

Augusta Margaret River Local Emergency Management Committee

Minutes

For the meeting held
Tuesday, 9 February 2021
Margaret River Council Chambers
41 Wallcliffe Road, Margaret River
Commencing at 4.30pm

Notice of Meeting

Please be advised that a meeting of the Augusta Margaret River Local Emergency Management Committee was held on 9 February 2021, commencing at 4.30pm

Margaret River Council Chambers
41 Wallcliffe Road
Margaret River WA 6285

This meeting was open to members of the public.

If you were unable to attend the meeting, please contact Lisa Garstone, Emergency Services Admin Officer.

P: 9780 5639

E: lgarstone@amrshire.wa.gov.au

Order of Business

Agenda Listing	Subject
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Notice of meeting

Order of business

- 1.0 Declaration of opening**
- 2.0 Attendance / Apologies / Non-attendance**
 - 2.1 Attendance**
 - 2.2 Apologies**
- 3.0 Question time for the public**
- 4.0 Disclosure of members' interests**
- 5.0 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**
 - 5.1 Local Emergency Management Committee Minutes: 11 August 2020**
- 6.0 Business arising from previous minutes**
 - 6.1 Action List**
- 7.0 Reports from Shire Officers and Delegates**
 - 7.1 Australian Red Cross**
 - 7.2 Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions**
 - 7.3 Department of Communities**
 - 7.4 Department of Fire and Emergency Services**
 - 7.5 Department of Health**
 - 7.6 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development**
 - 7.7 Shire Bush Fire Brigades**
 - 7.8 Shire Human and Community Services**
 - 7.9 State Emergency Services**
 - 7.10 St John Ambulance**
 - 7.11 Surf Life Saving WA**
 - 7.12 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service**
 - 7.13 Volunteer Marine Rescue**
 - 7.14 WA Police**
 - 7.15 Water Corporation**
- 8.0 General business**
 - 8.1 MRDH No-Notice Bushfire Event – Marie Tweedie, WACHS**
 - 8.2 Public Emergency Contact Directory – Adam Jasper, CESM**
 - 8.3 Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (Confidential) – Adam Jasper, CESM**
- 9.0 Matters for which the meeting may be closed (Confidential Items)**
- 10.0 Closure of meeting**

1.0 Declaration of opening

The Chairperson welcomed all in attendance and the meeting was declared open at 4.32pm.

2.0 Attendance / Apologies / Non-attendance

2.1 Attendance

Committee Members

Adrian Yates	:	Augusta Margaret River State Emergency Service (SES)
Roma Boucher	:	Department of Communities
Tim Wall	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Michael Beasley	:	Marine Rescue – Margaret River
David Holland	:	Shire Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)
Brendan Jordan	:	St John Ambulance – Augusta
Dane Hendry	:	St John Ambulance – Margaret River
Marie Tweedie	:	WA Country Health Service (WACHS)
David Wall	:	WA Police – Augusta
Luke Fowler	:	WA Police – Margaret River/ Local Emergency Coordinator
Josh Jackson	:	Water Corporation

Shire Staff Members

Ian Earl	:	Shire President/Chairperson
Adam Jasper	:	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
Jason Cleary	:	Coordinator Community Planning and Development
Lisa Garstone	:	Emergency Services Admin Officer/Minute Secretary

Observers

Emily Lewis	:	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)
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2.2 Apologies

Ed Hatherley	:	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)
Peter Thomas	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Vik Cheema	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Nathan Hall	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Stephanie Addison-Brown	:	Shire Chief Executive Officer
Nick Logan	:	Shire Director Sustainable Development and Infrastructure Services
Nigel Anderson	:	Shire Manager Human and Community Services/Shire Recovery Coordinator
Alex Bernhagen	:	Volunteer Fire and Rescue – Augusta
Leith Jones	:	Volunteer Fire and Rescue – Margaret River
Herman Gerritsen	:	Volunteer Marine Rescue – Augusta
Gary Smith	:	Western Power
Matt Davey	:	Western Power

3.0 Question time for the public

Nil

4.0 Disclosure of members' interest

Nil

5.0 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

5.1 Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes: 11 August 2021

RECOMMENDATION/LEMC DECISION LEMC2021/01

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held 11 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Dane Hendry, St John Ambulance – Margaret River

Seconded: Adrian Yates, Augusta Margaret River State Emergency Service

Carried: 12/0

Emily Lewis, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), entered the meeting at 4.34pm.

