankers running at a time. Bottled water (16,000 to Toodyay) can be provided. There are 8,000 bottles stored near Northam somewhere and Water Corporation can arrange distribution. Some standpipes are being restricted in volume to preserve the town supply. In case of fire, the restrictor is removed. Occasionally they have incidents where padlocks are cut to the standpipe restrictors, which is disappointing. There is an Incident Crew in Perth for response to emergencies. Their Operations number is 13 13 75. The Water Corporation provided an eyewash / handwash station at Toodyay. During an emergency, they assist where necessary, then pull out and advise local water carters to take over when appropriate. There were no damaged Water

Corporation assets in Toodyay fortunately, and the water supply tank just had enough to last for the emergency response.

The major issues for Water Corporation during a fire are the effect of losing power to pumps, resulting in the need for gen sets. If there is undergrowth under the supply pipeline, when on fire it heats the pipe, the mounts drop, pipes buckle and burst, and concrete breaks up inside causing blockages in pumps. They have firebreaks around pump stations. They can also hire spotter planes to protect their assets during a fire. The LEMC thanked the Water Corporation for their report.

#### **5.7 Committee List**

The Shire of Northam Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Mr Richard Marris, was added to the Committee, since there were no objections.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

NIL

### **7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

The next proposed meeting dates are on Thursday 24 November 2009, 23 February 2010, and 25 May 2010 at FESA House, dates and locations to be confirmed.

### **9. CLOSE**

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance.  
The meeting closed at 10:50am.