



## **LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Held on Wednesday, 4 August 2020 at 9.00am at the Cranbrook  
Community Hub.

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**MINUTES OF THE  
LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
Held on Wednesday 4 August 2020 at 9.00am at the  
Cranbrook Community Hub.

**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING**

The Chairperson, Kevin Bransby, declared the meeting open at 9.08am.

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Kevin Bransby	Shire of Cranbrook – Emergency Services Officer
Joe Duina	Shire of Cranbrook- Ranger
David Packard	Shire of Cranbrook – Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Teresa Lawson	Frankland River CRC - Manager
Wes Bailye	Department of Fire and Emergency Services-Area Officer- Rural
David Rae	St John Ambulance-Community Paramedic
John Barden	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Laurie Seton	Cranbrook Police- Officer in Charge
Jeff Osborne	Cranbrook Police – Second in Charge

**APOLOGIES**

Peter Northover	Shire of Cranbrook – Chief Executive Officer
Trish Standish	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Finance and Administration
Jeff Alderton	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Works
Anne Parsons	St John Ambulance-Cranbrook
Dion Grantham	Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions – Stirling Range National Park
Vince Hilder	Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions- District Fire Coordinator- Albany District
Neville Blackburn	Department of Communities- District Emergency Services Officer Great Southern
Kurt Weinert	Western Power
Adam Smith	District Emergency Management Advisor – Great Southern

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1 July 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Joe Duina

Seconded: Wes Bailye

## **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **4.1 Frankland River Town Site – Hazard Reduction – K Bransby**

The Shire is in the process of having a 'Prescription to Burn' written for the reserve south of town. The area behind the Caravan Park and old oval is Shire land and no prescription is required. These burns will take place over the next few weeks and into next year (weather dependent) prior to the commencement of fire season.

Laurie added that the Cranbrook Police station has also had a tidy up. The boys from the Pardellup Prison Farm have done an excellent job pruning the trees next to the Gillamii Centre.

## **5. REPORTS**

### **5.1 Shire of Cranbrook MOW – J Alderton**

- All gravel roads are currently closed in the Shire for heavy vehicles with the exception of emergency vehicles and school buses due to the current weather conditions.

### **5.2 Shire of Cranbrook Ranger – J Duina**

- The Lakes have been quiet with very few visitors.
- Water Levels are still quite low.

### **5.3 Cranbrook Police OIC – L Seton**

- WA currently on COVID watch. Waiting to see if WA will be impacted by a second wave.
- Reminder that social distancing regulations are still in effect.
- For the past four months' emergency management has been focused on the COVID crisis. This has included regular on-line LEMC meetings, enforcing intra-region lockdowns, ensuring businesses are operating in a COVID safe manner and checking on people self-isolating. Management of the pandemic has consumed quite a few hours.
- The welcome side effect of the COVID restrictions has been a marked reduction in road trauma and a reduction in drug related crime. Obviously moving forward, COVID is still going to be a major impact on police resources, particularly if the State is not successful in preventing community transmission from Victoria.
- Another impact of COVID has been the stretching of resources by districts controlling the interstate borders. As a result, Jeff and Laurie have just returned from a two-week stint in Kalgoorlie, providing operational support and very shortly Laurie will be heading off to Kununurra to help out for a few weeks there.

- Cranbrook Police Station will be operating at 50% from 18/8/20 until 26/10/2020. Operational support and tasking response will be bolstered by Tambellup and Mount Barker during this period.
- From Laurie's understanding, there is no requirement to run the desktop exercise that he proposed at the last pre-Covid meeting, however it would not hurt for each combat agency to consider their roles and responses to that scenario.
- With the travel restrictions, many tourist activities are restricted however West Australians are holidaying in the WA tourist spots in record numbers. This brings with it increased potential for a road emergency or LADSaR event, for which emergency management agencies must be prepared.

#### **5.4 Department of Fire and Emergency Services- W Bailye**

- Business as usual.
- Preparations for possible 2<sup>nd</sup> COVID wave.

#### **5.5 Frankland River Community Resource Center- T Lawson**

- Preparing for possible second wave of COVID.
- Restricted training capabilities with social distancing requirements.
- Taking a few bookings for the caravan park for September.

#### **5.6 St Johns Ambulance – D Rae**

- Almost back to normal
- Have a good stock of PPE throughout in region
- Call numbers are still down
- Training is still being conducted with precautions.
- It has been identified that Frankland CRC is too small to conduct First Aid training. Cranbrook Sub Centre has the ability to conduct any training for the district.
- There have been a few new volunteer members join the ranks.
- Teresa (Frankland CRC) would like to see more information on how to join the emergency services. D Rae and K Bransby to look into flyers/banners to place in the CRC for volunteer recruitment.

#### **5.7 Department Health- Mt Barker Hospital – Via D Rae**

- Mt Barker hospital has a GP shortage at the moment. Majority of patients are being transported to Albany or are being seen via Telehealth video conference.

## **5.8 Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development – J Barden**

- Still have some staff working from home.
- Water is a problem around the districts for stock.
- Little or no rain in Lake Grace and surrounding areas.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Exercises –The Covid pandemic has created issues around exercise requirements, particularly during 2020. It would be a good time to think about planning exercises for the next year.

Teresa raised the issue regarding evacuations in Frankland River. There needs to be some education in that the CRC is the designated evacuation centre and what to do in the event of an evacuation. There also needs to be more clarification on the roles of Shire staff on what they need to do in an evacuation scenario.

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee will be held on Tuesday, 13 October 2020 at 9.00am at the Cranbrook Community Hub.

## **8. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.48am.