

Augusta Margaret River Local Emergency Management Committee

Minutes

For the meeting held
Tuesday, 11 August 2020
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 11 August 2020, 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**

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: 20 May 2020**
- 6.0 Business arising from previous minutes**
 - 6.1 Action List**
- 7.0 Reports from Shire Officers and Delegates**
 - 7.1 Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions**
 - 7.2 Department of Communities**
 - 7.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services**
 - 7.4 Department of Health**
 - 7.5 Shire Bush Fire Brigades**
 - 7.6 Shire Human and Community Services**
 - 7.7 State Emergency Services**
 - 7.8 St John Ambulance**
 - 7.9 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service**
 - 7.10 Volunteer Marine Rescue**
 - 7.11 WA Police**
 - 7.12 Water Corporation**
- 8.0 General business**
 - 8.1 Hypothetical Desktop Exercise – Water Corporation – 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 4.34pm.

2.0 Attendance / Apologies / Non-attendance

2.1 Attendance

Committee Members

Roma Boucher	:	Department of Communities
Peter Thomas	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Adrian Yates	:	Augusta Margaret River State Emergency Service (SES)
Dane Hendry	:	St John Ambulance – Margaret River
Michael Beasley	:	Volunteer Marine Rescue – Margaret River
Brett Sowden	:	WA Police – Margaret River
Josh Jackson	:	Water Corporation

Shire Staff Members

Paula Cristoffanini	:	Deputy Chairperson/Councillor
Adam Jasper	:	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
Nigel Anderson	:	Manager Human and Community Services
Nick Logan	:	Director Sustainable Development and Infrastructure Services
Lisa Garstone	:	Emergency Services Admin Officer/Minute Secretary

Observers

Nathan Hall	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Vik Cheema (4.37pm)	:	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

2.2 Apologies

Ian Earl	:	Shire President/Chairperson
Stephanie Addison-Brown	:	Shire Chief Executive Officer
David Holland	:	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)
Hal Snyder	:	Department of Communities
Brendan Jordan	:	St John Ambulance – Augusta
Herman Gerritsen	:	Volunteer Marine Rescue – Augusta
Luke Fowler	:	WA Police – Margaret River/ Local Emergency Coordinator
David Wall	:	WA Police – Augusta
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: 20 May 2020

RECOMMENDATION/LEMC DECISION LEMC2020/03

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held 20 May 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Josh Jackson, Water Corporation

Seconded: Michael Beasley, Volunteer Marine Rescue – Margaret River

Carried: 8/0

Vik Cheema (DFES) entered the meeting at 4.37pm.

6.0 Business arising from previous minutes

6.1 Action List

Date	Action Item	Action Update	Status	Actioning Officer
12/02/19	Nathan to send through the spreadsheet from the Hypothetical power outage exercise to the LEMC to review and add notes. This will then go in as a Confidential Attachment in the Local Emergency Management Arrangements.	<p>Info sent through in regard to alternative power supplies and diesel and contacts. Also, a list of WAERN repeater sites across the region.</p> <p>This now needs to go in as a Confidential Attachment in the Local Emergency Management Arrangements.</p> <p>The hypotheticals are ongoing. Will pick the next topic from the high/extreme risk section of the Shires risk register. Will meet with Adam to work together.</p> <p>13/08/19: Nathan confirmed DFES has updated and confirmed repeater sites. Will release to Adam tomorrow. Identifying how long communication towers may last for during power outage. May want to use as an appendix in Arrangements.</p> <p>12/11/19: Nathan has been deployed over East. Roll over to next meeting.</p> <p>11/2/20: Rollover Nathan has been deployed.</p> <p>20/5/20: Rollover to August meeting.</p> <p>11/08/20: Hypothetical Power Outage Exercise has been distributed to LEMC. Shire now to ensure it is included as a Confidential Attachment in the LEMA. Action can now be marked as complete.</p>	Complete	Nathan Hall and Adam Jasper
15/05/19	Will need to look at better ways of managing aircraft refuelling at Augusta.	13/08/19: Info passed through from Aero Club, Augusta. Dave passed to Shire.	In progress	David Holland, Nick Logan, Adam Jasper,

Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes: 11 August 2020

		<p>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>		Leisa Prangnell and RFDS
13/08/19	Members to review draft Red Cross MOU and provide comment for endorsement at November meeting.	<p>12/11/19: General business item. Roll over for further discussion pending the outcomes from the State Government review into non-prescribed events.</p> <p>11/2/20: Roll over to next meeting as Nigel is not in attendance.</p> <p>20/5/20: Still waiting on feedback from Dept. Communities. Nigel to liaise with Roma.</p> <p>11/08/20: No further action required by LEMC. Shire to Liaise with Dept. Communities. Action can now be marked as complete.</p>	Complete	Nigel Anderson and Roma Boucher
13/08/19	Luke, David and Adam to look into communications i.e. UHF radio contacts between local fire brigade and Police.	<p>12/11/19: Luke and Adam have started communications.</p> <p>11/2/20: Nothing to report as yet. Brendan Jordan stated that the St John's ambulances all have WAERN radios.</p> <p>20/5/20: Rollover to August meeting.</p>	Complete	Luke Fowler, David Holland and Adam Jasper

Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes: 11 August 2020

		<p>11/08/20: No further action required from LEMC. To be managed locally between Shire and relevant agencies. Action can now be marked as complete.</p>		
13/08/19	Members to forward information/responses from the hypothetical exercise through to Katie for Nathan to compile and report back on outcomes at the November LEMC.	<p>12/11/19: Deferred to next meeting.</p> <p>11/2/20: Roll over to next meeting as no responses received as yet.</p> <p>20/5/20: Rollover to August meeting.</p> <p>11/08/20: Hypothetical Human Pandemic Exercise has been distributed to LEMC. Action can now be marked as complete.</p>	Complete	ALL
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> <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>	In progress	ALL

7.0 Reports from Shire Officers and Delegates

7.1 Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions

- Nil – not in attendance.

7.2 Department of Communities – Roma Boucher

- The Department has been busy with planning and arrangements in support of activation of the State Hazard Plan Human Biosecurity and State Emergency Welfare Plan (SEWP) with the following activities:
 - SW OASG meetings with HMA, Dept of Health and DEMC agencies on Tuesdays at 10am (commenced weekly, then monthly and moving forward, anticipate going back to fortnightly during the current period).
 - Fortnightly SW Recovery Group Meetings, convened by Vik Cheema, District Advisor, SW LGs and various agencies on every second Thursday at 2pm – postponed until the State Recovery plan was released.
 - Fortnightly (previously weekly) ES Unit meeting with DC Director of Emergency Services, unit staff and DESOs.
 - There has been much work being done by Metro DESOs at Perth airport, isolation stations and setting up the COVID Helpline call centre. Some work in the Goldfields and Kimberley with border closures and people required to complete isolation/quarantine.
 - Variety of phone calls re SW LG issues – transient travellers, homelessness, welfare issues, etc.
 - Earlier work identifying accommodation facilities and food supply in the SW.
- During the last quarter, I have on some occasions worked with other agencies to arrange accommodation, food supply and welfare support for people requiring quarantine in the South West. This work has presented some interesting issues and I suspect most people aren't aware people do quarantine in the local District.
- Recently there have been two items released by the SEMC:
 - WA State Recovery Plan for CoVid-19; and
 - Advice regarding the amendments to sections of the State Emergency Management Framework and a revised State Support Plan – Emergency Welfare (interim).

In addition to the above report, Roma advised the meeting that their borders have recently changed and have now picked up the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and Shire of Manjimup.

