



Minutes

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday 25 May 2022

Bush Fire Advisory Committee – 25 May 2022
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Notice of Meeting

Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting held at the Council Chambers at the Shire of Murray Administration Office, 1915 Pinjarra Road, Pinjarra on Wednesday 25 May 2022. The Chairperson, Cr. A Rogers declared the meeting open the time being 6:00pm.

Important Notes

It should be noted that decisions of this Committee are only recommendations to and not decisions of Council. Committee recommendations should therefore not be acted on or otherwise relied upon until Council has formally considered and decided on the Committee recommendations.

1. ATTENDANCES

Members

Cr. A Rogers (Presiding Member)	Councillor, Shire of Murray
Mr. R Marlborough (Proxy)	Manager Governance, Shire of Murray
Mr. D McLarty	FCO, Coolup VBFB
Mr. A Cocivera	FCO, Dwellingup VBFB
Mr. P Thurkle	FCO, North Dandalup VBFB
Mr. D McGuinness (Proxy)	Brigade Captain, South Yunderup/Ravenswood VBFB
Mr. B Bird	Brigade Captain/FCO, West Murray VBFB
Mr. K Jones	FCO, Pinjarra VFRS

Ex-Officio

Ms. C Goff (Minutes)	Ranger and Emergency Services Support Officer, Shire of Murray
Mr. B Finlay	District Officer – Wellington, DFES
Mr. S Gunn	Fire Operations Officer – Perth Hills District, PWS

Guests

Mr. D Unsworth	Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Murray
Mr. R Wilson	CBFCO, Shire of Murray
Mr. S Kirkham	1 st Lieutenant, Coolup VBFB
Mr. D Turner	Brigade Captain, Dwellingup VBFB
Mrs. L Webster	Brigade Member, North Dandalup VBFB
Mr. M Webster	Brigade Member, North Dandalup VBFB
Ms. S Daley	Brigade Secretary, South Yunderup/Ravenswood VBFB
Mr. G Kalbus	1 st Lieutenant, West Murray VBFB
Mr. D Sutton	3 rd Lieutenant, West Murray VBFB
Mr. A Taylor	Permit Issuing Officer, West Murray VBFB
Mr. I Bennett	Volunteer Fire Fighter, West Murray VBFB

2. ABSENT

Members

Mr. J Camplin (Apology)	Training Coordinator/FCO, South Yunderup/Ravenswood VBFB
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Ex-Officio

Mr. S Hurd	Fire Operations Officer – Swan Coastal District, PWS
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Guests

Mr. K Jones (Apology)	Brigade Captain, Pinjarra VFRS
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3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meetings - Appendix 1 - 26 May 2021

Committee Recommendation

BFAC22/001

Moved: D McLarty

That the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting held on 26 May 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:0

Council received and noted the minutes of the Shire of Murray Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 May 2022 including recommendation BFAC22/003, BFAC22/004 and BFAC22/005 at the 23 June 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting as per resolution OCM22/061.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

5. BUSINESS ARISING

5.1. Election of Presiding Member

File Ref: 1804-10
Previous Items: Nil
Author and Title: Robert Marlborough, Manager Governance
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Committee Recommendation
BFAC22/002
Moved: D McLarty

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee endorse the appointment of Cr. Ange Rogers as the Chairperson of the Shire of Murray Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC). This appointment will expire on 21 October 2023 to coincide with the Local Government Elections.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:0

In Brief

The Shire of Murray Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) is required to elect a Presiding Member.

Background

Council Committees elect their own Presiding Member from the relevant committee membership. A Presiding Member's term of appointment is until the next Council election or the incumbent resigns.

In 2012 the Bush Fire Advisory Committee formed the view that Fire Control Officers appointments only ran for one year and new Committee members should have the right to elect an alternative Presiding Member, therefore the term of the BFAC Chairperson was amended to reflect this position.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 October 2021 (Item 12.1), Council endorsed the following;

That Cr Ange Rogers with Cr Stuart Kirkham (proxy) be appointed to the Bush Fire Advisory Committee for a term expiring on 21 October 2023.

Report Detail

Nominations will be called at the meeting for the position of BFAC Chairperson.

