



Appendices

**Bush Fire Advisory Committee
Meeting**

Wednesday, 8 July 2026

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Chantelle Goff

From: Donna Walker
Sent: Tuesday, 2 June 2026 12:08 PM
To: Coolup BFB; Dwellingup BFB; North Dandalup; South Yunderup; West Murray BFB
Cc: Anthony Cocivera (Dwellingup VBFB); Belinda Brown; Brendan Webster (North Dandalup VBFB - Captain) (Home); Chantelle Goff; Cr Ange Rogers; Cr Ange Rogers (Personal); Cr Doug McLarty (SoM Councillor/Coolup VBFB - FCO) (Personal); Cr Douglas McLarty; Cr Stuart Kirkham; Dean Unsworth; Jarron Van Elst (DCBFCO); John Kowal AFSM; Justin Crotty (West Murray VBFB); Justyn Bennett (DCBFCO); Ken Jones (Pinjarra VFRS - Captain); Kevin Jones (Pinjarra VFRS - FCO); Lawrie Caffin; Michael Webster; Nicole Stevens; Ricky Southgate (Department of Fire and Emergency Services); Stuart Kirkham (Coolup VBFB); Tracie Unsworth
Subject: Nominations Open - Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers 2026/27
Attachments: EOI - Chief and Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer - 2026.pdf; Assessment Matrix - EOI Attachment.pdf

Good afternoon all

I wish to advise that following the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 27 May 2026, the committee endorsed the Volunteer Chief Bush Fire Control Officer model for the Shire of Murray.

As such, the Shire is now calling for Expressions of Interest for the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Bush Fire Control Officers for the 2026/27 season. Please circulate this information to your members.

Nominations for these roles are to be addressed in the attached Expression of Interest fillable form which is to be completed along with any supporting information to mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au.

In the interest of transparency, and for your information, see also attached the Assessment Matrix which will be used by the assessment panel to assess each nominee.

Nominations are now open, please forward your Expression of Interest to mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au no later than **Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 5pm**.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Donna Walker

Manager Ranger and Community Safety

T: 08 9531 7709

E: rangersupport@murray.wa.gov.au

murray.wa.gov.au



Expression of Interest

Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer

Nominations 2026



The Shire of Murray is seeking Expressions of Interest (**EOI**) from suitably qualified, experienced and motivated individuals to provide leadership to the Shire's Bushfire Brigades as the Volunteer Chief or Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer for the Shire of Murray.

ABOUT THE ROLE

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (**CBFCO**)

The CBFCO is a key leadership role with responsibility to support, enable and empower members within the Bush Fire Brigades of the Shire of Murray.

The role is that of a leader, decision maker, planner and subject to any directions by the local government, has primary operational responsibility for ensuring the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades are functioning to a standard commensurate to the risks within the Shire of Murray.

As CBFCO you will report to the Manager Ranger and Community Safety and be responsible to the Shire of Murray Chief Executive Officer.

Applicants for the CBFCO should ensure understanding of the role and responsibilities as described in the *Position Description – Chief Bush Fire Control Officer*.

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (**DCBFCO**)

The DCBFCO is a key leadership role with responsibilities to assist and support the CBFCO and undertake the CBFCO role when unavailable.

The role of DCBFCO is that of a leader, decision-maker and planner, assisting the CBFCO in ensuring the Bush Fire Brigades are functioning to a standard commensurate to the risks within the Shire of Murray

As DCBFCO you will report to and be responsible to the CBFCO.

Applicants for the CBFCO should ensure understanding of the role and responsibilities as described in the *Position Description – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer*.

SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

- The 2025/2026 honorariums were adopted by Council as:
 - Chief \$2,500
 - Deputy/s \$1,500 (per Deputy)
- The 2026/2027 support arrangements will be considered in the Council Budget process and BFAC will be informed of the decision of Council when available.

SELECTION PRINCIPLES

- Merit-Based – Selection based on skills, knowledge, experience, and personal attributes against defined criteria.
- Transparency – Clearly documented process and scoring.
- Consistency – equal assessment process for all applicants.
- Defensibility – Evidence-based scoring that can be justified.
- Best Fit – Selection of officers who can effectively manage both operational and leadership aspects of bushfire management.

