

TOWN OF BASSENDEAN

MINUTES

BASSENDEAN LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE **HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 48 OLD PERTH ROAD, BASSENDEAN** **ON WEDNESDAY 11 AUGUST 2021, AT 3.40PM**

1.0 **DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open, welcomed all those in attendance and conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

2.0 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Nil

3.0 **ATTENDANCES, APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Members

Cr Hilary MacWilliam, Presiding Member
Cr Kath Hamilton
Luke Gibson, Director Community Planning – ToB
Mark Melvin, Bassendean SES
Chris Kin-Maung, DFES - Metropolitan North East Operations
(via telephone until 4.34pm)

Officers

Merveen Cross, District Advisor (until 4.34pm)
John Lane, Emergency Management Officer
Jeff Somes, Health Officer
Sharna Merritt, Senior Ranger
Amy Holmes, Minute Secretary

Apologies

Steve Blackford, Bassendean SES

Absent

Matthew McCaughey, WA Police
Ryan Hamblion, Department of Communities
Sharon Ellis, Department of Communities
Hylton Northey, St John WA

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5.0 PRESENTATIONS OR DEPUTATIONS

Nil

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the Bassendean Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held on 5 May 2021

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 6.1

BLEMC – 1/8/21 MOVED Luke Gibson, Seconded Mark Melvin, that the minutes of the BLEMC meeting held on 5 May 2021, be confirmed as a true record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

7.0 BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Emergency Management Agency Reports

State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)

New National Recovery and Resilience Agency

A National Recovery and Resilience Agency will commence on 1 July 2021. The agency will help local communities respond to large-scale disasters and provide support during the relief and recovery phases following major disasters. It will also undertake new initiatives to manage the impact of future events and the changing climate.

National Disaster Risk Reduction Competitive Grant

The National Disaster Risk Reduction Competitive Grant program is open, and applications are encouraged. Further information is available on the SEMC website Grant Page.

Coronavirus

The Department of Health is continuing to work under a State Emergency Declaration to manage COVID-19. An omnibus Bill will be introduced into State Parliament to extend the timeframe for the COVID-19 legislative amendments and help keep Western Australians safe. The Bill amends the Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Act 2020 and the Criminal Code Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Act 2020, which have been vital to the State's successful management of the virus.

SEMC Update

- *The SEMC discussed the current emergency events – the Wooroloo bushfire and tropical cyclone Seroja. They have significantly impacted key personnel who have been working long hours for more than a year.*
- *The SEMC Business Unit will submit an options paper to SEMC at the August 2021 meeting on alternative models for lessons management and assurance and the future of the Lessons Management Reference Group.*
- *The State Emergency Coordination Group reported a need for better data regarding the conditions and structural standards of potential evacuation centres. The SEMC requested the Response Capability subcommittee to initiate a project to update the evacuation centre register with a focus on wind rating and structural adequacy of buildings. To be completed as a priority project.*
- *The draft State Hazard Plan – Severe Weather was adopted as an interim plan. A review of the plan will be undertaken informed by the lessons identified from TC Seroja.*
- *The SEMC resolved to review and complete the draft SEMC Strategic Plan for consideration by the Minister.*

Animal Welfare in Emergencies Grant – Round Two

The grant aims to build community resilience to the impact of emergencies on animal welfare through the funding of capacity building activities. For more information, visit the WALGA website.

District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)

Combined Meetings Trials

A further combined meeting trial is required before any decisions can be made on the future of the metropolitan DEMC formats. There will be 2 DEMC meetings held on a day with a joint pre-season forum in between meetings each day. The WA Police Force are committed to the additional trials and will be chairing both DEMC meetings on relevant days.

South District Emergency Risk Management Workshops

Storm & Flood workshop hosted by Rockingham Local Government. Rail Crash workshop hosted by Serpentine/Jarrahdale Local Government.

Incident Support Group (ISG) Training Opportunity

There is an opportunity for a representative from the local government (Local Recovery Coordinator, LEMC Executive Officer, Councillor etc) to attend a training session to gain exposure and an insight into the workings of an ISG. The function of the ISG is to assist the Incident Controller through the provision of information, expert advice, support and resources relevant to their organisation. Sessions are held at the City of Gosnells Emergency Operations Centre.

