



SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE

Bushfire Advisory Committee

MINUTES

**Of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11 September 2012 in the Ravensthorpe
Entertainment Centre, commencing 6.30pm.**

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, RAVENSTHORPE
ON TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2012 COMMENCING AT 6.30pm.

CONTENTS	PAGE NO
1 DECLARATION OF OPENING /ANNOUNCEMENTS OF VISITORS	3
2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE	3
3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST	3
4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	3
5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	3
5.1 BFAC 10 APRIL, 2012	3
6 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES	3
7 REPORTS OF OFFICERS	4
7.1 APPOINTMENT OF DUAL BRIGADE FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS	4
8 OTHER REPORTS	6
8.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGER	6
8.2 CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER	7
8.3 FESA	8
8.4 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION	8
9 GENERAL BUSINESS	8
10 CLOSURE OF MEETING	8

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

6.30pm – The chairman, Mr Keith Rowe, declared the meeting open.

2. ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES**Members Present:**

Keith Rowe, Pascoe Durtanovich, Bernard Fetherstonhaugh, Gavin Gibson, Paul Cory, Peter Bell, Ken Norman, Andy Chambers, Rod Daw, Gary Webster, Luke Webster, Peter Thurkle

Apologies:

Peter Masters, Peter Blonde, Richard Foulds, Doug Bray, Gavin Wornes

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Division 6: Sub-Division 1 of the Local Government Act 1995. Care should be taken by all Committee members and staff to ensure that a financial/impartiality interest is declared and that they refrain from voting on any matter, which is considered to come within the ambit of the Act.

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

This is an opportunity for any member or visitor to ask questions about any aspect of fire management.

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 10 April 2012

COMMITTEE AND OFFICER RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 5.1
Moved: Mr Rod Daw	Seconded: Mr Barn Feathersonhaugh
That the minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 April 2012 be confirmed as a true and correct recording of proceedings.	
Carried	

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**6.1 Item 13.3 - Fire Break Compliance Issues**

An Airport/Compliance Officer has been appointed which will enable fire break compliance to be more closely monitored.

6.2 Item 13.4 - CO2 Carbon Sequestration Plantation Fire Management Plans

A review of Fire Management Plans has been undertaken.

Noted

7. OFFICER REPORTS

7.1 APPOINTMENT OF DUAL BRIGADE FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

File Ref:

Applicant:	Bush Fire Brigade
Location:	Shire of Ravensthorpe Municipal District
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Date:	10 March 2012
Author:	Peter Thurkle - CESM
Authorising Officer:	Not applicable
Attachments:	Yes – List of current FCOs

Summary:

Committee is required to recommend Dual Fire Control Officers for appointment by Council
The CESM has received a request for the appointment of Andrew Duncan as Dual FCO Ravensthorpe / Jerramungup.

Background:

In the past the appointment of Dual FCOs has been made by Council without reference to the Bush Fire Advisory Committee. This practice is not necessarily a problem however due process requires the brigade and Committee's involvement.

Brigade representatives were asked to review the FCO's list and highlight any changes in respect to dual registrations.

Comment:

Only one change, that is the appointment of Andrew Duncan as a dual FCO was requested. If the appointment is supported by this committee it will be forwarded to Council for endorsement and then submitted to the Shire of Jerramungup for their approval.

Consultation:

Nor applicable.

Statutory Obligations:

Section 38 Bush Fires Act, 1954

Policy Implications:

Nil

Budget / Financial Implications:

Nil

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Sustainability Implications:**• Environmental:**

There are no known significant environmental considerations.

• Economic:

There are no known significant economic considerations.

• Social:

There are no known significant social considerations.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

COMMITTEE AND OFFICER RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 7.1
Moved: Mr Andrew Chambers	Seconded: Mr Rod Daw
That the appointment of Andrew Duncan as dual FCO, Ravensthorpe /Jerramungup be supported and submitted to the Shire of Ravensthorpe for approval.	
Carried:	

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 7.1
Moved: Mr Rod Daw	Seconded: Mr Andrew Chambers
That approval be requested from the Shire of Esperance for the appointment of Andrew Bott, Gavin Gibson and Barn Feathersonhaugh (Munglinup brigade) as dual FCOs.	
Carried:	

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 7.1
Moved: Mr Andrew Chambers	Seconded: Mr Luke Webster
That following a request from the Shire of Jerramungup Mr Peter Wisewould be appointed dual FCO for Shire of Ravensthorpe /Shire of Jerramungup	
Carried:	

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 7.1
Moved: Mr Andrew Chambers	Seconded: Mr Luke Webster
That following a request from the Shire of Esperance Mr Will Carmody be appointed dual FCO for Shire of Ravensthorpe /Shire of Esperance.	
Carried:	

8. OTHER REPORTS

8.1 Community Emergency Services Manager

Since April mitigation work has been completed around Hopetoun and Jerdacuttup School, a burn was achieved at Hopetoun which has made a good buffer to the north west of the town.