Expression of Interest

Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer

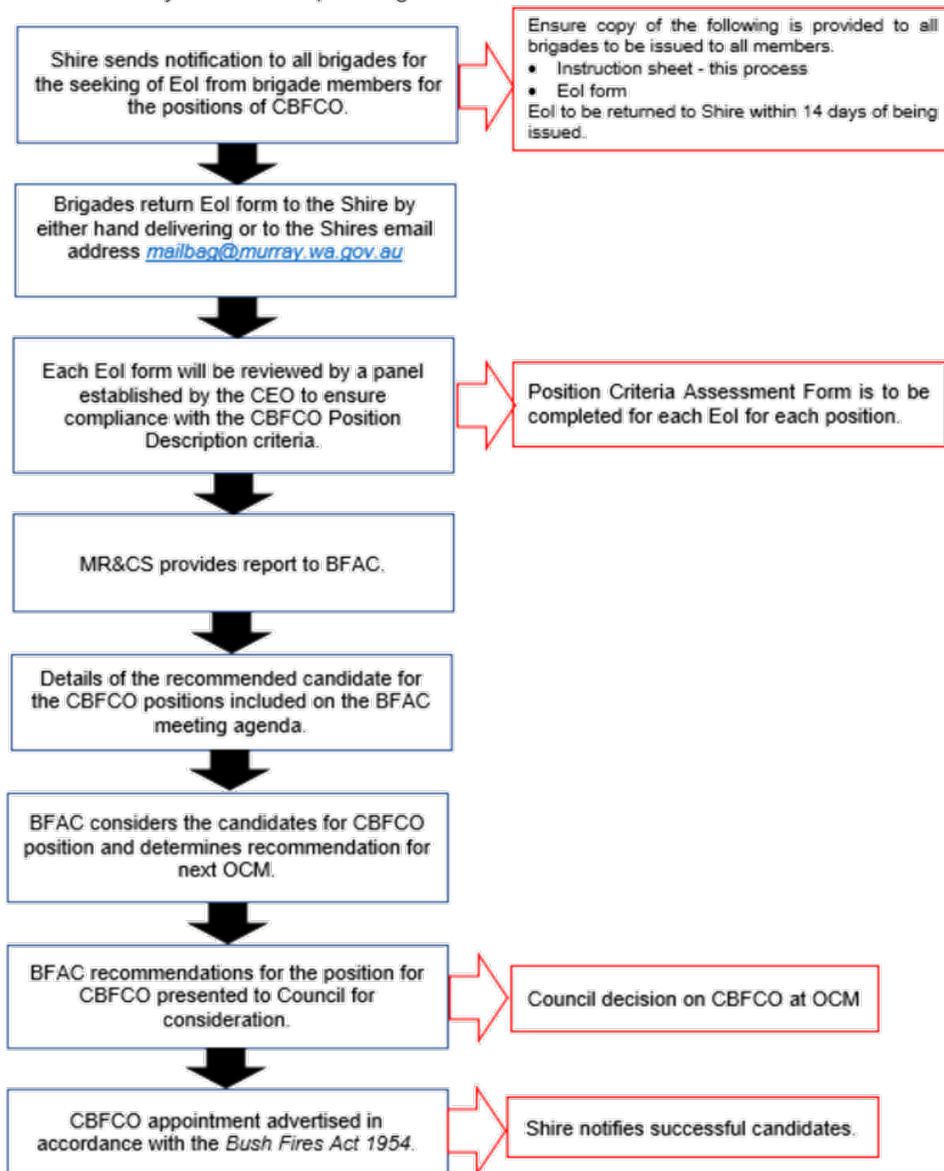
Nominations 2026



ELIGIBILITY

Requirement	Chief	Deputy
Endorsed member of a Shire of Murray Bush Fire Brigade	✓	✓
Minimum 8 years of operational bushfire experience	✓	Min 6 years
Completion of DFES accredited training (BFCO, AAIMS, Firefighter Safety, Leadership, Operations)	✓	✓
Demonstrated operational leadership experience	✓	Preferred
Sound knowledge of Bush Fires Act 1954 (WA) and local laws, SOPs etc	✓	✓
Good standing (no outstanding disciplinary actions)	✓	✓

The following process will be used to determine the appropriate selection and appointment of the Shire of Murray's Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer/s in accordance with the Bush Fires Act 1954, Shire of Murray Bushfire Brigades Local Law 2024 and the Shire of Murray Standard Operating Procedures.



Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



Experience

Briefly describe your experience regarding the following areas of expertise. You may provide details for all or only some elements as applicable to you and your experience.
(Dot points are acceptable if preferred)

1. Understanding of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*, local fire control requirements, relevant policies, SOPs.

2. Describe your experience and understanding of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 2020* as it relates to emergency volunteers.

Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



3. Are you available to attend incidents as required. What limitations would there be for you to be available such as work commitments, planned leave etc. How would you ensure appropriate and necessary actions of the Chief are undertaken when you are unavailable?

4. Provide at least 3 examples describing your experience in managing firefighting operations and/or incident management and how this supports your nominations for the role?

Example 1

Example 2

Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



Example 3

If you would like to provide more examples, please provide in a separate document.

5. Describe how you have or will provide leadership, coordination, oversight of operations and the activities of the Deputies, FCO's Captains and Brigade Members.

Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



6. Provide example/s of how you have or would provide or contribute to positive brigade culture, volunteer engagement, mentorship etc to the brigades, the community and the Shire.

7. Describe how you have responded to conflict or been involved in resolving grievances.

Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



8. Describe your personal attributes that will support you, the Shire and the Brigades in undertaking the role.

If need more space for any of your responses, please provide in a separate document.

Qualifications / Training

Please tick any qualifications or training that may be relevant and support you in the role.
(Note: Training will be confirmed via the DFES Volunteer Portal)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Fighter Awareness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Fighter Skills
<input type="checkbox"/>	AIIMS Awareness	<input type="checkbox"/>	WAERN Advanced
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Control Officer	<input type="checkbox"/>	On and Off Road Driving
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced Emergency Driving	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced Bush Fire Fighting
<input type="checkbox"/>	Structural Firefighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crew Leader
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sector Commander	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ground Controller
<input type="checkbox"/>	Machine Supervision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership Fundamentals
<input type="checkbox"/>	AIIMS 2021 Level 1 IC	<input type="checkbox"/>	Workplace Trainer and Assessor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health First Aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pump Operations

If you have undertaken other training that supports your nominations for the role, please list below and provide a copy of the certificate or similar to demonstrate successful completion:

Description of Training / Name	Copy Attached:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Expression of Interest
Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer
Nominations 2026



Declaration

I declare that I am eligible to become Chief or Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (as applicable):

Please tick

<input type="checkbox"/>	I hold a current driver's licence (C Class Minimum)	Type: C / HR / Other _____ (Circle relevant)
<input type="checkbox"/>	I hold the necessary current qualifications of a Fire Control Officer.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge that if I am selected as the Chief or Deputy, I will comply with the Shire of Murray Code of Conduct for Employees and the Brigade Standard Operating Procedures.	

