



Shire of Cunderdin

Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

The Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting was held in the Shire of Cunderdin Council Chambers, 37 Lundy Ave, Cunderdin, WA on Monday 9th September 2024 at 5pm.

Disclaimer

Members of the public should note that in any discussion regarding any planning or other application that any statement or intimation of approval made by any member or officer of the Shire of Cunderdin during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Cunderdin. No action should be taken on any item discussed at a Council meeting prior to written advice on the resolution of the Council being received.

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SHIRE OF CUNDERDIN

ITEM 1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

1.1 Members

Mr David Beard	Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer
Mr Todd Harris	Fire Control Officer
Mr Norm Jenzen	Fire Control Officer
Mr Jeff Snooke	Fire Control Officer
Mr David Fisher	Fire Control Officer
Mr Tim Ford	Cunderdin VFRS Captain

1.2 Administration

Mrs Alison Harris	Shire President
Mr Stuart Hobley	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Ben Davies	Community Emergency Services Manager
Mrs Samantha Pimlott	Governance & Administration Officer

1.3 Invited Observers/Guests

1.4 Apologies

Mrs Hayley Byrnes	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr Digby Wilmott	Fire Control Officer
Mr Sydney Davies	Department of Fire and Emergency Services

ITEM 2 DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / SUBMISSIONS

- Australian Warning System Update (Presentation)
- Ygnattering 4.4B Walkthrough
- Operations Pre-Season Planning (Presentation)
- 3.4U Appliance Potential Issue (Discussion) (Attachment)

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes – 22nd April 2024 (Copy attached)

Resolution 3.1

MOVED: Todd Harris

SECONDED: David Beard

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Held on 22nd April 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that Meeting.

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising

Easter prohibited burning will be Friday 18th, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th April.

Query on Cadets numbers. Ben confirmed that numbers are good and some are carrying through to VFRS brigade.

All members confirmed that the merged WhatsApp has been a success.

ITEM 4 REPORTS

4.1 CBFCO Report

Nil.

4.2 DBFCO Report

Nil.

4.3 CESM Report

- New Fire Truck received for Ygnattering BFB, funded by DFES and ESL funds. Truck will increase water capacity by 2000L to 4000L. Has safety features such as burn over protection and crew safety of life features, increasing crew welfare and updated equipment. Training will be conducted in September to use this season.
- New Fire Shed in the works for Ygnattering to house brand new truck, awaiting current shed removal, being coordinated via Shire.
- Local emergency management committee exercise held with key stakeholders such as local government, DFES, Police, St Johns Ambulance, Department of Communities, Main roads and others. This exercise was based on a large-scale incident involving Ammonium Nitrate and helped test and improve strategies used to protect the community of Cunderdin.
- Training ramping up with course being held in September. These courses will include Bushfire Safety Awareness courses, Rural Fire Awareness Courses and a Fire Control Officer course being run on the 3rd of October. Please note there are now online courses for seasonal workers, the link will be distributed on the Fire Chat Whatsapp. Please contact CESM 0448 008 653 to register interest in completing any training or to access the Fire Chat WhatsApp.
- Fire Protective Clothing/PPC has been restocked. Please ensure Farm Response and Brigades are wearing PPE/C at fires. Those that do not have PPE/C can get them from the Shire Admin Office.
- Grain Harvest Movement (Water Bombers) are going to continue this year due to all the positive feedback. They will be stationed at Cunderdin from the 7th of November. If you require Air Support, please contact CESM or RDC as per Pre-Season Presentation.
- Cunderdin BFB 3.4U has a potential Issue with the Pump (as per Discussion Point), this will also impact Cunderdin VFRS 3.4U as well.
- Looking at running a Ground Controller Course in Cunderdin. This is a vital role to be able to utilise Waterbombers and Aircraft at incidents. Without a ground controller, we will not get water bombers. Currently the CESM is the only qualified person in Cunderdin, If the CESM is at another incident or away, Water bombers will not be able

to operate. The Ground Controller course is 4 hours and is mainly a practical course with a Theory Based component as well. Can we schedule an evening to run this with the FCOs please?

- Please ensure you have the RDC/Regional Duty Coordinator number for DFES Assistance 1800 966 077
- Please note the changes to Australian Warning System as per Presentation.
- Truck Servicing is currently being scheduled and undertaken prior to Harvest.
- I have approached CBH Cunderdin again this season for willing CBH Employees to volunteer crewing the Cunderdin BFB 3.4U when there is an incident that imposes a HVMB.
- Vehicle checks being completed (Meckering's Foam system is going to be serviced).
- Defibrator Pads need to be changed out on all appliances, Organised with LFA.
- Following Meckering Fire, All BFB vehicles will have a Burns Kit on the appliance with a burn card, in the case of injury. All appliances first aid kits have been assessed and looked at.
- We are able to offer First Aid Courses for BFB members and FCOs. My recommendation would be to have all FCOs qualified in basic first aid. Please speak to me to organise a course, if we have enough wanting to do this we can hold a course in Cunderdin.
- Last fire season was the busiest season recorded since the beginning of BFB response record keeping in 1999.

