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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President welcomed Councillors and staff and declared the meeting open at 3.34pm.

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr ML Geier

President

Cr KM Day

Deputy President

Cr D Hermon (entered at 3.50pm)

Cr B Huxtable

Cr MJ Cunningham

Cr JJ Jefferys

Mr J Criddle

Chief Executive Officer

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (3.35pm – 3.50pm)

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Officer Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday 18th December, 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Resolution

01-02/15 Moved Cr Hermon, seconded Cr Day that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday 18th December 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried 6/0

6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES

7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President, Cr Geier advised having attended the following meetings:

- Wheatbelt North East Regional Road Group Meeting in Mukinbudin.



The Deputy President, Cr Day advised having attended the following meetings:

- Wheatbelt Development Commission Meeting on the 11 & 12 February in Northam.

8. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

8.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

8.1.1 Accounts for Payment

File Reference	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements	
Date of Report	6 March 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	No Interest to Disclose	
Reporting Officer	Kay Geier, Senior Finance Officer	
Signatures	Officer 	CEO 

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits may be obtained.

Comment

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of December 2014, and January 15. The credit card statements currently show:-

CEO	<p>January 15 -\$2093.59 associated with the purchase of, Fuels \$326.78, Floor Rug front office \$349, Spot lights W/Spvsr vehicle \$199.30, Twin Accomm Jasmine & Stacey \$1218.51</p> <p>December 14 -\$2,542.57 associated with the purchase of; Licence & Plate change Colorado \$339.10, Accommodation & meals Fremantle \$767.64, Telstra Midland Gate \$396.02, Engel Freezer – Gift A Townrow \$859, Various Fuel purchases \$180.81.</p>
Works Supervisor	<p>January 15 -\$2367.10 associated with the purchase of; IBIS Hotel – Rate Incentive \$378.09, Keyboard & case pocket ram \$119.01, Meals Truck Roll Over \$70, WARP Training Judd \$1800.</p> <p>December 14 - \$1081.45 associated with the purchase of; Application for clearing \$150, Roman 11 Workshop \$66, Fuel \$227, Retain plates \$24, Bunnings hose fittings \$23.40, Main Roads heavy duty permit \$50, 2015 Diaries \$179.85, Accommodation \$249, Pavers Aged Units \$112.20.</p>

Statutory Environment

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.

Strategic Implications

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

Financial Implications

Expenditure in accordance with the 2014/2015 Annual Budget.

Voting Requirement

Majority

Officer Recommendation

That

1. December accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal vouchers 3078 to 3099 and D/Debits EFT 976 to EFT 1048 (inclusive of Department of Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Visa Card Payments) totaling \$383,914.52 be passed for payment.
2. January accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal vouchers 3100 to 3111 and D/Debits EFT 1049 to EFT 1075 (inclusive of Department of Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Visa Card Payments) totaling \$409,439.19 be passed for payment.



Resolution

02-02/15 Moved Cr Hermon, seconded Cr Cunningham that

1. **December accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal vouchers 3078 to 3099 and D/Debits EFT 976 to EFT 1048 (inclusive of Department of Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Visa Card Payments) totaling \$383,914.52 be passed for payment.**
2. **January accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal vouchers 3100 to 3111 and D/Debits EFT 1049 to EFT 1075 (inclusive of Department of Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Visa Card Payments) totaling \$409,439.19 be passed for payment.**

Carried 6/0

8.1.2 Monthly Statement of Financial Activity – December 2014 & January 15

File Reference	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Reports	
Date of Report	6 March 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	No Interest to Disclose	
Reporting Officer	Kay Geier, Senior Finance Officer	
Signatures	Officer 	CEO 

Background

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

Comment

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 31st December 14 and 31st January 15 is attached for Councilor information, and consists of:

1. Summary of Bank Balances
2. Summary of Outstanding Debtors
3. Balance Sheet
4. Budget v Actuals Schedules

Statutory Environment

General Financial Management of Council
Council 2012/2013 Budget
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

Policy Implications

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

Strategic Implications

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council's activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

Voting Requirement

Majority

Officer Recommendation



That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31st December 14 and 31st January 15 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

Resolution

03-02/15 Moved Cr Jefferys, seconded Cr Cunningham that Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 31st December 2014 and 31st January 2015 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

Carried 6/0

8.1.3 GST Reconciliation Report

File Reference	F1.4.4 Audit Reports	
Date of Report	6 March 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	No Interest to Disclose	
Reporting Officer	Kay Geier, Senior Finance Officer	
Signatures	Officer 	CEO 

Background

The Reconciled Balance of the GST Ledger to the General Ledger as reported as at 31st December 14 and 31st January 15 is provided to Council on a monthly basis as a means of keeping Council informed of its current GST liability.