Signature	
Name	
Date	

Please return this completed form and any supporting information to mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au.

Open Date: Monday, 2 June 2026

Closing Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 5pm

Assessment Matrix

Chief & Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer Nominations 2026



Extract from Panel Members Assessment Matrix - Provided to demonstrate transparency and inform candidates of how a nomination will be assessed - each criteria relates to the questions asked in the EOJ

Candidate Name:			
Eligible:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	If no, what is the reason:
Role:	<input type="checkbox"/> Chief	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy	
Date of Assessment:		Panel Member Name:	

Assessment Criteria	Description	Weighting (%)	Score (0-5)	Weighted Score	Panel Comments
Legislative Knowledge <i>Question 1</i>	Understanding of the Bush Fires Act 1954, Bush Fires Regulations 1954, local fire control requirements, relevant policies, SOPs.	15			
Safety and Risk Management <i>Question 2</i>	Knowledge and commitment to WHS principles, safe work practices, and promoting a safety culture within brigades.	15			
Operational Experience <i>Questions 3, 4</i>	Demonstrated practical experience in bushfire response, including leadership at incidents, sector command, or brigade captain-level experience.	25			
Leadership and Teamwork <i>Questions 5, 6, 7</i>	Ability to support, guide, and motivate volunteers; promote collaboration between brigades; resolve conflict and maintain morale, communicate effectively	25			
Personal Attributes <i>Question 8</i>	Integrity, reliability, calmness under pressure, community focus, and availability for after-hours call-outs and Shire representation.	10			
Training and Qualifications	Training as relevant to the role	10			
TOTAL		100			

Years of Experience:		If less than the minimum, is there sufficient evidence of skill, knowledge, leadership and understanding to undertake the role successfully? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Comments:
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Scoring Reference

Score Range (%)	Rating
0 = Not demonstrated	3 = Adequate
1 = Limited	4 = Strong
2 = Basic	5 = Exceptional

Suitability Rating Scale

Score Range (%)	Rating
85-100%	Highly Suitable
70-84%	Suitable
50-69%	Marginal
Below 50%	Not Suitable

Chantelle Goff

From: Donna Walker
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 5:12 PM
To: Coolup BFB; Dwellingup BFB; North Dandalup; South Yunderup; West Murray BFB; Anthony Cocivera; Doug McLarty; Justin Crotty; Kevin Jones; Lawrie Caffin; Michael Webster
Cc: Emergency Services; Coolup BFB Admin; Dwellingup BFB Admin; North Dandalup BFB Admin; South Yunderup BFB Admin; West Murray BFB Admin
Subject: Nomination Extension - 22 June 2026 - Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers 2026/27

Good afternoon all

The following proposed support arrangements are being considered by Council as part of the July budget adoption process:

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

A fit for purpose vehicle, including the following usage arrangements:

During the Limited Burning Times

- Permitted Private Use, limited to travel within adjoining local governments only
- Where use is for Chief Bush Fire Control Officer related activities, travel is not limited to adjoining local governments (eg. attending training in Perth)
- When CBFCO is unavailable (eg. on leave), the vehicle will be transferred to the Deputy delegated as Chief for the defined period

During Unrestricted Burning Times (open season)

- Vehicle will be kept at a central location (to be determined) and used as required by the Chief and Deputies

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Honorarium - \$1,500 each (limited to up to 3 Deputies)

In light of this proposal, and to ensure all nominees have the opportunity to consider these arrangements in the context of the roles, the nomination period for the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer positions has been extended to **9am on Monday, 22nd June 2026**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Donna Walker

Manager Ranger and Community Safety

T: 08 9531 7709

E: rangersupport@murray.wa.gov.au

murray.wa.gov.au



PO Box 21, Pinjarra WA 6208.   

AGM MEETING MINUTES

Coolup Volunteer Bushfire Brigade

Date | time 13th April 2026 @ 1900hrs | *Meeting called to order by* Stu Kirkham

In Attendance

Ange Rogers, Stu Kirkham, Doug McLarty, Jarron Vanalst, Tracey Bennett, Tom Kirkham, Charis Sattler, Jacob Dilley, Kristi McIntyre, Mark Dilley, John Dilley, Euan Rudyk, Maurie Leach, Jussy Woolley, Demi, Kyle and Murphy Druery, Tom Bostock, Kayle Woolley, Liv Woolley, Jay Freap, Rohan Pownall, Pete Bostock, Shane Woolley

Apologies

Dave Vuletic, Morgan Sattler, William McLarty, Tegan and Wayde Dixon, Alex McLarty and Jocelyn McLarty, Molly McIntyre Edmonds, Will Sattler.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes have been read from 2025 AGM & Moved by; Jacob , 2nd Kristi– *Meeting Carried*

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS AGM

Meeting Times to remain 2nd Monday of the Month at 1900hrs

Training Meetings times TBA

Correspondence In/Out

Request for the appropriate fittings to be provided for the suction thingy ma jig that.

WHS Audit on all Brigades from 20th April – Busy Bee???

Request from the Shire CEO that all Brigade minutes be forwarded through to the Shire

Medal List and Membership list sent through for review

Servicing will commence in May at Diesel Torque – All faults and repairs list need to be completed by end of April.

Tracey has advised that she has some more Brigade history to go through and add to the history files.

Eyan Rydyk membership has been processed and his is officially our newest member.

Bushfire Safety Awareness course for the 28th & 29th March was cancelled – Rescheduled for 18th/19th April

Recruitment ads for Cadet Leader, Truck Driver, Firefighters and Equipment Officer have gone live through DFES Seek program for new members – *We have had interest, but some are from out of area so we may need to see if we can make the criteria*

Nicole has put together a business case for the replacing the 1.4 appliance with a 2.4 being the preferred option – This is ongoing.