7.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services District Emergency Management Advisor SW – Vik Cheema STATE Policy Updates

Prior to running through his report, Vik made note regarding the policy update, that the pandemic was unprecedented, and normally local governments have a very specific recovery role on behalf of the community. However, due to the scale of the disaster and its impact, it is challenging the government and recovery at all levels. Therefore, the State will lead the recovery, supported by national and local governments, but local governments still have a very important role to play.

- Please be advised the State Emergency Management (EM) Policy and Plan have been amended to facilitate the State Government approved whole of government approach to Western Australia's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The amendments were approved by the SEMC on 21 July 2020 (SEMC Resolution Number 42/2020).
- The inclusion of appendix AA in State Emergency Management Policy and Plan permits the State Recovery Controller to continue leading the whole of government approach to Western Australia's recovery from COVID-19, whilst removing the responsibility of the HMA/Controlling Agency and Local Governments recovery functions as prescribed in the State Emergency Management Framework. The implemented changes are a consequence from a Ministerial direction issued to the SEMC, which fundamentally is a result from a Cabinet decision. Local Governments will continue to collate data and monitor progress for COVID-19 recovery activities at the request of the State Recovery Controller.

- The SEMC approved the inclusion of the below statement as an Appendix (AA) to both the State EM Policy and Plan:
- APPENDIX AA: COVID-19 RECOVERY
 1. The following five sections of the State Emergency Management Framework are amended such that they do not apply for a period of 12 months retrospectively from the 15 July 2020 for recovery activities undertaken by the pandemic caused by virus COVID-19:
 - i. State Emergency Management Policy 6.2 Role of Controlling Agency
 - ii. State Emergency Management Plan 6.2 Commencement of Recovery
 - iii. State Emergency Management Plan 6.4.1 Impact Statement
 - iv. State Emergency Management Plan 6.5 Role of Local Government in Recovery
 - v. State Emergency Management Plan 6.8 State Level Recovery Plan
 2. These five sections continue to apply for all other emergencies.

In addition to the above amendments, the SEMC recently approved (SEMC Resolution Number 40/2020) a revised State Support Plan – Emergency Welfare (Interim). It is acknowledged that further work and consultation will be undertaken on the Plan following the completion of the Department of Communities emergency services review.

The fundamental principles of the Plan remain unchanged, the main alterations include:

- Naming of the State Welfare Incident Coordination Centre.
- Re-designation of the Department of Communities, Emergency Services Coordinator to the Welfare Emergency Controller.
- Further details regarding scope and responsibilities pertaining to emergency food provision.
- New roles and responsibilities and process flow of activation of the AUSRECPLAN.
- Delegation capacities of the State Welfare Coordinator and Welfare Emergency Controller and emphasis towards scale-ability.
- Other minor expansions of explanation of scope, roles and responsibilities and statement of fact changes.

All documents are now available on the SEMC Website [State EM Policy](#) [State EM Plan](#) [State Support Plan - Emergency Welfare](#), it is strongly advised that all agencies review the updated documents.

Recovery

WA Recovery Plan COVID-19

- WA government has launched a \$5.5 billion WA Recovery Plan with the vision for Western Australia to get back on the road to becoming a thriving and innovative community in which to live, work, visit and do business. Central to the plan is restoring business and consumer confidence, getting people back into work and rebuilding the economy.
- The plan is set around 21 priority streams, ranging from new technologies, local manufacturing and training through to tourism, patient care and the environment. Within each stream is a range of initiatives that may include capital works, grants, programs and projects.
- This plan also outlines the commitments in the priority streams for those areas and people most impacted by the pandemic – regional WA, remote Aboriginal communities, women and young people.
- For further details please check <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/wa-recovery>

SEMC Strategic Plan 2020-2023

- A new SEMC strategic plan for 2020-2023 is currently progressing for approval from the WA state government and it will be released shortly.
- The previous State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) Strategic Plan was published in August 2017. It set the strategic direction in a context far different

from the one in which the SEMC and the broader emergency management environment operate in today.