Comment

The GST Reconciliation Report is attached for Councilor consideration.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in regards to Goods and Services Tax.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council's current GST liability, which has an impact on Council's cash-flow.

Voting Requirement

Majority

Officer Recommendation


That the GST Reconciliation totaling \$31,724, for the period ending 31st December 14 and That the GST Reconciliation totaling (\$15,851) for the period ending 31st January 15 be adopted.

Resolution

04-02/15 Moved Cr Hermon, seconded Cr Huxtable that the GST Reconciliation totaling \$31,724, for the period ending 31st December 14 and That the GST Reconciliation totaling (\$15,851) for the period ending 31st January 15 be adopted.

Carried 6/0

8.1.4 Development Assessment Panels

File Reference	D1.1.1	
Date of Report	14th February 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	
Reporting Officer	Jamie Criddle, Chief Executive Officer	
Signatures	Officer	CEO 

Background

Council will recall that the State Government has established a new process of dealing with development applications.

As of 1 July 2011, fifteen Development Assessment panels (DAP) came into operation in order to determine development applications that meet a certain threshold value.

Each DAP comprises of five members: Three specialist members, one of which is the presiding member, and two local government members.

Appointments of all local government DAP members expire on 26 April, 2015. Members whose term has expired will be eligible for re-consideration at this time. All appointments will be for a two (2) year term expiring on 26 April 2017.

All appointed local members will be placed on the local government member register and advised of DAP training dates and times. It is a mandatory requirement, pursuant to the DAP regulations, that all DAP members attend training before they can sit on a DAP and determine applications.

Comment

The DAP's process will have little to no impact on the Shire of Westonia given that the size of developments that are referred to the DAP's need to exceed \$7m.

DAP members receive sitting fees and will also be subject to compliance matters such as code of conduct and gift registers.

Current members of the DAP are Cr Geier, Cr Huxtable with proxy members Cr Day and Jefferys.

Statutory Environment

Town Planning and Development Act.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority.

Officer Recommendation

That Councillors nominate two members and two proxy members for the Wheatbelt Development Assessment Panel.

Resolution


05-02/15 Moved Cr Hermon, seconded Cr Cunningham that Councillors nominate the following representatives to the Wheatbelt Development Assessment Panel:

Cr B Huxtable (Member), Cr J Jefferys (Proxy)

Cr L Geier (Member), Cr K Day (Proxy)

Carried 6/0

8.1.5 Application for Exploration Licence (E70/4688)

File Reference	ES1.6.1	
Date of Report	14th February 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	
Reporting Officer	Jamie Criddle, Chief Executive Officer	
Signatures	Officer	CEO 

Background

The Shire has been advised of an application for an Exploration licence having been lodged by Newsearch Pty Ltd (E70/4688).

The application relates to land either side of the Westonia/Merredin Shire boundary, with the nearest cross road being Rabbit Proof Fence Rd and Barnett Rd in the area due west of Seven Oaks North (Barnett’s Farm) . See documentation in the Bulletin.

Comment

Newsearch Pty Ltd is an active junior/mid company active in mining and exploration throughout Western Australia.

Previous exploration approvals have been granted with the following conditions:

- 1) *That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected;*
- 2) *That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company’s mining conditions;*
- 3) *Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be banded so that it does not spread;*
- 4) *All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner;*
- 5) *All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner;*
- 6) *A firefighting unit is to be available at all times, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called;*
- 7) *No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram;*
- 8) *Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/ visitors;*
- 9) *All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling;*
- 10) *If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, in particular when working between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;*
- 11) *That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter “Westonian” prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and*
- 12) *That no drilling is to occur within any Shire gravel pits, and no drilling operation is to affect any part of the Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.*

Statutory Environment

The Mining Act prevails in this matter.

