

State Council

Summary Minutes

5 July 2023



Ordinary meeting no. 3 of 2023 of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) State Council held in the boardroom at ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville on Wednesday, 5 July 2023.

OPEN and WELCOME

The Chair declared the meeting open at 4:15pm.

1. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

1.1 Attendance

The Chair welcomed:

- State Councillors
- LG Professionals WA President, Ms Annie Riordan
- WALGA secretariat

1.2 Apologies

- Goldfields Esperance Country Zone State Councillor, President Cr Laurene Bonza
- Goldfields Esperance Country Zone Deputy State Councillor, President Cr Malcolm Cullen
- Northern Country Zone State Councillor, President Cr Moira Girando
- Northern Country Zone Deputy State Councillor, Cr Isabel Scott
- The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas
- South East Metropolitan Zone Deputy State Councillor, Cr Melissa Northcott (observer)

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth), on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People, where WALGA is located and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

3.1 WALGA Policy Priorities Workshop

Invitations have been sent to all State Councillors for a Policy Priorities Workshop on Thursday, 3 August at the WALGA offices at ONE70.

Earlier this year, WALGA established its policy priorities for 2023. A copy of this document can be found [here](#). We are commencing a process to update these priorities, to inform our policy development and advocacy over the next term of Government. As part of this process, we will be hosting a policy prioritisation workshop with the State Council. This will be externally facilitated.

Noted

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Minutes of the State Council meeting held 3 May 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett JP

Seconded: Cr Catherine Ehrhardt

That the Minutes of the WALGA State Council meeting held on [Wednesday, 3 May 2023](#) be confirmed as a true and correct records of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 459.3/2023

CARRIED

4.1.1 Business arising from the Minutes of meeting held 3 May 2023

Nil.

4.2 Flying Minute – Submission for 2023 State Wage Case

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett JP

Seconded: Cr Catherine Ehrhardt

That the [Flying Minute – Submission for 2023 State Wage Case](#) be confirmed as a true and correct records of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 459.3/2023

CARRIED

4.2.1 Business arising from the Flying Minute – Submission for 2023 State Wage Case

Nil.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, State Councillors must declare to the Chair any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before State Council as soon as they become aware of it.

- Mayor Logan Howlett JP declared an impartiality interest in item 7.8 Selection Committee Flying Minute.

6. EMERGING ISSUES

Nil.

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7. MATTERS FOR DECISION

7.1 Review of Urban Forest Advocacy Position

By Chris Hossen, Policy Manager, Planning and Building

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That WALGA endorse a new Advocacy Position 4.6 Urban Forest as follows:

To promote the growth of Western Australia's urban forest the State Government should:

- 1. Identify a lead agency with responsibility for setting the strategic direction and oversight of urban forest initiatives.***
- 2. In consultation with Local Government:***
 - a. Develop an Urban Forest Strategy, based on the overarching principles of a resilient, connected, expanded and equitable urban forest including:***
 - i. an overall tree canopy target for the Perth and Peel regions,***
 - ii. robust and contemporary data to inform decision making,***
 - iii. funding mechanisms to support growth in urban canopy.***
 - b. Develop contemporary legislative and policy mechanisms to enable the protection and growth of urban forest, including:***
 - i. an effective and efficient regulatory mechanism that allows Local Government to consider the removal or alteration of a significant tree as a form of development.***
 - ii. prioritisation of trees and vegetation as a key structural element in the design of new neighbourhoods to facilitate climate resilient and liveable communities.***
 - iii. consideration of public realm design to maximise opportunities for tree retention and new planting consistent with any tree canopy targets.***
- 3. Work with Local Government and other stakeholders to increase community awareness and promote behaviour change in relation to urban forest growth and retention to support State and Local Government targets and action.***
- 4. Provide recurrent funding for a comprehensive and accessible Urban Greening Grant program to support Local Government investment in public realm planting, focusing on high urban heat areas and enhancing biodiversity outcomes.***

