

North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils Dowerin | Koorda | Mt Marshall | Mukinbudin | Nungarin | Trayning | Wyalkatchem

Council Meeting

Tuesday 31 May 2022

Shire of Trayning, Council Chambers

MINUTES

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ANNUAL CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

MONTH	ACTIVITY	MEETING
January		Executive
February	Council refreshes itself on NEWROC Vision, Mission, Values (review Vision and Mission every other year)	Council
	Council reviews NEWROC project priorities	
March	WDC attendance to respond to NEWROC project priorities	Executive
	Submit priority projects to WDC, Regional Development and WA Planning	
April	NEWROC Budget Preparation	Council
Мау	NEWROC Draft Budget Presented	Executive
	NEWROC Executive Officer Contract/Hourly Rate Review (current contract expires June 2022)	
	Local Government Week agenda to be discussed at Executive meeting to determine if EA should attend	
June	NEWROC Budget Adopted	Council
July		Executive
August	 Information for Councillors pre-election NEWROC Audit 	Council
September		Executive
October	NEWROC CEO and President Handover	Council
November	NEWROC Induction of new Council representatives (every other year)	Executive
	Review NEWROC MoU (every other year)	
December	NEWROC Drinks	Council

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Compliance

Media Releases Newsletter

NEWROC Chair and CEO Rotation

Shire of Mt Marshall Shire of Nungarin Shire of Wyalkatchem Shire of Koorda Shire of Mukinbudin (Oct 2021 – Oct 2023) Shire of Trayning Shire of Dowerin

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NORTH EASTERN WHEATBELT REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

Minutes for the Council Meeting held at the Shire of Trayning on Tuesday 31 May 2022 commencing at 2.07pm

MINUTES

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWROC Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 2.07pm

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1. Attendance

	Cr Gary Shadbolt Cr Jannah Stratford Cr Quentin Davies Cr Pippa De Lacy Cr Melanie Brown Cr Tony Sachse	NEWROC Chair, Shire of Mukinbudin President Shire of Koorda President, Shire of Wyalkatchem President, Shire of Nungarin President, Shire of Trayning President, Shire of Mt Marshall
	Dirk Sellenger Darren Simmons Peter Klein John Nuttall Leanne Parola Leonard Long Rebecca McCall	NEWROC CEO, CEO Shire of Mukinbudin CEO, Shire of Koorda CEO, Shire of Wyalkatchem CEO, Shire of Mt Marshall CEO, Shire of Trayning CEO, Shire of Nungarin CEO, Shire of Dowerin
NEV	VROC Officer	
	Caroline Robinson	Executive Officer, NEWROC (arrived 2.08pm)
2.2.	Apologies	
	Cr Robert Trepp	President, Shire of Dowerin

2.3. Leave of Absence Approvals / Approved

Nil

3. Declarations of Interest and Delegations Register

3.1. Delegation Register

Please find below a delegations register as per the new policy adopted in March 2017:

Description of Delegations	Delegatee	Delegated to	Approval
Records Management	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council
NEWROC Financial Management	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council Dec 2017
Bendigo Bank Signatory (NEWROC)	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council Dec 2017
Bendigo Bank Signatory (Shire of Mukinbudin)	Council	CEO	Council Oct 2019

Nil

NEWROC Council Meeting 31 May 2022 - MINUTES

NEWROC Website	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council June 2017
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4. Presentations

Nil

5. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

5.1. Council Meeting 29 March 2022

Minutes of the Council Meeting held 29 March 2022 have previously been circulated.

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 March 2022 be received as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved Cr Stratford Seconded Cr Sachse CARRIED 6/0

5.2. Executive Meeting 29 April 2022

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 29 April 2022 have previously been circulated.

RESOLUTION

That the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 29 April 2022 be received.