6.0 Business arising from previous minutes

6.1 Action List

Date	Action Item	Action Update	Status	Actioning Officer
15/05/19	Will need to look at better ways of managing aircraft refuelling at Augusta.	<p>13/08/19: Info passed through from Aero Club, Augusta. Dave passed to Shire. Looking into what they can do. Currently under review.</p> <p>12/11/19: Adam to follow up with Greg West.</p> <p>11/2/20: Still in progress.</p> <p>20/5/20: New Director Sustainable Development and Infrastructure Services, Nick Logan, will be brought up to speed on this action item and address at the August meeting.</p> <p>11/08/20: Adam still to discuss with Nick Logan. Rollover to November meeting.</p> <p>9/2/21: Manager Asset Services, Dave Nicholson, and Director Sustainable Development and Infrastructure Services, Nick Logan, have met with the Aero Club and have commissioned an updated masterplan for the airport, which in consultation with DPaW and DFES, addresses current issues with refuelling. A grant funding submission has been made through the Federal Government, the outcome of which should be known in March.</p>	Complete	David Holland, Nick Logan, Adam Jasper, Leisa Prangnell and RFDS
20/05/20	LEMC Exercises/Meeting Locations.	<p>20/5/20: Adam Jasper to liaise with Nathan Hall and also get in touch with Josh Jackson from the Water Corporation regarding his offer to host a meeting/exercise.</p>	In progress	Adam Jasper, Nathan Hall and Josh Jackson

Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes: 9 February 2021

		<p>11/08/20: Hypothetical Water Corporation Exercise discussion held. Members to forward their responses to the Emergency Services Admin Officer. Outcomes to be discussed at the November LEMC which is proposed to be hosted by the Water Corporation in Margaret River (TBC).</p> <p>9/2/21: Due to DFES District Officer Emergency Management LSW, Nathan Hall, being an apology as a result of a deployment to Albany, this item will be rolled over to the next LEMC meeting due to be held on 11 May 2021.</p>		
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7.0 Reports from Shire Officers and Delegates

7.1 Australian Red Cross

COVID Response

The ongoing focus of Australian Red Cross during the COVID-19 response has been on helping people to maintain vital social connections through periods of self-isolation.

- Nationally Red Cross is continuing to make daily check-in calls to people who are in mandatory self-isolation and others who may be vulnerable in our communities. As at 1 November, more than 199,100 calls have been made supporting people around Australia.
- In WA, Australian Red Cross has provided (and continues to provide) a similar phone service to a small vulnerable cohort of community members in quarantine here in WA since 7 May 2020 on behalf of Department of Communities.
- Red Cross has developed an in-depth document on '**Evacuation Centre Planning and Operational Considerations COVID-19**'. These guidelines draw on International and domestic best practice, process and research, and may be used to supplement existing evacuation / relief centre guides and handbooks. The purpose of this document is to adequately allow for the application of COVID-19 safe practice in an evacuation centre / emergency sheltering environment. This document:
 - provides safe and supportive solutions for evacuated communities and associated responding agencies
 - centralises recommendations that can assist multiple agencies and entities to identify COVID-19 safe guidelines for disaster response
 - includes adjustments to current emergency sheltering practice to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19
 - is centred on evidence-based research to date, for mitigation of COVID-19 transmission risk in congregate areas
 - incorporates recommendations from, but not limited to, the Australian Government Department of Health, Queensland Health and Safe Work Australia

Please contact waeoc@redcross.org.au if you would like to be sent a copy of these guidelines.

- Red Cross has representation on the COVID State Welfare Emergency Committee and is attending discussion exercises run by the State Welfare Incident Co-ordination Centre.
- Red Cross continues to share information to support community preparation, response and recovery related to COVID 19 and adding more content all the time <https://www.redcross.org.au/stories/covid-19>

Recovery

Red Cross has screened free recovery webinars covering a great array of topics. Although most of these have been prepared to support the 'Black Summer' recovery work, many of the learnings can be applied to COVID and the recovery from other events. Recent additions include an 'Anniversaries and Memorials' session and Rob Gordon presenting on 'Tackling uncertainty and anxiety ahead of the next disaster season'.