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

That WALGA endorse a new Advocacy Position 4.6 Urban Forest as follows:

To promote the growth of Western Australia's urban forest the State Government should:

- 1. Identify a lead agency with responsibility for setting the strategic direction and oversight of urban forest initiatives.**
- 2. In consultation with Local Government:**
 - a. Develop a state-wide Urban Forest Strategy, based on the overarching principles of a resilient, connected, expanded and equitable urban forest including:**
 - i. a minimum tree canopy target of 30% by 2040 for the Perth and Peel regions,**
 - ii. robust and contemporary data to inform decision making,**
 - iii. funding mechanisms to support growth in urban canopy.**
 - b. Develop contemporary legislative and policy mechanisms to enable the protection and growth of urban forest, including:**
 - i. an effective and efficient regulatory mechanism that allows Local Government to consider the removal or alteration of a significant tree as a form of development,**
 - ii. incentivising the provision and retention of trees on private property within the state planning framework,**
 - iii. prioritisation of trees and vegetation as a key structural element in the design of new neighbourhoods to facilitate climate resilient and liveable communities,**
 - iv. consideration of public realm design to maximise opportunities for tree retention and new planting consistent with any tree canopy targets.**
- 3. Work with Local Government and other stakeholders to increase community awareness and promote behaviour change in relation to urban forest growth and retention to support State and Local Government targets and action.**
- 4. Provide recurrent funding for a comprehensive and accessible Urban Greening Grant program to support Local Government investment in public realm planting, focusing on high urban heat areas and enhancing biodiversity outcomes.**

ALTERNATE MOTION

The alternate motion is changing the order of the recommendations only.

Moved: Cr Catherine Ehrhardt

Seconded: Cr John Daw

That WALGA endorse a new Advocacy Position 4.6 Urban Forest as follows:

To promote the growth of Western Australia's urban forest the State Government should:

- 1. Identify a lead agency with responsibility for setting the strategic direction and oversight of urban forest initiatives.**
- 2. Provide recurrent funding for a comprehensive and accessible Urban Greening Grant program to support Local Government investment in public realm planting, focusing on high urban heat areas and enhancing biodiversity outcomes.**
- 3. In consultation with Local Government:**
 - a. Develop a state-wide Urban Forest Strategy, based on the overarching principles of a resilient, connected, expanded and equitable urban forest including:**
 - i. a minimum tree canopy target of 30% by 2040 for the Perth and Peel regions,**
 - ii. robust and contemporary data to inform decision making,**
 - iii. funding mechanisms to support growth in urban canopy.**
 - b. Develop contemporary legislative and policy mechanisms to enable the protection and growth of urban forest, including:**
 - i. an effective and efficient regulatory mechanism that allows Local Government to consider the removal or alteration of a significant tree as a form of development,**
 - ii. incentivising the provision and retention of trees on private property within the state planning framework,**
 - iii. prioritisation of trees and vegetation as a key structural element in the design of new neighbourhoods to facilitate climate resilient and liveable communities,**
 - iv. consideration of public realm design to maximise opportunities for tree retention and new planting consistent with any tree canopy targets.**
- 4. Work with Local Government and other stakeholders to increase community awareness and promote behaviour change in relation to urban forest growth and retention to support State and Local Government targets and action.**

RESOLUTION 460.3/2023

CARRIED

7.2 State Planning Policy 3.7 Bushfire

By Chris Hossen, Policy Manager, Planning and Building

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Ruth Butterfield
Seconded: President Cr Michelle Rich

That WALGA endorse the submission on *State Planning Policy 3.7 Bushfire* and the *Planning for Bushfire Guidelines*.

RESOLUTION 461.3/2023

CARRIED

7.3 Reforming WA Disability Legislation Submission

By Alina Hobson, Policy Officer Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Michelle Rich
Seconded: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

That WALGA endorse the submission to the Department of Communities relating to the *Consultation Paper – Reforming WA Disability Legislation*.

