



## **LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Held on Wednesday, **27 January 2021** at **9.30 am** at the Frankland  
River Community Resource Centre

## Contents

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING.....	3
2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE .....	3
3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	3
4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES .....	3
5. REPORTS .....	3
5.1 Shire of Cranbrook – G Blycha .....	3
5.2 Cranbrook Police OIC – L Seton .....	4
5.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services- A Smith for W Bailey .....	4
5.4 Frankland River Community Resource Center - T Lawson .....	4
5.5 St Johns Ambulance – A Parsons .....	4
5.6 Department Health - Mt Barker Hospital – J Hollingworth .....	4
5.7 Department of Communities – N Blackburn .....	5
5.8 Red Cross – Cranbrook – B Climie.....	5
5.9 Western Power – K Weinert .....	5
5.10 District Emergency Management – A Smith .....	5
5.11 Main Roads – Great Southern – R Skipper via email.....	5
6. GENERAL BUSINESS .....	6
7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING .....	6
8. CLOSURE OF MEETING .....	7

**MINUTES OF THE  
LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 at 9.30 am at the  
Frankland River Community Resource Centre**

**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING**

The Chairperson, Greg Blycha declared the meeting open at 9.30 am.

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Greg Blycha	Shire of Cranbrook – Chief Executive Officer
Trish Standish	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Finance and Administration
Jeff Alderton	Shire of Cranbrook – Manager of Works
Kevin Bransby	Shire of Cranbrook – Community Emergency Services Manager
Joe Duina	Shire of Cranbrook - Ranger
Teresa Lawson	Frankland River CRC - Manager
Laurie Seton	Cranbrook Police - Officer in Charge
Jeff Osborne	Cranbrook Police – Second in Charge
Anne Parsons	St John Ambulance - Cranbrook
Bernie Climie	Red Cross - Cranbrook
Neville Blackburn	Department of Communities - District Emergency Services Officer Great Southern
Kurt Weinert	Western Power
Adam Smith	District Emergency Management Advisor – Great Southern
Julie Hollingworth	Western Australian Country Health Services – Mount Barker Hospital

**APOLOGIES**

John Barden	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Wes Bailey	Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Area Officer - Rural
David Rae	St John Ambulance-Community Paramedic
Ken Jones	Western Australian Country Health Services – Infrastructure Manager – Great Southern
Phil Horrocks	Shire of Cranbrook President
Rhys Skipper	Main Roads – Great Southern

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 October 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Neville Blackburn

Seconded: Teresa Lawson

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

**5. REPORTS**

**5.1 Shire of Cranbrook – G Blycha**

- The Shire acknowledged Anne Parsons on receiving the Shire of Cranbrook – Citizen of the Year 2020 award. Anne also received the Ambulance Service Medal in recognition to her services in St John Ambulance. This recognition was received from Canberra and acknowledged Anne’s volunteer services to St John Ambulance.
- Reminder that the Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM), Kevin Bransby, is the first point of contact for the Shire in regard to matters relating to the LEMC.

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

- Both Laurie and Jeff returned to Cranbrook after deployments to other regions. Laurie from the North and Jeff from Walpole.
- One motorcycle accident in the area. Not life-threatening injuries.

## **5.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services- A Smith for W Bailey**

- Business as usual.
- A few staff changes in Albany – Jono Boswell (District Officer – Natural Hazards) and Diarmuid (Muddy) Kinsella (District Officer – Urban) has joined the team in the Great Southern. Tina Zacher (Volunteer Liaison Officer) has resigned. Murray Hatton (District Officer – Rural) has taken extended leave. Wishing all the best to those staff for the future.

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

- January has been quiet.
- Lots of traffic travelling through town.
- Caravan park is slow.
- No doctor has been available since late December 2020. Nurses will only come to town when there is an appointment. Residents have been resorting to driving to Mount Barker to attend hospital.

## **5.5 St Johns Ambulance – A Parsons**

- Increasing PPE levels to regions. This is due to the Covid-19 outbreaks in the Eastern States.
- There is now a second ambulance in the Cranbrook Sub-Centre.
- Cranbrook is set to receive a new 12 lead AED unit towards the end of March 2021. This will provide better care for patients.
- Training for volunteers and residents set to increase. However due to Covid restrictions, training is limited to 12 persons.
- Current volunteer numbers: 10 Cranbrook, 6 Frankland River. Would like to see numbers increase to 15 in Cranbrook and 10 in Frankland River.
- J Alderton asked A Parsons about the AED located in Tenterden and requested one be located at the new truck bay. Anne replied that the idea of the AED is for anyone to use and would source a quote for the Shire to purchase and locate it at the truck bay.

## **5.6 Department Health - Mt Barker Hospital – J Hollingworth**

- Covid testing up to date with current regulations. The old theatre room has been

established as testing facility for symptomatic patients.