Policy Implications

N/A

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Voting Requirement

Simple majority.

Officer Recommendation

That Council grants approval to Newsearch Pty Ltd (E70/4685) to carry out drilling along sections of Council controlled road reserves with these respective Exploration Leases as shown on the attached maps on the following conditions:-

- 1) That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected;
- 2) That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company's mining conditions;
- 3) Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be bunded so that it does not spread;
- 4) All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner;
- 5) All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner;
- 6) A firefighting unit is to be available at all times, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called;
- 7) No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram;
- 8) Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/ visitors;
- 9) All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling;
- 10) If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, in particular when working between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;
- 11) That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter “Westonian” prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and
- 12) That no drilling is to occur within any Shire gravel pits, and no drilling operation is to affect any part of the Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.


Resolution

06-02/15 Moved Cr Day, seconded Cr Cunningham that Council grants approval to Newsearch Pty Ltd (E70/4685) to carry out drilling along sections of Council controlled road reserves with these respective Exploration Leases as shown on the attached maps on the following conditions:-

- 1) That dust suppression is carried out so that others are not adversely affected;
- 2) That any saline ground water found is contained by pumping it into a water trailer and disposed of through normal mining practices under the terms of the company's mining conditions;
- 3) Any ground water that escapes onto the ground around the drill site is to be bunded so that it does not spread;
- 4) All plastic bags used for soil samples are to be removed from the site and disposed of in a suitable manner;
- 5) All rubbish is to be disposed of at the local landfill site in the appropriate manner;
- 6) A firefighting unit is to be available at all times, and drilling is to cease if a total fire and harvest ban is called;
- 7) No drill holes are to extend under any public railway line or any roadways. Drilling being carried out is not to interfere with road drainage and must be beyond the batter line (this is to minimise damage to capped drill holes during maintenance grading) – refer to Typical Cross Section of Road Formation diagram;
- 8) Safety signs are to be erected in accordance with Australian Standards – to warn both mining staff, contractors, and the public/ visitors;
- 9) All drill holes are to be capped as soon as possible/practical after drilling;
- 10) If working within 100m from a residence, all noise generated is to be limited in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997, in particular when working between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;
- 11) That the proposed drilling work is advertised in the local newsletter “Westonian” prior to any work commencing to notify the general public of this work; and
- 12) That no drilling is to occur within any Shire gravel pits, and no drilling operation is to affect any part of the Rabbit Proof Fence in any way.
- 13) That all affected landholders be notified of the application.

Carried 6/0

8.1.6 Request for Approval of Mining Activities

File Reference	ES1.6.1	
Date of Report		
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	
Reporting Officer	Jamie Criddle, Chief Executive Officer	
Signatures	Officer	CEO 

Background

A request for approval of some mining activities has been received from Steve Norregaard, Director Jalmah Investments Pty Ltd
See the Attachment included within the Agenda Attachments.

Comment

Mining Lease M77/718 has been inspected by the Shire President and CEO to determine the suitability of the requests from Mr Norregaard.

The Princess Royal is a historic gold mining area and the resurrection of this type of activity in the area is not considered to be incompatible notwithstanding that it is on the town common.

Mr Norregaard has requested the following to assist in his efforts to commence mining operations at the Princess Royal site:

1. The previous mine owner Bob Harrison received a letter of support (as per attached). I would seek to have this support reaffirmed.
2. My intention is to utilise the main access track from Stoneman Road as is currently constructed and would seek a quotation from the shire to reinstate an 8m running surface from the Stoneman Road off take (Outside of that required to be reinstated by the shire in the road reserve as indicated by Judd) to a point 450m from there at the junction in the track adjacent/in close proximity to the Princess Royal shaft. The price can be simply for a formed up road with no gravel sheeting (ie use existing) and an option of similar scope with additional price with gravel sheeting (say 150mm).
3. Happy to contribute to any signage required to mark the off take point on the road and would request this be installed when possible.
4. Can I have a letter from the shire stating it has no interest in preserving the gazetted (Battler Road) crown reserve 14983 which bisects M77/718. The road doesn't exist thus the letter would serve to pre-empt any DMP questions as to the land use. As part of this can I assume that the shire will effect the "de-gazetting of this road" given it has no application anymore? See attached m77/718 plan showing the mining tenement, Stoneman road and the "Battler road which goes through m77/718 then has a 90 degree bend on the adjacent P 77/3713 joining back up with Stoneman Road.
5. Can I have it reaffirmed by the Shire that the maximum capacity trucks must adhere to a RAV 4 rating to comply with the shire road conditions/designations assuming haulage to Edna May (minesite).
6. In regards connection to Watercorp I have made an application and have assumed your shires support.

