



**Minutes of The Wild Dog Management Committee Meeting  
held in the Winton Shire Council Board Room on  
Wednesday 12 June 2019 at 3:00pm**

**Present:** Mr S Axford (Chair), Cr G Baskett (Mayor), Cr T Harbour, Mr R Bruhn (CEO), Mr P Krisanski (Director of Works), Mr G Cox (Rural Lands Officer), Ms L Alcorn (Biosecurity Officer), Mr Grinke (QPWS), Mr R Banning, Mr J Banning, Mr H Elliott, Ms L Mitchell, Mr B Ogg, Mr B Elliott, Mr R Fawckner, Ms A Pentland, Mrs C White, Mr K Campbell (Trapper), E Entriken.

**Apologies:** Mr F McKerrow.

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed Ms A Pentland, Mr P Krisanski, Mrs C White and Mr K Campbell (trapper) to the meeting.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

**01.06.19**      *Moved: Mr B Ogg*      *Seconded: Mr G Cox*  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record with minor changes noted.      **CARRIED**

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Staff still working on a wild dog map.

**Correspondence:**

Outwards

26 surveys sent to neighbours of Bladensburg National Park regarding dog trapping and sightings.

Inwards

- 18 survey responses received.

**Financial Report:**

- The Financial report as at 11 June 2019 was tabled and discussed.
- No outstanding invoices on hand.
- Budget tracking well for this time of year.

Submitted to Council for decision on next year's budget - \$285,000 requested.

The Chair suggested a member review the baiting summary budget for the last 3 years to prepare for the upcoming one. Leah Mitchell and Cathy White volunteered and will report to members.

## Area Representatives

**02.06.19**      *Moved: E Entriiken*      *Seconded: B Ogg*  
Mr S Axford nominated Mrs C White for the Southern Division Representative.  
**CARRIED**

Mr Nick Robinson resigned from his position as Western Division Representative.

**03.06.19**      *Moved: H Elliott*      *Seconded: R Banning*  
Mr J Banning nominated Mr S Axford for the Far Western Division Representative.  
**CARRIED**

**04.06.19**      *Moved: B Elliott*      *Seconded: R Banning*  
Mr S Axford nominated Ms L Mitchell as Western Division Representative.  
**CARRIED**

## Reports:

*S Axford*      Report tabled.

*Cr G Baskett*      Thanked Mr Axford for his support and knowledge during his time as Chairperson.

*Cr T Harbour*      Thanked Mr Axford for his time as Chairperson and added Council is very supportive of the industry the committee is trying to protect.

*Cr T Elliott*      Thanked Mr Axford for his time in the position.

*Mr G Cox*      - 10 526kg of baits distributed.  
- Council has received another Request To Information regarding Stock Routes and Baiting.  
- Still needing more helpers during baiting  
- Plane logged 37hrs at \$550/hr and \$330/day for dispatcher  
- Could committee please advise Council of how much av gas is needed prior to baiting period as they were left short this baiting period.  
- Currently no meet in freezer.

## Dog Activity:

*J Banning*      Good baiting 2.5t distributed;  
No activity since baiting

*R Banning*      Cork was short on meat and helpers during baiting, however it turned out to be a good day.  
Drovers at Wyoming saw a couple of dogs.

*C White*      Submitted report by F McKerrow.

*B Elliott*      Meat was perfect during baiting.  
Drover seen tracks at Bendemeer, however could have been from previous drover.  
Maragong 1 dog  
Leswalt 1 dog  
2 dens at 1 dam

*B Ogg*      Not enough help during baiting.  
Has been a lot of activity since and Trapper is out at the moment.

*H Elliott*      Baiting went well.

2 Tracks seen since baiting.

**K Campbell** Been at Athelstane and could run that fence constantly and get dogs.  
A lot of surface water still around so dogs don't have to walk far.  
Currently at Ayrshire.  
Using Humane traps that don't hurt sheep.  
25 traps/day once set is a full day.

**L Alcorn** Noted the DRAFT Wild Dog Management Plan is complete and will be sent out for Committee to review.

**M Grinke** 1 dog on Western side boundary.  
Not much sign, baiting was successful.  
Has received additional baits since baiting.

**S Axford** Noted Mr K Campbell hasn't had a smooth start to the position.  
Meat co-ordination has been put on to G Cox. Please email him if you need the trapper.

**05.06.19** *Moved: R Banning* *Seconded: B Elliott*  
That the Committee increases the Trappers wage to \$300/day and stays at the current rate of \$200/dog. **CARRIED**

### **Review of Constitution**

**S Axford** Suggested updating the current Wild Dog Constitution as it is outdated.

**C White** Would like to see the report left as it is as a lot of work went into the document.

**Cr T Harbour** Explained to the Committee that the Committee is an advisory committee of Council and not an incorporated body and therefore should not have a Constitution but a Terms of Reference.