Treasurer Report – Ange Rogers

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Moved – Ange 2nd Mark - Meeting Carried

OUTGOING OFFICER REPORTS

FCO – Doug McLarty

Thanks to everyone for what you have done this year. We have had some significant turnouts and some interesting weather. We have had some out of area turnouts and kids who have got to be with Maurie this year. Thanks Maurie for turning out to nearly every fire. We have had an early break with the weather from cyclone Narelle. Don't be under the impression that a fire won't run though. We are in permit season so if BART goes off, please get on a truck and get out there.

Thanks to Dave and Ange for your administration work and thanks for all the Brigade work that happens behind the scenes. Thanks to all the other officers for their work. Thanks to the dynamic trio of Juss, Jarron and Brendan. You have done a lot of IC work and have done a great job. Special thanks to Nicole for taking on the role of chief and doing a great job. Thanks to Mick who started out in the role of chief especially with the significant events that occurred shortly after in your area.

Special mention to Kristi and Peta for the work you have done over the years with Cadets. Please make use any training opportunities in the off season and upskill and fill in training gaps if you can. Just because you may not have the availability to turn out to fires as much as you would like, your efforts are still valued. Any help that is offered around the Brigade in any capacity is very helpful. If you know a friend or a neighbor that might be a good fit to join our Brigade, introduce them to the station and we can try and get them trained in the off season and have them enter strong into the start of the fire season. All of your efforts are greatly appreciated by me and by the Shire. The shire is a better and safer place for all the work you do in it.

Captain – Dave Vuletic

Thankyou to everyone for their support and efforts throughout the past year. It's appreciated that Stu and the wider leadership team act on my behalf while I am away on roster. It helps to keep the brigade running seamlessly.

I really appreciate the contribution Peta, Kristi, and the Cadets make to the brigade and it's encouraging to know the community has these members to be the future of our brigade and the success we have had in our current members that we previously part of the Cadet program. Thanks to everyone who has attended meetings or training and helped around the station throughout the year. Volunteering your time for this is just as helpful as turning out to incidents as they are all required for the brigade to function.

Thanks to Doug and the wider leadership team for their support throughout the year.

Thanks to Ange for everything you do in your roles to support us, it makes my role a lot easier. Congratulations to Juss for continuing her deputy role this year. It's helped us as a brigade and a community and it's great to see how far you have come in the role. Going forward this season I'm dedicated to get our training program up and running regularly again with the hope to attract more members of the community to become involved with the brigade. It's amazing what we achieve as a small team and the feedback is continually positive in the way our brigade undertakes ourselves at incidents. If we can grow our brigade family we will be able to achieve more while having to each do less. Thanks again team

1st Lieutenant – Stuart Kirkham

I would like to thank Captain Dave and the other office bearers for giving their time and input for the last 12 months. We couldn't operate without our amazing volunteer team that make up the Coolup Brigade so thankyou for all of your efforts throughout the season and hopefully the rain coming this weekend will reduce the number of callouts. Special thanks to Maurie and Kristy for your awesome attendance at turnouts. Peta, Kristy and all that give time and support to the cadets, thanks for your time given to keep this going for the children in the local community. It's great to see them finally spending time as firefighters as they become old enough. It was a bit of a shake start as far as Chiefs, but thanks to Nicole and the Deputies for the leadership during incidents this season. Thankyou.

2nd Lieutenant – Trent Rogers

Thanks to everyone for all your efforts big and small. Thanks to everyone in our group for being the group that we are, we are respectful to each other and accepting of everyone's place whether its big or small. I'm very proud of our Brigade, we work as a team and as a family and we aren't afraid to pat people on the back when they have put in the effort like Maurie and Kristi. We have a good respect within this Brigade which is good to see. Congratulations to those up and coming on the fire ground and great job to Jacob for stepping up. I'm stepping back as Lt, thanks to everyone for the respect everyone has shown me in that role over the years. I'll still be here going forward and will still offer my opinions don't worry!

3rd Lieutenant – Justyn Woolley

Thanks to everyone. I really appreciate all the turnouts and help. Thanks for supporting me in my dual roles, it's not always easy to navigate but I try and keep them as separate as I can. Seeing the young ones when they are on the fire ground gives me great hope for the future of our Brigade.

4th Lieutenant – Shane Woolley

BOG for the year goes to Maurie and Kristi. Thanks to Peta and Kristi for running cadets. Thanks to Jacob for stepping up when needed. Thanks Trent for your input as Lt, its been fun!

Training Officer – Pete Bostock

It's been a quiet year. There was a trainers meeting a few weeks ago. There will be a training calendar that will come out soon. If you have any training gaps let me know and we can try and book you in for what you need. Thankyou for the support when I have reached out.

Cadet Leader – Peta Sattler & Kristi McIntyre

The year 2025 was another successful year for the Cadets, marking the tenth anniversary of our Unit. During the year, three Cadets successfully completed their training and transitioned into Brigade members. Jocelyn was formally awarded her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, and Alyssa was selected to attend the Senior Cadet Leadership Camp in Broome.

We also welcomed five new Cadets in 2025. Importantly, these Cadets joined from non-Brigade families, representing a significant and positive step towards strengthening Brigade succession planning.

In early 2026, we welcomed a further five new Cadets, while several of our older Cadets aged out of the program. Throughout the year, our involvement in community events was reduced, as our services were not required as frequently. However, we did assist with pack-up activities following the Pinjarra Festival.

