



**MINUTES OF THE
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
18 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Murchison Regional Vermin Council for Any act, omission, statement or intimation occurring during this meeting. It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of Council's decision.





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18 SEPTEMBER 2018**

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 10.05 am and welcomed Mr Paul Hogan to the meeting.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present:

Chairperson Cr Jason Homewood, Deputy Chairperson Cr Robert Grinham, Cr Les Price, Cr. Carol Hodshon, Cr Eliz Morris, Cr Fred Spindler, Cr David Lefroy, and Cr Gregory Payne.

Apologies:

Nil

Leave of Absence:

Nil

Also in Attendance:

Mr Dominic Carbone CEO and Mr Paul Hogan, Exploration Manager Sinosteel Midwest Corporation.

3. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

6. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / SUBMISSIONS

Nil

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 12 June 2018

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr Carol Hodshon

Seconded: Cr Les Price

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 June 2018 as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED 8/0

7.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 30 August 2018

COUNCIL DECISION

Moved: Cr David Lefroy

Seconded: Cr Bob Grinham

That the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 30 August 2018 as circulated be confirmed as true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED 8/0

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER WITH DISCUSSION

Nil

9. PETITIONS

Nil

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

11. BUSINESS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

12. REPORTS

12.1 Reports of the Audit Committee

Nil

12.2 Reports of the Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer recommended to Council that the Order of Business be changed in order to allow Report No. 12.2.10 Alignment of the Murchison Region Vermin Cell Fence through Madoonga Station to be considered first by the Council which will then allow Mr Paul Hogan, Exploration Manager, Sinosteel Midwest Corporation to make his presentation to Council. It was then moved Cr Gregory Payne that Report No. 12.2.10 be brought forward which was duly seconded by Cr Carol Hodshon, there being no debate the Chairperson put the motion to the vote which was carried 8/0.

The Chairperson invited Mr Hogan to address the meeting.

12.2.10 Alignment of the Murchison Region Vermin Cell Fence through Madoonga Station

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone CEO
Interest Declared:	No Interest to declare
Date:	11 September 2018
Attachment:	- Maps proposed alignment

Mr Paul Hogan – Exploration Manager, Sinosteel Midwest Corporation Limited to be in attendance and make a presentation to Council.

Matter for Consideration:

That Council give consideration to the option/s outlined by Sinosteel Midwest Corporation Limited and confirms the alignment of the Vermin Cell Fence through Madoonga Station.

Background:

Council at its Ordinary meeting held on 12 December 2017 resolved as follows:

“That Council confirms the alignment of the unconstructed portion of the Murchison Region Vermin Cell to be as follows:

That (subject to adjustments to minimize the risk of future maintenance cost burdens) the final route for the fence required to complete the Murchison Region Vermin Cell be as follows: Across the northern end of Madoonga Station, across Meka Station, around the western boundary of Jingermarra Station to the State Barrier Fence.”

Statutory Environment:

Nil

Consultation:

Sinosteel Midwest Corporation Limited representatives.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Hogan for his presentation and assistance.

Mr Hogan then left the meeting at 10.42 am.

The Chairperson asked that a motion be moved to resume the Order of Business as detailed in the Agenda. It was moved Cr Gregory Payne that Council resume the Order of Business as detailed in the Agenda which was duly seconded by Cr Carol Hodshon there being no debate the Chairperson put the motion which was carried 8/0.

12.2.1 Financial Activity Statement for the Period 1 July 2018 to 31 August 2018

File:

Author: Dominic Carbone, CEO

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 11 September 2018

Attachment 1 - Financial Activity Statement for the Period 1 July 2018 to 31 August 2018
- Summary of Current Assets and Liabilities as at 31 August 2018
- Detailed Worksheets

Matter for Consideration

Adoption of the monthly financial statements.