Moved Cr Brown	Seconded Cr Davies	CARRIED 6/0
Moved Cr Brown	Seconded Cr Davies	CARRIED

5.3. Business Arising

Nil

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

6.1. Income, Expenditure and Profit and Loss

FILE REFERENCE:	42-2 Finance Audit and Compliance
REPORTING OFFICER:	Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
DATE:	25 May 2022
ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	#1P and L
CONSULTATION:	
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:	Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

COMMENTS

Account transactions for the period 1 March 2022 to 30 April 2022

Date	Description	Reference	Credit	Debit	Running Balance
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BB NEWROC Funds-5557

Opening Balance			242,795.68	0.00	242,795.68
01 Mar 2022	Xero Australia	XEROAUSTRALIAPTY	0.00	25.65	242,770.03
01 Mar 2022	Bendigo Bank		0.00	0.80	242,769.23
04 Mar 2022	Payment: 150Square	INV-0125	0.00	3,347.50	239,421.73
04 Mar 2022	Payment: Alyce Ventris	2005	0.00	3,093.75	236,327.98
17 Mar 2022	Payment: Alyce Ventris	2006	0.00	2,694.45	233,633.53
17 Mar 2022	Payment: Shire of Koorda	67 REDS Grant	0.00	24,750.00	208,883.53
01 Apr 2022	Xero Australia	XEROAUSTRALIA	0.00	25.65	208,857.88
01 Apr 2022	Bendigo Bank		0.00	1.60	208,856.28
05 Apr 2022	Payment: 150Square	INV-0136	0.00	2,972.50	205,883.78
19 Apr 2022	Payment: Valenti Commercial Lawyers	032101	0.00	324.50	205,559.28
19 Apr 2022	Alyce Ventris		0.00	2,305.05	203,254.23
19 Apr 2022	Payment: Alyce Ventris	2010	0.00	3,015.37	200,238.86
Total BB NEWROC Funds-5557			0.00	42,556.82	200,238.86
Closing Balance			200,238.86	0.00	200,238.86
Total			0.00	42,556.82	(42,556.82)

Balance Sheet

North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils As at 30 April 2022 Cash Basis

	30 APR 202
Assets	
Bank	
BB NEWROC Funds-5557	200,238.8
BB Term Deposit Account-1388	195,371.7
Total Bank	395,610.5
Total Assets	395,610.5
iabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	31,240.0
GST	(756.23
Unpaid ATO Liabilities	(3,539.00
Total Current Liabilities	26,944.7
Total Liabilities	26,944.7
let Assets	368,665.8
Equity	
Current Year Earnings	52,072.3
Retained Earnings	316,593.4
Total Equity	368,665.8

RESOLUTION				
That the income and expenditure from 1 March 2022 to 30 April 2022 and the P and L and balance sheet as at 30 April 2022 be received.				
Moved Cr De Lacy Seconded Cr Stratford CARRIED 6/0				

6.2. NEWROC 2022/23 BUDGET

FILE REFERENCE:	42-2 Finance Audit and Compliance
REPORTING OFFICER:	Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
DATE:	25 May 2022
ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	#2 2022/23 Budget
CONSULTATION:	Executive
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:	Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

COMMENTS

A budget is presented to the Council. Key points:

INCOME

- Subscription fees remain the same
- BBRF funding for workforce plan
- Tammin / Yilgarn possible telecommunications connection
- Town Team Movement role income

EXPENSES

- Advertising fees for workforce activities (BBRF)
- Waste Project
- Consultancy support workforce activities (BBRF) copywriter, marketing etc
- Regional subsidiary establishment fees
- Town Team Builder role expenses

RESOLUTION		
NEWROC Budget is adopted for the 2022/23 financial year		
Moved Cr De Lacy Seconded Cr Stratford CARI		CARRIED 6/0

7. MATTERS FOR DECISION

7.1. SBDC PROCUREMENT PROJECT

FILE REFERENCE: **REPORTING OFFICER: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** DATE: ATTACHMENT NUMBER: **CONSULTATION:**

Caroline Robinson Nil 25 April 2022 Celia Jordan **Rik Soderlund**

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: **VOTING REQUIREMENT:**

Nil Simple Majority

COMMENT

The NEWROC CEOs participated in an SBDC Procurement Project in 2021/22. A report and templates have been prepared as a result of this work. The NEWROC EO has met with Ichiban Consultants a number of times since the completion of the project.

Each of the member local governments have different procurement thresholds, policies and practices. There is mixed appetite amongst members as to progressing this body of work due to a number of internal and external factors.

The NEWROC EO has shared the work with the Wheatbelt Business Network CEO, Rik Soderlund to gather his input into how they might be able to assist with procurement at an individual or collective level.

A consistent recommendation throughout the project has been to develop a NEWROC Buy Local Policy Framework. CEOs have identified challenges with this as well as raising the threshold of individual expenditure limits.