Rod and myself have filled in quite a few surveys for the local area re status of brigade membership within the brigades for FESA. Completed but no feedback yet !

A brigade training assessment excel document has been provided to CBFCO and one will be supplied to each brigade to review. Any questions please make contact to Rod or myself.

I have noticed the pump at Lake Entrance Nth may be in need of attention could someone check this out so as to get any repairs report to CESM asap. Also if any other issues in brigade areas please put forward these requests.

Good to get annual Fire appliance servicing under way- Like to thank Rod for arranging such great job, Hopetoun Rural and West River should be completed by meeting.

Changes are still ongoing at FESA and I believe we have a new Superintendent Daniel Austin coming over from FESA Manjimup to Albany.

Yes we still have IGA dollars for a function to be arranged.

Next year's ESL we will be applying for funding Fire units and appliance sheds again.

Last but not least I wish to thank all FCO for their co-operation and support, the CBFCO and Deputies, CEO and Staff at the Shire, SES and DEC personal for their support, plus our local stakeholders and brigade members and families for their commitment.

My new office is at the Shire Works depot with the Phone no 98381601.

Community Emergency Service Manager (Great Southern)

Peter Thurkle (AFSM)

Ravensthorpe/ Jerramungup

Jerramungup Office: 98351022 Mobile : (FESA) 0407892353 - (Remote) 0408996357

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 8.1
Moved: Mr Paul Bell	Seconded: Mr Andrew Chambers
That the Community Emergency Services Manager report be received.	
Carried:	

8.2 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

9 reports of fire – mostly lightning, attended by local brigades

1 fire reported as being lit on a VH hazard day.

1 fire reported as being result of sub standard preparation and surveillance.

Several fire tracks in bad need of repair (dangerous and some cases impassable)

31/5 Hopetoun hazard reduction prescription burn with involvement of Hopetoun central and rural brigades – another 2 planned.

Intro to emergency management mtg – EM Act 2005

No Sunday burning notice in Community Spirit after reported that Sunday burning was happening.

FESA has taken Bandalup LD

Emergency Services Survey completed – no results as yet.

CO2 review conducted.

Various fire mitigations attended – local, state and district.

Protective burning – wind driven buffer programme is way behind due to lack of finances.

People are using permit system with 40 issued since 14/4.

Pleased to see more firebreaks in Hopetoun subdivisions.

Fire trucks are receiving annual service.

Radio checks is being organised prior to new season.

Munglinup have new truck and a training was held

I have concern that the newly introduces charges for rubbish taken to the Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun tip is going to encourage more rubbish in the bush and more burning conducted at home. A better idea may be to give people \$5 when they take it to the tip.

Thanks to my fellow FCOs, Chief Executive Officer, CESM and FESA and DEC staff for their support in this period.

I am concerned about the huge build-up of fuels in our surrounding bushland so please be vigilant, we are due for a couple of big ones again soon.

Hope that all brigades applied for a Western Power grant.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

ITEM 8.1

Moved: Mr Gavin Gibson

Seconded: Mr Gary Webster

That the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer report be received.

Carried:

8.3 FESA

Nil

8.4 Department of Environment and Conservation

- The road eleven burn is complete; 22km open edge burn
- There is an ongoing burn program to be completed (there is a plan somewhere (you may have it)?)
- Strategic fire access will commence on the Southern Fire line. It will start in the East and work west-ward, crossing Hamersley Drive. This will be completed with a tractor, slasher or heavy machinery

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 8.1
Moved: Mr Rod Daw	Seconded: Mr Gary Webster
That the DEC report be received.	
Carried:	

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

This is an opportunity for members to raise issues for discussion, for recommendation to Council, or for further research.

- 9.1 Radios Servicing 12/13** – To be completed in October by Esperance Comms, any Comms issues please report through Rod or CESM.

Noted

- 9.2 Munglinup Drought Dam**
Discussion took place on the serviceability of the Munglinup drought dam for fire fighting purposes. The meeting agreed that the option of a solar pump should be pursued.

- 9.3 Risk to Resource Report**
The meeting expressed concern that the Risk to Resource Report has not been finalised by FESA

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	ITEM 8.1
Moved: Mr Barn Feathersonhaugh	Seconded: Mr Andrew Chambers
That the Shire of Ravensthorpe be requested to pursue the completion of the Shire of Ravensthorpe Resource to Risk Report with FESA as a matter of urgency.	
Carried:	

CLOSURE - 8.50pm