- PPE training for staff. Staff received initial PPE training with no ongoing training. Ongoing PPE training will be delivered focusing on the practice of donning and doffing.
- December conducted fire training and facility capability exercise.
- An assessment of dependability was also conducted at the hospital. Will 'Shelter in Place' given the circumstances of time taken to evacuate patients that require special care.
- This exercise was conducted for the Mount Barker area only with another desk top exercise planned to involve the 'neighbours' of the area of Mount Barker.
- Increasing staff training in traffic accident related injuries due to an increase in the number of recent road crashes in the region.

### **5.7 Department of Communities – N Blackburn**

- Face masks will be provided for personnel assisting in the opening of a Welfare Centre.
- Issues of housing people in emergencies continues to be a concern.
- The major Welfare Centres are in Albany, Mount Barker, Denmark, Katanning and Gnowangerup.
- B Climie stated the Cranbrook Sporting Club needed PPE. J Alderton replied that the Shire held a small quantity that could be used.

### **5.8 Red Cross – Cranbrook – B Climie**

- The Red Cross has supplied meals to 2 people in self quarantine. A further 2 people in self quarantine have not required any assistance.
- The police have not been required to monitor these cases and SGT L Seton advised that there are strict protocols on the need to self quarantine. The details on these requirements are denoted on the CovidSafe app.

### **5.9 Western Power – K Weinert**

- Small number of faults reported; causes from lightning and drizzle.
- 300+ pole replacements in the Rocky Gully and Frankland River area with crews from Vasse.
- Majority of staff not back from leave.

### **5.10 District Emergency Management – A Smith**

- Continuing with fortnightly Covid meetings
- EM forums have been well received throughout the region and will continue. The forums are targeted at Local Government staff and aims to improve emergency management practices within the local area. The forums also try to align with the DEMC and SEMC meetings to address any issues arising and to also take any local issues to the DEMC and SEMC.
- Community Disaster Resilience Strategy will be published in early 2021 following community consultation. The strategy aims to reduce the impact of disasters by increasing the community's strengths and capability to cope with, adapt to, and recover from the impacts of disasters and emergencies.
- The new Welfare Centre guidelines are now available on the SEMC website.

Mobile telephone coverage update: WA has secured \$13.2 million in Commonwealth Government funding to upgrade the 'Mobile Black Spot Program'. This program will involve upgrading the battery backup power at 108 sites across the State.

### **5.11 Main Roads – Great Southern – R Skipper via email**

- Main Roads has responded to a number of fatal road crashes (including one near Ravensthorpe involving a Main Roads contractor), and bushfires since the last LEMC. Systems and

communications lines were established quickly in each instance and worked well.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **000 Calls – New Feature – K Bransby**

- On 16 December 2020, the Australian Government announced the commencement of Advanced Mobile Location (AML) technology for the Triple Zero Emergency Call Service.
- AML is a technology built into the operating system of Apple and Android telephones which will provide greater location accuracy to Triple Zero during an emergency call from a mobile telephone. It has the potential to save lives and improve outcomes for mobile callers in Australia, as it is doing in the countries in which it has already been deployed.
- With around 78 per cent of calls to Triple Zero originating from a mobile telephone, AML has the potential to assist a significant proportion of callers requiring emergency assistance. It is capable of providing a caller's location within a 5-metre radius outdoors and a 25-metre radius indoors. Based on deployments of AML in other countries, most calls (about 85 per cent) will provide location accuracy within 50 metres.
- Full document explanation is attached to the Minutes.

### **Shire of Cranbrook Adverse Event Plan – G Blycha**

- Early in 2020, the Shire were advised that they would be recipients of \$1m as part of the Commonwealth Government's Drought Communities Program Extension funding. A requirement of this funding is that the Shire have an Adverse Event Plan and we will use some of the grant funding to assist in the preparation of this Adverse Event Plan.
- In February 2021, the Shire will be undertaking community consultation in preparation to update the Strategic Community Plan, Corporate Business Plan and associated informing documents. In order to undertake this, the Shire have engaged consultants to facilitate and undertake this process together with completion of the Adverse Event Plan mentioned above.
- The consultants will be facilitating community consultation in Cranbrook during the week of 15 February 2021 and wish to consult with the LEMC at 9:00am on Friday 19 February 2021. It would be appreciated if all LEMC members could either attend the consultation, to be held in the Cranbrook Regional Community Hub, or connect in, via zoom. A zoom link will be forwarded closer to the date.

### **Cranbrook Police – L Seton**

- There has been a higher number of tourists in the region this holiday period. With the higher numbers, this can result in higher road crashes and higher land searches. This ultimately puts pressure on the first responders. We all need to stay alert and watch out for each other.

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

- The new Shire trailer is about 6/8 weeks away. The trailer will assist in emergency situations by transporting mobile yards and other equipment.

### **Cranbrook LEMC exercise – K Bransby**

- Propose the next exercise will be a desk top exercise. The exercise would be setting up a L2/L3 Incident Management Team in the Shire of Cranbrook. This would need to be planned for near the end of the year. One possibility could incorporate the Great Southern DFES annual exercise in the Shire.

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

- The next meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee will be held on **Wednesday 28 April 2021** at 9.00am at the Cranbrook Community Hub.

## **8. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

- The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 10.35 am.