The Cadet Unit continues to be actively involved in the annual Coolup ANZAC Eve Service. This year, we were pleased to welcome Major Leanne Iseppi to the Brigade prior to the service, where she assisted us with our preparations.

Cadets consistently demonstrate enthusiasm for learning new skills, particularly fire-ground-related skills. We hope to engage the Brigade further to support these activities, as opportunities in this area proved more difficult to achieve over the past year.

We sincerely thank those members who gave their time throughout the year to support the Cadet program. We also acknowledge and thank several new parents who stepped in to assist when required.

The Brigade nominated our Unit for the Cadet Unit Achievement Award in the annual DFES Youth Programs Awards. In March, we were announced as the winners. This award recognizes the dedication and achievements of our Cadets, as well as the many individuals who have supported the program over the past ten years, including the Brigade as a whole. In particular, I would like to thank Lynda, Kristi, and Jacob for their invaluable support over the last decade. As mentioned in the acceptance speech over the decade we have had 8 Cadets achieve 17 Duke of Edinburgh Awards, including 2 Gold and 12 complete training to become Active Volunteers – a significant achievement for our small community.

I have nominated to continue in the role of Cadet Coordinator until 31 December 2026. It is my hope that someone will step up to coordinate the program from 2027 onwards. I am more than willing to provide guidance and assist in a less regular capacity moving forward. Given the changing Cadet demographic, this is an important time for Brigade succession planning, and it is essential that we continue to actively engage and support our local youth and their families.

Good evening Coolup,

What a season it has been. Instead of using the “Q” word, we’ve been calling it a calmer season and while it may have felt that way at times across the Shire of Murray, it certainly didn’t slow this brigade down. This fire season has still seen you respond to a range of incidents, including bushfires, structure fires, car fires, rubbish fire and support to neighboring local governments when assistance was needed. Your willingness to step up beyond your own area speaks volumes about the capability and commitment within this brigade.

These warmer days are a timely reminder that the season isn’t truly over just yet. While we are starting to see cooler nights, which will certainly help ease the intensity and spread of potential fires compared to what we commonly experience during the peak summer months, conditions can still change quickly and require our attention.

Coolup, no matter the circumstances, your leadership group continues to pull together and get things done. The constant understanding, patience, and strong family mindset are what bring this brigade together and ensure the trucks roll out the door when it matters most.

A big shout out to Kristy and Maurie for consistently getting the 12.2 out the door. I’m sure the whole brigade would agree that you both drop everything at all hours, to make sure a truck responds when needed an effort that does not go unnoticed.

Ange, thank you for taking every one of my calls often quick, urgent, and without much notice and still making things happen. The role of Secretary involves a lot of work behind the scenes that often goes unrecognized, but your ongoing support and reliability are truly appreciated.

Dave, strong leadership like yours is hard to come by. It’s never easy having to wear both hats, the one that makes the tough calls and the one that supports the team but you manage to balance well. You should be proud of how you lead the brigade and how you share the workload, ensuring everyone feels valued and understands their role within the team.

To the wider leadership group, thank you for stepping up and taking charge of incidents when required and for putting your training into practice on the fireground. Your ability to lead crews, make decisions under pressure, and support one another ensures the brigade continues to operate safely and effectively at all times.

Doug and Stu, a big thank you for the work you now take on as FCO and Permit Issuing Officer. Managing permits, fielding requests, and navigating what can sometimes be unrealistic expectations from residents is no easy task. Your professionalism, patience, and commitment to doing the right thing for community safety does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated.

Chris, thank you for your work as Cadet Leader in pulling together a cadet program and continuing to upskill and mentor our future firefighters. The time and effort you invest into developing the next generation is invaluable to the long-term strength and sustainability of the brigade.

To everyone else in the brigade, thank you. Thank you for the sacrifices you make and continue to make whether it’s attending incidents, maintaining trucks and equipment, participating in training, or engaging with the community. Everything you do contributes to keeping the community safe, and it is genuinely appreciated.

Be proud of what you have achieved this fire season. Your efforts, teamwork, and dedication continue to make Coolup a strong and reliable brigade.

Thank you all

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICER BEARERS

All positions are declared vacant.

All positions voted on with new 2026 Office Bearers as follows:

- FCO – Doug McLarty
- Fire Captain – Dave Vuletic
- Secretary/Treasurer- Ange Rogers
- 1st Lt- Stu Kirkham
- 2nd Lt- Juss Woolley
- 3rd Lt- Shane Woolley
- Training Officer – Pete Bostock
- Equipment Officer – *No nominations received.*
- Permit Issuing Officers – Doug McLarty, Chris Sattler, Stuart Kirkham
- Cadet Leader – Peta Sattler – **STRICTLY until 31/12/26**
- Crew Co-Ordinator – Ange Rogers & Tracey Bennet (back up)

New Business Arising

Shire Structure – Doug - On Wednesday night there is a Leadership meeting regarding the future direction of the Shire leadership predominantly around the roles of Chief and Deputy and how that might look. It's to get some guidance from the Brigades. One of the options will be the potential for a paid chief role. I'm sure there are negatives and positives to all the potential pathways that will be presented. We can't declare a position yet because we don't know what's being presented. I'll bring that info back to the next meeting and we can discuss when I have more details.

Fire Breaks – Doug – At the BFAC meeting, potentially in the second half of May, the firebreaks are up for a review. We have had a large amount of complaints as there were some changes that were different from years past. If you have any constructive feedback that I can take to the BFAC and put forward, please pass it onto me and I'll raise it.