Murray 2031 Strategic Community Plan

Focus Area	Places for People
Objective	Socially connected, safe and cohesive community
Strategy	Facilitate safe neighborhoods and communities

Other Strategic Links

Nil

Statutory Environment

Section 67 *Bush Fires Act 1954*; and,
Shire of Murray Meeting Procedures Local Law 2012.

Sustainability & Risk Considerations

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

Nil

Social – (Quality of life to community and/or affected landowners)

There is no impact on the quality of life of the community.

Environment – (Impact on environment's sustainability)

Not Applicable

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications.

Risk Management Implications

<i>Risk Level</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Low	Nil.

Consultation

- *Bush Fires Act 1954*,
- Council Records; and,
- Bush Fire Advisory Committee minutes.

Resource Implications

Financial

Nil

Workforce

Nil

Options

The Committee has the option of recommending to Council to:

1. Endorse the Presiding Member; or,
2. Reject the proposal.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the Committee endorse a Chairperson as elected, for a term expiring on 21 October 2023 to coincide with the Local Government Elections.

5.2. Election of Officers for the 2022/2023 Fire Season - Appendix 2 and 3

File Ref: 1809
Previous Items: Nil
Author and Title: Robert Marlborough, Manager Governance
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Appendix 2 - VBFB - AGM Minutes 2022
Appendix 3 - Nomination for Shire Training Officer and Fire Weather Officer

Committee Recommendation
BFAC22/003
Moved: D McLarty
Seconded: P Thurkle

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council to appoint Mr. Robert Wilson as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer by delegated authority for the 2022/2023 Fire Season.

CARRIED 7:1

Following the result of voting, names were recorded as follows:

For: A Rogers, R Marlborough, D McLarty, A Cocivera, P Thurkle, D McGuinness and K Jones.

Against: B Bird.

Committee Recommendation
BFAC22/004
Moved: D McLarty
Seconded: R Wilson

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council to appoint Mr. Peter Thurkle as the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer by delegated authority for the 2022/2023 Fire Season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:0

Committee Recommendation
BFAC22/005
Moved: A Roger
Seconded: D McLarty

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council to appoint the following persons by delegated authority for the 2022/2023 Fire Season:

Fire Control Officers:	Mr. Douglas McLarty – Coolup VBFB Mr. Anthony Cocivera – Dwellingup VBFB Mr. Peter Thurkle – North Dandalup VBFB Mr. James (Jim) Camplin – South Yunderup/ Ravenswood VBFB Mr. Brian Bird – West Murray VBFB Mr. Kevin Jones – Pinjarra VFRS
Fire Control Officers: (Permit Issuing Only)	Mr. Chris Sattler – Coolup VBFB Mr. Stuart Kirkham – Coolup VBFB Mrs. Lorraine Webster – North Dandalup VBFB Ms. Christine Thompson JP – West Murray VBFB Mr. Andrew Taylor – West Murray VBFB Mr. Michael (Mick) Gavranich – West Murray VBFB
Fire Weather Officer:	Mr. James (Jim) Camplin – South Yunderup/ Ravenswood VBFB
Deputy Fire Weather Officer:	Community Emergency Services Coordinator
Shire Training Coordinator:	Mr. James (Jim) Camplin – South Yunderup/ Ravenswood VBFB

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:0

Reason for Change

The recommendation changed due to no written nominations being received for the position of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer which resulted in the recommendation originally proposed being split.

D McLarty nominated R Wilson for the position of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer to which R Wilson accepted. No other nominations were received for this position therefore Committee Recommendation BFAC22/003 was carried.

R Wilson nominated P Thurkle for the position of Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer to which P Thurkle accepted. No other nominations were received for this position therefore Committee Recommendation BFAC22/004 was carried.

The election of Fire Control Officers, Fire Control Officers (Permit Issuing Only), Fire Weather Officer, Deputy Fire Weather Officer and Shire Training Coordinator were carried by 'En Bloc' resolution. Therefore, Committee Recommendation BFAC22/005 was carried.

In Brief

- For the Bush Fire Advisory Committee is to elect and recommend appointments required under the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and other appointments as deemed necessary.