RESOLUTION 462.3/2023

CARRIED

7.4 Landfill Bans Advocacy Position

By Rebecca Brown, Manager, Waste and Environment

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That WALGA endorse the following Landfill Ban Advocacy Position:

Landfill bans are not supported in the absence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Doug Thompson

Seconded: Cr Chris Mitchell

That WALGA endorse the following Landfill Ban Advocacy Position:

Landfill bans are only supported in the presence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.

RESOLUTION 463.3/2023

CARRIED

7.5 Audit Experience Survey Results Summary and Advocacy Position

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. State Council note the Audit Experience Survey Results Summary; and**
- 2. WALGA advocate to the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to reform the audit process for Local Governments by seeking:**
 - a. Audits of Local Governments are completed and reported on in a timely manner and that the processes, procedures and scope of audits are consistently applied.**
 - b. That the OAG review the requirements for pre-audit information with a view to reducing the need for additional information where possible;**
 - c. That the OAG review their costing formulae for Local Government audits and show constraint in audit cost increases;**
 - d. That the OAG provide a breakdown on the cost of the audit and justification for any variance to the estimate to the Local Government as part of the final billing process;**
 - e. That auditors be required to improve their communication and information management and avoid repeated requests for information that has already been provided;**
 - f. That Local Governments only be required to communicate with contract Auditors (*unless the OAG is directly auditing the Local Government*) and the onus be placed on the contract Auditors to confirm their advice with the OAG before instructing the Local Government; and**
 - g. In-conjunction with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, review the application of Fair Value principles in the context of the audit.**

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Chris Mitchell
Seconded: Mayor Logan Howlett JP

That:

1. State Council note the Audit Experience Survey Results Summary; and
2. WALGA advocate to the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to reform the audit process for Local Governments by seeking:
 - a. Audits of Local Governments are completed and reported on in a timely manner and that the processes, procedures and scope of audits are consistently applied.
 - b. That the OAG review the requirements for pre-audit information with a view to reducing the need for additional information where possible;
 - c. That the OAG review their costing formulae for Local Government audits and show constraint in audit cost increases;
 - d. That the OAG provide a breakdown on the cost of the audit and justification for any variance to the estimate to the Local Government as part of the final billing process;
 - e. That auditors be required to improve their communication and information management and avoid repeated requests for information that has already been provided or that is publicly available;
 - f. That Local Governments only be required to communicate with contract Auditors (*unless the OAG is directly auditing the Local Government*) and the onus be placed on the contract Auditors to confirm their advice with the OAG before instructing the Local Government;
 - g. In-conjunction with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, review the application of Fair Value principles in the context of the audit; and
 - h. Seek an opportunity for Local Government to make representations in relation to any adverse findings prior to the publication of the report.

RESOLUTION 464.3/2023

CARRIED

7.6 Amendments to WALGA's Constitution

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

Seconded: Mayor Patrick Hall

That State Council endorse putting two items to the 2023 Annual General Meeting that:

1. propose a new Constitution to give effect to the alternate governance model as per the attached; and
2. amend the Constitution to retain the current governance model with necessary changes, as per the attached mark-up.

VOTING REQUIREMENT: 75% SPECIAL MAJORITY

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Les Price

Seconded: President Cr Tony Dean

1. In recommendation point 1, delete "propose" and replace with "considers";
2. In recommendation 1 point 1, add the words "subject to amending clause 2 in respect to the definition of "Special Majority" by inserting the words "the Board or of" after the words "in relation to" and inserting the words "the Board Members or" after the words "comprising enough of" and amending clause 32 as per the following;
 - a. Replace "An Absolute" with "A Special"; and
 - b. Insert the word "Special" before majority and delete "of not less than 75%".

The intent of amendment point 2 is to require a Special Majority of Board Members to approve any constitutional change rather than an Absolute Majority.

THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND CARRIED

RESOLUTION 465.3/2023

CARRIED

THE MOTION NOW READS:

That State Council endorse putting two items to the 2023 Annual General Meeting that:

1. considers a new Constitution to give effect to the alternate governance model as per the attached, subject to amending clause 2 in respect to the definition of "Special Majority" by inserting the words "the Board or of" after the words "in relation to" and inserting the words "the Board Members or" after the words "comprising enough of" and amending clause 32 as per the following:
 - a. Replace "An Absolute" with "A Special"; and
 - b. Insert the word "Special" before majority and delete "of not less than 75%";
and
2. amend the Constitution to retain the current governance model with necessary changes, as per the attached mark-up.

AMENDMENT

Moved: President Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: President Cr Michelle Rich

1. In recommendation 1, insert the words “subject to amending clause 23(k) as per the following:
 - a. Replace the words “a candidate” with the words “an endorsed candidate”;
 - b. Insert the word “or” before “on or after the date”;
 - c. Insert the words “whichever comes first” after the word “issued”.
2. In recommendation 2, insert the words “subject to amending clause 22(k) as per the following:
 - a. Replace the words “a candidate” with the words “an endorsed candidate”;
 - b. Insert the word “or” before “on or after the date”;
 - c. Insert the words “whichever comes first” after the word “issued”.

The intent of the amendment is for clause (k) to read:

“an endorsed candidate for election to State or Federal Parliament or on or after the date of the election writ is issued, whichever comes first.”

THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND LOST

THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION WAS PUT

That State Council endorse putting two items to the 2023 Annual General Meeting that:

1. considers a new Constitution to give effect to the alternate governance model as per the attached, subject to amending clause 2 in respect to the definition of “Special Majority” by inserting the words “the Board or of” after the words “in relation to” and inserting the words “the Board Members or” after the words “comprising enough of” and amending clause 32 as per the following:
 - a. Replace “An Absolute” with “A Special”; and
 - b. Insert the word “Special” before majority and delete “of not less than 75%”;
and
2. amend the Constitution to retain the current governance model with necessary changes, as per the attached mark-up.

RESOLUTION 466.3/2023

CARRIED BY 75% SPECIAL MAJORITY

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY STATE COUNCILLORS (UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

7.7 Finance and Services Committee Minutes incorporating the Governance Budget 2023-24 – 28 June 2023 – CONFIDENTIAL

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr David Lagan
Seconded: Cr Frank Cvitan

That:

- 1. the Minutes of the Finance and Services Committee meeting held on 28 June 2023 be endorsed; and**
- 2. the Governance Budget 2023-24, being for the full year ending 30 June 2024, as recommended by the Finance and Services Committee be endorsed.**

VOTING REQUIREMENT: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 467.3/2023

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

7.8 Selection Committee Flying Minute – 20 June 2023 – CONFIDENTIAL

By Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer

Mayor Logan Howlett JP declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at 5:18pm.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Paul Kelly
Seconded: Cr Les Price

That the recommendations contained in the 20 June 2023 Selection Committee Flying Minute be endorsed.

RESOLUTION 468.3/2023

CARRIED

Mayor Logan Howlett JP returned to the meeting at 5:19pm.

7.9 LGIS Fees and Board Minutes – CONFIDENTIAL

By Craig Hansom, Manager Commercial Contract Services, Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Doug Thompson
Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That State Council:

1. Approve the annual Scheme Management fee payable to JLT is increased by 3.71% for the 2023-24 financial year as recommended by the LGIS Board;
2. Approve a 3.71% increase to the WALGA Trustee Fee from the Scheme;
3. Endorse the reappointment of Mary Woodford as an Independent Director of the LGIS Board for a three-year term upon the expiry of her current term on 31 December 2023; and
4. Note the minutes of the LGISWA Scheme Board meeting held on 11 May 2023.

RESOLUTION 469.3/2023

CARRIED

7.10 Local Government House Trust Board of Management Minutes – 28 June 2023 – CONFIDENTIAL

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Chris Mitchell
Seconded: Cr Doug Thompson

That the Minutes of the Local Government House Trust board of management meeting held on 28 June 2023 be noted.

RESOLUTION 470.3/2023

CARRIED

7.11 Use of the Association's Common Seal

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Doug Thompson
Seconded: Cr Chris Mitchell

That the use of the Association's Common Seal be noted.

RESOLUTION 471.3/2023

CARRIED

The Association's Common Seal was used on 29 June 2023. Details below.

Document	Document Description	Signatories	State Council prior approval
Fourth Deed of Amendment to Facility Agreement	New Building Loan Facility between the Commonwealth Bank, WALGA and Qube to extend the loan facility over 170 Railway Parade West Leederville, from 1 July 2023 to 24 January 2024.	WALGA in the capacity as Trustee for the Local Government House Trust Karen Chappel President Nick Sloan WALGA CEO	No

7.12 CEO Performance Review Report 2022-2023 – CONFIDENTIAL

Ms Annie Riordan and all WALGA staff left the meeting at 5:26pm.

Mr Nick Sloan, WALGA CEO, returned to the meeting at 5:28pm.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Paul Kelly

Seconded: Mayor Logan Howlett JP

That State Council:

- 1. Note the appraisal of Mr Nick Sloan Chief Executive Officer has been completed for the period of July 2022 to June 2023.**
- 2. Endorse the findings of the 2022-23 Annual Performance Review Report as presented by Price Consulting and thank Mr Sloan for his efforts.**
- 3. Endorse the proposed CEO's Performance Criteria for the 2023-2024 period, as per the attached report.**
- 4. Endorse the next annual performance review process to include 360-degree feedback.**

RESOLUTION 472.3/2023

CARRIED

Ms Annie Riordan and all remaining WALGA staff returned to the meeting at 5:31pm.

8. POLICY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Environment and Waste Policy Team Report

Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Les Price

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Les Price

Seconded: Mayor Logan Howlett JP

That State Council note the matters considered by the Environment and Waste Policy Team.

RESOLUTION 473.3/2023

CARRIED

8.2 Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report

Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Russ Fishwick

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Russ Fishwick JP

Seconded: Cr Chris Mitchell

That State Council:

- 1. retain, without amendment, Advocacy Positions:
(a) 2.1.10 Recovery of Rates and Service Charges; and
(b) 2.5.31 Annual Electors' General Meetings;**
- 2. delete Advocacy Position 2.5.25 Attendance at Council Meetings by Technology; and**
- 3. notes that the Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team endorsed the WALGA 2023 State Wage Case submission.**

RESOLUTION 474.3/2023

CARRIED

8.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report

Presented by Policy Team Chair, President Cr Chris Pavlovich

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That State Council note the matters considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team.

RESOLUTION 475.3/2023

CARRIED

8.4 People and Place Policy Team Report

Presented by Policy Team Chair, President Cr Tony Dean

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Tony Dean
Seconded: Cr Frank Cvitan

That State Council note the matters considered by the People and Place Policy Team.

RESOLUTION 476.3/2023

CARRIED

8.5 Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Report

Presented by MWAC Chair, Cr Doug Thompson

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Doug Thompson
Seconded: Mayor Logan Howlett

That State Council note the resolutions of the 19 April 2023 Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

RESOLUTION 477.3/2023

CARRIED

9. MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

9.1 Flying Minute – Submission to 2023 State Wage Case

By Davina Hunter, Employee Relations Service Manager

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour
Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the WALGA 2023 State Wage Case submission, as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.2 Environmental Protection Amendment Regulations 2022: Consultation Response

By Chris Hossen, Policy Manager, Planning and Building

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour
Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the consultation response to the Environmental Protection Amendment Regulations 2022.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.3 Local Government Performance Monitoring Project

By Chris Hossen, Policy Manager, Planning and Building

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour
Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the results of the 2021-22 Local Government Performance Monitoring Project.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.4 Street Lighting Tariffs

By Dana Mason, Manager Economics

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour
Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the update on the 2023-24 street lighting tariffs.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.5 2023-24 Federal and State Budgets

By Daniel Thomson, Economist

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour

Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the update on the 2023-24 Federal and State Budgets and impacts on Local Government.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.6 Update on the Commencement of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*

By Hannah Godsave, Senior Policy Advisor Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour

Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the update on the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

9.7 State Award Variations Impacting on Local Governments

By Davina Hunter, Employee Relations Service Manager

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Ken Seymour

Seconded: Cr Paul Kelly

That State Council note the update on the State award variation applications currently before the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission.

RESOLUTION 478.3/2023

CARRIED

10. ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

10.1 Key Activity Reports

10.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Advocacy Portfolio

By Narelle Cant, Executive Manager Advocacy

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

That the Key Activities Report from the Advocacy Portfolio to the July 2023 State Council meeting be noted.

RESOLUTION 479.3/2023

CARRIED

10.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure Portfolio

By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

That the Key Activities Report from the Infrastructure Portfolio to the July 2023 State Council meeting be noted.

RESOLUTION 479.3/2023

CARRIED

10.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Member Services Portfolio

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

That the Key Activities Report from the Member Services Portfolio to the July 2023 State Council meeting be noted.

RESOLUTION 479.3/2023

CARRIED

10.1.4 Report on Key Activities, Policy Portfolio

By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager Policy

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

That the Key Activities Report from the Policy Portfolio to the July 2023 State Council meeting be noted.

RESOLUTION 479.3/2023

CARRIED

10.2 President's Report

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett JP
Seconded: President Cr Stephen Strange

That the President's Report for July 2023 be received.

RESOLUTION 480.3/2023

CARRIED

10.3 CEO's Report

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett JP
Seconded: President Cr Stephen Strange

That the CEO's Report for July 2023 be received.

RESOLUTION 480.3/2023

CARRIED

10.4 Ex-Officio Reports

10.4.1 City of Perth Report

The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas was an apology for this meeting.

10.4.2 LG Professional's Report

Ms Annie Riordan, President, LG Professionals WA, provided a report to the meeting.

11. ADDITIONAL ZONE RESOLUTIONS

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Logan Howlett JP
Seconded: Cr Frank Cvitan

That the additional Zone resolutions from the June 2023 round of Zone meetings as follows be referred to the appropriate Portfolio or Policy Team for consideration and appropriate action, noting that some may have already been referred.

RESOLUTION 481.3/2023

CARRIED

CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE (People and Place Policy Team)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

That the Central Country Zone request:

1. the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage to provide information on the cost to Local Governments of implementing the regulations;
2. WALGA to collate the information from the Local Governments feedback on the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* and the implementation of the Regulations; and
3. the State Government to underwrite any potential costs of Local Government complying with the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act*.

CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE (Infrastructure Policy Team)

Line Marking and Road Safety

That WALGA be requested to engage with Main Roads WA with a view to providing Local Government with greater flexibility and autonomy in relation to line marking thresholds and approval guidelines for rural and regional roads, consistent with the body of the report presented to the Central Country Zone meeting on 23 June 2023.

GASCOYNE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

Review of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007: Stage 3 Review

That the Gascoyne Country Zone requests the timeframe is extended for Local Governments to provide comments.

GREAT EASTERN COUNTRY ZONE (People and Place Policy Team)

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act Update

That the Great Eastern Country Zone:

1. request the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage (DPLH) to provide information on the cost to Local Governments and to fund implementation of the regulations.
2. request WALGA to collate the information on the impacts/anticipated costs to Local Governments of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* and the implementation of the Regulations.
3. writes urgently to DPLH to raise concerns the community feedback from the Wheatbelt Community Forum on the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*, held in Merredin on 19 June 2023 needs to be addressed urgently. Key concerns include:
 - a. Further details and guidance is needed to understand how decision-making criteria should be applied, and the consultation process with the LACHs (Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services).
 - b. Traditional Owners raised concerns about who can talk for County in the Eastern Wheatbelt, calling on communities and Shires for their support for an additional LACH to be endorsed for our area. As the Act will be in effect within weeks, this is something that urgently need consideration by the Government and Minister.
 - c. Based on the above, WALGA State Council advocate for a delay in the implementation of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* until such time as all affected stakeholders are satisfied.

NORTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Environment and Waste Policy Team)

Review of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007: Stage 3 Review

That the North Metropolitan Zone supports the draft submission on Review of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* Stage 3, subject to amendment to Opportunity 18 to provide that penalties under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* are to be aligned with those under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* as a minimum.

NORTHERN COUNTRY ZONE (People and Place Policy Team)

Renewable Energy Developments – Community Engagement

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA request WALGA to formulate a State-wide Local Government Future Industries Engagement Framework, in consultation with Local Government, to serve as a blueprint for LGA's to navigate the complexities of emerging industries to help drive economic growth, foster innovation, and improve the overall well-being of their communities.

SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN ZONE (Infrastructure / People and Place Policy Teams)

State Infrastructure Advocacy

That the South East Metropolitan Zone advocate to WALGA State Council, that WALGA supports and advocates to the State Government for the full implementation of Recommendation 18 of the State Infrastructure Strategy as follows:

Contribute to infrastructure and community resilience in the urban environment and support the equitable provision of an interconnected network of cover by developing an overarching urban forest program, including:

- a. assigning a lead state agency to provide overarching coordination, resourcing and funding mechanisms*
- b. embedding program evaluation to ensure it remains fit for purpose*
- c. extending the existing Urban Canopy Grant Program to increase the urban tree canopy across the Perth and Peel regions, and other major regional urban centres*
- d. partnering with local governments, community groups and other land managers in the rollout*
- e. further reviewing existing planning policy settings with regards to the treatment of trees in new greenfield and infill developments.*

SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio – Planning and Building Business Unit)

Mining Tenements Applications – DMIRS Procedural Review

That the South West Country Zone request the WALGA State Council to adopt an advocacy position that seeks the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety to undertake:

1. A formal review of the current statutory consultation procedures as they relate to mining tenements; and
2. Improved public consultation for mining tenement applications, particularly for private landowners, regardless of the depth of land applicable.

SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Environment and Waste Policy Team)

Strategic Waste Management Discussion

That the South West Country Zone requests WALGA to:

1. Call on the Waste Authority to support a deferral of the draft State Waste Infrastructure Plan to allow alignment between a new Waste Strategy and an infrastructure plan that is to implement waste strategy direction;
2. Request the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to defer consideration of the draft State Waste Infrastructure Plan until the terms of a new Waste Strategy are determined, so as to allow alignment between document;
3. Incorporate within a submission to the Waste Authority, the following in relation to a new Waste Strategy:
 - a. Vigorous support for the circular economy principle, encouraging new technologies to regenerate resources from waste;
 - b. Support for localized (close to source) waste processing initiatives that can regenerate waste as a resource;

- c. Maximise the value of waste as a resource, creating commodity value;
- d. Actively encourage innovation in-line with circular economy principles; and
- e. Outline pathways that will enable innovative solutions, including alternative waste processing practices.

SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Environment and Waste Policy Team)

Cessation of Funding – Regional Climate Alliance Program

That the South West Country Zone supports the request from the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils Board and:

1. Requests WALGA advocate to the Minister for Environment; Climate Action for the reinstatement of the Regional Climate Alliance Program;
2. Writing directly to the South West Members of Parliament seeking the reinstatement of the Regional Climate Alliance Program.

SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio – Economics Business Unit)

Mining Royalties Funding

That the South West Country Zone seeks the support of WALGA to both lobby for the establishment of a Resources Fund Payment to be collected and used within the South West region.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the WALGA State Council will be a Regional meeting hosted by the Great Southern Country Zone at the Shire of Katanning on Wednesday, 13 September 2023.

13. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6:02pm.