



#### 4. Appointment of Officers for 2020-2021 Fire Season

##### Chief, Deputy Chief and Fire Weather Committee

As there was no BFAC meeting in April 2020, the following appointments were made by the Shire for 2020/2021 season.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Duncan South
Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Ben Robinson
Fire Weather Officer	Adrian South
Deputy Fire Weather Officer	Robert Jefferies
Fire Weather Committee	Duncan South James Campbell John Pascoe

##### Fire Control Officers

Arthur River Brigade	Ben Robinson – Dual FCO with Wagin
	Neil Morrell - Dual FCO with Woodanilling and Kojonup
	Paul Saunders
	Andrew Putland
	Alan Manual
	Brad Wooldridge
Duranillin Brigade	Robert Jefferies
	Kim Hales - Dual FCO with Boyup Brook
	Adrian South
	Jamie Park
	Matthew Telfer
Darkan Brigade	Duncan South
	Trevor Bunce – Dual FCO with Williams
	Peter Lutz
	Peter Lubcke – Dual FCO with Collie
	James Campbell

In accordance with Council policy, all fire control officers, and weather officers are members of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee.

A discussion was held regarding appointing two additional Fire Control Officers in Duranillin. Duranillin will be holding their AGM in early November for 21/22 season appointments. If they would like to appoint additional officers for the 20/21 summer, the details can be forwarded to the Shire who will liaise with the CBFCO and appoint under delegation if required.

#### 5. Guests/Presentations

##### 5.1 Forrest Products Commission

Not present.

##### 5.2 Department of Water

Not present.

##### 5.3 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Jess advised that they have four burns planned in the Shire of West Arthur including south of Bowelling townsite, south side of road Bennelacking, trial sections of Wildhorse Swamp, and Goonac.

Maps were provided for viewing and the timing of burns discussed.

DBCA has had one fire this spring on the Shire border that reached 4ha.

Aircraft spotters have commenced.

Jess introduced Reuben.

#### **5.4 DFES**

Not present.

#### **5.5 Williams FRS**

Could not stay after LEMC however passed on that they are available to assist with any structural fires.

### **6. Reports**

#### **6.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

Duncan advised that he had attended a ROAC meeting and that West Arthur had held two training courses – Fire Control Officer and Intro to Fire Fighting. He told the meeting that they are trying to ensure that members have at least attended the Intro to Fire Fighting Course.

Two Fire Control Officer's have retired since last season and they will be missed – David Mackie and Chris Cochrane.

All trucks have been serviced in Wagin and arrangements being put in place for the same in future years.

A spare pump and suction hoses are available at the Shire depot for fitting on a fast fill pump if required.

Duncan thanked Nicki for her support, Geoff Bunce for undertaking call ups and Nicole for always being available when required.

#### **6.2 Arthur River Bush Fire Brigade**

Ben advised that they had one major fire last season that become two fires. There were also other fires in the area at the same time. A large crew were available for mopping up and the harvest ban on the day of mopping up was appreciated.

They also had a fire on Coalfields Road at Pascoes and a vehicle fire on Albany Highway..

The brigade provided two days of support at the Katanning fire.

He reported that the truck is becoming old and problematic and looking forward to replacement.

Ben indicated that they had a heated AGM with issues regarding the truck and within the brigade. Further issues with the truck not being repaired to the standard requested to the Shire mechanic had not helped. Ben is hoping to be able to bring brigade back together.

The brigade is hopefully that the new truck will arrive within the next twelve months. He highlighted that the current shed is not big enough and that they needed to modify the existing shed or apply for funding for a larger shed, which was preferred so that they can use the existing shed for storage of foam and fast fill pumps etc.

### 6.3 Darkan Bush Fire Brigade

Defib training required.

Has been quiet.

Sea container installed at Hillman. Jess will look into lock and ramp.

Trevor agreed to be trained in the use of the fast attack so that he can take the vehicle to a fire is Brad is away.

### 6.4 Duranillin Bush Fire Brigade

Defib training will be held in the near future. .

AGM in November

Adrian passed on the brigade's appreciation to Chris and Dave for their years of commitment to the Duranillin Bush Fire Brigade and Shire.

## 7. Financial Report

(as of 1/10/2020)

2020/21 ESL Allocation      \$39,479

#### Expended to date:

Insurance – vehicles	\$5,347.48
-members	\$13,887.41
Vehicle licensing	\$450.83
Freight	\$25.90
Fuel	\$10.00
Repairs	\$3,631.30
Catering (Training)	\$199.50
Total expended	<u>\$23,506.94</u>

#### Forecasted

- Arthur River Brigade – 4.4 Broadacre Single Cab - \$412,000 approved waiting for supply.  
DFES Fleet & Equipment Services have been contacted, they are in the process of building the first of type (FoT) of all appliances (broadacres, light tankers, etc) once completed, evaluation (no timeframe), changes if required (depending of significance) and the supply of cab chassis's out of Europe, will determine when the appliances will be built. The proposed date for delivery of Arthur River appliance is June 2021.

Items to be purchased:

- Foam (possibly 60 drums in the Shire at the moment – the majority at the Shire depot)  
Went through a lot at Arthur River so need to have some on hand.
- PPE – brigades to forward details of any overalls required and boots.
- Spare goggles to be stored in trucks to be handed out if required i.e. hay truck.
- Hard hats discussed and need amongst trees. To be purchased if required.

## **8. General Business**

### **8.1 Equipment**

No further discussion.

### **8.2 Training**

Document list for brigade captains of what training has been completed by their members to enable them to encourage volunteers to complete training. Nicki will distribute.

### **8.3 Call ups**

Weekly call ups discussed.

It was agreed to continue a weekly call up for the regulars and consider separate call up notified by whats app.

Whats app was discussed and it was agreed that a sign on and off when at an incident was important for the incident controller. Everyone attending fire should note their attendance. Duncan to remain the only administrator at this stage.

### **8.4 Servicing of fast fill and trucks.**

#### Fast fill appliances.

Arthur River brigade are having their fast fills pumps serviced by Kojonup Agriculture supplies.

Graeme Peirce is looking after one in Duranillin.

Each brigade can determine how they want their fast fill pumps serviced.

#### Fire Trucks

Annual servicing to be scheduled in August, Shire staff to consult with brigade captains. Trucks to be serviced in Wagin. South West Fire servicing discussed with their potential for the trucks to be sent to them every five years. Apply for additional ESL operating funds next year to cover insurance of the new Arthur River truck and a major service on either Darkan or Duranillin truck.

## **9. Closure**

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.37pm.

Next Meeting will be held in early April possibly Tuesday 6 or 13 April 2021 or before or after the April school holidays. Details will be advised in March 2021.