National Bushfire Recovery

- Nationally Red Cross is working to support bushfire affected across the country. A team of 26 recovery workers will provide long term recovery programs over the next three years. The compounding impacts of COVID have meant these workers have been focused on innovative ways of providing psychosocial support during the last few months.
- The Bushfire Grants program continues to be expanded and thus far has distributed more the \$239 million. For more information on how these funds are being spent visit here <https://www.redcross.org.au/news-and-media/news/australian-bushfires-how-we-are-using-funds>

Preparedness

- Red Cross worked together with the ABC on the three part TV series, 'Big Weather and How to Survive It' which aired in October and can now be watched on iView <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/big-weather-and-how-to-survive-it>
- The program promoted the Red Cross' Preparedness App <https://www.redcross.org.au/get-help/emergencies/preparing-for-emergencies/get-prepared-app> as well as the 'Big Weather Ready Together Toolkit' which has been designed specifically to support people to organise a virtual or in person #ReadyTogether event in support of the Big Weather and How to Survive it series. Please feel free to use and promote the digital version of the toolkit to support community led preparedness activities in your community. Please note that the series does contain some very strong imagery and I'd suggest you mention this when you send this toolkit on. There is a warning about this on the back page of this toolkit.
- The Perth Hills Preparedness project working in partnership with the City of Swan, Shire of Mundaring and City of Kalamunda was publicly launched. The project has been funded by the State Emergency Management Committee through the National Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP). For more information please email wapreparedness@redcross.org.au

Key Messages

- Follow our Emergency Services (WA) Facebook Page for updated posts: <https://www.facebook.com/RedCrossEmergencyServicesWA/>
- Key messages and support tips are continually updated on the Australian Red Cross website: <https://www.redcross.org.au/>

7.2 Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions

- Nil – not in attendance.

7.3 Department of Communities – Roma Boucher

- I attended our Emergency Services Unit conference in Northam with presentations and topics of interest being:
 - Emergency Management in the Wheatbelt
 - DC/Community Services restructure and strategic direction; meeting Geraldine Carlton, recently appointed DC Executive Director EM - Welfare Emergency Controller
 - Workshop – Contemporary Emergency Welfare Preparedness
 - BOM presentation by Bradley Santos and Rob Lawry – Severe Weather/Floods
 - Workshop - Management of Welfare Centres (CoVid-19 lens)
 - Planning and tasking for the coming season
 - Exercise – Burning Ring of Fires
- Recently there have been two items released by the SW OASG –
 - CoVid-19 Welfare Centre Guidelines (please refer to Attachment 7.3.1) – an interim document to provide guidance to our staff and other key agencies in managing welfare centres, whilst mitigating CoVid-19 risks to the community and in preparation for this summer season.
 - South West Local CoVid-19 Annexure (please refer to Attachment 7.3.2) – to be read in conjunction with the guidelines referred above and relative to each Local Government (LG). Each LG is asked to provide individual information to the annexure and seeking key information in the areas of population, vulnerable groups, health services, critical supplies, emergency accommodation, access, communications arrangements, cultural considerations and risk analysis that may impede welfare provision for this area.

- I wrote to the 12 SW LG's on 13 August and 14 October requesting a review of the pre-determined welfare centres in relation to CoVid-19 physical distancing requirements, i.e. capacity figures for both 2sqm (short term) and 4sqm (overnight or longer). When the information is available and in preparation for the summer season, I am required to update the local welfare plans and the State Welfare Centre database. **Note: the latter database is available to WA Police and Hazard Management Agencies. This item has now been completed.** It would also be helpful to have a copy of any COVID Safety Plan Certificates issued for your facilities; together with any advice as to whether you have partitioning/barriers that could be utilised to section areas, separate entry/exit points etc.

Further to the above report, Roma provided the meeting with the following additional updates:

- The Department has been activated for two bushfire events recently as follows:
 - Beaufortia Bushfire from 20 January 2021**
 - Watch & Act was issued at 1323hrs;
 - We were contacted mid-afternoon by Louise Stokes from Shire of Nannup re a fire in the locality of Darradup, approximately 35 kilometres from Nannup. DBCA/Parks & Wildlife Service had contacted Louise re the fire and asked for an evacuation centre to be set up. Louise thought there would be about 6 residents who would present to register but would have alternative places to go. Louise indicated she would open the centre and contact us if the incident elevated. An ISG was held at 1700hrs with agencies; with the final ISG on Friday 22 Feb but able to be reinstated if the event escalated. In all 12 people registered and some people camped on the Foreshore overnight by arrangement with the Acting Ranger.
 - All clear was issued on 24 January when the event was now contained and controlled. Cause of the fire was lightning.
 - Yallingup Bushfires for 6 February 2021**
 - Emergency warning was issued at 1902hrs.
 - We were contacted by Vik Cheema at 1858hrs re a fast-moving, rural/urban interface bushfire threatening Yallingup townsite and Injidup. Later alerts were issued for Quedjinup, Yallingup and Naturaliste. It was anticipated roads would be closed and many people may be displaced. We arranged for the Geographe Leisure Centre (GLC) to be opened by the City's Facilities team and our staff arrived at the centre from 2130hrs, including with a trailer with bedding (6 staff). No affected persons came to the GLC and we were advised to close at 2255hrs.
 - Steady rain was received over the region from a low which travelled down the State; several severe weather warnings and DFES alerts were also received in relation to this event.
 - All clear was issued for Injidup on Sunday 7 February and later in the day for Quedjinup, Yallingup and Naturalise. Cause of the fire is suspicious/deliberately lit.
- PPE kits update:
 - State Government is arranging for a small PPE kit to be available at Local Governments in readiness for an emergency activation.
 - As per my emails, I understand the 1st part of the PPE order has arrived at our Busselton office; I'm still waiting on the 2nd order to arrive and will then arrange packing and delivery of 25 kits for the SW.

