



Pilbara Country Zone

Minutes

17 February 2022

Pilbara Country Zone

Hosted by WALGA

Wattle meeting room, Level 1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville
and via MS Teams

Thursday, 17 February 2022 commenced at 11:35 am

Minutes

MEMBERS

2 Voting Delegates from each Member Council

City of Karratha	Mayor Peter Long - Chair Mr Chris Adams, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Town of Port Hedland	Mayor Peter Carter Cr Tim Turner Mr Carl Askew, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
Shire of East Pilbara	President Cr Anthony Middleton Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks Mr Steven Harding, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Ashburton	President Cr Kerry White Cr Linton Rumble Mr Kenn Donohoe, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
WALGA Secretariat	President Cr Karen Chappel, Acting WALGA President Ms Lyn Fogg, Governance Specialist
DLGSC Representative	Ms Simone Fountain, Pilbara Regional Manager
Regional Development Australia (RDA) – Pilbara	Mr Tony Simpson, Chief Executive Officer
Guest Speaker	Mr Grant Robinson, Assistant Auditor General, Office of the Auditor General

APOLOGIES

City of Karratha	Cr Daiva Gillam
Guests	Mr Greg Hayes, Roadwise

Contents

1.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
2.	DEPUTATIONS	3
3.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
4.	BUSINESS ARISING.....	4
5.	STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR DECISION.....	4
5.1	Special State Council Meeting Agenda – 23 February 2022	4
5.2	Ordinary State Council Meeting Agenda – 2 March 2022.....	5
6.	BUSINESS.....	5
6.1	Vehicles Being Driven on Unsealed Roads Closed Due to Wet Conditions.....	5
7.	OTHER BUSINESS	6
7.1	Anti Social behaviour – Pilbara Region.....	6
8.	EXECUTIVE REPORTS	6
8.1	President's Report to the Zone.....	6
8.2	State Councillor's report to the Zone.....	6
8.3	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Representative Update Report.	6
8.4	Pilbara Regional Development Authority.....	7
9.	DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING	7
10.	CLOSURE	7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zone Delegates were requested to provide sufficient written notice, wherever possible, on amendments to recommendations within the State Council or Zone agenda prior to the Zone meeting to the Chair and Secretariat.

Agenda Papers were emailed 7 days prior to the meeting date to your Council for distribution to Zone Delegates.

Protocols for electronic meeting:

- Chair or Zone Executive Officer went through the attendance list
- Protocols:
 - Please mute your microphone once attendance has been taken
 - Please use the hand symbol if you wish to speak
 - Once identified by the Chair, please turn on your camera and unmute your microphone
 - Cameras do not need to be turned on for the duration of the meeting (especially if connection is unreliable)

Acknowledgement of Country All attendees acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting is held on and paying respects to Elders past, present and future.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes of previous meeting
2. Status Report
3. President's Report
4. State Council special meeting Agenda, 23 February 2022
5. Office of the Auditor General presentation slides

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Elected Members must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before the Zone as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors and deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Nil

2. DEPUTATIONS

All Deputations have a time limit of 20 minutes, which includes questions time.

2.1 Office of the Auditor General

Mr Grant Robinson, Assistant Auditor General from the Office of the Auditor General provided an update to the Zone. A copy of the presentation is attached with the minutes.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Linton Rumble
Seconded: President Cr Kerry White

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Pilbara Country Zone held on 22 November 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Status Report

A Status Report outlining the actions taken on the Zone's resolutions was enclosed as an attachment within the Agenda.