4.4 FCO's Reports

Nil.

4.5 Shire Councillor/Staff Report(s)

Stuart thanked the FCO's for their continued efforts and that we are looking forward to a successful and hopefully uneventful harvest/fire season.

Reiterated the Shire Machinery will be available for use in emergency situations subject its locality within the district.

4.6 Other Agency Reports

Welcome to VFRS Captain Tim Ford.

ITEM 5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Incoming

Attachment 5.1 - BRM Plan Approved Letter – Cunderdin

Attachment 5.2 – Advice 3.4

5.2 Outgoing

Nil.

6.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Norm Jezen nominated Ashley Burges.

Ben Davies seconded this nomination.

There being no further nominations, Mr Ashley Burges was appointed Chief Bush Fire Control Officer pending his acceptance.

6.2 Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

David Beard nominated Norm Jezen

Norm Jezen declined interest in the nomination.

Todd Harris nominated David Beard

David Beard declined interest in the nomination.

There being no further nominations, position of Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer was left vacant pending discussions to be held with the Bush Fire Brigade's at their upcoming meetings on the filling of this position.

Chairperson, Cr AE (Alison) Harris, thanked David for his service to the Shire of Cunderdin during his tenure as DBFCO.

6.3 Fire Control Officers

Current Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Brigade</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ashley Burges	Meckering	CBFCO
David Beard	Ygnattering	DCBFCO
Todd Harris	Ygnattering	FCO
Digby Wilmott	Ygnattering	FCO
Norm Jenzen	Ygnattering	FCO
Jeff Snooke	Meckering	FCO
David Smith	Meckering	FCO
Doug Kelly	Meckering	FCO
David Fisher	Meckering	FCO
Philip Arnold	Meckering	FCO
Stuart Hobley	Cunderdin	CEO
Hayley Byrnes	Cunderdin	DCEO
Ben Davies	Cunderdin	CESM

Resolution Item 6

MOVED: Mr. David Beard

SECONDED: Mr. Todd Harris

That the Meeting recommend to Council that:

1. Mr. Ashley Burges be appointed as Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the forthcoming year.
2. The position of Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer remains vacant pending further discussion with members of the Bush Fire Brigades.

3. The following persons, subject to their acceptance be elected as Fire Control Officers for the Shire of Cunderdin for the forthcoming year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Brigade</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ashley Burges	Meckering	CBFCO
David Beard	Ygnattering	FCO
Todd Harris	Ygnattering	FCO
Digby Wilmott	Ygnattering	FCO
Norm Jenzen	Ygnattering	FCO
Jeff Snooke	Meckering	FCO
David Smith	Meckering	FCO
David Fisher	Meckering	FCO
Philip Arnold	Meckering	FCO
Todd Rogers	Cunderdin	FCO
Tim Ford	Cunderdin	FCO
Stuart Hobley	Cunderdin	CEO
Hayley Byrnes	Cunderdin	DCEO
Ben Davies	Cunderdin	CESM

CARRIED

ITEM 7 DISCUSSION POINTS

7.1 Pre Season synopsis

Info from BOM presented by Ben Davies Power Point.
Australian Warning System changes.

7.2 Restrictions

Movement Bans - Christmas Dates and Easter.

Movement Bans will be placed 25th and 26th December 2024 during the Christmas period.
Prohibited Burning Period will apply to 18th, 19th and 20th April during the Easter public holiday period.

7.3 Bush Fire Exercise/Training

Priorities for FCO's that are incident first responders.

Water bomber training Water Bomber Reloader Training will be held 1230 8th of November 2024. This is the earliest DBCA can run this training as they require the Aircraft for a separate contract prior to November.

FCO training will be held 3rd October 2024.

ITEM 8 FURTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Motion to be presented by CESM, Ben Davies.

Move that all Bush Fire Brigade members not currently qualified in Bushfire Safety Awareness be removed from the DFES SMS messaging system for a Turn out to Fire

Resolution Item 8

MOVED: Ben Davies

SECONDED: David Beard

All Bush Fire Brigade members not currently qualified in Bushfire Safety Awareness will be removed from the DFES SMS messaging system for a Turn out to Fire.
Members will be removed from this list post Meckering, Cunderdin and Ygnattering Bush Fire Brigade meetings.

CARRIED

ITEM 9 NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting will be scheduled to take place post the 2024/2025 Spring/Summer Bushfire Risk Season on 14th April 2025 commencing at 4pm, at the Shire of Cunderdin Council Chambers.

ITEM 10 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the Meeting at 7.37pm.