Background

The Local Government Act and Regulations require local governments to prepare monthly reports containing the information that is prescribed.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

Section 6.4-Specifies that a local government is to prepare such other financial reports as are prescribed.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

Regulation 34 states:

(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the sources and applications of funds, as set out in the annual budget regulation 22(1)(d) for that month in the following detail:

- (a) Annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c);
- (b) Budget estimates to the end of month to which the statement relates;
- (c) Actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates;

- (d) Material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c);
- (e) The net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

Sub regulations 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 prescribe further details of information to be included in the monthly statement of financial activity.

Strategic Implications

Provision of timely accounting information to inform Council of the financial status and financial affairs of local government.

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

Financial Implications

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Comment

Accordingly the Chief Executive Officer has produced the above mentioned financial statements in order that the MRVC meets its statutory compliance.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:	
Moved: Cr Gregory Payne	Seconded: Cr David Lefroy
<i>That Council adopts the Financial Activity Statement for the period ending 31 August 2018..</i>	
CARRIED 8/0	

12.2.2 Accounts for Payment 1 July 2018 to 31 August 2018

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	11 September 2018
Attachment	Nil

Matter for Consideration

Council approve the Accounts for payment list for the period 1 March 2018 to 31 May 2018 as detailed in the report below.

Background

The Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a list of accounts paid and/or payable to Council and such to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

6.10. Financial management regulations

Regulations may provide for —

- (a) the security and banking of money received by a local government; and
- (b) the keeping of financial records by a local government; and
- (c) the management by a local government of its assets, liabilities and revenue; and
- (d) the general management of, and the authorisation of payments out of —
 - (i) the municipal fund; and
 - (ii) the trust fund,
of a local government.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

13. Payments from municipal fund or trust fund by CEO, CEO's duties as to etc.

- (1) If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared —
 - (a) the payee's name; and
 - (b) the amount of the payment; and
 - (c) the date of the payment; and
 - (d) sufficient information to identify the transaction.
- (2) A list of accounts for approval to be paid is to be prepared each month showing —
 - (a) for each account which requires council authorisation in that month —
 - (i) the payee's name; and
 - (ii) the amount of the payment; and
 - (iii) sufficient information to identify the transaction;

- and
- (b) the date of the meeting of the council to which the list is to be presented.
- (3) A list prepared under subregulation (1) or (2) is to be —
- (a) presented to the council at the next ordinary meeting of the council after the list is prepared; and
- (b) recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Comment:

The list of accounts paid for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 August 2018 are as follows:

**MURCHISON REGIONAL VERMIN COUNCIL
LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID AND PAYABLE
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2018 TO 31 AUGUST 2018**

DATE	PAYEE	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
PAID	No.		\$
7/1/2018	COMMONWEALTH BANK	BANK FEES	5.00
7/11/2018	DOMINIC CARBONE	PAYROLL FOR JUNE 2018	1,624.00
7/11/2018	LCIS	INSURANCE - FENCE	18,744.00
7/11/2018	SWAGMAN ROADHOUSE	LUNCH FOR MEETING JUNE 2018	255.00
8/1/2018	COMMONWEALTH BANK	BANK FEES	5.00
8/24/2018	CONNOR JONES CONTRACTING	FENCE MAINTENANCE NO.1	3,960.00
8/24/2018	ATO SUPER CLEARING HOUSE	SUPER CONTRIBUTIONS	204.97
8/30/2018	JASON HOMEWOOD	MEETING FEE	300.00
8/30/2018	LES PRICE	MEETING FEE	150.00
8/30/2018	FRED SPINDLER	MEETING FEE	150.00
8/30/2018	DAVID LEFROY	MEETING FEE	150.00
8/30/2018	ELIZ MORRIS	MEETING FEE	150.00
8/30/2018	CAROL HODSHON	MEETING FEE	150.00
	TOTAL		25,847.97

Voting Requirement:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr Les Price Seconded: Cr Eliz Morris

That Council approve the list of accounts paid for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 August 2018 amounting to \$25,847.97 and the list be recorded in the minutes.

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.3 Debtors – Outstanding as at 31 August 2018

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	11 September 2018
Attachment	Nil

Matter for Consideration

That Council receive the Debtors Outstanding Report as at 31 August 2018.

