



**Minutes of The Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting  
held in the Winton Shire Council Board Room on  
Wednesday 27 February 2019 at 3:00pm**

**Present:** Mr S Axford (Chair), Cr G Baskett (Mayor), Cr T Harbour, Mrs J Laidler (Director of Community and Economic Development), Mr G Cox (Rural Lands Officer), Ms L Alcorn (Biosecurity Officer), Ms K Waddell (Wild Dog Co-ordinator), Mr Grinke (QPWS), G Jorgenson (QPWS), Mr R Banning, Mr J Banning, Mr H Elliott, Ms L Mitchell, Mr F McKerrow, Mr B Ogg, Mr B Elliott, Mr G Jorgensen, Mr G Pidgeon (Department of Agriculture).

**Apologies:** Mr N Robinson, Mr R Fawckner, Mr E Enriken, Cr T Elliott, Mr R Bruhn (CEO).

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed Ms Kristy Waddell (Wild Dog Coordinator) and Ms Lynda Alcorn (Biosecurity Officer) to the meeting.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

**01.02.19** *Moved: Mr F McKerrow* *Seconded: Mr G Cox*  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record. **CARRIED**

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

The previous Dog Trapper ceased employment on 15 December 2018. The closing date to fill this position has been extended due to the recent flood event.

**Correspondence:**

Inward

- Phone call from Peter White resigning from the Wild Dog Committee. (There will not be a written resignation).

*The Chair to respond in writing thanking Mr White for his involvement on the Committee.*

Outwards

- Nil

**Financial Report:**

- The Financial report was tabled and discussed.
- Geoff Cox provided clarification on the report.
- The Committee queried whether the costing query from the last meeting was resolved.
- The Committee requested a change to the title in the report to Meat Prep Labour.

**Dog Activity:**

- J Banning* Mt Windsor – Nil activity;  
Not much activity over the area.
- F McKerrow* An abundance of sign over area;  
Shot 1 dog at Weona.
- R Banning* Kalkadoon – 1 track;  
*Wirilla* - An abundance of sign over area;  
Dogs not crossing the water yet.
- B Elliott* 1 resident dog killing sheep;  
A lot on the move;  
Violet – 3 dogs.
- B Ogg* Nil
- L Mitchell* Disposed of 5 dogs in December;  
1 dog in February;  
3 dogs tracking while mustering this week.
- H Elliott* 1 track since last bait.
- M Grinke* Dogs on the move between Mt Landsborough and AAOD;  
Lots of activity prior to the rain.
- G Cox* 6 in one week at Warnambool.

**Area Representative Position:**

Mr F McKerrow nominated Cr T Harbour for the position. Cr Harbour declined the position at this time.

Cr T Harbour suggested there be some incentive or reward to be a division leader.

Position still open.

S Axford suggested a roster system to manage baiting in the area.

**Reports:** The group held discussions on baiting.

F McKerrow noted that frozen meet is hard work and suggested having the meat staggered prior to freezing.

G Cox explained that the meat is now frozen individually and cardboard placed between meat.

S Axford noted that solid pods come from Boulia and are shared around.

Cr Baskett suggested advertising for volunteers prior to baiting.

Cr T Harbour to investigate having Work Camp assist.

K Waddell will try to gather more volunteers.

**Chairman's Report:** Issues have been discussed throughout the meeting.

*G Cox* L Alcorn is working on a map to bring to the next meeting. J Laidler suggested using digital map system however a lot of people don't have computer access or are not computer confident.

*K Waddell* Other Shires use a live map system developed through Ag-Force. Landowners can log dog sightings and movements.

*Cr G Baskett* RAPAD are confident of a successful application for the cluster fencing; Central West Pest Management Group is starting up again.

*J Laidler* Discussed portions of funding.

**02.02.19** *Moved B Ogg* *Seconded M Grinke*  
80% of the fencing & pest management grant go towards fencing and the remaining  
20% go towards pest management. **CARRIED**

**General Business:**

*S Axford* Is of the opinion that although NP&W staff do a great job, they are confined to the current restrictions of wild dog management. Mr Axford supports efforts to change the tolerance of wild dogs in our National Parks from moderate to nil tolerance.

Mr Axford distributed a questionnaire for discussion. The questionnaire will be sent out to property owners within a 50km radius of the Bladensburg National Park to collect data on dog movements and sightings around the Park. This data will be used to quantify and collate information to support the groups movement to change the tolerance.

*M Grinke* Suggested to include financial impact.

*G Jorgenson* Supports the questionnaire.

**03.02.19** *Moved F McKerrow* *Seconded R Banning*  
That the questionnaire be distributed to the rural community. **CARRIED**

Mr S Axford to send cover letter to Committee for final approval.

*J Laidler* Advised group as this is an Advisory Committee of Council, approval for the questionnaire to be distributed should be received from Council first.

*Cr T Harbour* Disagreed, as this is not a direction.

*Cr G Baskett* Suggested not having the Winton Shire Council logo on the questionnaire as it is for the Committee to gather information for Councils final decision.

*M Grinke* Suggested increases in funding.  
Suggested the Committee review the Wild Dog Management Plan. There may need to be less baiting and more exclusion fencing as baiting seems to be continuing over the years with no decline in the population.

*DAF* Agreed there have been increases not decreases in the dog population over the last 6 years, however cluster fencing is not sustainable in river country. There may be a need to increase Shire bounties.

*K Waddell* Would like to thank the Committee for having her and is impressed with the great functional group;  
Access CPE  
Guided by the Committee as to their needs;  
Covers 7 Shires and will communicate between all.

Next baiting dates are 13 -17 May 2018

**Next Meeting :**

The next meeting of the Wild Dog Management Committee to be held on 12 June 2019 at 3pm in the Winton Shire Council Board Room.

**Closure:** There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.13pm.

Minutes confirmed at the meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Mr S Axford  
CHAIRMAN