



Shire of Victoria Plains

Minutes

FOR MEETING OF COUNCIL'S PLANT AND WORKS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH
FEBRUARY 2003 AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS CALINGIRI COMMENCING AT 11.05AM

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Chairperson Cr M Anspach declared the meeting open at 11.05am.

2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

President	Cr M Anspach	West Ward
	Cr J Kelly	West Ward
Councillors	Cr N Smith	East Ward
	Cr D Holmes	South Ward
Chief Executive Officer	Phil Anning	
Works Manager	Allen Kent	
Executive Assistant	Fiona Watson	

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Confirmation

Resolution 42/03

Moved Cr J Kelly seconded Cr D Holmes that the minutes of the Plant and Works Committee Meeting held 28th January 2003 be confirmed.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

3.2 Business Arising

Nil

4 WORKS

4.1 Chief Executive Officer's Report

1. Regional Road Group Funding

This matter arises in the main Agenda. Basically we stand to lose 20% in funding under the base grant for Regional Road Group funding this coming financial year and 20% in 2004/2005.

2. AgLime Funding

To date I have still not received any response from the Ministers Office or from direct representation to the Premier. We are informed from a reasonably reliable source that funding will be available next financial year but we do not have any official word as yet.

3. Staff

I take this opportunity to congratulate our works staff on their efforts during the recent months to maintain the additional program. All have performed at a high level and it is a credit to them and the Works Manager to see the standard and amount of work they are achieving. Though it will need to continue to achieve the targets by June 30th I am confident that we will achieve those targets weather permitting.

Phil Anning
Chief Executive Officer

Resolution 43/03

Moved Cr N Smith seconded Cr D Holmes that the Chief Executive Officer's report be received.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

Cr Anspach noted the positive input from the community regarding road works and their progress.

4.2 Works Manager's Report

Construction Crew no 1 - Aglime Route 2

This programme is progressing well. 2.5 kms have been totally reconstructed compaction tests have been carried out results of compaction have passed Main Roads WA specifications and primed to 7m.

The construction crew have started carting base coarse gravel to complete the other section of 1.9 kms to meet up with the bitumen at the eastern end towards Calingiri. Once water binding has been completed this section will be primed to 7m. If all continues to go well priming will take place around the second week of March 2003.

Construction crew no 2 - Catabody Road - Councils Capital Works

Catabody Road has been completed with 2 kms of gravel re-sheeting to a width of 8m formation. This work has improved drainage and shape within the road of which the area that had sharp rocks protruding through the running surface.

The second construction crew will then start construction of Calcarra West Road, from approximately 600m east of Lydock Road and continue in an easterly direction to the Toodyay Bindi Bindi Road. This will be a similar length of 2.00 kms by 8m formation.

This project will start on Monday 24th February 2003. The project will improve the running surface of the road, drainage, and visibility, within this section. This project will be completed by the second week of March 2003.

Maintenance Grading

As Council is aware during the month of February not a great amount of maintenance grading was achieved. We were waiting on Councils new Volvo Grader to arrive. The grader has now arrived and has been put to work lightly cutting off corrugations and grading badly effected roads and school bus routes of the Shire. I have engaged another maintenance grader to join in with the programme to fix up a few of the roads we had received complaints about.

The storm last week has caused a considerable amount of damage to Councils Road Network. In total approximately 180 to 200 kms of road has been affected with the loss of a considerable amount of base coarse gravel, however the damage could have been far worse.

Maintenance graders will pull in what gravel they can pick up to make these roads as safe as possible until such time as we can re-sheet with gravel in the badly affected areas. I will cost the damage and make contact with Main Roads WA to see if we can be granted some special funding for the flood damage.

I cannot afford at this time of the year to stop any of our construction projects to send our other 2 graders onto maintenance grading and I propose to arrange a second hire grader to clean up the west ward gravel roads to a reasonable standard until rain is forthcoming.

I have quotes for the costs of wet hire graders @ \$85.00 an hour plus GST this is a very good rate, and as there has been a saving of maintenance grading costs because Gordon Wood has been involved with the second construction crew, there is money available to hire two graders with the monies we have saved so far without going over budget on our maintenance grading for the year.