Background

Brigade Fire Control Officer and Bush Fire Control Officer (Permit Issuing Only) appointments at brigade level are determined by each brigade at their respective Annual General Meetings (AGM) and this supports the Council BFAC membership structure.

Nominations were called at the meeting for the following positions -

- Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Fire Weather Officer
- Deputy Fire Weather Officer
- Shire Training Coordinator

With the introduction of delegated authority in recent years the endorsement of Fire Control Officers appointments by Council is no longer required as the Chief Executive Officer has the delegated authority under Section 48 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to appoint Fire Control Officers, inclusive of a Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers and Fire Weather Officers. The appointment of Fire Weather Officers requires additional DFES endorsement.

Report Detail

Accordingly, the proposal presented is for the Committee to support the appointment of the brigade nominated Fire Control Officers including Permit Issuing Officers from the Coolup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, Dwellingup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, North Dandalup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, South Yunderup/Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade and West Murray Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, as Fire Control Officers in the district.

Attached at **Appendix 2** for information purposes are the Shire of Murray Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades 2022 AGM minutes that detail the appointments of Brigade Officers in each of the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades, including Fire Control Officers and Fire control Officer (Permit Issuing only) for each Brigade area.

A written nomination, as detailed at **Appendix 3** has been received from Mr. James (Jim) Camplin for the position of Shire Training Coordinator and for Fire Weather Officer.

All Shire Rangers, the Coordinator Ranger and Emergency Management (when appointed) and the Manager Governance are appointed as Fire Control Officers and prosecutors, as required, under the provisions of the *Bush Fire Act 1954* at the time of their employment. The Community Emergency Services Coordinator (when appointed) is also a Fire Control Officer. There is no need to appoint or amend the appointments of these officers.

Murray 2031 Strategic Community Plan

Focus Area	Places for People
Objective	Socially connected, safe and cohesive community
Strategy	Facilitate safe neighborhoods and communities

Other Strategic Links

Nil

Statutory Environment

Fire Control Officers, Fire Control Officers (Permit Issuing Only) & Chief & Deputy Chief Fire Control Officers.

Section 38 (1) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* ('Act') states that a local government may from time to time appoint such persons as it thinks necessary to be its bush fire control officers under and for the purposes of the Act, and of those officers shall subject to section 38A(2) appoint 2 as the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and the Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer who shall be first and second in seniority of those officers, and subject thereto may determine the respective seniority of the other bush fire control officers appointed by it. The appointment of Fire Control Officers may be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 48 of the Act.

A local government or a person delegated the authority shall cause notice of an appointment made under the provisions of subsection (1) to be published at least once in a newspaper circulating in its district.

Fire Weather & Deputy Fire Weather Officers

Section 38 (6) (c) An approved local government may appoint to the office of fire weather officer such number of senior bush fire control officers as it thinks necessary. The appointment of Fire Weather officers may also be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer under Section 48 of the Act.

- (ca) Where more than one fire weather officer is appointed by a local government the local government shall define a part of its district in which each fire weather officer shall have the exclusive right to exercise the power conferred by paragraph (h).
- (cb) An approved local government may appoint one or more persons, as it thinks necessary, to be the deputy or deputies, as the case may be, of a fire weather officer appointed by the local government and where 2 or more deputies are so appointed they shall have seniority in the order determined by the local government.
- (cc) Where the office of a fire weather officer is vacant or whilst the occupant is absent or unable to act in the discharge of the duties of the office, any deputy appointed in respect of that office under paragraph (cb) is, subject to paragraph (cd), entitled to act in the discharge of the duties of that office.
- (cd) A deputy who is one of 2 or more deputies of a fire weather officer is not entitled to act in the discharge of the duties of the office of that fire weather officer if a deputy who has precedence over him in the order of seniority determined under paragraph (cb) is available and able to discharge those duties.