7.4 Department of Fire and Emergency Services Area Officer Leeuwin LSW – Tim Wall

The Bushfire Centre of Excellence

- Had the official opening on Monday 25 January - The building consists of an administration wing and a training wing linking off opposite sides of a central foyer to form a boomerang shape. Designed as a public entrance and education space, the foyer will feature an interpretive learning centre, library, shared meeting spaces and reception area. three large training rooms and a series of smaller training rooms with capacity to support training in virtual reality and bushfire management systems and software. Training is developed and delivered collaboratively with a range of stakeholders suited to the subject matter. This includes the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCAs) who we are currently working with to review and refine courses in planned burning, Fireline construction, machine supervision and plantation fire suppression.

WAEMTC

- WA Emergency Management Training Centre, or WAEMTC Project is undertaking detailed planning for a new training academy, specifically designed for the needs of both volunteer and career personnel. Detailed investigations of the location, facility and functional training design and colocation options are currently underway. Following the detailed planning, the project will develop a detailed business case for government, presenting the preferred location, facility and prop design, colocation partners, budget and transition plans.
- Consultation has begun with volunteers, career personnel and other emergency management agencies and will continue throughout the planning phase. Consultation is important for the project to understand the needs and functional requirements of all end-users to ensure a fit-for-purpose and realistic training facility is designed.
- As the new facility will require different ways of working, the development of a Target Operating Model is also within scope and will be explored in parallel with the facility and functional training design investigations.
- The project will also be looking to increase collaboration with other emergency management agencies who can use the facility for their operational training including the Australian Federal Police, WA Police, Department of Justice – Corrective Services, St John Ambulance and Australian Defence Force.

Emergency Services Radio Network (ESRN)

- The Government of Western Australian is investing more than \$60 million for part one of a multi-stage project to build a shared emergency services radio network (ESRN). This network will be utilised by DFES, West Australian Police Force, Department of Justice and Department of Health (St John Ambulance). It will comprise of a digital trunked radio network and will operate across the extended Metropolitan Area and Albany, Bunbury, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Port Hedland and Karratha (click to view coverage area).
- The ESRN business case comprises four parts (tranches) over eight years. Tranche 1 focuses on mitigating the immediate operational risks until such time as the ESRN is developed. Tranche one is expected to take 3 years to complete.

Bush Fire Awareness Campaign – My Bushfire Plan App

- DFES has developed an online bushfire preparedness platform that enables Western Australians to create robust bushfire plans. My Bushfire Plan is an intuitive online platform where the community can prepare, store, print, share and update their bushfire plan any time, from any device.

The above report was received after the distribution of the Agenda, but prior to the meeting being held. The above information replaces the previous report published in the Agenda.

District Emergency Management Advisor SW – Vik Cheema

STATE

Funding

- The AWARE grant round for 2020-21 opened at 12pm (midday) Monday 2 November 2020 and closed at 12pm (midday) Friday 11 December 2020.
- The *All West Australians Reducing Emergencies* (AWARE) program aims to enhance WA's Emergency Management arrangements by investing in capacity building and preparedness activities at a local level. Each round of AWARE sets priority categories to be addressed via a competitive grant round.
- The current agreement sets out to distribute \$230,000 to WA local governments via a competitive grant round to projects that fall into one or more of the following categories:
 - Furthering the emergency risk management process
 - Facilitating capability-based exercises
 - Assisting in reviewing Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA)
 - Delivering emergency management training
 - Hosting or facilitating emergency management events or forums
- Local governments are encouraged to submit individual or joint applications.
- For further information please see the link <https://semc.wa.gov.au/funding/aware>

District – South West

- South West District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) met on 13 October 2020. Highlights of the meeting were:
 - COVID-19 current status and preparedness update from the WACHS
 - Bushfire Season Preparedness briefings
 - Increased tourism and travellers to the SW region
 - Agency briefs/updates
 - Bushfire CRC Seasonal Outlook