Tree Lopping Machine

The tree lopping machine arrived two weeks ago, and we immediately put it to work on Thompson Road. This was a good area for Wayne Davey the operator to learn the skills required to operate the tree pruner, however over the first 3 days we blew 3 hydraulic hoses on the pruner and this started to waste time and money whilst on the job. I spoke to Gary Wilson who is the manufacturing engineer and explained to him the problems we were having and after investigation and consultation with him we have sorted the problems out. We then decided to use the loader for loading gravel on the construction works, as the second hand loader was used for loading material to repair damage caused to the roads by the storm.

The week starting the 24th February 2003 the tree pruner will again carry on with the tree pruning programme. This machine will take a fair amount of practice to perfect the operation technique as this is a reasonably delicate operation.

Second-hand Loader Purchase - Cat 936 E

This machine has been totally serviced throughout, and as a result we have found the machine to be in very good condition, however we have a small problem that is going to cost around \$3500 to \$4000 to fix. The torque converter has an oil leak which we knew about at the time of purchase unfortunately to replace the \$2.50 "o" ring the machine has to be split in two, the oil leak is not too bad but will need to be fixed in the immediate future. Hitachi has agreed to pay 50% of the costs of repair. I will budget for Council's share this financial year once this work is done we feel we have a good second-hand machine.

Parks and Gardens - Maintenance

At this time of the year we have all been flat out with construction works therefore, Parks and Gardens work has suffered a little. Only minor work has been carried out within this area, and the results show this, however we will try our utmost to ensure that the park areas and surrounds do not continue to suffer through lack of maintenance.

Water Tank for 6 Wheel Tipper

I have been chasing up costs for a second-hand Water Tank that would slide off and on the truck. The prices that I received verbally were staggering most were in the vicinity of \$15000 and were not in good condition a total of three were inspected with 2 falling to pieces.

I then decided to pursue the idea we may be able to get a tank made and fitted out within budget. I obtained a quote from McMiles Contracting in Yerecoin a local engineering firm. His quote was within the price range of a second-hand tank. The tank will have all the necessary fittings, new motor, and all accessories including painting inside with Durran two pack paint which is the best money can buy and outside will be painted with 2 pack industrial paint.

Total Price of \$17,000 plus GST this is within our budget allocated.

The building of the tank has proceeded and a guarantee will be issued against faulty parts and workmanship.

Allen Kent

Manager Works Services

Resolution 44/03

Moved Cr J Kelly seconded Cr D Holmes that the Works Manager's report be received.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

Works Manager, Allen Kent advised the meeting that he has scheduled a meeting with MRWA Wednesday 26th February 2003 regarding recent storm/flood damage. Approximately 180-200km of damage has been recorded on shire roads.

Cr D Holmes thanked the Works Manager for having water holes in Bolgart cleaned and dug.

Cr J Kelly commented on the good work carried out by shire works crews, and that the shire should utilise the moisture in the roads and hire outside graders for maintenance grading.

WORKS

W127 Mobile Phone

Location Shire of Victoria Plains
Name of Applicant n/a
File Reference ST1.1
Attachment/s Nil
Date 7th February 2003
Author Phil Anning – Chief Executive Officer

Background

The mobile phone previously used by Landcare Officer – Alison Cooke has been returned to the office following her resignation. I suggest that it be utilised in VP00 Falcon Sedan used by the Finance and Administration Manager and a hands free system be installed in that vehicle.

Comment

Nil

Statutory Environment Nil
Policy Implications Nil
Financial Implications Costs of hands free unit only
Strategic Implications Better contact with Manager

Resolution 45/03

Moved Cr J Kelly seconded Cr N Smith that it be recommended to Council that approval be given for the installation of a mobile phone in the vehicle utilised by the Finance and Administration Manager.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

W128 Mogumber West Road

Location Shire of Victoria Plains
Name of Applicant Department of Land Administration
File Reference p-mogw
Attachment/s Nil
Date 19th February 2003
Author Phil Anning - Chief Executive Officer

Background

The WA Electoral Commission has advised DOLA that an anomaly exists with the name of a road which was through the Shire of Gingin and the Shire of Victoria Plains. Following consultation in 1975 the name Mogumber Road West was approved for the road running from the Brand Highway to the railway line at Mogumber, but this name was only gazetted for the

Shire of Gingin. Current plans show Mogumber Road West in the Shire of Gingin and Mogumber West Road in the Shire of Victoria Plains. The phone directory shows that residents on this road use either Mogumber Road West, Mogumber West Road and Mogumber Road.

Comment

DOLA asks that to avoid further confusion the Shires liaise with each other and residents to adopt the same name.

Advice has been received from Gingin expressing preference for Mogumber Road West.

