

MINUTES

**LEMC MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2009
AT FESA HOUSE
79 NEWCASTLE ROAD, NORTHAM
COMMENCING AT 10:00AM**

1. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

Attendance

Bert Llewellyn	Chairperson	Shire of Northam
Linton Mincherton		FESA
Jeanne Lawler		Main Roads WA
Ulo Rumjantsev		Shire of Northam
Steven Douglas		SJA
Drew Richardson		SJA
Phil Steven		Shire of Northam
Harry Lauk		Dept of Agriculture & Food
Anne Foyer		Wheatbelt Public Health
Natasha Clements		Department of Housing
Alan Kietzmann		DEC

Apologies

Terry Brooks	Department of Water
Yvette Grigg	FESA

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

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 March 2009 were acknowledged by the Chairperson.

Moved: Drew Richardson

*Seconded: Linton Mincherton
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 Storm Safety

Linton Mincherton circulated copies of the new Storm Safety brochure and briefed the Committee on the campaign that has been occurring. Copies are available on the FESA website and at various locations in the Shire (eg Shire office, Post Offices). For SES assistance, people should call 13 25 00 (not 000).

Gazetted fire districts will be changing from 1 July 2009, including the Northam town area, which will affect ESLs.

5.2 End of year report LEMC

Phil Steven will liaise with the Northam Police in relation to submitting the end of year report

5.3 Proposed Airport Committee

The Shire has undertaken some preliminary work towards developing a Northam Airport Emergency Plan. The proposed members are:

Shire of Northam	Bert Llewellyn Chair Person
Shire of Northam	Phil Steven Mgr Health & Building
Shire of Northam	Ian Bartlett Manager Works
WA Police	Peter McLean Officer in Charge
FESA	Linton Mincherton District Manager
St Johns Ambulance	Steven Douglas Divisional Manager
Northam Hospital	Jennifer Lee
Northam Air Services	Roger Watson
Northam Aero Club	Claude Meunier

A ground exercise was held at the Airport earlier in the financial year, which was extremely useful. There was also an incident resulting from the pilot-activated lighting system at the Airport being down, which had to be turned on manually, delaying the RFDS. Feedback and resolution from these events will be fed into the development of the Plan.

5.4 Swine Flu

Anne Foyer gave a presentation on Swine Flu entitled 'Panic or Pandemic'. A summary is outlined below. A copy of the full presentation is available from Anne Foyer or Phil Steven:

- People are taking precautions, taking masks etc. Drs and Hospitals in Wheatbelt did a great job and should be congratulated.
- Easily transmitted.
- Schools and workplaces most at risk.

- To put it in perspective, 3000 deaths from seasonal flu per year (mainly elderly, young, immunocompromised).
- Influenza B more stable, Influenza A (inc Swine Flu) changes more each year.
- Flu vaccine covers Influenza B and some A's (not Swine Flu yet).
- Most cases in WA from Victoria (Melbourne).
- Symptoms of fever, headache, vomiting, sore throat, difficulty breathing, aches & pains. Anti-virals most effective in first 48 hours.
- Median age affected in Australia 16 years (5-17), more males possibly because boy's schools, sporting groups.
- 88 confirmed cases in WA, 6 in Wheatbelt (during 'containment' stage). Everyone in the Wheatbelt has now recovered (home quarantine generally).

5.5 Meenaar Fire (Grass Valley Formulators)

The fire at Grass Valley resulted in the response from several agencies and was considered to have been handled well. It was not necessary to notify/activate the entire LEMC since an Incident Management Group was not required. Future issues to be addressed are the single entry to Avon Industrial Park since Leeming Road at the rear is only a gravel track, plus an Emergency Plan for the whole Park and individual sites. These should be submitted to the LEMC when ready, and be referenced in the EM Arrangements.

Other industrial sites have EM plans and an emergency drill will be held at CBH, thought to be on 8 July 2009.

5.6 Department of Environment

The Northam and Merredin offices are combining to form the Central Wheatbelt zone. There will still be two administration buildings for the time being (Northam office is at 375 Fitzgerald St – old Traffic Office), but eventually all services will be relocated to Merredin.

5.7 Ranger Service

The Ranger service for the Shire of Northam, which has previously been contracted from the Shire of Toodyay, will be managed by the Shire of Northam. It is hoped to lead to an improvement in services, including those relating to Emergency Management.

5.8 Risk Assessment Process

Phil Steven has submitted an application for funding to undertake a Risk Assessment process to rank the various emergency risks in the Shire of Northam. A previous process was undertaken in 2003 but this should now be reviewed.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

NIL

7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next proposed meeting dates are on Thursday 22 September 2009, 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 11:14am.