Local

- A series of LEMC exercises to test the Incident Support Group (ISG) meeting arrangements were facilitated across the SW region. The exercise schedule was:

LEMC	Exercise Date
Nannup	Wednesday, 4 Nov
Dardanup	Wednesday, 11 Nov
Bridgetown-Greenbushes	Tuesday, 17 Nov
Collie	Wednesday, 18 Nov
Donnybrook Balingup	Tuesday, 24 Nov
Boyup Brook	Wednesday, 25 Nov
Bunbury	Thursday, 26 Nov
Augusta Margaret River	Thursday, 17 Dec
Busselton	Tuesday, 1 Dec
Capel	Wednesday, 2 Dec
Harvey	N/A
Manjimup	Tuesday, 15 Dec

LEMC ISG Exercise Post-Exercise Report – Augusta Margaret River

- The LEMC ISG Exercise for the Shire of Augusta Margaret River was held on Thursday, 17 December 2020 via the Microsoft Teams App, and was facilitated by Vik Cheema, DFES District Emergency Management Advisor South West.
- A Post-Exercise Report has been compiled for your information (*please refer to Attachment 7.4.1*).

7.5 Department of Health – Marie Tweedie
Margaret River and Augusta Hospital (WACHS-SW)
COVID

- Approx. 150 swabs were taken last week between Margaret River and Augusta
- Visor vaccine to be rolled out at the end of this month
- Storage needs to be at -70 degrees and not all hubs are able to provide
- Rolled out at end of month – Visor 1 vaccine
- Requires storage at very low temps (-70 degrees)
- Rollout Hubs to include:
 - Broome
 - Peel
 - Fiona Stanley
 - Kalgoorlie
 - Great Southern
- Issued to First Line Workers (e.g. ED/ICU staff, etc.)
- Training of extra Nurses to administer vaccine and be deployed if necessary
- Second rollout scheduled for end of March (incl LSW and Aged Care Workers)

Fire Training

- Staff are scheduled to receive in-house fire training in March if the facilitator can attend from Melbourne.

The above report was provided at the meeting.

In addition to the information above, Marie Tweedie also spoke about the No-Notice Bushfire Event that was held in December, stating the event was well attended. Copies of the Post-Exercise Reports from both Augusta and Margaret River are attached for your information (please refer to Attachment 8.1.1 and 8.1.2).

7.6 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – Emily Lewis
DPIRD COVID19 Update

- DPIRD continues to support wider State Emergency Management Arrangements across the State.

Biosecurity Incidents and Responses – Update

- Queensland Fruit Fly (Qfly) - DPIRD continues to respond to Qfly operations within Coolbellup since Dec 2020. Eradication and surveillance activities will be managed in accordance with the National Fruit Fly Management Protocol.
- Browsing Ant response has transition to a National program, DPIRD activities are focussed on surveillance to verify eradication across the State.
- Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) response has transition to a National program, surveillance activities are focused on establishing 'Proof of Freedom' to prove the pest has been eradicated.
- Ehrlichia canis (Ehrlichiosis) DPIRD is conducting surveillance for the disease and has conditions on dogs moving out of northern WA to reduce the risk of the disease spreading to southern WA.
- Additional information on these pests are available at www.agric.wa.gov.au.

Woolaroo Bushfire Incident Response – Animal Welfare

- Below is a link to a presentation from our Director General today on the current status of DPIRD's role in the current bushfire emergency as Animal Welfare lead agency. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUD10HQy1nc>

7.7 Shire Bush Fire Brigades – David Holland

Operational Incidents/issues

- We have assisted DBCA at the Nannup/Darradup fire with an evening shift.
- We had a task force ready to assist at Gingin but were stood down prior to departure.
- Assisting with resourcing requirements for the Level 3 Wooroloo incident.

Training Courses conducted

- Planning is underway for the local training program for 2021, with calendar to be finalised shortly.

Procedures

- Nil

Appliances/Facilities

- Appliance replacement program for this year to include, Light Tankers for Witchcliffe, Wallcliffe and Rosa Brook. The Karridale 3.4 has been delivered.

Administration

- A Total Fire Ban was implemented for 9 January by DFES for our Shire, along with most of the South West. As we were expecting strong dry winds with low humidity and elevated temperatures, we also declared a Vehicle Movement and Harvest Ban.

In addition to the above report, David Holland added that some of the Shire Brigades assisted at the Yallingup/Injidup fires on Saturday evening and commented that the incident was well run.

Shire President, Ian Earl, thanked and commended all involved.