Jarron – The Mundaring DO has sent in thanks to all volunteers for assisting with the DBCA burns this year when required.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION

Motion: That Raalin Wheeler (Posthumously) and Mareen Wheeler be nominated for a Coolup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Honorary Life Membership Award **

Moved – Doug 2nd Entire Meeting 2nd – All Carried

** The Coolup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade will recognize An Honorary Life Membership to be awarded to individuals for exceptional contribution towards the Coolup Brigade.

“SHIT HAPPENS AWARD”

One Saturday night, Kristi and Maurie had turned the 12.2 out to a fire at the Waroona Rubbish tip....mmmm mmmmmmm I can smell it from here! A few hours had gone by, and Kristi realized that she had lost her glasses meaning she was one squint away from needing a seeing eye dog. Now they say that when you lose one of your senses, the others increase, but as I'm sure you can all appreciate, no one needed their nose upping their sniff to smell ratio when dealing with burning rubbish so the great hunt for the missing specs ensued. IC looked on in awe as not one, but TWO tip rats transformed before their very eyes. M-Rat and K-Rat scoured over Mount Trashmore but still couldn't locate the glasses. Other firefighters had their eyes peeled while working incase they came across the glasses. An excavator was brought in under the guise of turning the rubbish over to find hotspots, but we all knew it was there to locate the missing specs. Unfortunately, it seemed that the glasses were lost to Mount Trashmore, never to be seen again. Maurie and Kristi left the tip and returned home. About 10 minutes later, Maurie received a photo from Kristi.....it was a photo of her glasses snugly resting in her fire boots. It turns out she had put her glasses in her pocket, but she mis-judged and put them in the "scratch pocket" and they had fallen down her pant leg and the arm of the glasses had snugly landed in the side of her boot which is where they had been all along!!!

Meeting Closed @ 1952.

Next Meeting- 11th May 2026 @ 1900hrs

Please note you are required to attend three meetings a year.

These minutes are a true and correct,

Captain

Dave Vuletic



Dwellingup Volunteer Fire Brigade MEETING AGENDA

Date: Tuesday 31st March 2026

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Dwellingup Volunteer Fire Brigade Shed

Attendees: Jaime, Wendy, Anthony, Jarron, Dave, Jaxon, Kim, Michael, Nicole, Jono, Eldon, Rob H

Apologies: Brad,

FCO Report – Anthony Cocivera:

The 2025/26 year has been very busy for the Dwellingup Brigade.

Numerous mitigation burns have been carried out in the Dwellingup area and around 30-40 permits have been written for property owners to carry out mitigation burns

November/December and January were very busy months for the brigade with supporting numerous wildfires and incidents in the Murray region.

We assisted Parks and Wildlife for 8 days with the wildfire at Banksiadale being the biggest impact to Dwellingup.

I would like to thank all members of the brigade for there support over the past 12 months and thank those that assisted with all incidents, it's very much appreciated.

Call out to Jarron Vanelst deputy chief who is part of the Dwellingup Brigade, you have represented our brigade with distinction, and we are proud of the work and difference you have made in the community, your passion and leadership for Dwellingup and the shire is unmatched.

I would also like to thank the shire and the Murray chief, firstly Mick Webster and then Nicole Stephens for there support, also want to thank the other deputy chiefs in Brendon and Jussie.

Lastly again thanks to the leadership group at Dwellingup and all the members for their support. I will leave we must work on in the next 12 months in attracting more members to the brigade and getting them trained to future proof ourselves.

Captains Report – Dave Turner:

2025/2026

This season we have had 9 Dwellingup Fires, 18 Attendance fires and 9 structure mobile plant fires.

Our burning programs was put on hold as not getting the right conditions so we are 5 burns behind to go into autumn burning.

Like to thank all my office bearers for your support throughout the year and firefighters in supporting with burning off and attending fires for the shire.

Treasurers Report – Wendy Clitheroe:

NOMINATIONS for 2026:

1.	FCO	Anthony Cocivera
2.	CAPTAIN	Dave Turner
3.	1ST LIEUTENANT	Jarron Vanelst
4.	2ND LIEUTENANT	Kim Birmingham
5.	3rd Lieutenant	Jaxon Vellacot
5.	SECRETARY	Wendy Clitheroe
6.	TREASURER	Wendy Clitheroe
7.	MAINTENANCE	Anthony Cocivera, Jarron Vanelst Paul Reid
8.	WELFARE	Not Required
9.	TRAINING	Eldon Borkwood
10.	STATION	Duncan Stephens
11.	CADETS	On Hold

NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM for 2026:

1.	FCO	Anthony Cocivera
2.	CAPTAIN	Dave Turner
3.	1ST LIEUTENANT	Jarron Vanelst
4.	2ND LIEUTENANT	Kim Birmingham
5.	3rd Lieutenant	Jaxon Vellacot
5.	SECRETARY	Wendy Clitheroe
6.	TREASURER	Wendy Clitheroe
7.	MAINTENANCE	Anthony Cocivera, Jarron Vanelst
8.	WELFARE	Not Required
9.	TRAINING	Eldon Borkwood
10.	STATION	Duncan Stephens
11.	CADETS	On Hold



North Dandalup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
21st April 2026

Meeting Opened: 1835 hrs

1. Attendance:

Voting members: M Passos, D Collins, L Stafferton, P Dunbar, P Thurkle, C Watts, G Chapman, S Fairfull, P Bishop, L Webster, M Webster, B Webster, Amelia Chapman, T Whitfield, R Fairfull, K Collins, S Evans, J McInerney, K Bell

Guests: D Walker, C Jackson

Received Proxy Votes: K Smith, A Stafferton

Apologies: Ainslee Chapman, G Towns, M Sach, A Stafferton, P Bembridge, K Smith, L Parker

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Motion: "The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd April 2025 were accepted as true and correct."