- (d) The local government shall give notice of an appointment made under paragraph (c) or (cb) to the Authority and cause notice of the appointment to be published at least once in a newspaper circulating in its district and the Authority shall cause notice of the appointment to be published once in the *Government Gazette*.
- (h) A fire weather officer of an approved local government, or a deputy of that fire weather officer while acting in the place of that officer, may authorise a person who has received a permit under section 18(6)(a), to burn the bush in the district of the local government notwithstanding that for any day, or any period of a day, specified in the notice the fire danger forecast issued by the Bureau of Meteorology in Perth, in respect to the locality where the bush proposed to be burnt is situated, is "extreme" or "very high", and upon the authority being given the person, if he has otherwise complied with the conditions prescribed for the purposes of section 18, may burn the bush.
- (i) This subsection does not authorise the burning of bush during the prohibited burning times.

Note: Fire Weather Officers must be appointed as Fire Control Officers pursuant to clause (6) (c).

Section 48 Delegation by local governments

- (1) A local government may, in writing, delegate to its chief executive officer the performance of any of its functions under this Act.
- (2) Performance by the chief executive officer of a local government of a function delegated under subsection (1) —
 - (a) is taken to be in accordance with the terms of a delegation under this section, unless the contrary is shown; and
 - (b) is to be treated as performance by the local government.
- (3) A delegation under this section does not include the power to sub-delegate.
- (4) Nothing in this section is to be read as limiting the ability of a local government to act through its council, members of staff or agents in the normal course of business.

The Shire Training Coordinator position is not an appointment specified within the Act. Council has traditionally recognised this position to assist the Shire in certain functions.

Sustainability & Risk Considerations

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

There are no economic impacts on the community.

Social – (Quality of life to community and/or affected landowners)

The appointments support the community and there is no negative impact on the quality of life.

Environment – (Impact on environment's sustainability)

There is no negative impact on the natural or built environment.

Policy implications

There are no policy implications and the level of risk is considered to be low if the recommendation is endorsed. The proposed appointments under delegated authority are in accordance with the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

Risk Management Implications

<i>Risk Level</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Low	Nil

Consultation

- Council Records,
- Bush Fire Advisory Committee minutes.

Resource Implications***Financial***

The cost of advertising the appointments is provided in the annual Shire of Murray budget.

Workforce

Nil

Options

The Committee has the option of recommending to Council to:

1. endorse the Officer appointments; or,
2. reject the proposal.

Conclusion

The Committee recommendations are to be used by the Chief Executive Officer under delegated authority to formally appoint persons in accordance with the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to the following positions;

- Chief Bush Fire Control Officer;
- Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer;
- Fire Control Officers;
- Fire Control Officers (Bush Fire Permit issuing only);
- Fire Weather Officer;
- Deputy Fire Weather Officer; and,
- Shire Training Coordinator/s.

5.3. 2022/2023 Firebreak Notice and Other Bush Fire Act 1954 Notices - Appendix 4, 5 and 6

File Ref: 1804
Previous Items: Nil
Author and Title: Robert Marlborough, Manager Governance
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Appendix 4, 5 and 6

Committee Recommendation
BFAC22/006
Moved: D McLarty

That Council

1. adopts the Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice, as attached at Appendix 4;
2. adopts the limitations relating to Camp and Cooking Fires within the district during the prohibited burning time, as attached at Appendix 5;
3. adopts the limitations relating to the Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish within the district, as attached at Appendix 6; and,
4. approves the publication of the Firebreak Notice, Camp and Cooking Fire Notice and Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish Notices in accordance with the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, before 30 September 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:0

Committee Recommendation BFAC22/006 was carried by the Council at the 23 June 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting as per resolution OCM22/060.

In Brief

To determine the Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice and other notices to manage bush fire related matters within the district.

Background

The current Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice (Notice) was significantly amended as part of a full review in 2020.

Report Detail

The Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice is made pursuant to the powers conferred in s.33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 (the Act).

In its current form is reasonably functional and provides sufficient means to direct landowners to take actions to implement works to prevent the outbreak or spread or extension of a bush fire within the district and it provides a mechanism for Special Works Orders to further reduce hazards, if required.

Within the previously adopted Notice there were provisions relating to limitations on Camp and Cooking Fires and the Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish in the district.

Recent advice, via another Local Government, after consultation with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services suggested that these two notices made respectively under S24G(2) and 25(1a) of the Act should not be included within the Firebreak Notice, they should be standalone notices published separately.