2021 Emergency Management Conference

The Shire of Dardanup is hosting the conference with funding assistance from the State Emergency Management Committee's AWARE Grants Program. The theme of the conference is Building Capacity to Adapt in an Era of Unprecedented Disasters and will explore topics on Climate Change. For more information visit:

<https://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/community/emergency-management/wa-emergency-management-conference-2021/>

Resource Support for Local Governments

WALGA is seeking expressions of interest from Local Government staff who can assist local governments impacted by Tropical Cyclone Seroja. A wide variety of skill sets will be required, including community development, events, rates and finance skills, emergency management, administrative support, environmental health, building surveying and others. For further information, please email WALGA's Emergency Management team: em@walga.asn.au.

WALGA LGEMAG

LGEMAG minutes from the May meeting along with the Volunteer Sustainability Strategy 2021 – 2023, were emailed out to members.

Local Welfare Committee

Nil

SES

Call-outs every weekend for the last six weeks. Also involved with Cyclone Seroja recovery and missing person search in Kununurra.

DFES

Focus on severe weather over the last couple of months - providing storm related assistance. Monitoring flood levels, luckily nothing significant throughout the Swan River. Moving into high threat period.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.1

BLEMC – 2/8/21 MOVED Cr MacWilliam, Seconded Luke Gibson, that the Emergency Management Agency Reports be received.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

8.2 State Hazard Plan Collapse, State Hazard Plans Collapse and Earthquake review

The Executive Officer will provide feedback to the DFES State Emergency Policy Branch on the abovementioned plans. Both plans are reflected in the risk management assessment undertaken by the Town of Bassendean in 2020 and will form the basis for planning the 2021 Joint Recovery Exercise.

Earthquake exercise in conjunction with Bayswater – September/October. John Lane to arrange and advise the Committee via email.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION– ITEM 8.2

BLEMC – 3/8/21 MOVED Cr MacWilliam, Seconded Cr Hamilton, that the review of the abovementioned State Hazard Plans be acknowledged.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

8.3 Success Hill Bollard installation update

Luke Gibson provided an update and advised that the bollards should be installed in the next couple of days.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.3

BLEMC – 4/8/21 MOVED Cr Hamilton, Seconded Luke Gibson, that the Success Hill update be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

8.4 East Metropolitan Regional Council Flood Awareness Program

Report on the EMRC's flood awareness program launched last week.

Luke Gibson advised that the LG members have each received a bespoke package from the EMRC. Information specific to the Town of Bassendean is available to residents through the Town's Facebook page, YouTube channel and website. Information will be included in welcome packs for new residents moving into a flood affected area.

The Planning Commission's Draft State Planning Policy will be emailed to Committee members for comment (see attached).

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 8.4

BLEMC – 5/8/21 MOVED Cr Hamilton, Seconded Mark Melvin, that the officer's report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

8.5 Post Incident Report and Post Exercise Reports

Electricity Disruption exercise conducted by DEMC. Biggest issue identified was the disruption to communication networks.

COMMITTEE/OFFICER RECOMMENDATION– ITEM 8.5

BLEMC – 6/8/21 MOVED Cr MacWilliam, Seconded Luke Gibson, that post incident and post exercise reports be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5/0

8.6 Contact Details and Key Holders

To be circulated with the minutes.

Merveen Cross and Chris Kin-Maung left the meeting at 4.34pm.

8.7 Preparedness, Prevention, Response and Recovery Issues

- *The Town's Capability Survey was submitted to DFES in mid-June.*
- *The Town has been successful in securing a grant for STAND - Strengthening Telecommunications Against National Disasters. The grant provides an NBN satellite dish to enhance telecommunications (internet access, phone calls etc) in the volunteer centre (emergency centre) for use during emergencies.*

For information and noting.

9.0 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

10.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NOTICES OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Nil

11.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

12.0 CLOSURE

The next meeting will be held on 3 November 2021.

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed, the time being 4.40pm.