To date the project has been discussed at an Executive level. The NEWROC EO proposes the following next steps:

- Work with the Wheatbelt Business Network to determine if they can assist with supplier lists, • education sessions for SMEs etc
- Information session for NEWROC Council on the project and outcomes
- NEWROC Executive review the NEWROC Buy Local Policy Framework

Discussion at Executive Meeting:

- Onboarding contractor process could be applied for all members •
- Feedback on current Framework revise 4.3.1 and amend the maximum 10% local content • up to \$50K and 5% for building services (legislated)

RESOLUTION

NEWROC EO and WBN CEO work together to develop documents and processes for consideration by the Executive at the June meeting

Moved Cr Stratford Seconded Cr Davies CARRIED 6/0

7.2. WORKFORCE PLANNING

FILE REFERENCE: REPORTING OFFICER: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: DATE: ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	035-6 Federal Grants Caroline Robinson Nil 24 May 2022 #3 DAMA Information #4 DAR Information
CONSULTATION: STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: VOTING REQUIREMENT:	#5 Survey Social Media Tile WEROC, RDA Wheatbelt, WBN, Beacon CRC, CBH Nil Simple Majority

BACKGROUND

In April the NEWROC EO participated in a meeting with the Department of Immigration, WEROC EO, WBN CEO, CBH HR/Ops and RDA Wheatbelt to discuss a DAMA. This meeting came about following a request from the Beacon CRC.

There were a number of discussion points including:

- What defines a DAMA and DAR (see attached information)
- Occupations required in the region
- What is defined as the 'region'

The NEWROC EO provided feedback to the group on the definition of the 'region' for the DAMA. The NEWROC EO felt the DAMA should be for a specific sub region within the Wheatbelt, that being NEWROC and WEROC as employers (including local government) are already competing for labour with other sub regions of the Wheatbelt and surrounding WA regions. The DAMA should not be for the whole Wheatbelt as it would not resolve the challenges employers are experiencing in the NEWROC or WEROC communities.

At the last online meeting in May it was discussed that we will pursue a DAMA for the whole region and create criteria for sub regions in the Wheatbelt.

Work in this space is quite early but we need to determine the demand for a DAMA. Each of the participating stakeholders are currently:

- Identifying all the occupations required in the sub region (NEWROC and WEROC area) from the ANZSCO list found <u>here</u>
- 2. Publishing a survey for SMEs to determine the need, demand and current workforce challenges in the region

At the end of June it is intended that we will identify who will be preparing the business case and who will be the DAR – if it is indeed required. There will be costs associated with this and the cost/benefits of progressing a DAMA need to be considered by the NEWROC.

Work in this space aligns with the NEWROC Workforce Plan and the NEWROC Strategic Plan.

RESOLUTION A notice is shared with NEWROC communities, specifically businesses, to determine skills and occupations of need Moved Cr De Lacy Seconded Cr Brown CARRIED 6/0

Discussion:

- DAMA may take up to 12-18mths for approval. Workforce cycles and issue of relevancy of occupations and skills required now and in 18 months time
- Survey will assist in identifying housing needs

7.3. TELECOMMUNICATIONS – FARM DIGITAL GRANT

FILE REFERENCE:	035
REPORTING OFFICER:	Ca
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
DATE:	25
ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	
CONSULTATION:	Cri
	Val
STATUTODY ENVIDONMENT.	NII

035-6 Federal Grants Caroline Robinson Nil 25 May 2022 Crisp Wireless Valenti Lawyers Nil Simple Majority

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: VOTING REQUIREMENT:

COMMENT

An agreement was prepared by Valenti Lawyers for the Shire of Nungarin (on behalf of the NEWROC) and Crisp Wireless. The Shire of Nungarin has signed the agreement and Crisp Wireless has agreed to.

The Shires of Koorda, Wyalkatchem and Mt Marshall have provided ratepayer lists to the NEWROC EO. Potential users of the service have been identified and an information flyer has been posted to them.

The NEWROC has transferred its funding proportion for the three towers to the Shire of Nungarin, who paid the Crisp Wireless invoice on the 17 May 2022.

RESOLUTION			
Information is received			
Moved Cr De Lacy	Seconded Cr Sachse	CARRIED 6/0	

7.4. **REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY**

FILE REFERENCE: REPORTING OFFICER: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: DATE: ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	041-5 Strategic and Future Planning Caroline Robinson Nil 24 May 2022 #6 Business Plan #7 Communications Plan #8 Updated NEWROC RS Charter
CONSULTATION:	Dirk Sellenger Sam McLeod
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Nil Simple Majority

COMMENT

Since the March NEWROC Council meeting the NEWROC EO has prepared a Regional Subsidiary Communications Plan and a Business Plan.

