



MINUTES

Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 23 February 2022

**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL
WILD DOG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL SUPPER ROOM
ON WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 9.35AM**

1 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The Chair, Mr John Banning welcomed everyone present, thanked them for attending and declared the meeting open at 9.35am.

2 PRESENT

John Banning (Chair), Ben Ogg (Deputy Chair), Mr Geoff Cox (Rural Lands Manager), Mrs Britt Beetson (Biosecurity Officer), Mr Ray Foxwell (Rural Lands Officer), Cr Cathy White, Cr Anne Seymour, Cr Tina Elliott (Deputy Mayor), Rob Banning, David Baker, Harry Elliott, Adele Pentland, Brett Elliott, Andrew Richardson, Frank McKerrow, Charles Dyer (Acting Director of Works) and Chloe Cain (Minute Secretary).

IN ATTENDANCE:

Micheal (OBT Group), Shane Hume (Bladensburg National Park) and David Woods (Principal Ranger Bladensburg National Park).

3 APOLOGIES

22.02.01

Moved: Cr Gavin Baskett
Seconded: Mr Ben Ogg

THAT the apologies from Cr Gavin Baskett, Miss Leah Mitchell and Mr Shane Axford be received.

CARRIED

4 SIGHTING AND COMPLETION OF DEVISION MAPS

FILE NUMBER # 147250

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

22.02.02

Moved: Ben Ogg
Seconded: Adele Pentland

That the minutes of the Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting held on 10 November 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

6 CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION LETTER

- The committee made a recommendation to council to accept Robert Ellis onto the committee as a public member.

22.02.03

Moved: Ben Ogg
Seconded: Ray Foxwell

That the Wild Dog Committee accept Robert Ellis application to join the committee.

CARRIED

6.2 OTB – LETTER TO GRAZIERS – WILD DOG MONITORING

- The committee made a few wording suggestions to be made to the letter, although they are happy for it to be distributed to the rural land holders.

22.02.04

Moved: Ben Ogg
Seconded: Rob Banning

That the Wild Dog Committee accept the EOI from OTB to be distributed to rural land owners.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Lake Ayre basin

Cr Cathy White requested that we follow up with the Lake Eyre Basin regarding their previous discussion at the last meeting.

Shane Hume explained that they have recently attended training for several days at the Bladensburg National Park involving wild animals and activity.

8 CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS

John Banning

Has recently been in contact with some land owners who are not happy regarding the amount of baits getting laid per property. He has been doing some research regarding cheaper meat to help with budget.

Geoff Cox

Informed the committee that the Council have go to tender for the supply and can only purchase meat of the pre-qualified supplier list.

9 DIVISION LEADERS REPORTS

Dave Baker

- 9 dogs for the year

Shane Axford

- Nothing has been spotted up until the 19.01.2022 and has spotted three wild dogs since.

Adele Pentland & Harry Elliott

- 2 Dogs for 2022
- Tracks have been frequent hillview way before christmas although to wet lately

Rob Banning

- Very satisfied after the round of baiting
- 1 dog sighted last week

Cr Cathy White

- Increased activity
- Reccommended we have more ground baiting as it saves aircraft fee's

Cr Anne Seymour

- Suggested that we have a look at another option instead of baiting as it may help with the budget

Andrew Richardson

- Large number of female dogs breeding

10 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

10.1 DIRECTOR OF WORKS UPDATE

Financial Report

- Meat purchases \$127,707.75
- Plane and Avgas \$34,870.37
- Committed \$83,142.92
- Remaining Funds \$6,231.35

10.2 RURAL LANDS MANAGER UPDATE

Scalp Numbers

- 49 Scalps this month

11 UPDATE ON DATA GATHERING

Once EOI is sent out the cameras are ready to go as soon as permission is granted.

22.02.05

Moved: Ben Ogg
Seconded: Frank McKerrow

That the Winton Shire Council enforce GPS coordinates to be available with photographs of wild dog scalps.

CARRIED

12 ACTION LIST

DATE	ACTION	MEMBER	UPDATE
23/02/2022	Approach the Lake Eyre Basin Rangers on how they can assist the Wild Dog Baiting program.	Chloe Cain	

13 GENERAL BUSINESS

Andrew Richardson

- Raised his concerns with the rate increase although he is worried as the dog numbers have increased dramatically;
- Suggested that the baiting program doesn't happen as early in the year to avoid wet weather which effects the baiting effectiveness;
- Start using ground bait as it is a smaller cost due to having no plane fees.

