SHIRE OF WEST ARTHUR

MINUTES for the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting.

1. Declaration of Opening/Announcement of Visitors

Duncan declares the Meeting open at 7.05pm Welcomes guests.

2. Record of Attendance and Apologies

Duncan South Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Deputy CBFCO/FCO, Duranillin BFB Chris Cochrane Fire Control Officer, Arthur River BFB Alan Manuel Fire Control Officer, Darkan BFB Trevor Bunce **Robert Jefferies** Fire Control Officer, Duranillin BFB Fire Control Officer, Duranillin BFB Adrian South James Campbell Fire Control Officer, Darkan BFB Ben Robinson Fire Control Officer, Arthur River BFB Matthew Telfer Fire Control Officer, Darkan BFB

Ming Meredith BFAC Delegate, Shire

Donna Morgan Bushfire Risk Management Officer, DFES

Simon Vogel District Officer, DFES
Trevor Palframan Captain, Williams VFRS
Tristan Gulvin CESM, Collie Shire
Kohdy Flynn Ranger, Collie Shire

Nicole Wasmann Chief Executive Officer, Shire
Mesha Barritt Customer Service Officer, Shire

Apologies

Brad Wooldridge Fire Control Officer, Arthur River BFB Kyle Hulls Parks and Wildlife Service, DBCA

Ray Harrington President, Shire

Neil Morrell Fire Control Officer, Darkan BFB

3. Confirmation of Minutes - 10 April 2018

Moved: Adrian South Seconded: Robert Jeffries

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held 10 April

2018 be confirmed.

CARRIED

3.1 Business Arising

- 4.1 Chief, Deputy Chief and Fire Weather Officer
 - Chris Cochrane has been appointed Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the 2018/19 season.
 - Geoff Holmes is the Fire Weather Officer for the 2018/19 season. There is no deputy.

4.3 Dual Fire Control Officers

The Shire of Collie will consider the request for a dual appointment at their BFAC meeting. The Shire of Williams will also consider the request at their October Council meeting. Confirmation of dual appointments have been received from the Shire of Kojonup and the Shire of Wagin. The Shire of Woodanilling no longer appoint dual fire control officers.

7.7 Mid Band and High Band Removal

Request has been made to DFES and will be followed up.

4. Guests/Presentations

4.1 DFES – District Officer and Bush Fire Risk Management

Great Southern Region has been divided into two regions. There will be more staff eventually in the office. There is a new superintendent based in Narrogin.

There will be a volunteer management support officer to support administration of brigades. This position has been created to provide more admin support for brigades with no CESM and more admin support and full time presence in Narrogin office.

West Arthur was allocated funding for mitigation activity burns in Bowelling and clearing around bridges - \$67,000. DFES will no longer use private contractors for prescribed burns due to DFES tender issues with insurance levels. The prescribed burns will need to be undertaken by brigades or the scope of works changed to mechanical works.

4.2 CESM- Shire of Collie

Tristan is employed as the Community Emergency Services Manager for the Shire of Collie. Tristan's contact details will be provided to FCOs for issues that may arise on our western boundary.

4.4 Forrest Products Commission

Nil.

4.5 Department of Water

Nil.

4.6 Rangers – Shire of Collie.

Kohdy Flynn is a ranger for the Shire of Collie and provides assistance to the Shire of West Arthur. Collie rangers may assist with fire related issues relating to non-compliance with the Shire's firebreak notice.

4.7 Williams Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Have been busy since last financial year with 15 call outs involving road crashes and structure fires.

5. Reports

5.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Western Power training was held at Duranillin with approximately 10 volunteers, in attendance that were made aware of dos and don'ts. This was beneficial to volunteers.

5.2 Arthur River Bush Fire Brigade

Few Autumn fires from stubble burns other than that pretty quiet.

5.3 Darkan Bush Fire Brigade

Two new FCO's, Matthew Telfer and James Campbell.

5.4 Duranillin Bush Fire Brigade

Nothing to report since last meeting.

6 Financial Report

2018/19 ESL Allocation \$31,670

Expended to date:

| Insurance – vehicles | \$6,537 |
|----------------------|----------|
| Other | \$10,968 |
| Synergy (Darkan) | \$81 |
| Vehicle licensing | \$445 |
| Freight | \$129 |
| Total expended | \$18,160 |

Funds remaining \$11,781

Forecasted

| Foam | \$5,000 |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Fuel | \$1,000 |
| Power/Utilities | \$400 |
| Other goods (freight) | \$300 |
| Clothing and Accessories | \$4,500 |
| Repairs/misc | \$1,500 |

7. General Business

7.1 Equipment

Arthur River Brigade – 4.4 Broadacre Single Cab - \$412,000 approved waiting for supply.

Training will be provided for the new truck when it arrives. At this stage, delivery not anticipated in the near future. High season unit approved and waiting on delivery. Simon will liaise with Brad and Duncan.

7.2 Training

Western Power session held in Duranillin.

Darkan brigade truck session to be held on the coming Friday.

7.3 Call ups

Once a week call up, Shire staff will coordinate (other than holiday periods). Commencement date 5th November. Normal time is 7.10am.

7.4 Mitigation Funding

Works were completed around Darkan, Duranillin and Bowelling with funding received in 2017/18. Funding has been approved for prescribed burns in Bowelling (not completed in 2017/18 due to the late onset of winter) and clearing around bridges.

7.5 Fire Break Notice - Location of Fire Unit

The existing firebreak notice states:

A harvesting, swathing or baling machine may not be operated in any crop during the PBT or RBT unless it is equipped with a fire extinguisher (minimum 7.5 litres). A fully operational mobile fire fighting unit with a tank of 400 litre minimum capacity is to be located in any paddock where harvesting, swathing, baling or slashing of stubble is being undertaken

A request was supported to change the 2019/20 notice to "located in or adjacent to".

7.6 Mobile Booster for Duranillin Truck

Installation of a mobile booster in Duranillin truck was discussed. The ESL does not fund mobile phones or boosters and this is unlikely to change in the near future. Duranillin brigade will discuss purchasing from their own funds.

7.7 Permits for Burning during Prohibited Burning.

Issuing permits for protection around buildings during the prohibited burning period was discussed. It was noted that a permit can be refused i.e. if there are not sufficient people or resources around to help with a fire.

7.8 Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)

Members were reminded that the AVL - green light needs to be tested at least monthly.

8. Closure

Chairperson declare the meeting closed at 8.11pm

9. Next Meeting

To be confirmed in March 2019, however likely to be Tuesday 9 April 2019.