7.8 Shire Human and Community Services – Jason Cleary

- COVID-19 funding program underway.
- COVID Recovery Impact Survey completed.
- COVID Review of Emergency Recovery Procedures completed.
- Participated in test exercises with DFES and Dept. of Communities.
- Review of internal Shire business continuity planning in emergency response.
- Update of all internal emergency preparedness documentation.
- Review of evacuation facilities in line with Dept. Communities Welfare Centre Guidelines in relation to COVID-19 risks. Require formalised procedures and/or induction of Shire staff to conduct COVID screening and management of potential isolating or COVID positive evacuees within the updated welfare centre guidelines, including associated procedures relating to the use and disposal of PPE. Request for information on how this would be serviced in the case of an actual evacuation and support for inducting staff in health management processes from qualified staff.

The above updated report above was received after the distribution of the Agenda, but prior to the meeting being held.

7.9 State Emergency Services – Adrian Yates

Incidents & Events

- **Missing person:** Three searches during the two quarters: Margaret River, Yallingup, and Warner Glen.
- **Ambulance assist:** Six callouts for injured persons at Kilcarnup (x2), the Wadandi track, the River Mouth, Carter's Rd mountain bike and Lefthanders at Gracetown. Three were stood down en-route.
- **Storm damage:** One minor incident each in September and October.
- **Water bomber:** One day of reloading for Yallingup fires in December.

Training

- Members attended on-road driving, radio, mental health, vertical rescue, team leader and first aid training courses.
- Vertical Rescue team training in collaboration with caving groups to support cave response capability.
- Three SES volunteers across the region completed SES Search Commander training, enhancing local capability to support land searches.
- Weekly Monday-night training proceeding well with 15-20 members. Training recommenced 25 Jan, cancelled 1 Feb, plan to start 2021 training calendar on 8 Feb.
- Annual Water bomber reload, turnover, and fire safety training all completed in November/December.
- Interagency Land/Marine Search exercise with WAPOL/Marine Rescue/SES completed November 15.
- Regional flood boat training day conducted at Alexandra Bridge in December.

Administration and Other

- AGM held on 31 August. Welcome to incoming Training Manager, Carrie-Ann Phillips; Deputy Local Managers, David Glasson and Petrina Yates.
- Membership steady at 33 members. Recruitment ad published with good response; information night postponed until 15 February due to COVID lockdown.
- GRU (General Rescue Utility) Isuzu D-Max trialled by the unit during September. Some concerns over off-road capability and ability to transport more than 4 members, but storage pod is well-designed for storm damage incidents. Concerns are shared by SES units across the state with SESVA and DFES holding meetings to discuss issues.
- Vertical Rescue training tower enhancements approved by DFES and project manager appointed. These include safety upgrades, lighting, an enclosed space for cave rescue training and a staircase for general rescue training. Lighting installed. Designs work with Margaret River engineering.
- Collaborating with VFRS and DFES on site plans for the adjacent fire station, ensuring suitable access to SES facilities in case of major incidents.
- Replacement telephone system was installed in June, transfer of services completed in December. Thanks to AMR Shire and CESH for working with Telstra to resolve.
- Concept approval form submitted for ablutions in the shed to supplement the two toilets at the SES facility.
- Compiling unit history – please get in touch if you have documents or were involved in the AMR SES during the 1970s – 2000s.
- DFES has approved the use of handheld VHF radios with repeaters. SES duty officer will carry a VHF radio to maintain contact with members during incidents.
- Flood boat confirmed by DFES for replacement later in 2021. We have some concerns over the intended vessel due to height, draft and size which will limit capability in the Blackwood and Margaret Rivers. Ongoing discussions with DFES.
- Met with Augusta Marine Rescue for familiarisation and our unit is available to support waterbomber refill at Augusta.

7.10 St John Ambulance

Augusta – Brendan Jordan

- Took possession of new Mercedes in October 2020 which replaced the 10-year old vehicle.
- Various agencies such as Volunteer Marine Rescue and VFRS, assisted St John in facilitating the Exploring Emergency Services Program for the Year 6 students at Augusta Primary School.
- The Program received National recognition in the form of an award.
- The Program is in its third year and will continue to run annually.
- St John's has been extremely busy with lots of transfers to Margaret River, Busselton and Bunbury.

The above report was provided at the meeting.

Margaret River – Dane Hendry

- Increase in caseloads across the Capes in 2020, even with the decrease in April/May due to COVID response.
- Increase in workload and subsequent impacting on services, etc.
- Still responding as required to COVID directives.
- Weekly updates continue.
- Keeping on top of PPE supplies across the state.
- 2021 IT Training System yet to be released.
- Upgrade to radio network with some teething issues linking into statewide system.
- Increase in radio coverage in LSW.
- Recent change to management structure with appointment of new Assistant Regional Manager.