- The past three years have seen vast changes in emergency management across Australia. The significant impacts of the recent and unprecedented national bushfire and cyclone seasons and the COVID-19 pandemic have tested existing emergency management frameworks.
- While the full extent of these emergencies will take some time to be realised, the proposed Strategic Plan will reflect a renewed foundation for the WA emergency management sector to build a better prepared, more resilient and safer State.

District – South West

- The South West emergency management stakeholders, including local government zone representatives, have been actively engaged in the COVID-19 Operational Area Support Group meetings. The last COVID-19 OASG held on 28 July. WA is currently in Phase 4 of COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the latest health advice, Phase 5 of the WA COVID-19 roadmap, due to be implemented on Saturday, 1 August, has been delayed. The new tentative date will now be Saturday, 15 August. The final decision on whether Phase 5 can proceed is yet to be decided.
- For latest updates, please check <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-latest-updates>
- Planning is underway to facilitate the next SW DEMC meeting (TBC). Additional planning is required to conduct regional level preparedness workshops for the upcoming fire season and DEMA SW is planning to facilitate EM overview, recovery, exercise and lesson management framework. The preparedness workshop will be facilitated for the LEMC Executive Officer, local government recovery coordinators and key EM stakeholders.

Local

- LEMA to be tabled at the next SEMC meeting: Shire of Nannup LEMA.
- 15 June 2020: Letter from SEMC Chair to the local government CEO, strongly encourages emergency management meetings and business as usual activities, such as risk workshops, consultation and emergency management arrangement development, to resume (*please refer to Attachment 7.3.1*).
- 20 July 2020: Letter from the State Recovery Coordinator to the local government CEO, thanking for the ongoing contribution towards the State's recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (*please refer to Attachment 7.3.2*).
- 22 July 2020: A copy of the COVID-19 South West District Impact Statement emailed to the local government CEOs and Recovery Coordinators (*please refer to Attachment 7.3.3*).
- 27 July 2020: State Recovery Plan COVID-19 published <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/wa-recovery-plan>

In addition, Vik advised the meeting that they will continue to engage with the local recovery coordinators and LEMC executives, and as fire season approaches, will be looking to identify any 'gaps' from an Emergency Management point of view.

District Officer Capes LSW – Peter Thomas

DFES LSW INCIDENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Storm 24-25 May

- This even was the most severe in the past two years, with forecast winds to 125km/h. Across the Lower-South West region we received more than 50 Requests for Assistance (RFAs, or callouts) from Sunday after through to Monday night. Approximately two-thirds of these were in the Busselton area (Yallingup to Capel); 10 in Augusta Margaret River, and the remainder across the inland areas. The storm caused structural damage to two properties, with widespread minor damage, uprooting of trees, loss of power, and subsequent loss of telephone and communications networks.
- Approximately 80 SES volunteers responded during the incident, with Donnybrook, Busselton and Margaret River SES units remaining in operation for over 24 hours. The most common callouts were for trees on houses/vehicles and for roof damage.

Storm 28-29 June

- This minor storm resulted in 22 Requests for Assistance (RFAs) across the region; with most (14 RFAs) from the City of Busselton area. Widespread minor damage with roof damage, trees blocking access and minor flooding.

Land Search 30 June

- 33 SES volunteers from across the SW and LSW regions supported WAPOL in searching for a missing person swept off rocks at Wyadup.

VFRS

- As is common this time of year Brigades have had several Road Crash Recue incidents including a Log Truck leaving the road and ending up on its side and a driver in a 4WD towing a caravan lost control and ended up with his vehicle on its side with the caravan lucky remaining on its wheels There has also been an increase in structure fires which together with the colder weather and COVID-19 stay at home restrictions the likely reasons for this.

TRAINING

- Training is starting to increase since the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. We have had an increase in members across the Manjimup District which has placed a demand on training for the VFRS.
- Emphasis over the next 2 months for staff is on upskilling VFRS in Breathing Apparatus procedures for large complex incidents.

