

**SHIRE OF WEST ARTHUR**



Minutes for the Annual Electors Meeting of the Shire of West Arthur held on Thursday 23 March 2023 in the Hawthorn Room, West Arthur CRC, Burrowes Street, Darkan.

In accordance with section 5.27(3) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations, the matters to be discussed at a general electors' meeting are, firstly, the contents of the annual report for the previous financial year and then any other general business.

**1000 OPENING OF MEETING AND ATTENDANCE**

The Presiding Member welcomed attendees and opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

**COUNCILLORS**

Cr Neil Morrell	Shire President
Cr Graeme Peirce	(Deputy Shire President)
Cr Adam Squires	
Cr Duncan South	
Cr Karen Harrington	
Cr Robyn Lubcke	

**STAFF**

Vin Fordham Lamont	Chief Executive Officer
Raj Sunner	Manager Corporate Services
Gary Rasmussen	Manager of Works & Services
Sharon Bell	Community Development Officer

**APOLOGIES**

Cr Neil Manuel

**ELECTORS**

Marie Lloyd, Greg Lloyd, Mary Dew, Pam Stockley, Ian Woodruff, Ray Harrington, Ian Peirce, Teresa Peirce, Kevin King, Karen Prowse.

**2000 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

2100 Annual Electors Meeting Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Recommendation:**

**That the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held at the Darkan CRC on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be confirmed as true and correct.**

Moved: Ian Woodruff

Seconded: Ray Harrington

**CARRIED**

2200 Special Electors Meeting Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022

**Recommendation:**

**That the Minutes of the Special Electors Meeting held at the Darkan CRC on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 be confirmed as true and correct.**

Moved: Ray Harrington

Seconded: Graeme Peirce

**CARRIED**

**3000 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2022**

3100 Questions or comments in relation to the annual report will be invited. It is preferred that these are communicated in writing (email accepted) to the CEO prior to the meeting to enable questions to be adequately researched.

3200 Receival of Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2022.

**Recommendation;**

**That the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2022 as presented, be received.**

Moved: Ian Woodruff

Seconded: Pam Stockley

**CARRIED**

**4000 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS ELECTORS MEETING**

4100 Copies of the Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and the Special Electors Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 are attached for information purposes.

**5000 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**5100 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

5101 Question submitted by Marie Lloyd over page.

Ray Harrington responded by saying that he retains his view that it was a poor matter of governance.

Kevin King then stated that the recruitment process started months before and the process was carried out correctly. He stated that Mr Harrington, when President, allowed previous CEO to be reappointed at a September Council Meeting before an election.

**QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

In regard to the Annual Electors Meeting dated Thursday 24 March 2022, I would like to ask a Question in regard to the following:

- **Item 6200 Questions without Notice – 2<sup>nd</sup> dot point with a comment made by Ray Harrington -“like appointing CEO nine hours before term finishes”.**

**QUESTION: Why did Council not make a response to this comment as it was completely INCORRECT as Council followed WALGA’s recruitment policies and procedures for the CEO Position.**

I believe that the community should be made aware of the correct facts and not the comments from a person who was not part of the CEO recruitment process.

1. **NOTE: NO decision was made nine hours as mentioned above.** A retiring Councillors position expires at 12midnight on the third Saturday in October of the fourth year after their term of office began (see item 4 of s.2.28 of the LG Act) ie: Saturday, 16 October 2021 at 12 midnight.
2. A recommendation was made by FitzGerald Strategies to the previous Council to offer the position to the Applicant, subject to the new Council for approval.
3. **In the Minutes of SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING on 25 October 2021** the Appointment of CEO Position was endorsed by the newly elected Council – *see extract below:*

The applications received were reviewed and scored against the selection criteria and a report presented to the Recruitment Panel and Council with two (2) applicants being offered interviews of which one applicant accepted.

Council conducted an interview of the candidate with the assistance of FitzGerald Strategies and their appointed Independent Person.

It was recommended the President and Deputy President prepare a draft contract with terms and conditions and present to the applicant with a view of entering into a Contract of Employment. This recommendation was supported in a special Council meeting and negotiations commenced.

That process has been completed and agreement reached on the terms and conditions of the employment contract and this is within the scope of the advertised remuneration package for the position.

Confirmation from current Council is required that the previous Council did follow all WALGA’s Policies and Procedures in regard to the CEO Recruitment Process.

A copy has been forward to CEO/Council to be part of the minutes.

Regards, Marie Lloyd

21/03/2023

5102 Question submitted by Ian Woodruff

At the 17 August 2021 Ordinary Meeting of Council, I enquired as to whether the Council has an Aboriginal Flag. The President and A/CEO both advised that were not sure but would check it out. The minutes of that meeting noted that the "A/CEO can advise that following the meeting it was found that the Shire does in fact have an Aboriginal Flag but with only the one flagpole, the Shire's preference, being a government building, is to fly the Australian Flag."

No other action has since occurred in relation to this matter and the obvious step that would be required is for Council to consider erecting an additional flagpole. Council will discuss this matter further and consider whether to include this expenditure in the 2023/24 Annual Budget.

Mr King said one should be put up at the Anzac Memorial as well. Cr Peirce said this is being looked at by the RSL.

5103 Question submitted by Pam Stockley.

Is there a demolition order on the house behind Rarebits in Hillman Street?

Response from CEO was that he is unsure but is waiting on advice from the Shire's Environmental Health Officer.

Pam also thanked the Shire for getting rid of the old Butchers Shop and the implementation of the current Ranger service.

**5200 OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS AS PERMITTED BY PRESIDENT**

Nil

**6000 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Presiding Member closed the meeting at 6.40pm.