The Committee decided to Workshop the Constitution/Terms of Reference at a Special Meeting to be held on the 26 June 2019 at 9am.

### **Organic Property Strategies**

Please send locations of any organic properties to G Cox so these areas can be red zoned on the aerial map.

### **Exclusion Fencing**

**S Axford** Discussed the availability of applying for the \$200,000 pest management funding to go towards upgrading facilities.

**06.06.19** *Moved: B Elliott* *Seconded: S Axford*  
That Council be requested to allocate \$50,000 to \$60,000 of the Pest Management grant funds to upgrade Council's baiting facilities.  
- Drying tables  
- Coldroom  
- Floor **CARRIED**

### **General Business**

**Cr Baskett** Council will need to make some decisions on Exclusion Fencing.  
- \$ per KM  
- QRIDA Grants  
- Should sheep owners have a preference

- RAPAD funding
- Treasury Funding

*S Axford* Supports Treasury Funding.

**Departure** R Fawkner and Mr K Campbell departed the Chambers at 4.50pm.

**Positions**

*S Axford* Would like to call for position of Meat Co-ordinator.

Position Left Open

**07.06.19**

*Moved: L Mitchell*

*Seconded: B Elliott*

Mr S Axford would like to nominate B Ogg for the position of Chairperson. **CARRIED**

**Baiting Dates**

Baiting - 9 – 15 September 2019 (to be confirmed at Special Meeting 26.06.19).

**Next Meeting :**

The next Special Meeting of the Wild Dog Management Committee to be held on 26 June 2019 at 9am in the Winton Shire Council Board Room.

**Closure:** There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.09pm.

Minutes confirmed at the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2019

Mr S Axford  
CHAIRMAN

Chairman Report on 12/06/ 2019, May Baiting.

Due to a few X-factors, this May baiting was different to most. We have in the past, only put out the same amount of meat for this time of year and May is traditionally our smaller baiting. So I feel we have still achieved a worthwhile baiting program.

By making the call of downsizing the baiting meat and dropping one plane, allowed us to show support to our meat suppliers, who have always done the best they could for us. So I wanted to support them this time, as they were struggling with some of their own X-factors in getting meat. On talking to Cracker; he was good in the fact that we gave enough notice and that we have had a perfect run until now, which he does not get from most shires. I haven't officially seen his account yet, but it does look a little higher than normal, but will have to check that.

I would also like to thank the committee for adjusting to what we had to work with. I felt supported by the committee even though you weren't a part of the decision I had to make, quickly by myself, at 12.30 at night, after talking to Gav & Dan at the cold rooms.

Some of the meat supplied to Wantalanya was cut too big. I have talked to Ben Nichols, who supplied that meat and have hopefully rectified that for next time.

When Frank resigned and I took on Chairman, Meat Co-ordinator and some input to trapper co-ordination I said I would do it until June. So here we are, I am resigning as Meet Co-ordinator and at the end of the meeting I will step down as Chairman to hopefully make way for some new ideas and youth with a smile. It is too much for one person to do, and a lot of time taken away from my family, property and baiting division. We must remember we are volunteers.

I have got sour this year and I feel I am on the point of doing this good committee more harm than good. So today we need to spread the work load over more people in the committee, so please put some thought into what you can do to help spread the load.

After today I hope to still be a part of the committee and support the new Chair and Meat Co-ordinator and help more in my divisions as labour in those areas is light on the ground.

So let's move through the agenda which I have changed around a little in order as we have a lot to cover.

## WILD DOG DESTRUCTION COMMITTEE

### Financial report as at 11 June 2019

	<b>Actual 18/19</b>	<b>Budget 18/19</b>
Meat Purchases	115,505.41	123,470.00
Plane and Avgas	72,674.85	70,108.00
Trapper	48,437.38	61,860.00
Miscellaneous	7,179.10	2,062.00
Subtotal - Wild Dog Committee	243,796.74	257,500.00
Employee Costs	23,706.35	20,000.00
Subtotal - Program	267,503.09	277,500.00
Cost Recovery - Meat Sales		
Donation - QPWS	(1,000.00)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>266,503.09</b>	<b>277,500.00</b>
<b>Council Funding</b>	<b>277,500.00</b>	<b>277,500.00</b>
<b>Remaining Funds Subtotal</b>	<b>10,996.91</b>	
<b>Committed</b>		
Trapper		
<b>Remaining Funds Total</b>	<b>10,996.91</b>	