7.4 Department of Health – Marie Tweedie **Margaret River and Augusta Hospital (WACHS-SW)** **COVID-19 MRDH**

- DISCEX for testing COVID patient plans completed for both sites.
- Continue with 3 monthly DISCEX to ensure all staff are aware of plans.
- Regional Discecx for maternity plans.
- Testing remains on a weekly basis (x1 day per week).
- Out of hours available if required urgent testing to Busselton.
- Screening of all visitors remain in situ.
- Screening of staff still remains in situ.
- PPE stocks remain adequate.

COVID-19 Augusta

- Testing available if required.
- Zones still in place.
- Screening of all visitors to aged care in situ.
- Screening of staff still remains in situ.
- PPE stocks remain adequate.

Other Business

- Emergency tubing now in situ at front of hospital for access for emergency personal with assistance from Mark Norris.
- Information is current and available for sites in case of emergency.
- Leavers: progression for discussion now that there will not be a Zone this year. Preparation in place for MRDH to be equipped and manned for emergency presentations within the district.

7.5 Shire Bush Fire Brigades – David Holland **Operational Incidents/issues**

- 14 Responses since May 2020: 9 Landscape Fires, 2 calls of concern from public, 3 other/rubbish/vehicle/special service.
- As mentioned at the May LEMC meeting, we were expecting a severe weather event for that coming weekend. As a result of a forecast of warm dry winds with elevated temperatures, DFES enforced a Total Fire Ban for the weekend of 23/24 May. The Shire enforced a Section 46 Notice for Friday 22 May through to Monday 25 May. This is the third year in a row that we have had these severe weather

events in late May/early June, although this year was less severe than previous years. As in previous years compliance with this notice was generally good, however there were several landowners who did light fires on their property without realising the bans that were in place.

Training Courses conducted

- LSW BFB Training Courses are recommencing as of 15/16 August.

Procedures

- Nil

Appliances/Facilities

- Appliance replacement program for this year to include Wallcliffe 3.4 and Light Tankers for Witchcliffe, Wallcliffe and Rosa Brook. Wallcliffe have received their 3.4. The Light Tanker replacement program has settled on a new design to replace the existing appliance type and the rollout of these vehicles is expected to occur later this year.

Administration

- The 2019/20 Mitigation Activity Fund has now been finalised. The 2019/2020 Mitigation Activity Funds were mainly used for mechanical works as planned burning activities were greatly reduced due to the impact of COVID-19.
- The new application for 2020/21 has now been submitted and has been approved by the Rural Fire Division. Shire of AMR risk register has been completed with planning and treatments being developed for these assets, based on the rating achieved, i.e. the assets with the highest risk rating will be treated with a higher priority.
- Due to the COVID-19 issues, Brigades stopped all training and meetings. Turnout procedures were developed to ensure that only a minimum number of crew numbers would respond to an incident in the first instance. With the easing of restrictions, Brigades have mostly returned to normal practices now, however with enhanced hygiene practices.

7.6 Shire Human and Community Services – Nigel Anderson

- The Shire has continued local COVID Recovery in line with changing restrictions within the state.
- All Shire facilities are now operating in a modified format with strict hygiene regimes in place as per recommendations.
- Community Care Package was enacted to look at direct COVID relief needs for local business and community groups. This program is now being transitioned to a model for ongoing recovery focused on a hardship fund, economic stimulus and community resilience.
- Received state govt recovery plan with no further action at this stage.
- Feedback has been given to state recovery team on current local issues and ongoing focus areas.
- Strong tourism sector since borders re-opening.

Nigel advised the meeting that \$406,000 from the Community Care package had already been distributed to 12 recipients.

He added that two more community grants are currently being advertised on the Shire website and through other media, with Council looking at further initiatives at tomorrow night's council meeting.

Nigel also advised that the Red Cross, sponsored by DFES, is reviewing its Disaster Resilience Strategy, and that the Shire has been approached for input following the healing programs they have run in the past.