The proposed Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice with the Camp and Cooking Fires and the Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish provisions removed, is detailed at **Appendix 4** for consideration and recommendation to Council

The proposed standalone Camp and Cooking Fires and the Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish notices, are detailed at **Appendix 5** and **Appendix 6** for consideration.

Murray 2031 Strategic Community Plan

Focus Area	Places for People
Objective	Socially connected, safe and cohesive community
Strategy	Facilitate safe neighborhoods and communities

Other Strategic Links

Nil

Statutory Environment

Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides a local government the ability to make a Notice requiring all owners or occupiers of land within the district to take measures for preventing the outbreak of a bush fire, or for preventing the spread or extension of a bush fire which may occur.

Section 24G (2) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides a local government the ability, by notice published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulating in its district, to prohibit or impose restrictions on the burning of garden refuse within its district that is otherwise permitted under section 24F of the Act.

Section 25 (1) (1a) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides a local government the ability, by notice published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulating in its district, to prohibit or prohibit the lighting of fires in the open air in its district for the purpose of camping or cooking for such period during the prohibited burning times as is specified in the notice.

Sustainability Implications

Economic – (Financial impact to the community)

Nil

Social – (Quality of life to community and/or affected landowners)

Technically no amendments to the general fire prevention preparedness requirements are suggested. The proposal is to remove the Camp and Cooking Fires and the Burning of Garden Refuse and Rubbish provisions from the current Notice as this provides continuity and supports landowner compliance.

Environment – (Impact on environment's sustainability)

Nil

Policy Implications

Nil

Risk Management Implications

<i>Risk Level</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Low	The level of negative community feedback will likely be low as no change to the current Notice is proposed.

Consultation

- *Bush Fires Act 1954*
- Council Records
- Council Staff – enforcement officers

Resource Implications*Financial*

Funds are provided in the Shire of Murray Annual Budget to publish the Notice annually.

Workforce

Nil

Options

The Committee has the option of recommending to Council to:

1. support the recommendation presented; or,
2. reject the recommendation and commence making a new Notice or amend the current Notice to present to Council for consideration.

Conclusion

The current Shire of Murray Firebreak Notice is effective and applies a reasonable minimum standard of fire prevention requirements across land categories in the district to prevent the spread or extension of a bushfire, and the Notice prescribes additional abilities to manage higher risk land by way of Special Works Orders

Removing the two notices relating to limitations on Camp and Cooking Fires and the Burning of Garden Refuse in the district from the Firebreak Notice and publishing these as sperate notices supports recent advice.

6. REPORTS – EXTERNAL AGENCIES

6.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Report - Appendix 7

A report has been submitted as per **Appendix 7**.

6.2 Shire Training Coordinator Report

There was no report submitted by J Camplin however, there was brief discussion regarding training.

B Finlay stated that a Level 1 Incident Controller course was recently held at the request from Shire of Murray Brigades. Only one person from the Murray Brigades was in attendance which was disappointing.

A Structural Fire Fighting course has been planned however only 1 or 2 people have booked in. Therefore, the members may be placed on another course out of the area. An Advanced Bushfire course is scheduled for 9 July 2022 and a Crew Leader course is scheduled for 10 July 2022.

R Wilson agreed and stated that local training is organised at the request of Brigades which is then cancelled due to lack of numbers which is embarrassing. Introduction to Fire Fighting and Bushfire Fighting courses will be organised by J Camplin and R Wilson. R Wilson advised that cancelling courses also affects the Trainers as they will lose their competency if they do not deliver a certain number of courses per year.

Brief discussion was held regarding Workplace Trainer and Assessor courses. P Thurkle stated that Brigades need to look at further advancement for members to be able to train others.

6.3 Community Emergency Services Coordinator Report - Appendix 8

A report has been submitted from G Stevens and is attached in **Appendix 8**.

6.4 DFES Representative Report - Appendix 9

A report has been submitted as per **Appendix 9**.

6.5 DBCA Representative Report

In the last 12 months DBCA Perth Hills have completed a number of hazard reduction burns in Dwellingup, Boddington, in the Huntly Mine envelope and on Del Park Road, North Dandalup. DBCA Swan Coastal assisted at the Nambeelup fire.