Background

Council be informed of debtors outstanding

Statutory Environment

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Comment:

The outstanding debtors as at 31 August 2018 are detailed below:

Fence Rental	<u>\$ 2,579.38</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,579.38</u>

Details of Outstanding debtors are available to members under a separate document.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr David Lefroy Seconded: Cr Gregory Payne

That Council Receive the Outstanding Debtors Report as at 31 August 2018

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.4 Investments as at 31 August 2018

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	11 September 2018
Attachment	Nil

Matter for Consideration

That Council receive the Investment Report as at 31 August 2018.

Background

Money held in the Municipal Fund of a Regional Local Government that is not required for the time being may be invested under the Trustee Act 1962 Part III.

Local Government Act 1995

Statutory Environment

6.14. Power to invest

- (1) Money held in the municipal fund or the trust fund of a local government that is not, for the time being, required by the local government for any other purpose may be invested as trust funds under the *Trustees Act 1962* Part III.
- (2A) A local government is to comply with the regulations when investing money referred to in subsection (1).
- (2) Regulations in relation to investments by local governments may —
 - (a) make provision in respect of the investment of money referred to in subsection (1); and
 - [(b)deleted]*
 - (c) prescribe circumstances in which a local government is required to invest money held by it; and
 - (d) provide for the application of investment earnings; and
 - (e) generally provide for the management of those investments.

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996

19. Investments, control procedures for

- (1) A local government is to establish and document internal control procedures to be followed by employees to ensure control over investments.
- (2) The control procedures are to enable the identification of —
 - (a) the nature and location of all investments; and
 - (b) the transactions related to each investment.

19C. Investment of money, restrictions on (Act s. 6.14(2)(a))

- (1) In this regulation —

authorised institution means —

 - (a) an authorised deposit-taking institution as defined in the *Banking Act 1959* (Commonwealth) section 5; or
 - (b) the Western Australian Treasury Corporation established by the *Western Australian Treasury Corporation Act 1986*;

foreign currency means a currency except the currency of Australia.
- (2) When investing money under section 6.14(1), a local government may not do any of the following —
 - (a) deposit with an institution except an authorised institution;
 - (b) deposit for a fixed term of more than 12 months;
 - (c) invest in bonds that are not guaranteed by the Commonwealth Government, or a State or Territory government;
 - (d) invest in bonds with a term to maturity of more than 3 years;
 - (e) invest in a foreign currency.

Strategic Implications

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Comment

The worksheet below details the investments held by the MRVC as at 31 August 2018.

MRVC INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 AUGUST 2018

INSTITUTIONS	SHORT TERM RATING	INVESTMENT TYPE	ACCOUNT NO.	TERM	DATE OF TRANSACTION	DATE OF MATURITY	INTEREST RATE	PRINCIPAL
Commonwealth Bank	N/A	Operating A/c	65210311201	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	0.50%	29,023.64
Commonwealth Bank	N/A	Cash Deposit at Call	36558508	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	2.30%	350,981.76
Commonwealth Bank	N/A	Cash Deposit at Call	36558508	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	2.30%	358,259.14
Commonwealth Bank	N/A	Term Deposit	36558508	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	2.17%	352,742.16
TOTAL								1,091,006.70

INVESTMENT REGISTER

01 JULY 2018 TO 31 AUGUST 2018

Commonwealth Bank of Australia - Cash Deposit Account Number 36558508

Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Opening Balance	Interest Earned to 31.08.2018		Investment Transfers	Closing Balance 31.08.2018
31-10-2018	2.30%	349,160.39	1,821.37		0	350,981.76
31-10-2018	2.17% & 2.30%	706,400.00	4,601.30		0	711,001.30
TOTAL		1,055,560.39	6,422.67		0	1,061,983.06

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr Carol Hodshon

Seconded: Cr Gregory Payne

That the Investment Report as at 31 August 2018 be received.