7.7 State Emergency Services – Adrian Yates Incidents & Events

- Assist other agency: Five incidents during the quarter (Cowaramup 8 May, Contos 21 May, Margaret River 1 June, 3 June, Wilyabrup 20 June). Mostly ambulance assistance in remote locations, with one structural damage incident on Station Rd.
- Severe weather:
 - Major severe weather event on 24-25 May had ICC staffed overnight. 8 RFAs, total 151.2 hours of volunteer time. Loss of power and communications services but backup generator and radio links worked well. There is ongoing clarification on using the 'command' radio links shared by SES, VFRS and BFB.
 - Five other events (Redgate winery 17 June, Brookfield 28 June, Margaret River and Augusta 29 June, 6 July, 2 August)
- Land search: Three land searches during the quarter (Pemberton 22 June, Yallingup 30 June, Margaret River 14 July).

Training

- COVID restrictions relaxed and return to regular SES unit and regional training in July.
- Vertical Rescue and Cave Rescue training in July.
- Members completed storm damage, chainsaw, and flood boat courses.
- Leadership team completed AIIMS, Search Team Leader, Mental Health.
- Weekly Monday night training proceeding well with 15-20 members.
- Planned interagency Land/Marine Search exercise with WAPOL/Marine Rescue/SES for September.

Administration and Other

- Adrian Yates completed A/DO role and returned to unit manager. Dave Hull completed A/Unit Manager role for over four months and did an exceptional job.
- There have been several incidents where VFRS/BFB brigades were deployed by DFES ComCen when SES should be the primary response due to ATU and basket stretcher capability. LSW DFES staff are working with BGUs and ComCen to clarify call-out response.
- AGM scheduled for Monday 31 August at 6.30pm.
- SES working group is exploring options for alternate PPE to better suit cold weather and hot weather.
- A replacement telephone system was installed in June, but ongoing issues with Telstra billing and services are preventing it's use. AMR Shire and CESM are working with Telstra to resolve.
- Tablet devices with 3G mobile connections rolled out to SES vehicles to support managing storm events.
- Replacement General Rescue Utility delayed due to COVID and vehicle weight issues.
- Exploring options for a satellite phone due to loss of communications on several callouts and during two severe weather events.
- Vertical Rescue tower upgrades approved by DFES pending funding.
- Concept approval form submitted for ablutions in the shed to supplement the two toilets at the SES facility.
- The backup generator is now hardwired to the meter box – no more dragging heavy cables around.
- Atmospheric conditions are limiting the ability to communicate with HF radios.
- ESL/LGGS funding approved for 2020/21 financial year and acquittal of 2019/20 FY funding.
- Three new members over the quarter; one before COVID and two since.

7.8 St John Ambulance

Augusta

- Nil – meeting apology.

Margaret River – Dane Hendry

- Training on hold over COVID-19.
- Now catching up on training courses.
- Both Margaret River and Augusta stations have new staff.
- Recent power outage had a significant impact with no phone coverage, relaying on satellite phones, no decent radio connectivity (except for the DFES system).
- Margaret River station has committed to funding to upgrade the radio to a digital network for some level of backup.
- Massive increase in workload since COVID-19 restrictions have lifted.
- All events cancelled during COVID-19 are now being re-booked for later this year, which is already a very busy time of year.
- Leavers Week will be a modified version this year.
- Media strategy led by the Police, will have a variety of different leavers activities, expect to see more leavers in Margaret River area which will have an impact of the provision of service.
- Hospital is also getting extra staff in during the leavers period and increasing ambulance capacity.
- Struggling to maintain the awareness of the pandemic as we still need to practice a level of caution.

The above report was submitted at the meeting.

7.9 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service

Augusta

- Nil – not in attendance.

Margaret River

- Nil – not in attendance.