The above report was provided at the meeting.

7.11 Surf Life Saving WA – Mike Matraszek

Operations

Lifeguard

- Services at Margaret Rivermouth Beach expected to start in line with start of school holidays.
- Services started at Meelup and Bunker Bay. Services expected to start at Yallingup and Smiths Beach in line with start of school holidays.

Wesfarmers Emergency Response Team

- Mobilisation of team, including resources from Margaret River SLSC, to support search for missing person at Injidup Spa in late October.

Aerial Surveillance

Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter

- Lifesaver 69 began daily operations on 21 November 2020 which will continue through to end of school holidays when the service will return to weekends only. Service is available between 0700HRS and 1700HRS with patrols conducted between Bunbury and Hamelin Bay.

Other

Contact Points for resourcing requests

- Tasking / Resource Requests
 - SurfCom via 9207 6688 – available 0600HRS to 1800HRS, 7 days per week through to end of April
- All Other Requests
 - Mike Matraszek - Operations Supervisor (in region) via 0429 236 319

SLSWA Development Centre

- Redevelopment will commence in early 2021.
- Intended to provide a location to conduct / base centralised training programs and development camps; including interagency MSAR training or scenarios.

7.12 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

Augusta

- Nil – not in attendance.

Margaret River

- Nil – not in attendance.

7.13 Volunteer Marine Rescue

Augusta – Herman Gerritsen

- Group has carried out several rescues mainly consisting vessels which have broken down and requiring a tow back to safe waters.
- Taken delivery of the “Tom Reed” to replace the RV Ryall which is undergoing it’s 10-year refit.
- Group has completed its part of the “Exploring Emergency Services” programme which is run in collaboration with local primary school and looks at the benefits of volunteering with emergency services.
- We now have a complete set of working plans for the proposed new building in the Augusta Boat Harbour. An area has been allocated by D.O.T. and we are looking for funds to get the project underway. Several meetings have been held with DFES and other stakeholders.
- After doing some training on filling Water Bombers, the group was immediately put into action and spent 2 days filling planes fighting the fire at Black Point.

Margaret River – Michael Beasley

- We have had a number of call outs since the last meeting, including three in January. All were fuel and break down rescues only.
- Our group provided water safety at the Eagle Bay Epic event at Dunsborough on 7 and 8 November.
- Our training regime continues to schedule.
- We are hoping to commence a refit of our larger vessel early this year.
- A number of our members brought themselves up to par through attending a First Aid course in Margaret River provided by St John.
- Refurb to our shed put off until beginning of March 2021.
- Group engaged in usual rounds of training, asset upkeep and maintenance.

In addition to the above report, Michael also reported that:

- Receiving far more recruitment enquires from both genders of the younger demographic.
- New tug will be well within the ratings.
- Undertaking on electronic navigation equipment training.

7.14 WA Police

Augusta – David Wall

- Busy following COVID, with slight spike in crime.
- No serious road crashes in the Augusta area.
- Few marine rescues.

The above report was provided at the meeting.

In addition to the above report, David Wall informed the Committee of Luke Fowler’s recent promotion to Senior Sergeant. The Chair and members extended their congratulations to Luke.

Margaret River – Luke Fowler

- COVID lockdown was a difficult and resource time intensive week, with lots of phone calls from and directive given to the community.
- Week prior saw a minor shark attack in Gracetown with Fisheries still to identify the species but is suspected to be a small shark of some nature.
- Weeks prior saw some serious road crashes on Caves Road, two that were within eight hours of each other but not linked.
- Emergency Management support received from St John and Fire & Rescue.

The Chair thanked Luke, and all involved for their efforts in responding to the road crash incidents.

7.15 Water Corporation – Josh Jackson Events

- It has been a record production summer for us here in Leeuwin. We had 3 weeks in a row record production for Margaret River and Dunsborough. We are at good storage levels in the 10-mile dam, and the Mowen bore continues to top up the counter high consumptions and maintain storage levels for supply. The peak was prolonged and overall water production and Wastewater treatment are up on average by 20%.
- We have completed the fire protection sprinkler setup for 10-mile WTP with many thanks going to Adam Jasper and Mark Norris for accommodating many visits and questions about the DFES asset protection trailer and associated gear. This now sees us better protected in the case of a fire in the 10-mile catchment. The setup is based on the water in the pipeline from 10-mile WTP to the Lilly Road tank and doesn't affect town supply. It can run continuously after a power failure for up to 3 days. This means we have a better chance of quickly getting the asset up and running once safe to re-enter after a fire event.

Current Projects

- The Eagle Bay tank replacement. Tripling the capacity on the site.
- Cape Naturaliste pump station (Genset power back up on site).
- Allnut Tce Augusta power backup and pipe work replacement.
- Vasse diversion drain flood protection for Busselton works. An estimated \$53 million will be spent of flood protection of the Busselton City. The works will enable the drainage system in conjunction with the Compensating Basins to handle the flows generated from a 1 in 1000-year event. Currently capable to handle a 1 in 55-year event.
- The Gnarabup refurbishment project is completed. The project has not increased capacity but is improving the outflows overall with a hardware/aeration upgrade. A quality not quantity upgrade. This will run over the next few months. We have also placed 6 new bores around the site to better monitor the outputs to the environment from the plant.

COVID-19

- We found, as with everyone else, ourselves back in lockdown on Sunday. We were able to quickly reinstate protocols and the planned work went ahead without issue on Monday. There were some lessons learnt on masks and storage levels out in the districts early, but we were able to continue service with no disruptions to staff resourcing or customer supply.

The above report was received after the distribution of the Agenda, but prior to the meeting being held.

8.0 General business

8.1 MRDH No-Notice Bushfire Event – Marie Tweedie, WACHS

- The WACHS-SW held a No-Notice Bushfire Event, facilitated Brooke Neal of the WACHS-SW Disaster Planning Team, at 9am on 10 December at the Margaret River District Hospital.
- LEMC members were invited to attend the first portion of the day from 9.00am to 10.15am.
- Each stakeholder was given the opportunity to give a brief 5-10-minute discussion on their worksite plan and the role that they play in the event of a bushfire.
- Copies of the Post-Exercise Reports from both Augusta and Margaret River are attached for your information (*please refer to Attachment 8.1.1 and 8.1.2*).

8.2 Public Emergency Contact Directory – Adam Jasper, CESM

- The Public Emergency Contact Directory forms part of the Appendices to the Shire of Augusta Margaret River Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA).
- The Public Emergency Contact Directory is to be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure the information contained within the document remains current and correct.
- The document has been re-branded in line with the Shire's corporate style guide and was distributed to all LEMC members for review, with feedback and updates requested prior to this LEMC meeting.
- The final draft of the Public Emergency Contact Directory will be distributed to LEMC members as an Attachment to this Agenda, for final review (*please refer to Attachment 8.2.1*).
- The document is to be endorsed by the LEMC, with subsequent endorsement by Council.
- Following endorsement by Council, a final version of the document will be distributed for replacement in the LEMA Appendices.

Following a brief discussion, where one further amendment was recorded on the document, the following recommendation was proposed:

RECOMMENDATION/LEMC DECISION LEMC2021/02

That the Local Emergency Management Committee endorses the Shire of Augusta Margaret River Public Emergency Contact Directory (*Attachment 8.2.1*) to be included as Appendix 7 of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements, replacing all subsequent versions of the document.

Moved: Brendan Jordan, St John Ambulance – Augusta

Seconded: Marie Tweedie, WACHS

Carried: 12/0

8.3 Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (Confidential) – Adam Jasper, CESM

- The Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (Confidential) forms part of the Appendices to the Shire of Augusta Margaret River Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA).
- The Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (Confidential) is to be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure the information contained within the document remains current and correct.
- The document has been re-branded in line with the Shire's corporate style guide and was distributed to all LEMC members for review, with feedback and updates requested prior to this LEMC meeting.
- The final draft of the Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (Confidential) will be distributed to LEMC members as a Confidential Attachment to this Agenda, for final review (*please refer to Confidential Attachment 8.3.1*).
- The confidential document is to be endorsed by the LEMC, with subsequent endorsement by Council.
- Following endorsement by Council, a final version of the confidential document will be distributed for replacement in the LEMA Appendices.

Following a brief discussion, where a few further amendments were recorded on the confidential document, the following recommendation was proposed:

RECOMMENDATION/LEMC DECISION LEMC2021/03

That the Local Emergency Management Committee endorses the Shire of Augusta Margaret River Confidential Emergency Contacts and Resource Directory (*Attachment 8.3.1*) to be included as Appendix 1 of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements, replacing all subsequent versions of the document.

Moved: Brendan Jordan, St John Ambulance – Augusta

Seconded: Marie Tweedie, WACHS

Carried: 12/0

9.0 Matters for which the meeting may be closed (Confidential Items)

Nil

10.0 Closure of meeting

Before the closure of the meeting, the Chair called for any final items of discussion.

As there were no further items to discuss, the Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting was closed at 5.13pm.