



# MINUTES

## Wild Dog Management Public Meeting Wednesday, 28 July 2021

**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL  
WILD DOG MANAGEMENT PUBLIC MEETING  
HELD AT THE WINTON SHIRE HALL SUPPER ROOM  
ON WEDNESDAY, 28 JULY 2021 AT 9.AM**

## **1 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

The Mayor recited the Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 PRESENT**

Cr Gavin Baskett (Mayor), Cr Tina Elliott (Deputy Mayor), Cr Cathy White, Cr Anne Seymour, Ricki Bruhn (Chief Executive Officer), Suneil Adhikari (Director of Works), Geoff Cox (Rural Land Manager), Ray Foxwell, Morgan Gronold (RAPAD), Michael Kaminski (OTB), Leia Mitchell, Katrina Paine, Rob Banning, John Banning, Ben Ogg, Robert Ellis, Carlin Ellis, John Shields, Peter McCalman, Shane Axford, Gavin Smith, Jimmy Smith, Bill O'Brady (QPWS), Shane Hume (QPWS).

## **3 MAYORS REPORT**

- Winton Shire Council has a total budget of \$43m for the 2021-22 financial year, including \$23m operating expenditure and \$20m capital expenditure;
- Rural Services have been budgeted \$1.2m;
- Council have \$260,000 contributed to wild dog management and an additional \$20,000 for council labour support.
- This year a decision was decided to include a \$5 pig snout bounty and Council will be lobbying the State Government to match this funding;
- All exclusion fencing is now complete with 8 properties receiving funding from Council through the Federal Government's Feral Pest Fencing Program totaling \$800,000;
- QFPI Round 5 applications have been finalised and there were no applicants from Winton. (9 successful applicants totalling 718km / \$2.5m);
- It has been 2 years since establishing 'Neighbours of Bladensburg National Park' to try and get an exclusion fence around the Bladensburg National Park. I've had several meetings with State Ministers and QPWS. Neither are supportive of the fence but are of increased aerial baiting in areas where the public don't access. The Deputy Director General for QPWS is still committed to visiting for one of our meetings;
- Wild dog carcasses hanging from trees and on signs, on main roads have created unwanted issues recently;
- I would like to thank Ben Ogg for his outstanding efforts as Chairman and congratulate John Banning on his new appointment;
- I would also like to thank the Committee, division leaders and helpers at baiting stations for their commitment to eradicating wild dogs.

#### 4 CHAIRMANS REPORT

- Thanked everyone for their support and for attending the public meeting;
- Asked if everyone could please refrain from hanging wild dogs from trees and signs as it was causing a lot of unwanted attention and criticism;
- The Committee held 2 aerial baitings during the year as well as a pig shoot with the help of Desert Channels Queensland and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement funding;
- I have approached the Mayor regarding taking action against comments made on social media;

#### 5 PRESENTATION BY MORGAN GRONOLD (RAPAD)

- Expressions of Interest for Round 5 of Queensland Feral Pest Initiative funding was distributed, a total of 5.5m worth of applications were received;
- The initiative was over-subscribed however RAPAD applied and received half of funds requested;
- The total of 5 rounds will complete 4,500km of fencing.

#### 6 QUESTIONS

Cr Anne Seymour asked Morgan Gronold: -

Is cluster fencing stopping migration of native animals and will you be putting corridors in for animals such as emu's?

Answer:

Discussions with Queensland Parks and Wildlife and other Government Departments regarding the issue is ongoing.

#### 6 DATA GATHERING BY MICHAEL KAMINSKI (OTB)

Mr Kaminski presented a powerpoint on obtaining and recording data of wild dogs such as migration and asked for access to properties to install motion camera's. The camera's have a battery life of 3 years and data can be accessed online.

Cr Cathy White

- Most of us know where the dogs are running on our properties;
- Is concerned with the participation rate in the Shire and if it will be beneficial.

Michael Kaminski

The data collected will go a long way in supporting funding applications but we do need to have people on board. The program is designed to show what dogs are being destroyed or moving from an area and if they are being replaced.

Ben Ogg

- This program is not costing the Committee or any land owners financially and the data will help obtain funding.

Katrina Paine

Where does the information go, who will own the information and who will be able to access it?

Michael Kaminski

I will not be selling or distributing data.

Cr Tina Elliott

Asked about the participation rate with baiting.

Geoff Cox (RLM)

Noted, volunteer numbers were decreasing.

Mayor Gavin Baskett thanked everyone for coming and offered everyone morning tea.

The Committee Meeting followed the Public Wild Dog Meeting.

**The Meeting closed at 10.09am.**

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

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**CHAIRPERSON**