Moved: LS Seconded: PD Carried

3. Reports

3.1 Captain's Report

Evening all,

This fire season pushed us hard, especially early on, and I cannot thank everyone enough for the dedication and commitment shown throughout. It was certainly testing at times on all levels, but the experience and lessons learned — good and bad — mean we have all gained something from it. Most importantly, we got through it safely, and that's a credit to the professionalism, awareness, and teamwork shown by every member of this brigade. I would also like to acknowledge Jett, Kev, Scott, Mario, and Amelia on successfully transitioning from probationary to firefighter this season.

From a non-operational perspective, the brigade has continued to strengthen its role in the community. We acquired a generator for our backup power supply — with special thanks to Kate and Lorraine for their hard work — and we supported a range of community fundraising and social events, including Whippy Griggs, the Halloween bubble play on the oval, the Santa Run, and the colour run at the primary school. These events take a huge effort and simply cannot happen without the support of our members. Thank you again.

Looking ahead to the 2026/27 fire season, my view is that we should retain the current Brigade Committee to maintain continuity and readiness. For those who are interested in stepping up, please keep asking questions and continue seeking opportunities to learn, mentor, and be mentored. Ultimately, every member will have their say, and the final decision will rest with the brigade as a whole.

My sincere thanks to all Members, Officers, and Committee members for their commitment and hard work throughout the year.

3.2 Adoption of annual financial statements

Motion: "1. That the annual financial statements be adopted as presented.

2. That the 2025-26 Financial Statements be audited within two months of this AGM meeting and be presented to a brigade general meeting for adoption."

Moved: LW Seconded: PT Carried

4. Appointment of Auditor

Motion: "That the brigade appoints external auditor to conduct the 2026/27 year Audit".

Moved: LW Seconded: JMc Carried

5. Election of Brigade Officers/Office Bearers

B Webster welcomed Donna Walker to take the chair to conduct the election of Brigade Officers/Office Bearers.

Brigade Officers/Office Bearers for 2026/27 are

Captain	Brendan Webster	Elected unopposed
Lieutenants	Chris Watts	
	Jimmy McInerney	Brigade Preference with numbering of
	Gareth Chapman	Lieuts determined on 1 st Officers meeting
	Rob Fairfull	
Secretary/Treasurer	Lorraine Webster	Elected unopposed
Training Officer	Scott Evans	Dual role
	Kevin Smith	

Confirmed: _____ Date: _____

Equipment Officer	Luke Stafferton	Brigade Preference
Maintenance Officer	Scott Evans	Elected unopposed
Community Facilitator		
Support Officer	Kate Collins	Elected unopposed
Fire Control Officer	Michael Webster	Elected unopposed
Permit Issuing Officers	Michael Webster Lorraine Webster Brendan Webster	Elected unopposed

Meeting handed to B Webster to continue chairing the remainder of the meeting.

7. **Nomination of Brigade Member to Advisory Committee**
Motion: "To nominate Michael Webster as the North Dandalup Bush Fire Control Officer to serve on the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) until the next Annual General Meeting".
 Moved: LS Seconded: PT Carried

8. **Nomination of Fire Permit Issuing Officer for the Shire of Murray Fire Break Notice**
Motion: "To nominate Michael Webster, Brendan Webster and Lorraine Webster to serve as Fire Permit Issuing Officers until the next Brigade Annual General Meeting".
 Moved: JMc Seconded: RF Carried

9. **Appointment of cheque signatories**
Motion: "That the following financial arrangements are authorized:
 1. The Brigade determined the accounts for the ensuing financial year will be held at the Bendigo Bank Pinjarra.
 2. Cheque signatories for 2026/27 financial year are Captain - B Webster, Lieut - J McInerney and Treasurer - Lorraine Webster.
 3. On-line banking access be afforded to the nominated persons at dot point 2 with a transaction monetary limit of \$5,000 per day".
 Moved: LS Seconded: GC Carried

10. **Motion: Voting slips to be destroyed by D Walker.**
 Moved: BW Seconded: LS Carried

11. **General Business**
 Nil

2026 MINUTES to be confirmed at next AGM meeting.

Next Meeting: AGM TBA April 2027

Meeting Closed: 1902 hrs

Confirmed: _____ Date: _____



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 18th of May 2026 commencing at 7.00pm

Official Opening

Meeting opened by Dean McGuinness at 7:00pm.

1. Record of Attendance/Apologies

Attendance record sheet distributed and apologies made.

Office Bearers

FCO	Lawrie Caffin (Apology)
Captain	Dean McGuinness
Secretary	Graeme Baldwin
1 st Lieutenant	Riley Jenkinson
2 nd Lieutenant	Luke Stevens
3 rd Lieutenant	Jasmine Treloar
4 th Lieutenant	Brock Cooper
Treasurer	Bruce Hunt
Training Officer	Vacant
Maintenance Officer	Gordon Newton
Permit Officer	Graeme Baldwin

Members

Stephanie Newman, Wayne Duffell, Tegan Gooding, Luke Gooding, Matthew Jones, Joe Maiolo, Garry Brehaut, James Gralton, Daniel Livingston, Melissa Cox, Carla Cleminson, Shane Woods, Bradley Purvis, Nathan Cox, Robert (Bluey) Wilson, Iann Todd, Mellissa Cox, Robert Cashman

Voting Officiator Donna Walker, Brendan Webster

Apologies

FCO Lawrie Caffin, Trish Port, John Fenton, Trevor Delaporte, Jamie McBride

Guests Apologies Jarron Vanelst

Motion: Recommendation that the attendees and apologies be accepted

MOVED BY: Riley Jenkins

SECONDED: Luke Stevens

CARRIED: Unopposed



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Motion: Recommendation that the reports for 2025-2026 be accepted
MOVED BY: Gordon Newton **SECONDED:** Matthew Jones
CARRIED: **Unopposed**

5. OUTGOING OFFICER REPORTS

5.1 Captains Report

I'm so proud of what the South Yunderup / Ravenswood Bush Fire Brigade members have achieved this 2025/2026 fire season.

