

## **BODDINGTON LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Local Emergency Committee meeting held in the Shire of Boddington Council Chambers commencing at 10:01 am 20 June 2022

### **1. Attendance**

Cr. E Schreiber	Shire of Boddington (Chairman)
Cr. L Lewis	Shire of Boddington
Mr R. Greive	Shire Representative
Mr. R Clarke	Newmont Boddington Gold
Sgt. R Bartley	Boddington Police
Mr. R Blaney	St John Ambulance
Mr. W English	Boddington SES
Mr. J Potts	Shire Ranger
Mr. M Schorer	Dept. for Communities
Mr Jayden Vitler	DFES
Mr Jason Carrall	DFES (Acting area Officer)
Mr Simon Smith	South 32
Mr Adam Smith	District Emergency Management Advisor (DFES, GSR)
Mr John Dagostino	Manager Sustainability & External Relations, Newmont

### **Apologies**

Mr. J Reid	Deputy CBFCO
Ms. R Foster	BFB FCO
Mr. W Batt	BFCO
Mr. P Blechynden	DFES
Ms. K Reader	Dept. for Communities
Mrs D Roache	BDHS
Mr T Sillitto	Dept for Communities
Mrs C Lokan	Boddington Hospital

### **2. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 28 February 2022**

**Moved:** **J Potts**

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee held on 28 February 2022 be endorsed as a true record of the proceedings

**Seconded:** **R Clarke**

### **3. Business Arising From Minutes**

Nil.

#### 4. **General Business**

M Schorer: Community report as attached.

Working through staffing requirements around vaccinations.

T. Sillito returning to role on 4 July.

Kim Reader is a contact point .

Invitation to attend evacuation training sessions. July, Aug and Sept are priority training periods.

#### ***Action – Information be noted***

Discussed agreement with shires when emergencies arise - Recovery Coordinator

J Potts: will look at reserves with J. Carrall regarding fire mitigation – fire hydrants to be identified that need repair. A local contractor who can do controlled mulching etc.

#### ***Action - table for next meeting***

Cr Schreiber: all fire hydrants are clearly marked. Josh agreed that most of them are.

R Bartley: It has been relatively quiet with no fatalities, although some serious crashes have occurred. A Motorcycle rider was airlifted out. Some people were in distress but it not reach the point of a land search.

R Blaney: Case numbers have risen.

A Smith: I look after Great Southern district – the bush fire brigades are directed to Jason Carrall (DFES)

Cr Lewis: I have recently joined the committee.

R Clarke: In regard to Covid cases, 242 cases on site picked up via RAT - 490 offsite. This affected 45 – 50 % of the workforce. Continuing covid clinic but scaling down. No hospitalisations or evacuations. This has been managed really well on site. Of concern - 2 large fires to N and E. Other fires were due to grass tree fires - could pig hunters be responsible and can anything be done to negate that? The fire were significant - 50 and 100 hectares.

J Potts: It is difficult to report as we do not know where and when they hunt.

R Clarke: I will organise some courses with DFES and will advise Josh on these courses. A bush fire scenario and air attack can be replicated. Invite William Batt.

#### ***Action - table for next meeting and invite William Batt.***

J Dagostino: Representatives on our emergency response team will attend future meetings.

J Vitler: (replacing Steven Gunn) – Regarding Autumn burning - Parks and Wildlife, did 3 burns in the Shire of Boddington - 14,100 Hectares total.

J Carrall: We have lots of courses on offer. The Bushfire Safety Awareness course is suggested for Newmont and farmers. We are able to see what you need done. There is a course designed for bushfire brigade members.

There are 22 courses running over a period of a year and they will be readvertised.

You don't have to be a DFES member to do the course – please call the regional office in Narrogin to enroll. Need leadership onboard and members will follow.

Cr Lewis: for other courses on Rural Fire Awareness – it would be best to advertise in the local paper.

W English: the last few months have been quiet road-accident wise; however the motorcycle accident was very severe.

RFDS have helicopters – one based in Jandakot – there have been two recent medical transfers. The oval lights were requested on as they do not have night vision.

After 1am, the sprinklers come on the oval, but we can turn sprinklers off.

The RFDS do not do not fly at night.

MRD Contracting are working on the new bridge on Crossman and wish to organize an emergency exercise via DFES. I spoke to the safety manager at MRD who wanted to do a table top exercise. He wanted to know what Emergency Services are available in this area so they know what to expect. I contacted 000 and told them what was happening; we didn't ring it through although the staff were not advised it was a drill.

I contacted the local police, ambo expected arrival was 30 minutes; helicopter expected arrival time was 40 minutes. It was a big exercise for the company.

R Greive: introduced himself.

Cr Schreiber: Bob Jones has a vehicle and requests communications in it. There is a concern with the Reserve off Hakea Road.

J Potts: I am trying to find out who owns it, it may be the Heritage Rail.

Cr Schreiber: We need to ascertain if they will take ownership

J Potts: there are a lot of issues with it.

Cr Lewis: Is there a plan to burn some reserves?