Noted

5. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR DECISION

(Zone delegates to consider the Matters for Decision contained in the WA Local Government Association State Council Agenda and put forward resolutions to Zone Representatives on State Council)

5.1 Special State Council Meeting Agenda – 23 February 2022

The full State Council special meeting Agenda is enclosed as an attachment to this Agenda and can be found via link: [State Council Special Meeting Agenda 23 February 2022](#)

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

3.1 Local Government Reform Proposal Submission

1. That the recommendations contained in the 'Local Government Reform Proposal Submission' be endorsed.
2. That WALGA: a. seek assurance from the Minister for Local Government that further detail on the proposed reforms will be provided to the sector for comment prior to the formulation of a draft Local Government Act Amendment Bill; and b. seek a formal commitment from the Minister for Local Government that WALGA actively participates in the legislative drafting process necessary to formulate a draft Local Government Act Amendment Bill.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Kerry White
Seconded: Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks

That the Pilbara Country Zone supports all Matters for Decision as listed above in the Special State Council Meeting Agenda – 23 February 2022.

CARRIED

5.2 Ordinary State Council Meeting Agenda – 2 March 2022

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: [State Council Agenda 2 March 2022](#)

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

5.1 Short-Term Accommodation Regulatory Scheme

That the draft Short-Term Accommodation Regulatory Reform submission be endorsed

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Anthony Middleton

Seconded: Cr Linton Rumble

That the Pilbara Country Zone

- 1. Supports Matters for Decision, item 5.1 as listed above in the March 2022 State Council Agenda; and**
- 2. Notes all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the March 2022 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Vehicles Being Driven on Unsealed Roads Closed Due to Wet Conditions

Local Governments in the Gascoyne Country Zone have identified significant costs and risks arising from motorists ignoring road closures or being unaware of road closures, driving on and damaging wet roads. The Zone has resolved to seek that WALGA investigate:

1. Technologies available to physically close roads remotely (using booms, gates or some other approach); and
2. The practices, legislation, regulations and penalties currently available to effectively enforce road closures.

The Infrastructure Policy Team is seeking advice from WALGA Zones with large, remote unsealed road networks regarding the significance of damage from vehicles being operated on closed, wet roads. This will assist to inform decisions about the scope and priority of addressing this matter.

Specifically:

1. Have Shires estimated the frequency of and costs incurred to repair damage to roads caused by vehicles being driven on them while closed due to wet conditions?
2. Are Shires aware of situations where offenders have been successfully prosecuted (under the Road Traffic (Administration) Act 2008 or Local Laws) and the extent to which these cases have been effective in deterring others?
3. Have Shires identified any practices that are more effective in increasing compliance with road closures during wet conditions?

Other general advice or suggestions relating to this matter will be appreciated.

Noted

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Anti Social behaviour – Pilbara Region

Cr Tim Turner noted that the State Government had this week announced a Kimberly Justice Strategy and raised concerns that Local Government Districts in the Pilbara region were experiencing similar notable increases in anti-social, criminal and violent behaviour.

Zone Members discussed a range of issues being experienced across the region, including; a lack of community services and resources, absence of State Government support for remote Aboriginal communities, reduction in state housing stock through demolition and no planned replacements, need for services to better engage with Aboriginal elders, etc.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tim Turner

Seconded: President Cr Anthony Middleton

That the Pilbara Country Zone requests the WALGA Secretariat to prepare a report for State Council's consideration on advocacy to State Government to extend the Kimberly Justice Strategy into the Pilbara Region.

CARRIED

8. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

8.1 President's Report to the Zone

The WALGA Acting President, Karen Chappel, presented the President's Report.

Zone Members discussed concerns with how DFES is requiring Local Governments to evidence road asset conditions as part of the reimbursement of disaster recovery / damage repair costs. Zone Members also noted the ongoing issue with achieving a 'build back better' outcome.

Noted

8.2 State Councillor's report to the Zone

WALGA State Councillor, Mayor Peter Long presented on the previous State Council meeting.

Noted

8.3 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Representative Update Report.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries representative Simone Fountain, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

8.4 Pilbara Regional Development Authority.

The Pilbara Regional Development Authority representative, Tony Simpson, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

9. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

That the next ordinary meeting of the Pilbara Country Zone be held on 21 April 2021, via video conference, commencing at 11.30am.

10. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1.25pm.