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.5 Vermin Fence Report as at 31 August 2018

File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone, CEO
Interest Declared:	No interest to disclose
Date:	11 September 2018
Attachment	Maintenance Contractor Report

Matter for Consideration

That Council receive an update from the CEO on the condition of Vermin Fence.

Background

The MRVC engaged the services of a co-ordinator to undertake an inspection of the Vermin Fence in order to determine what maintenance needs to be undertaken by the Maintenance Contractors. Two contractors have been engaged to undertake the maintenance.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Consultant

Nil

Comment

Fence No. 1

The Councils fence maintenance contractor, Connor Jones undertook the maintenance of the fence between 9 – 12 August 2018 and his report is attached.

Fence No. 2

No maintenance of the fence was undertaken.

The Insurance broker has advised that QBE has activated the settlement of claim amounting to \$77,000 less \$7,000 ITC less \$5,000 Excess to equal \$65,000 the amount was credited to the MRVC bank account on 11 September 2018.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr Gregory Payne

Seconded: Cr Eliz Morris

That Council receive the report of the CEO in relation to the maintenance of the Vermin Fence.

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.6 Annual Contributions – Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association

File:

Author: Dominic Carbone, CEO

Interest Declared: No interest to declare

Date: 11 September 2018

Attachment Letter dated 31 August 2018 to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Matter for Consideration

That Council receive the report.

Background

The Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association makes an annual contribution of \$28,000 to the MRVC for the purpose of maintaining the No. 1 and No. 2 Vermin Fences.

The MRVC Constitution was amended on 14 October 1985 and in part reads as follows:

“Contributions

(a) Matching monies from Agricultural Protection Board, via R.A.C. (Agricultural and Related Resource Protection Act) on a Dollar for Dollar basis.”

Statutory Environment

- Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976
- Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Regulations 2011
- Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007

Financial Implications

Potential loss of funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the Vermin Fences.

Consultation

Nil

Comment

A letter was sent to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on 31 August 2018 requesting that the Minister clarify as to whether the MRBA is able to stop payment of the Annual Contribution to the MRVC.

Voting Requirement

Simple majority.

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr Gregory Payne **Seconded:** Cr Eliz Morris

That Council:

- (1) Receive the report on Annual Contributions – Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association.

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.7 Progress Report – Stage 2 of the Vermin Cell Fence \$1,100,000

File:
Author: Dominic Carbone, CEO
Interest Declared: No interest to declare
Date: 11 September 2018
Attachments Nil

Matter for Consideration

Council to receive a progress report on stage 2 of the construction of the Vermin Cell Fence.

Background

A fence inspector has been appointed to assist in the overseeing of the construction process.

Financial Consideration

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Comment

The fence inspectors report to be provided at the meeting. The Fence Inspector has been invited to attend the meeting by the Chairperson.

The CEO received the following email from Mr Mayne Jenour from Jingemarra Station dated 20th August 2018.

“With regard to the surveyors track we are clearing, I will recommence dozing on Saturday 1st Sept. We are currently 5km from our southern boundary which I will finish on Saturday and then relocate the dozer to the south western boundary of Meka station on Sunday 2nd Sept.

On Monday 3rd we will then start heading west along the Murgoo boundary and then south long the Jingemarra/Ex-Yuin boundary to join with our current track. This total distance is approximately 75 km.

Working on a rough estimate of 10 km per day clearing plus any downtime such as repairs, maintenance and relocation, we would expect to finish the surveyors track completely around the 10th Sept.”

Voting Requirement

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr David Lefroy

Seconded: Cr Gregory Payne

That Council receive the progress report on the construction of stage 2 of the Vermin Cell Fence.

CARRIED 8/0

12.2.8 Review of the No. 1 Vermin Fence North of Gum Creek (at the intersection of the No. 2 Fence)

File:
Author: Dominic Carbone CEO
Interest Declared: No Interest to disclose
Date: 11 September 2018
Attachment: Nil

Matter for Consideration

That Council give consideration to retaining the section of the No. 1 Fence north of Gum Creek as a vermin fence or alternatively convert it to a cattle proof fence.