S Gunn advised that it is his last BFAC meeting at the Shire of Murray. He has accepted another role at DBCA Mandurah. Once a replacement DBCA Perth Hills representative is identified S Gunn will advise the Shire. In the meantime, S Gunn requested that he receive information which he can distribute as necessary.

6.6 Volunteer Brigade Reports

6.6.1 Coolup VBFB

D McLarty on behalf of Coolup VBFB passed on his sincere condolences regarding the recent loss of Patricia Briggs. She will be missed.

Coolup Brigade has been quiet. There has been a good turnout. The Cadet unit is running well with the younger cadets progressing towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards.

D McLarty thanked R Wilson, G Stevens and all Brigades for their support. He looks forward to working with everyone in the next 12 months. He stated that the Brigade workshop was a great step forward looking towards the future.

6.6.2 Dwellingup VBFB

A Cocivera stated that it had been a challenging time with COVID-19 losing members. The Brigade has however had a few new members join.

Dwellingup Brigade have completed numerous burns up to 40 hectares which is great for asset protection for the area. It has been a quiet year for wild fires which is good but also concerning for the future.

A Cocivera advised that he is the new FCO for Dwellingup VBFB with only one more course to complete. He advised that D Turner has been very supportive. He thanked D Turner, R Wilson, P Thurkle and all Brigades for their support.

6.6.3 North Dandalup VBFB - Appendix 10

A report has been submitted as per **Appendix 10**.

6.6.4 South Yunderup/Ravenswood VBFB

D McGuinness advised that the Brigade has lost a lot of old members due to COVID-19. Newer members are starting to step up into Lieutenant roles.

It has been a sad week for South Yunderup/Ravenswood VBFB with the recent loss of Pat Briggs. D McGuinness thanked everyone for their support.

6.6.5 West Murray VBFB

B Bird on behalf of West Murray passed on his condolences. He stated that Pat Briggs had been a loyal friend to Chris Thompson for 20 years.

He advised that it has been a challenging 12 months. B Bird was elected as FCO for West Murray VBFB. Brian would like support from other Brigades and to be the main point of contact for the Brigade. Brigades were urged to not listen to gossip and to go directly to Brian to discuss any issues.

West Murray VBFB have had a few new members join. Izak Bennett is the new trainer as John Waite stepped down. Training has picked up and the Brigade are travelling in the right direction.

6.7 Manager Governance Report - Appendix 11

The DFES State Capability Team circulated a Annual and Preparedness Supplement Report for Shire of Murray that detailed the districts emergency management capacity for the previous year (2021). A copy is attached in **Appendix 11**.

6.8 Chief Executive Officer Report

D Unsworth expressed his gratitude to all Brigades. The Shire is here to support Brigades and look forward to working closely with them over the next 12 months. D Unsworth is wanting to address three main areas of concern being the Governance Structure, Communications and Training.

The Brigade Rules once reviewed/amended will be a great step forward for all. Looking towards the future of the Brigades and the Shire. We need to dedicate a solid 6 months to get it right.

D Unsworth would like to encourage more interaction between brigades. Meetings and workshops will be held more regularly. It was raised that an end of year function needs to be organised. Brigades work tirelessly and deserve to have some fun.

A special thank you was given to R Marlborough. D Unsworth stated that Rob is the one of the hardest most dedicated workers he has ever worked with. Rob is currently doing three jobs at the moment being the Manager Governance and also back filling the vacant Manager Ranger and Emergency Services and Community Emergency Services Coordinator roles.

7. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

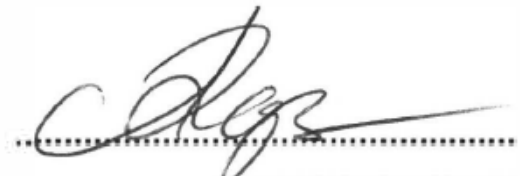
Nil

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date, time and location is to be advised. R Marlborough stated that a Special BFAC meeting will be organised for a BFAC structure review and to create a Terms of Reference. This will be done in conjunction with Brigade Rules workshop. More information will be distributed in due course.

9. CLOSE

There being no further business the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed the time being 6.36pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Unsworth', written over a horizontal dotted line.

CHAIRPERSON