Discussion at the Executive Meeting:

- Members to release communications on the Regional Subsidiary in May, play video at Briefing Session or Council Meeting
- Amend the Charter to include CEOs can be a sub committee of the NEWROC so it reflects our current structure

Actions since the Executive Meeting:

- Business Plan updated
- Information video for member Councillors: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/OJO4sS4SJof3tfz47doXwrXZIaG40p918n6MZcxxrDJ</u> <u>o9f1HePxQoVPFL904CMtz.IDVFBBaGx54Yz5bt</u>
- Updated NEWROC website to include Regional Subsidiary information
- Updated the Regional Subsidiary Charter. It is attached with the following addition, following discussions at the last NEWROC Council and Executive meetings:

6.4.5 The withdrawal of any Participant Council does not exclude them from the borrowing commitments of the Regional Subsidiary, that were made during the Participant Councils membership

3.1 Membership of the Board is reflective of the current NEWROC structure (Council meetings for decision making, Executive Meetings will be a sub committee of the Regional Subsidiary and will be working meetings)

RESOLUTION

NEWROC Council recommends the Business Plan, Communications Plan and Charter to member Councils for endorsement following the communication and consultation process in June and July.

NEWROC Council distributes the information sheet and video to member Councils

Moved Cr Brown

Seconded Cr De Lacy CARRIED 6/0

D 6/0

Discussion:

- Members to show the video, Q and A fact sheet etc to their Councillors in June or at the latest July
- Factsheet to address that NEWROC Regional Subsidiary will replace NEWROC
- In July Councils to endorse Charter and Business Plan, open for community consultation (a few weeks), NEWROC adopts in August (subject to feedback)
- Consultation should include a face to face session
- NEWROC EO to develop a flyer inviting submissions

7.5. **NEWROC EXECUTIVE OFFICER – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

Leonard Long STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT: Nil VOTING REQUIREMENT: Simple Majority	REPORTING OFFICER:Caroline RobiDISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:NilDATE:25 May 2022ATTACHMENT NUMBER:#9 EO ContraCONSULTATION:Dirk SellengelSTATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:Nil	ct r
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COMMENT

The NEWROC Executive Officer contract expires on June 30 2022.

The new contract is attached for discussion by the Council. It was discussed at the Executive Meeting and the NEWROC CEO and NEWROC EO have met.

RESOLUTION		
NEWROC Council adopts the new NEWROC EO Contract as presented and presents it to the Shire of Mukinbudin to execute on its behalf.		
Moved Cr Stratford	Seconded Cr De Lacy	CARRIED 6/0

NEWROC EO left the meeting for this item.

7.6. Late Item - Energy

FILE REFERENCE:	035-1 Grants General
REPORTING OFFICER:	Caroline Robinson
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
DATE:	30 May 2022
ATTACHMENT NUMBER:	#Scope of Works
	#Contract Agreement
CONSULTATION:	Positive Off-Grid Solutions
	Wheatbelt Development Commission
STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:	Nil
VOTING REQUIREMENT:	Simple Majority

COMMENTS

This year Positive Off-Grid Solutions have had three online meetings with members of the NEWROC energy subcommittee. As a result of these meetings and previous work to date by Cameron Edwards of InfraNomics, the attached scope of works and contract agreement is presented to the NEWROC for its consideration against the grant funding received and current strategic priorities of the group.

NEWROC confirmed \$27,500 of its own funds to go towards an energy project in the 2022/23 financial year and the Shire of Koorda, on behalf of the NEWROC secured \$27,500 from the Wheatbelt Development Commission Regional Economic Development grant (in 2021) as a matching contribution.

Under the REDS grant the NEWROC is required to present a Microgrid Technical Design Plan.

The REDS grant main activities / milestones (Shire of Koorda grant recipient on behalf of the NEWROC) as outlined in the grant agreement are as follows:

	Main Activities / Milestone	Milestone Date	Milestone Payment (GST Excl)
1.	 Execution of this agreement Consultation with NEWROC as to preferred solution to investigate WDC provided evidence that consultants have been engaged to undertake technical design 	30 June 2021	Completed
2.	 Progress report showing evidence of: a) Record of consultation with NEWROC b) Contract indicating consultant has been engaged c) Evidence of contribution from NEWROC and Infranomics to progress contract d) WDC receives invoice from the grantee for milestone payment 1 	31 August 2021 31 March 2022	\$27,500
3.	Progress report showing evidence of: a) Level of progress against contracted work	30 October 2021 31 May 2022	
4.	Evidence provided to WDC that the technical design plan has been presented to NEWROC	28 February 2022 30 September 2022	
5.	Progress report showing evidence of:a) Technical design plan completedb) Record of meeting with NEWROC to present design plan	31 March 2022 31 October 2022	

	Main Activities / Milestone	Milestone Date	Milestone Payment (GST Excl)
	 c) Investor ready report completed Technical design plan presented to NEWROC 		
6.	Progress report showing evidence of:a) Meetings held with potential fundersb) Report on outcome of meetings with funders	30 April 2022 30 November 2022	
7.	Date for Project Completion Update provided to the WDC on the project being completed	30 June 2022 31 January 2023	
8.	Acquittal Reporting Date Acquittal (Full written report, with matching invoices and budget)	30 September 2022 30 April 2023	
	Total:		\$27,500.00 (GST Excl)

The scope of works proposed by POS will deliver upon the REDS Funding Agreement however the NEWROC EO has requested the scope of works to include the following outcome statement, which will help POS in the direction of their work and will aim to ensure the work is meaningful and can progress to the next stage:

At the conclusion of this work, the outcome is a renewable energy solution that supplies reliable power to the townsite of Bencubbin within the current legislative framework. The solution should be accompanied by a detailed technical design and achievable finance model that can be pitched to the community, NEWROC members and external funding bodies (both private and government) so it can be further progressed. The solution should be able to be replicated in other NEWROC communities, include a cost benefit analysis and an ownership model that is attractive to investors, the NEWROC members, Shire of Mt Marshall and residents.

It is also proposed that a project steering group be established to assist POS, comprising of a Shire of Mt Marshall representative and the NEWROC EO.

Prior to commencement of work by Positive Off-Grid Solutions, a meeting will be held between the NEWROC EO and Renee Manning of the Wheatbelt Development Commission to ensure the work meets their requirements and they can assist us if any challenges arise.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

NEWROC endorses the outcome statement to be included in the Positive Offgrid Solutions Scope of Work.

Project Steering Group include a Shire of Mt Marshall representative and the NEWROC EO

MOTION – LAY ON THE TABLE

NEWROC endorses the outcome statement to be included in the Positive Offgrid Solutions Scope of Work.

Project Steering Group include a Shire of Mt Marshall representative and the NEWROC EO

Moved Cr De Lacy Seconded Cr Brown

Discussion:

- Cr Sachse presented a summary of the project to date and his concerns with the overall project cost, funding for the solution, comments from the Minister and Western Power constraints
- Discussion on Bencubbin being the location vs Dowerin or Koorda (strategic location for CBH)
- NEWROC EO to follow up with the UWA Centre for Excellence on Microgrids (previous discussions)
- NEWROC EO and Darren Simmons to meet with WDC to discuss the project
- Energy sub committee meet with POS again

8. EMERGING NEWROC ISSUES as notified or introduced by decision of the Meeting

Nil

9. GENERAL UPDATES

Trayning Do Over Save the Date 3rd September 2022. Welcome to a new Town Team in the NEWROC – Koorda.

Community Calendar - NEWROC EO to action on the NEWROC website

Themed Embracing Change, the 2022 WA Local Government Convention and Trade Exhibition will be held at Crown Perth from Sunday, 2 to Tuesday, 4 October. Proposed NEWROC Dinner at The Partisan Perth (East Perth) or Long Neck Brewery or Boston Brewery (Vic Park).

ACTION: NEWROC EO to present venue options and dinner prices to Executive and Council prior to booking

10. 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

28 June	Executive	Shire of Nungarin
26 July	Council	Shire of Mukinbudin
30 August	Executive	Shire of Mt Marshall
27 September	Council	Shire of Wyalkatchem
25 October	Executive	Shire of Dowerin
29 November	Council	Shire of Trayning (or Nungarin if no Dec meeting)
13 December	Council (tbc)	Shire of Nungarin

11. CLOSURE

NEWROC Chair, Cr Shadbolt thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 3.23pm