



# **MINUTES**

## **Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, 2 August 2023**

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**MINUTES OF WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL  
WILD DOG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE WINTON SHIRE COUNCIL SUPPER ROOM  
ON WEDNESDAY, 2 AUGUST 2023 AT 2:00PM**

**1 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 2:00pm

**2 PRESENT**

Ben Ogg, John Banning (Chair), Harry Elliott, Adele Pentland (Deputy Chair), Leia Mitchell, Shane Hume, Frank McKerrow, Robert Ellis, Cr Gavin Baskett (Mayor), Cr Cathy White, Cr Anne Seymour

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Roger Naidoo, Dache Geiger, Geoff Cox

**3 APOLOGIES**

Cr Tina Elliott, Shane Axford, David Baker, Rob Fawcner, Andrew Richardson, Dirk Dowling (WSC CEO)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the apologies for the Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting held on 2 August 2023 be accepted.

Moved: Ben Ogg

Seconded: Cathy White

**4 SIGHTING AND COMPLETION OF DIVISION MAPS**

All completed their division maps

**5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting held on 3 May 2023 be confirmed, with amendments as provided by Cr Cathy White and Deputy Chair Adele Pentland.

Moved: Adele Pentland

Seconded: Ben Ogg

**6 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Nil

**7 CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**8 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Q-Dog Report (Cr Cathy White)

Q Dog – 23/5 – informal meeting 22/5 with QDog / RAPAD – support for

Q Dog ToR reviewed, Central West Pest Management Biosecurity and Wild Dogs.

CW Pest Management Group – review is going to happen in RAPAD Shires and how they are all travelling with wild dogs.

November meeting will be the review.

Cathy will circulate communicate.

**9 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

John Banning's Report

Chair report – John B stepping down and Adele moving in to Chair – thanks for the assistance and support during my tenure.

Advice for the future reach out and ask for help.

**10 DIVISION LEADERS REPORTS**

*Harry Elliott*

Pretty good down our end, but had a dog today. Fairly quiet, about 5 in a month and half. Nothing happening much but they are definitely out there. Getting the odd one. Duncan in Woodoo and Jessamine Creek saw footprints – another just on the edge of western division.

*Shane Hume QNPWS*

Dog visiting the Visitor Centre – couldn't deal with it in the public. A few tracks.

*Robert Banning*

A little bit of baiting appears to be working.

*Benn Ogg*

Since the rain one near the boundary and one other. They are sticking to roads and not much activity.

*Frank McKerrow*

Quiet – a few track around Leona – a dog up in Warrnambool recently – not big numbers.

*Leia Mitchell*

15/6 trapped one and another was shot, and another. Teviat killed one during shearing time. Lanifer got one a month ago, and another neighbour got 2.

*Cathy White*

One dog around at the moment – have a trap out.

*John Banning*

Tracks after baiting, but pretty quiet. No evidence of dog bites during shearing.

## 11 DIRECTOR OF WORKS UPDATE

- **Budget Update and Update on the review of our committee and how it's going**

**Cr Gavin Baskett**

Council budget - \$51m – \$26m operation and \$25m for capital

Wild Dog - \$260k for operation and \$20k for Council labour.

Bounty still \$5. \$100 scalps. Way more bang for buck. 190 dogs presented for the year so far.

Thanks for John Banning and his work from a number of participants. Thanks the committee, division leaders, and their efforts during baiting as well as staff.

Committees need to be strategic rather than operational.

- **Rural Lands Update**

**Roger Naidoo, Director of Works**

Still working through understanding the functions of the committee and its operation.

**Geoff Cox, Rural Lands Manager**

Last financial year – general baiting, Diamantina Engineering provision of the tables,

This financial year – Costs for the cold room repair – new condenser and upgrade to power supply.

7.5 ton of meat is in the freezer. There is enough chemical for this year. All tables are made.

- **Data gathering**

**Dache Geiger, Biosecurity Officer**

Couple more scalps since the report. Digital submissions are up - about 30% of claims since January. Appears to be working.

Up to today 191 in the calendar year, \$19,100 in payouts – total beats last year/

Pig scalps – Snouts \$5/snout . Not a huge level of participation. People have been seeing a lot more pigs – don't know that the current bounty is much of an incentive. Probably should increase the bounty.

Maps and density – where the majority of dog scalps come from. Past Bladensburg – more from down south than up north. Possibly an area where there aren't any baiting.

Helicopter shoot 1,200 and then 900, one in April and one in September after the weather event in 2020.

Electronic submissions are time and date stamped on the submission, photo and form submitted.

Where are the majority of the sightings (Roger) asked that the names be removed for privacy reasons.

## 12 GENERAL BUSINESS

### • OTB Update

OTB system to trial – Michael Kaminski – proposed trial – mainly negative feedback in what he wanted to do.

A draft Expression of Interest between OTB and WSC was sent out to landholders – most people didn't get an Expression of Interest. Not sure if it was actually actioned. It was sent out in a bulk email – had about 4 or 5 came back – lots around the table advised they had not received anything.

There were concerns about who had rights to the data. John Banning took the opportunity to raise the subject at the Council budget meeting as he hadn't seen any progress with the OTB proposal.

At the Dog watch meeting, OTB got the tick. We were praised about OTB and was published in Country Life and also Q-Dog – was embarrassed, as we have had no progress.

Not confident it was going to work – perhaps get Michael Kaminski (OTB owner) to have his trial elsewhere.

OTB had mixed reception – negative feedback – Ben sat down twice with him and there was interest. OTB was going to China to do some camera work.

Geoff Cox says we are able to set our own cameras up and would prefer to do it ourselves then we aren't tied to any contracts.

Cr Cathy White had 3 discussions with OTB and no progress really – Michael didn't push it. OTB are now working in Longreach.

### • COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 2023/1

**Winton Shire Council write to OTB saying it is no longer interested in the proposal being put forward.**

**Show of hands – CARRIED**

### • Baiting dates and weights for next baiting

Baiting dates – 9-13 October tentative – was discussed at RAPAD – David Arnold has taken on coordinator role.

Work on orders and weights and let Geoff Cox know.

Pig vs Dog baits – lot of pigs – cost – 50/50 dogs / pig baits.

Adele has list of requirements.

There are rules around sizes dogs are 125-250g and 500g for pig

Maybe start on a Sunday and finish on Saturday.

Depends on weather – trial purchasing prepackaged baits and are cheaper than current products.

Need a drum of fuel for Elliott, Ogg x 3, 5 for Cork, Franklin x 5 drums, Frank x 4 drums

Three quotes – local suppliers preferred – drums conditions are good.

## 13 ACTION LIST

Nil

**14 MOTION LIST**

Nil

**15 CHAIRMAN POSITION**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Moved: Ben Ogg

Seconded: Leia Mitchell

John Banning, Chairman of the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee step down

Vice Chair, Adele Pentland, to step up to Chair of the Wild Dog Advisory Committee

**Show of hands: CARRIED**

**16 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETING DATE**

Ordinary Meeting Wednesday, 8 November 2023 at 2pm in the Winton Shire Council Supper Room.

**The Meeting closed at 3:00pm.**

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

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**CHAIRPERSON**