From Mogumber the Road is called Mogumber Yarrowindah Road as it travels east to the Great Northern Highway. I recommend we accept Mogumber Road West as the preferred name.

Statutory Environment	Geographic Names Committee
Policy Implications	Nil
Financial Implications	Nil
Strategic Implications	Nil

Resolution 46/03

Moved Cr N Smith seconded Cr J Kelly that it be recommended to Council that the section of road in the Shire of Victoria Plains be gazetted as the Mogumber Road West for that section West of Mogumber.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

W129 Wheatbelt North Moora Subgroup

Location	Moora
Name of Applicant	Secretary – Robert Dew
File Reference	T1.1.1
Attachment/s	Copy of allocations for future funding
Date	19 th February 2003
Author	Phil Anning - Chief Executive Officer

Background

Attached is a breakdown of anticipated funding for the Subgroup for 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. This information is based on draft information from the WALGA Transport Committee. Although only in draft form the Subgroup Chairman believes these figures are a good indication of funding to be received.

Comment

This is the initial downgrade of funding to Rural Local Government by this Government which is anticipated to be \$18M in the next financial year.

As can be seen from the funding allocation attached the decrease over two years to this Shire based on current method allocation is 40%.

Our current philosophy is to allocate from 2003-2004 the total allocation to resealing the Toodyay Bind Bindi Road and I suggest we maintain that strategy under the reduced allocation.

I believe that this savage reduction in funding from State Government clearly reflects the total disregard of the State Government for rural areas of WA and also shows the inability of WALGA to deal with the State Government despite the signing of the totally ineffectual M.O.U.'s recently promising co-operation and the release of the Draft Regional Policy Statement for WA which has as its three main themes:-

- Understanding the desires, needs and opportunities for Regional Western Australia.
- Partnering with Regional communities in particular but also other spheres of government, industry and the non-government sector; and
- Delivering better programs, services and decisions for regional areas and residents.

I believe that this Ward of the WA Local Government Association should consider a vote of no confidence in the Hon Minister for Transport and express their concerns at the inability of WALGA to obtain a better funding deal for Local Government in WA.

Statutory Environment	Local Government Act
Policy Implications	Nil
Financial Implications	Loss of income in 2003-2004
Strategic Implications	Reduction in maintenance road asset

Resolution 47/03

Moved Cr N Smith seconded Cr D Holmes

- 1. That it be recommended to Council that Cr Smith and the Works Manager represent Council at the meeting of the Wheatbelt North Moora Subgroup to be held on Friday 28th February at Moora.**
- 2. That it be recommended to Council that allocation remain on the reseal of the Toodyay Bindi Bindi Road.**
- 3. That it be recommended to Council that a motion be prepared for the next meeting of the Avon Midland Ward expressing a vote of no confidence in the Hon Minister for Transport Alannah MacTiernan MLA.**

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

W130 Old Plains Road

Location	Shire of Victoria Plains
Name of Applicant	Peter Panizza
File Reference	p-oldpl
Attachment/s	Copy of letter attached
Date	20 th February 2003
Author	Phil Anning - Chief Executive Officer

Background

Following a Council resolution I wrote to Mr Panizza regarding the effects of the composting operation on the Old Plains Road and consideration of assistance in maintaining that road. Attached is the response from Mr Panizza.

Comment

The conformity to Council heavy vehicle policy and appropriate use of the road is not disputed. The fact that the major deterioration of the road is between Calingiri West Road and the

Composting Plant area is well known and though seasonal use of grain haulage vehicles does occur there is little doubt that the main offenders are the composting vehicles.

There appears little we can do under existing circumstances if the Atlas Group are not prepared to assist.

Statutory Environment	Nil
Policy Implications	Road Train Policy
Financial Implications	Cost of road maintenance
Strategic Implications	Nil

Resolution 48/03

Moved Cr J Kelly seconded Cr D Holmes that it be recommended to Council that the information be received.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

5 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Resolution 49/03

Moved Cr N Smith seconded Cr J Kelly that new business be received.

MOTION PUT & CARRIED 4/0

5.1 Rural Towns Programme

Cr N Smith asked Works Manager, Allen Kent if he had had discussions with Veronica North – Landcare Officer regarding the Rural Towns Programme. It is important that with Veronica leaving in March that the project be followed to completion. Discussion was held regarding issues of drainage, contractors etc.

6 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

7 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairperson, Cr M Anspach declared the meeting closed at 11.50am.

Signed this day of 2003

Chairperson