J Potts: I am not aware of this though I have spoken to DFES - River Road to town needs to be cleared out. I am speaking to a contractor; however, I need to ascertain what needs to be done and which grants will pay for it. We will get someone to help us do burning. Some of the reserves, such as behind Blue Gum has not been burned in a long time. Burning piles are most likely; we need to work with DFES.

Josh will show Christie Street reserve to Jason

**Action - Information to be noted.**

A Smith: Announces he is running a desktop exercise - distributed handout ' Exercise Initial Actions' and requested a response to first 3 questions.

Question 1 – Weather warnings issued:

Sgt R Bartley: would need to look at response capability; advise command in Albany and neighbouring station; look at fuel, equipment, vehicles ready to go, ensure that a response can be arranged.

R. Blaney: make sure there is an operating ambo in town; liaise with Narrogin and Williams; regional office in Northam and metro vehicles.

A Smith: Are there any challenges with reporting to various regional areas?

R Blaney: communication is good and info can be sent out quickly.

Cr Lewis: would need to determine who is available, assist Emergency Services and set up an evacuation centre; notify workforce and identify areas impacted by event, prepare work areas; look at drainage. The key role is to ensure assets are protected and provide assistance

R Clarke: check with management team, communicate to workforce – pit etc; Check surface water levels; ensure safety of personnel; assist community as required; look at generators, camp, food etc.

J Vitler: place more people on call; ensure machines ready to respond; close campgrounds and tracks and trails (trees and branches falling) to limit public out there

J Carrall: notify SES units, monitor and update as needed.

M Schorer: establish need to pre-deploy with equipment; look at storage in boddington; would there be a generator for the evacuation centre?

Take direction from DFES and engage in a meeting with DFES and get a BOM liaison officer for advice. Peel District office would be advised. Have trailers based in Northam, Fremantle and other locations.

W English: J. Carrall DFES contacts me and I send a text to all my units to find out who is available. If very severe – do a call round to shire and local businesses. The HMA is SES. We ensure we are prepared for Emergency Response and have Generators, lights, and a nominated Evac Centre. In anticipation of heavy rains, the Shire usually advises the community to check their gutters or contact the real estate agency /homeowner.

Cr Schreiber: it is most important to notify community members of expected weather events.

J Potts: advise fire brigade members of potential call outs. Post on media – have a generator available.

A Smith: It is important to advise community.

J Carrall: Contact Shire regarding machines to clear the roads.

A Smith: Special Idea 2 - Discussed Round Table

Sgt R Bartley: We have an emergency Ops unit in Perth and are delegated as local Emergency Coordinator (with DFES, SES etc)

R Blaney: We have 2 ambos in Boddington and would engage with Narrogin, Williams and Wagin.

Cr Lewis: The Shire would assist SES and set up an Evac Centre with the help of the Ranger and Works. The Shire Admin building would be the best venue to control it and it is on higher ground.

S Smith: South 32 would ensure safety of employees, and assist community.  
Cr Schreiber: Are there any houses impacted by South 32 activities which would result in flooding?  
S Smith: No

R Clarke: ensure site secure and communicate with SES

**Action - Discuss Starlink at next meeting (comms with heavy vehicles)**

J Vitler: liaise with SES, ensure towers are operating. The Dwellingup office can operate as an info point.

J. Carrall: contact local SES asking what support needed; suggest billboard in main street as, once power goes out, need this The evacuation centre does not have to be in town.

M Schorer: identify impact on community. Ask people to bring their own bedding.

W English: Prioritise calls; mobile phones will lose power – deploy vehicles and crew to do a door knock if area impacted. If no one home, tag front gate to identify that it has been checked. A list is made on a map.

A generator can be hooked up to the shire – Josh confirmed it needs to be arranged to it can be plugged in and work immediately – currently it is a process.

The Rec Centre is probably not set up for a generator

J Potts: Suggest the Rec Centre can be looked at as a potential evac centre. It is legal now for private homes to have a generator attached. I suggest that it is worth checking the location of these generators and what size we need as we don't own our own. Grants are available; best to have one on-site and ready to go.

**Action - Information to be noted.**

Cr Lewis: We need more landline access; look at a new phone system which runs through a computer system. We need old landline capability.

Cr Schreiber: We have Telstra towers, but DFES does not have authority to plug them in. We need to look at managing without phones.

**Action - Information to be noted.**

A Smith:

- To wrap up: look at phone systems; look at grants. Issue is loss of communications
- Evac Centre – what is the plan to open the Evac Centre and have staff.
- Admin command centre - everyone needs to know where it is located.
- Look at how we work together as different agencies.

**Action - Leave this exercise with Roy Greive.**

The next meeting of the Boddington LEMC will be held at 10.00am 29 August 2022 at the Shire of Boddington.

## 5. Closure

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:50am

### Meeting Schedules

29 August 2022  
28 November 2022  
27 February 2023

### Action List

Action	Responsible Person	Date	Completed
Look at reserves - fire mitigation	J Potts J Carrall		
Organise courses with DFES and invite William Batt	R Clarke		
Discuss Starlink (comms with heavy vehicles) at next meeting	R. Clarke		
Emergency Exercise	Roy Greive		