Background

The section of the No. 1 Fence referred in the report has been maintained as a vermin fence. However a number of pastoral stations in the area are grazing cattle instead of sheep.

Statutory Environment

Nil

Consultation

- Neds creek Station
- Paroo Station
- Yuono Downs Station
- Murchison Downs Station
- Cunyu Station

Comment:

An email dated 3 September 2018 was forwarded to the abovementioned stations seeking their preference as to whether the fence should be:

- (1) Retained as a vermin fence (dog proof)
or
- (2) Be converted to a cattle proof fence.

The respondents were given until 13 September 2018. At the date of writing the report three (3) responses were received.

- Cunyu Station, fence to be converted to a cattle proof fence.
- Neds creek Station, fence to be converted to a cattle proof fence.
- Yuono Down Station, via a telephone conversation, fence to be retained as a vermin fence.

Should additional responses be received they will be presented at the meeting.

Voting Requirement:

Simple majority

COUNCIL DECISION:	
Moved: Cr Carol Hodshon	Seconded: Cr Eliz Morris
That Council request the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a further report for Council Consideration at its December 2018 Ordinary Meeting of Council.	
CARRIED 8/0	

12.2.9 Fence Inspector – Services Provision
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File:	
Author:	Dominic Carbone CEO
Interest Declared:	No Interest to declare
Date:	12 September 2018
Attachment:	Nil

Matter for Consideration:

The report on the Fence Inspector services be received.

Background:

A request for quotation for the engagement of a fence inspector was prepared by the CEO and was duly approved by the Council at its meeting held on 13 March 2018.

Statutory environment:

Nil

Consultation

The Chairperson requested that a report be prepared for consideration by the Council at this meeting.

Comment:

The Request for Quotation states the following in relation to services requested.

“1.3 SERVICES REQUESTED

Under the direction of Chief Executive Officer the Fence Inspector is to conduct field inspections of the vermin cell fence construction project in order to ensure conformance with specifications, grant requirements safety and prepare reports on the project as may be required.

The Fence Inspector will work on an as required basis to perform the listed duties below and/or may be required to perform additional or different duties from those set forth to address the needs and or requirements of the project.

- (1) Inspect work quality and materials used during the various stages of the fence construction including survey of the fence alignment, grading of track, compliance with specifications in relation materials used, size, elevation and location.
- (2) Ensure that the contractors meet the requirements in relation to the funding agreement.
- (3) Observe work during progress and upon completion and recommend progress payments.
- (4) Confer with contractors and property owners and advise them of changes in plans and variances.
- (5) Conduct final inspection and complete final correction list and inspect corrections.
- (6) Review plans and specifications to gain familiarity with the project.
- (7) Confer with property owners regarding project schedule, hazards and inconveniences.
- (8) Prepare various inspection reports as required and maintain files and reports regarding inspection activities and findings.
- (9) Assist in the determination of the route of the fence within the MRVC reserve or easements to ensure least environmental impact and be cost effective.
- (10) Attend scheduled MRVC Ordinary Council meetings as required.
- (11) Liaise with the MRVC Chief Executive Officer as required”.

Voting Requirement:

Simple Majority

COUNCIL DECISION:

Moved: Cr Gregory Payne

Seconded: Cr Les Price

That Council receive the Report on the Fence Inspector Services Provision.

CARRIED 8/0

13. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED.

14. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

15. NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

16. ELECTED MEMBER MATTERS

Cr Robert Grinham raised the matter of MRVC compensating the Pastoralists making in-kind contributions for the construction of the Vermin Fence for the cost of the Fuel.

Cr Robert Grinham declared an interest on the matter and left the chambers.

It was moved by Cr David Lefroy that the Pastoralists making in-kind contributions for the construction of the Vermin fence be compensated for the cost of the fuel, which was duly seconded by Cr Les Price. There being no further debate, the Chairperson put the motion which was carried 7/0.

Cr Robert Grinham returned at 11.55 am and was informed of Councils decision.

17. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 11 December 2018

18. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 12.00pm.