## WILD DOG DESTRUCTION COMMITTEE

### Financial report as at 11 June 2019

#### Details

##### Meat Purchases

Anthony Britton	16,945.95
Gavin Smith	28,297.50
Dan Nichols	28,280.00
Game Meat Processing	29,609.46
Rohan Elliott	2,191.70
Ben Nichols	10,180.80
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	<b>115,505.41</b>

##### Plane

South West Air Services P/L	59,467.81
Avgas	13,207.04
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	<b>72,674.85</b>

##### Trapper

**48,437.38**

##### Miscellaneous

G Cox - table repairs and mainenance; baiting legal issues	1,016.71
1080 baiting warning signs	646.40
signs	233.16
stirrup brackets	114.80
cement mixers	2,071.42
diesel for vehicles for baiting campaign	1,681.67
steel to repair tables	134.98
plastic bags for meat	1,279.96
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	<b>7,179.10</b>

##### Subtotal

**243,796.74**

##### Employee Costs

**23,706.35**

##### Total

**267,503.09**

**Shannon Van Bael**

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**From:** Frank McKerrow <frankmck@skymesh.com.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 June 2019 10:15 PM  
**To:** athelstanestation@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Shannon Van Bael  
**Subject:** Apologies and report from Frank McKerrow

Please accept my apologies and report for part of the Southern Division

Some dog tracks after baiting and the recent rain. Overall a lot quieter than before baiting.

Baiting day ran smoothly and we had a few helpers - some new ones. Thankyou to Lynda Alcorn for coming down and helping out.

Meat was nice and fresh, however aside from 200kg of pig size, most was too big (not dog size), and in some cases not cut up at all.

This meat was all cut up by the helpers on the day, and two people cut themselves - not badly - fortunately. This would not have happened if the meat was supplied to correct specifications. I raised this issue with Shane, and he has spoken to the meat supplier in question.

If a helper is severely injured at a baiting station, where do they stand with insurance? I feel that this needs to be investigated.

Regards,  
Frank McKerrow



Received from Cathy White  
13.6.19

### SOUTHERN DIVISION REPORT

In the beginning of April Peter shot 2 dogs off the back decking 20mtrs from the Athelstane house.

We have had the Kevin and Isabel the trappers staying at the Athelstane Quarters since Mid-April. He has trapped 7 dogs along the BNP boundary fence and one back in Mitchell Wells not far off the Colston boundary.

There are still some dog's tracks getting around the BNP boundary and Mitchell Wells. I was speaking to Jim and Sandra Smith yesterday afternoon and they reported that they have still have a dog killing as they have seen freshly bitten sheep since the rain on Friday.

Kevin has now gone onto Ayrshire.

Wantalanya baiting station went off well. We had 9 people attend which was a good number. I would like to thank Lynda Alcorn for driving down to attend the baiting station. Lynda helped cut up meat alongside us. I'm sure that she got a good practical insight into what this committee is trying to achieve in this shire.

The downside of this round of aerial baiting was the meat preparation and quantity. 90% of the meat had to be recut as it was all too big. (125g for a dog bait, and 350g for a pig bait). There was bags that had significant amounts of fat (photo) in them including heart organ that don't absorb poison. We usually put out 3.5t from Wantalanya. This time we only put out 1.7t of dog and 200kg of pig. Because of the season with surface water everywhere we needed to put out more meat to properly cover the areas that we needed to cover.

I was very encouraged by the landholder participation in the Southern Division. Everyone that I spoke to on the phone prior to baiting was keen to participate in the aerial baiting campaign.

Very disappointed with the amount of baiting done on the BNP. We had dog pads coming out of the North Western end of the BNP and the only baits that were put out were along the boundary and a little bit up the top of Surprise and Mistake Creeks. (the 21 creek should have been done as this has seen more dog activity than anywhere along the park in the last 5 or 6 years). At the time of the baiting there had no been any dog monitoring on the BNP side of the fence as there was no track since the March rain. So I ask the question "How does the National Park determine where the baits have to be put to protect the neighbours from their dogs if they do not monitor the boundary fence"?

Cracker told us that he had to ration the baits along the flight paths to try and cover the areas that he normally covers which means there would be less baits on the ground. (further apart) (normally 50metres apart but could be up to 150metres apart).

We have 1 drum of Avgas left. It is stored in the shed ready for October baiting.

We sold feeder steers in Roma 2 weeks ago. We had 1 dog bitten steer. This beast was severely discounted (photo). This happens most times we sell cattle. It is costing us a lot of money.

I don't think our dog problem will ever improve until they put a dog proof fence around the BNP.