7.10 Volunteer Marine Rescue

Augusta – Herman Gerritsen

- No major rescues. Two callouts due to mechanical failure.
- Application has been put in for a refit of the RV Ryall.
- Several operational members have volunteered to undertake Level 6 training for Skippers.
- Daniel Pell conducted Seamanship and Basic navigation courses with some of our members over the weekend 1-12 July.
- Building plans have been approved for our new centre at the Augusta boat harbour and we are seeking funds to build it.

Margaret River - Michael Beasley

- Call Outs responded to:
 - 21 May 1653hrs - Ski broken down two occupants. Both taken in tow and ferried to shore. Ski also recovered. No injuries reported.
 - 3 Jun 1334hrs - Surfer reported injured off Mainbreak. Police - Ambulance - Paramedics also in attendance. Surfer rescued and taken to hospital.
 - 19 Jun 0928hrs - Paddle skier reported in water and in trouble sighted by staff at White Elephant Cafe. Skier was rescued by swimmer, before a second similar incident occurred near vicinity. All skiers and swimmers returned safely to shore. Our crews stood down.
- Margaret River Marine Rescue has managed to maintain full sea rescue services during the Covid19 period, while observing extra isolation and sanitary precautions.
- A number of in-house courses have been conducted including 'Navigation' and 'Communications' refreshers, as well as induction courses for new members.

- Our main vessel (RV Brems) is due for a ten-year refit, and discussions with DFES have taken place recently to prioritise items for replacement.
- Our Boat Shed at Gracetown recently received structural roof rust repairs, as well as the replacement of ageing roller doors and interior lighting.

In addition, Michael advised the meeting of an inter-agency course on 20 September which will include a regional exercise useful for communications.

7.11 WA Police

Augusta

- Nil – meeting apology.

Margaret River – Brett Sowden

- Crime has been down, but what we have lost there, we have made up for in COVID-19 tasks, such as quarantine checks, etc.
- A few new staff members arriving in the next few weeks.
- Reduced numbers in the area is easing the pressure; however, it is still extremely busy.

The above report was submitted at the meeting.

7.12 Water Corporation – Josh Jackson

Events

- It has been business as usual for us here in the Leeuwin district. Some recent storm events have realised some new risk around some of our aging assets and that has triggered the early kick off of some planned and new projects to build some better resilience around prolonged loss of power supplies. In particular:
 - 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.
- This will ensure our ability to supply water is more sustainable and robust in and unplanned event.

Current Corporate Projects

- We are right at the start of ground works beginning on the Vasse Diversion Drain upgrade. An estimated 53 million will be spent on 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 100-year event. Currently capable to handle a 1 in 55-year event.
- We have now completed the Margaret River WWTP upgrade and have recently taken the AMR Shire health team on a tour of the site.
- The Gnarabup refurbishment project is now under way. The project is not increasing capacity but is improving the outflows overall with hardware/aeration upgrade. A quality not quantity upgrade. This will run over the next few months. We will also be sinking 6 new bores around the site to better monitor the outputs to the environment from the plant.

COVID-19

- We have wound back most of the measures we had in place but are maintaining social distancing and some critical staff remote working procedures where possible. We are ready at a moment's notice to re-implement the full measures if required.

8.0 General business

8.1 Hypothetical Desktop Exercise – Water Corporation – Adam Jasper, CESM

- Please refer to Attachment 8.1.1.

Adam thanked Josh for his invitation to hold the November LEMC meeting at the Water Corporation in Margaret River. He advised the meeting that details of this meeting will be confirmed in due course.

Adam then read through the Water Corporation Hypothetical Exercise scenario and a discussion on the responses was held which included the possible impacts on hygiene, cleaning of equipment, ability to fill firefighting appliances, the hospital, hoarding, etc.

The group also discussed the way in which this scenario would be communicated to the general public and what options and alternatives might be available should this worst-case scenario occur, such as accessing water tanks, dams, bringing drinking water via helicopter, etc.

Members were then asked to forward their written responses through to the Emergency Services Admin Officer, the outcomes of which will be discussed at the November LEMC meeting (refer to Action List).

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 meeting was closed at 5.33pm.