Mr Norregaard will need to obtain the appropriate Mines Department and Department of Environment and Conservation permits.

One general aspect of the proposed operation however is the matter of traffic safety where the access track to the Princess Royal joins to Stoneman Road. In particular traffic heading north-west on Stoneman Road passes over a crest in the road and has relatively short site distance to the beginning of the access track into the Princess Royal. Traffic safety signage will need to be installed by the Shire on Stoneman Road, at Mr Norregaard's cost, either side of the access track.

It is also considered appropriate that the existing track into the site be the only permitted access track rather than allow for the potential for a proliferation of tracks to be developed.

The matter of the request for a water take-off from the main supply is also one that requires comment. The water main heading out Stoneman Road services several farming properties to the north-west of this location.

As such it is considered appropriate that the Shire of Westonia not support a water take-off greater than a standard domestic supply. Given that Mr Norregaard has stated that the water is required for drinking purposes this should not be a significant issue.

The feasibility and cost of the water take-off will need to be determined between Mr Norregaard and the Water Corporation.

Mr Norregaard is also pre-empting possible setbacks imposed by the Department of Minerals and energy (DMP) in relation to the gazetted (Battler Road) crown reserve 14983 which bisects M77/718. As the road doesn't it is requested that the Shire considers "de-gazetting of this road" as the DMP will want to know why they are mining through a road reserve?

The process will be similar to the one performed on the disused road reserves north of Lake Deborah Road ie public comment, State department comment etc.

The final issue involves the cartage of existing tailings for processing at the Edna May mine site. This will involve cartage from the Princess Royal site, along Stoneman Road, along Boundary and Warrachuppin roads to the Edna May Mine entrance. The work supervisor has advised previously that only vehicles up to a RAV 4 rating are allowed to traverse this route.

Statutory Environment

N/A

Policy Implications

N/A

Financial Implications

The costs of the traffic safety signage and the water take-off point will be met by Mr Norregaard. Erecting of signage to be borne by Council and crossover from Stoneman Road to be completed by Council.

Voting Requirement

Simple majority.

Officer Recommendation

That Council resolve to advise Mr Norregaard as follows:-

1. That the Shire of Westonia agrees in general with the intent of re-activating mining activity as identified in Mr Norregaard's letter subject to him obtaining the appropriate mining and environmental approvals;
2. That Mr Norregaard will need to pay for traffic safety signage to be installed by the Shire on Stoneman Road either side of the access track into the Princess Royal;
3. That the existing track into the Princess Royal be the only permitted access to the site;
4. That the provision of one only standard domestic water service to the site is supported; and
5. The feasibility and cost of the water service be determined between Mr Harrison and the Water Corporation.
6. That Council only allow vehicle's up to a RAV 4 rating are allowed to traverse this route (from the Princess Royal site, along Stoneman Road, along Boundary and Warrachuppin roads to the Edna May Mine entrance).
7. That Council commence proceedings to de-gazette the road reserve known as "Battler Road" on crown reserve 14983 which bisects M77/718 and advised the Department of Minerals and Energy of this decision.

Resolution

07-02/15 Moved Cr Hermon, seconded Cr Jefferys that Council resolve to advise Mr Norregaard as follows:-

- 1. That the Shire of Westonia agrees in general with the intent of re-activating mining activity as identified in Mr Norregaard's letter subject to him obtaining the appropriate mining and environmental approvals;**
- 2. That Mr Norregaard will need to pay for traffic safety signage to be installed by the Shire on Stoneman Road either side of the access track into the Princess Royal;**
- 3. That the existing track into the Princess Royal be the only permitted access to the site;**
- 4. That the provision of one only standard domestic water service to the site is supported; and**
- 5. The feasibility and cost of the water service be determined between Mr Harrison and the Water Corporation.**
- 6. That Council only allow vehicle's up to a RAV 4 rating are allowed to traverse this route (from the Princess Royal site, along Stoneman Road, along Boundary and Warrachuppin roads to the Edna May Mine entrance).**
- 7. That Council commence proceedings to de-gazette the road reserve known as "Battler Road" on crown reserve 14983 which bisects M77/718 and advised the Department of Minerals and Energy of this decision with all costs to be incurred by Jalmah Investments Pty Ltd.**

Carried 6/0

8.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATORY SERVICE

NIL

8.3 WORKS AND SERVICES

NIL

8.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

NIL.


9. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

10. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING

08-02/15 Moved Cr Cunningham, seconded Cr Day that Council accepts one item of late business.

Carried 6/0

10.1.1 Eastern Wheatbelt Declared Species Group Future Funding

File Reference	ES1.2.4 Wild Dogs	
Date of Report	18th February 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	
Reporting Officer	Jamie Criddle, Chief Executive Officer	
Signatures	Officer	 CEO

Background

Council consideration is required on the proposed changes to the annual fee raising for the Eastern Districts Declared Species Group (EWDSG).

The Eastern Wheatbelt Declared Species Group (Wild Dogs) formed on the 7th of October in 2005, comprising representatives from seven shires across the Lake Grace and Merredin Zone Control Authorities. The ten shires include:

Mt Marshall, Nungarin, Mukinbudin, Westonia, Merredin, Yilgarn, Narembeen, Kondinin, Kulin, and Lake Grace to manage the impacts of wild dogs on farming businesses.

The EWDSG is supported by DAFWA, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), local government authorities, Royalties for Regions, Cliffs NR (Koolyanobbing Iron Ore) and Western Areas Forresteria Nickel project.

The EWDSG has access to three professional doggers which operate on government and private lands within the region.

These doggers are available to assist individuals and groups in determining if wild dogs are active within your area and assistance in developing appropriate control measures.

DAFWA biosecurity officers work closely with the EWDSG doggers to help deliver an effective wild dog management program across the region.

The main focus of the EWDSG has been in the prevention of wild dog predation on the livestock industry, however in recent times it has broadened its role by taking on some minor maintenance activities along a section of the No1 South State Barrier Fence. Two licensed Pest Management Technicians (Doggers) are employed by the EWDSG to control wild dogs and carry out minor maintenance on the State Barrier Fence.

Comment

Currently, as you will be aware, each member Shire pay an annual fee to which DAFWA match dollar for dollar. This amount increased to \$6,500 in the current financial year. However, DAFWA will not recognise the group as a Biosecurity Group (RBG) unless we collect the annual fee from individual ratepayers.

Once recognised as a Biosecurity Group the EWDSG intends to work with government to find a workable solution in collecting a pest rate within the agricultural regions, to undertake declared organisms control (of wild dog, fox & cat) into the future.

At a Committee of Management (COM) Meeting on the 15th December 2014 the following notes were made:

- Invoices will be created as per rate notice, if a farmer has 2-3 entities or 2-3 rate notices, they will be paying the rate 2-3 times.
- Mining tenements, at present, is not included on the legislation and thus not included on the rate modelling system.
- Urban tenements, at present are not included on the rate modelling system, however this will be addressed to include these ratepayers.
- Office of State Revenue may apply an administration cost of up \$15,000.
- All rates in the table (see Appendix 1 below) are a flat rate per VEN (Valuation Entity is an owner of parcels of rateable land.) Table supplied by Don Telfer, DAFWA on the 2/12/14. Figures are approximate and may change.

After deliberation, the following motion was moved: **Motion:**

The Group, working with OSR & DAFWA, implicate the flat rate of \$60 on properties over 5 hectares, effective from the 2015/16 financial year if possible. (Charging 3,420 VENs, generating \$205,138, which DAFWA will match.)

Moved J.Sullivan, seconded R.Burro.

CARRIED.

Council will need to form an opinion in relation to the dot points presented above. The view of the CEO is that a flat rate per assessment would not be equitable the levy should be based on either a rate per hectare or a rate per UV valuation and charged to landholders.

To ensure equality, all mining tenements should be included as part of the fee structure.

Participating Council's will not want to be involved in the administration of the levy collection and suggest that State Revenue be involved.

Statutory Environment

Nil.

Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter.