Rob Banning

Shared his thoughts on only one baiting a year as it is not enough to control the dogs.

Geoff Cox

- Concerns as there is below 50% participation rate in baiting which continues to make it hard;
- Suggested that the committee get in contact with RAPID in regards to a ballistics training.
- The calander dates will have to be amended as Council staff will be away on the dates chosen.

Cr Cathy White

Would like to think that with the new 1080 injection that it may be more effective.

Dave Baker

Would like to know if we can participate or receive funding in a 1080 injection training which will help out in the long run when baiting time approaches as more people can help inject. People can also then inject their own meat on the property to do baiting when required.

22.02.06

Moved: Ben Ogg
Seconded: Adele Pentland

That Winton Shire Council investigate funding for injection training.

CARRIED

Ben Ogg

- Advised the committee that there is only enough meat and supplies for one more baiting this year;
- Suggested that the Stock Routes invest in more baiting equipment and that a budget for these items gets done;
- Suggested a working committee to do a budget review for the upcoming council budgeting.

Harry Elliott

Suggested to the Committee that we advertise in the Winton Herald regarding donations of meat for the baiting program;

Frank McKerrow

Not interested in rates rise although happy to help look for an alternative plan.

John Banning

Asked, when you are a land owner and there is no baiting left and you have a large dog number how can the Shire help?

Geoff Cox

Replied and informed the Committee that any extra works done by Council would have to be at full charge through a private works.

Brett Elliott

Recommended that the Committee consider lowering the wild dog scalp rate to \$30.00 per wild dog scalp for members of the Community who do not bait and keeping the rate at \$100 for people who participate in baiting.

DATE	MOTION NUMBER	MOTION
23/02/22	22.02.03	That the Wild Dog Committee accept Robert Ellis application to join the committee.
23/02/22	22.02.04	That the Wild Dog Committee accept the EOI from OTB to be distributed to rural land owners.
23/02/22	22.02.05	That the Winton Shire Council enforce GPS coordinates to be available with photographs of wild dog scalps.
23/02/22	22.02.06	That Winton Shire Council investigate funding for injection training.

8 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETING DATE

John Banning thanked everyone for coming, closed the meeting and set the next meeting date for 25th May 2022.

The Meeting closed at 11.33am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Wild Dog Management Committee held on.

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CHAIRPERSON

DRAFT

4 February 2022

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Dear ~~Grazier~~,

The Winton Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee and the Winton Shire Council have been working together for many years to consider strategies and actions to control and manage the devastating impact of wild dogs across the shire.

Recent strategies have included trapping, ground baiting, aerial baiting, aerial shooting and a \$100 bounty for each wild dog scalp delivered to the Rural Lands Manager. With the increasing cost of supplying meat for the two aerial baiting programs across the shire, alternative strategies are being considered by the Committee.

an increase of scalp bounty
from \$30 to
\$100 for
Winton locals

The Committee has been working with Mr Michael Kaminski from the OTB Group who is seeking to establish a wild dog tracking program using motion activated cameras positioned in strategic locations across grazing properties within the Winton Shire Council area. At the Committee Meeting held on 28 July 2021, the proposal from the OTB Group for the tracking of wild dogs was endorsed and a direction was given for an 'Expression of Interest' to be drafted.

For a wild dog tracking program to be successful, permission will be required from interested rural landowners to allow the OTB Group to access their properties to install a series of monitoring cameras in areas where dog movements are believed to occur. There will be no charges levied for any property owners who agree to participate in this research project and any data collected will remain the property of the OTB Group. The OTB Group will NOT be using, sharing or releasing the data from this project for ANY purpose other than the development, testing and demonstration of the technology solutions, with the exception of the participating properties and the Wild Dog Committee.

By gaining a better understanding of wild dog movements across the shire, more targeted measures can be taken to control these animals in key locations.

Should you be interested in allowing the OTB Group to install motion activated cameras on your property, please record your interest by emailing Council's Biosecurity Officer Brittany Beetson at brittanyb@winton.qld.gov.au or by telephoning 4657 2656.

Should you require further information on the specifics of this wild dog tracking program, please contact Mr Michael Kaminski via email at mkaminski@otbgroup.com.au

Ricki Bruhn

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER