



LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Held on Wednesday, 28 April 2021 at 9:30am at the Cranbrook
Regional Community Hub.

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**MINUTES OF THE
LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
Held on Wednesday 28 April 2021 at 9:30am at the
Cranbrook Regional Community Hub.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Chairperson Greg Blycha declared the meeting open at 9:30am

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Greg Blycha	Shire of Cranbrook – Chief Executive Officer
Trish Standish	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Corporate and Community
Jeff Alderton	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Works
Joe Duina	Shire of Cranbrook - Ranger
Anne Parsons	St John Ambulance - Cranbrook
Bernie Climie	Red Cross – Cranbrook
Teresa Lawson	Frankland River CRC - Manager
Neville Blackburn	Department of Communities
David Rae	St John Ambulance Community Paramedic
Shaun Lavrick	Western Power

APOLOGIES

Kevin Bransby	Shire of Cranbrook – Community Emergency Services Manager
Steve Machin	Western Power
John Bardon	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Kurt Wienert	Western Power
Julie Hollingworth	Director of Nursing - Mount Barker Hospital
Andrew Whiting	Cranbrook Primary School
Rhys Skipper	Main Roads WA
David Packard	Shire of Cranbrook – Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Laurie Seton	WA Police – Cranbrook OIC
Wes Bailye	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Vince Hilder	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Jeff Osborne	WA Police – Cranbrook 2IC

GUESTS

Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Teresa Lawson, seconded Neville Blackburn that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Shire of Cranbrook CEO – G Blycha

- Adverse Event Plan should be out for the public to view by the end of May. A copy will be distributed to the LEMC Committee.
- Butch Packard has stepped down from his role as Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Graham (Baz) Marshall has been appointed to replace Butch. Waiting for a BFAC Agenda Item to go to Council for formal approval.
- Grape Growers and Wine Makers Association will now be providing weekly updates of all vineyards to the Shire on harvest completion dates. The Shire will put this advice on their website. This will provide visibility to the farming community.

Discussion

G Blycha asked the group if they were aware of any other Shires having a procedure once grape harvest is finished. A Smith advised that he was not aware of any set procedure at other Shires.

4.2 Cranbrook St John Ambulance – A Parsons

- Pleased to advise of four new volunteers. One in Frankland River and three in Cranbrook, all currently undergoing training. Anne also advised fortnightly training nights at the Cranbrook Sub Centre occur.
- Cranbrook Sub-Centre now has a second Ambulance, thereby increasing capability.
- A few call outs received this month.

4.3 St John Ambulance – D Rae

- Currently have a good supply of PPE available.
- Crews attending callouts to anyone that has been in the Perth or Peel regions over the past week have been told to wear extra protective gear.
- Albany also has the ability to share stocks in the region if required.

4.4 Western Power – S Lavrick

- Advised the Committee that K Weinert is currently on leave for 6 months.
- Crews have been working in Mount Barker, with some work north of Kendenup which may cause a few outages.
- Works have been completed in Frankland River.
- Advised that Western Power try to stay out of paddocks during winter as the trucks are heavy and tend to get bogged.
- Currently working on changing the conductors as they are around 40 years old and

are due for replacing.

4.5 Frankland River Community Resource Centre – T Lawson

- Teresa advised that she attended a conference in Perth for Community Resource Centre's. They discussed potential funding and contracts as well as the roles for CRCs moving forward in terms of emergency management and how it would be funded.
- Frankland River receiving high numbers of visitors to the town and the Caravan Park has had a significant number of booking enquiries.

4.6 Cranbrook Red Cross – B Climie

- The sporting club have masks and gloves available upon entry to the building if needed as a welfare centre.
- Advised Red Cross representative, Julia Scriven (Denmark based), will be going to local schools over the next 12 months to teach children what to pack in an emergency.

Discussion

B Climie raised concerns as to why the doctors and community health nurses are attending the Shire less frequently. B Climie also advised, there was an Agreement in place years ago with Plantagenet Cranbrook Multi-purpose Health Service (MPS) and that the Agreement has since ended. In that Agreement, Doctors and a Nurse would visit once a week to fill the needs of the community.

T Lawson advised that the doctors have been attending less and less and it's frustrating for the community as many just need a script and should not have to drive to Mount Barker. T Lawson then asked how the current Agreement works. T Lawson also noted that some doctors that do attend are at times rude to patients and it seems to be an inconvenience to come to Frankland River.

T Standish explained that Plantagenet Medical is a private practice and that the Shire only has an agreement with them not through the hospital unlike the agreement B Climie mentioned earlier. The Shire pays Plantagenet Medical only when they attend.

D Rae added that the region is struggling for doctors. Comment was made that they need to look at employing more nurse practitioners. Most patients that attend the hospital in Mount Barker get transferred to Albany for further medical treatment.

G Blycha advised that the Shire is currently looking at other options; for example engaging Katanning for support.

4.7 Department of Communities – N Blackburn

- The Department was busy with Tropical Cyclone Seroja. They were in response mode for the first few days and are now in recovery. The recovery area was 300km long and 100km wide. Recovery hubs have been established in Kalbarri, North Hampton and Moora. There are currently people homeless and people refusing to

- leave their homes for fear of looting.
- There are 5 teams of 6 people working in the affected area, on a rotation system.
- Many people are seeking hardship allowances from the Department.
- Some PPE that was ordered in November arrived in April. The Department ordered 2 million masks that all expire next year.
- Emergency tubs are currently being stored, with 9 in Katanning and 6 in Albany. These will be moved around to other towns when needed.

4.8 Department of Fire and Emergency Services – A Smith

- State emergency meetings are held once a month. The next DEMC meeting is at the beginning of June.
- Currently DFES have staff deployed. Wayne Green is currently deployed for 3 weeks.
- In regards to Tropical Cyclone Seroja, buildings in the affected areas are not cyclone rated as storms often do not venture so far south.
- People and organisations need to be mindful of construction standards.
- Advised that he has provided feedback to Kevin regarding the Recovery Plan and Adverse Event Plan.

4.9 Shire of Cranbrook Ranger – J Duina

- Advised that the Stock Trailer has arrived.
- Tenterden is currently undergoing a hazard reduction burn. A discussion on whether a hazard reduction burn will take place in Frankland River is under consideration.

4.10 Cranbrook Primary School – A Whiting – via email

- CPS Critical Management Plan is currently being worked through as part of the department's requirements. The plan relates to evacuations, lock downs, bomb threats. This is in addition to our stand alone Bushfire Plan. This will be forwarded to the committee once completed.
- A FESA inspection was conducted at our school late last year and a report was created with recommendations for removal of trees, shrubs and debris around the site. This work was carried out last term and they did manage to clear a lot of debris and plant matter which greatly improved our fire preparedness.

5. GENERALBUSINESS

2021 Annual and Preparedness Report Capability Survey SEMC – under section 33 and 40 of the Emergency Management Act 2005 (EM Act), Local Emergency Management Committees are required to submit annual reports to SEMC regarding their emergency management activities.

Discussion:

G Blycha can Committee members review and undertake the Capability Survey and provide feedback to Kevin.

A Smith advised that the survey can be downloaded as a PDF. The original email with the link was sent to Kevin so will need him to forward that email to the committee, anyone can login

to write their answers but must NOT hit submit as that will close the link off and no one else will be able to comment. When writing answer please don't over estimate as we will then think that the local government is more than capable and doesn't need the extra support. The cutoff date for this survey is at the beginning of June.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee will be held on Wednesday, 28 July 2021 at 9.30am at the Cranbrook Regional Community Hub.

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 10:22am.