Strategic Implications

Long term funding of wild dog control activities to provide support for local landholders

Financial Implications

Budgeted expenditure allowance of \$6,500.

Voting Requirement

Simple majority.

Officer Recommendation

That Council forms an opinion in relation to the dot points presented by the Eastern Wheatbelt Declared Species Working Group and advise Council's Representative, Cr Hermon to forward Council's opinion to the Working Group.

09-02/15 Moved Cr Day, seconded Cr Cunningham that:

- 1. Council correspond to the Eastern Wheatbelt Declared Species Group advising of Council's disappointment that DAFWA and the State Government will no longer recognise the group as a Biosecurity Group (RBG) under the current funding arrangements;**
- 2. Council correspond to the Eastern Wheatbelt Declared Species Group requesting that the group investigate all alternative funding models with specific reference to the Unimproved Value (UV) model, and to include all Mining Tenements and properties under 5 ha. This would possibly require a change of legislation to do this.**
- 3. The Office of State Revenue be empowered to administer the program.**

Carried 4/2

Due to the confidential nature of the following item 10.1.2 CEACA Land Assembly Project it is requested that the meeting proceed in camera to discuss.


10-02/15 Moved Cr Cunningham, seconded Cr Hermon that due to the confidential nature of the following item 10.1.2 CEACA Land Assembly Project, that the meeting proceed in camera at 6.05pm.

Carried 6/0

11-02/15 Moved Cr Day, seconded Cr Huxtable that the meeting proceed out of Camera at 6.14pm.

Carried 6/0

10.1.2 CEACA Land Assembly Project

File Reference	CS1.1.1	
Date of Report	18th February 2015	
Disclosure of Interest	Nil	
Reporting Officer	Jamie Criddle, Chief Executive Officer	
Signatures	Officer	CEO 

Background

Greg Powell, CEO of WEROC was contacted in early February 2015 by the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) and advised that CEACA should develop an application for funding available through the Royalties For Regions program.

The funding is for an amount of \$2M and could be available before end June 2015. Funding applications are due on the 27 February 2015.

Information was sought from the WDC as to what funds might be available, the conditions of funding (including what the funds could be spent on) etc. The following was advised:

1. There is no specific “bucket” from which these funds are to be made available from but applications are being sought State-wide; and
2. Whilst there is no particular requirement as to how funds should be spent WDC agreed with the suggestion that a project with two components around the topic of land assembly, ie undertake an assessment of site requirements and then investment in utilities requirements at prioritised sites would be a good way to go.

Given CEACA has an extremely tight timeframe in which to prepare an application and at this stage CEACA will not meet until a few days before the closing date the WEROC CEO has requested Access Housing to prepare a costing to prepare the business case.

Access Housing have advised that the task of preparing the above business case would be a relatively simple one because much of the information can be sourced from the business case already under preparation. They have estimated that it will require an additional day’s work over and above their original proposal. Access may need to contact some Council’s to add to or verify data it currently has to hand. This brings the additional time to prepare this latest business case to not more than 2 days additional to the previous proposal.

Because engineering work is required Access Housing have also undertaken to scope for an engineering consultant to assist with costing of the utilities for the business case. Access Housing have advised that they do not expect it to be more than 10 hours work.

Comment

A decision from individual Councils is required. With the February round of meetings upon us it is requested that this matter be taken to Council in February for approval . It hoped that all 11 Councils should agree to applying for this money.

Because of the availability of this funding I also believe that a meeting of all CEACA Councils is required on Thursday 26 February 2015. At this meeting the business case can be ratified/endorsed and then submitted by the closing date the following day. Future meetings can be done by a smaller subcommittee should that be the wish of the group.

Statutory Environment

N/A.

Policy Implications

N/A

Strategic Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Voting Requirement

Simple majority.

Officer Recommendation

That Council endorse the actions of the CEO of WEROC in instigating the preparation of a Business Case and seek funding for the CEACA group to assist in the land assembly of individual sites throughout the CEACA region.

12-02/15 Moved Cr Cunningham, seconded Cr Hermon that the Shire of Westonia, through the CEACA group (Central East Aged Care Alliance) seek funding via the Royalties for Regions program for land assembly within Westonia for Aged Care.

Carried 6/0

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 19th March 2015, commencing at 3.30pm.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business the President, Cr Geier declared the meeting closed at 6.29pm.