From the recruitment, training, burning, turning out to every call out this year, patrolling Nambeelup, crewing the 12.2 plus deployment's out of shire well done.

Also, a big thank you to the following people without these people and the hard work they do in their positions and the time you put in this year we wouldn't be where we are now thank you.

Lawrence the FCO,

Riely the 1st Lieutenant,

Luke Stevens 2nd Lieutenant,

Jasmine Treloar 3rd Lieutenant

Brock Cooper 4th Lieutenant

Graeme Baldwin Secretary

Gordon Newton Maintenance

Steph Newman amazing job on organising and applying for grants thank you.

Tegan Gooding the excellent and professional work done on our social media is truly outstanding.

Wayne Duffell your time that you have put in this fire season is an outstanding achievement you deserve an award or a medal.

And to all of the South Yunderup / Ravenswood members that are not mentioned above keep up the great work you also should be proud of what you have achieved this year it is a group effort and we have a great group of people that are helping to grow South Yunderup/ Ravenswood to the best Brigade in the Murray Shire.

Your Captain

Dean Mcguinness

Motion: Recommendation that the Captains Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.
MOVED: Steph Newman **SECONDED:** Joe Maiolo
CARRIED: **Unopposed**

5.2 FCO Report

I haven't prepared another end of season report as I pretty much already said it all last meeting.

Many regards Lawrie

Last meeting report

Good evening, all,

Apologies for not being available tonight as I am at shire meeting regarding future firefighting resources, in particular water tanks.



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

I would like to start with; well, the season has changed and the rains are here.

Our fire season was not as severe as predicted although we did have Gull Rd that kept drawing us back to play in the sand pit. We also had plenty of fires that without the rapid responses of the brigades could have been a lot worse. We also had occurrences of multiple fires across the shire from lightning strikes which stretched our resources to the limits.

Our prohibited fire season was extended due to the lack of rain but having received some good rains now restricted burning is well underway with plenty of property owners requesting permits to burn, I have written plenty with Graeme having written lots more than I, so not every fire we see now is going to result in a call out.

Lastly, Riley and I attended a leadership meeting/workshop at the shire on Wednesday night, 15/04/2026, we were not sure what to expect but soon found out that the shire was asking for suggestions, feedback and thoughts as far as the chief and deputy positions and how they are sourced. This was done through a group exercise, discussing and writing our thoughts on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks, (Pro's & Con's) of the Chief position being volunteer based or career (paid) based. As far as we know no decision has been made by the shire at this point.

Thanks to all for your outstanding efforts during the summer season, not only with firefighting but the training and behind the scenes stuff as well.

Many regards Lawrie, FCO

Motion: Recommendation that the FCO Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: Gary Brehaut

SECONDED: Matthew Jones

CARRIED: Unopposed

5.3 Secretary

Since taking on the role of Secretary earlier this year, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me daily with all aspects of the brigade. I could not have done it without your help., I would also like to thank Steph for her work on the Grants Committee and Tegan for your media coverage throughout the year.

Regards Graem Baldwin

Motion: Recommendation that the Secretary Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: Carla Cleminson

SECONDED: Tegan Gooding

CARRIED: Unopposed

5.4 Lieutenants

First Lieutenant – Riley Jenkins

Evening all,

Thanks everyone for making the effort to come down tonight. I'd just like to thank everyone for their efforts over the past year, it's been a team effort that's helped us have a great year on and off the fireground. We have also definitely grown as a brigade over the year with lots of new faces around the place. Hopefully we continue this into the next year and enjoy some quiet time during the colder months.

Thanks, Riley Jenkins



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Motion: Recommendation that the 1st Lieutenant Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: Gary Brehaut

SECONDED: Bradley Purvis

CARRIED: Unopposed

5.5 Other Office Bearers

Maintenance Officer - Gordon Newton

Thank you for the support and care of the brigade equipment and vehicles over the past year, it's been great working with the new members and existing members again. I'd like to say thanks to the grants team for a great job done so far this year, keep up the good work. All so thanks Graeme for keep me on ball.

Gordon Newton

Motion: Recommendation that the Maintenance Officer Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: Tegan Gooding

SECONDED: Joe Maiolo

CARRIED: Unopposed

Permit issuing officer – Graeme Baldwin

I would like to thank Lawrie for all his help, advise and doing permits when I wasn't available. I have issued over 40 Permits in the last fire season.

Kind regards,

Graeme Baldwin

Motion: Recommendation that the Permit issuing Officer Report for the 2026 AGM be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: Iann Todd

SECONDED: Carla Cleminson

CARRIED: Unopposed



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

All positions are declared vacant.

POSITION	NOMINATED MEMBERS	
FIRE CONTROL OFFICER	Lawrie Caffin	
Brigade Representative at BFAC		
Elected: Unopposed	Lawrie Caffin	
CAPTAIN	Dean McGuinness	
Elected: Unopposed	Dean McGuinness	
1 st LIEUTENANT	Riley Jenkinson	
Elected: Unopposed	Riley Jenkinson	
2 nd LIEUTENANT	Luke Stevens	
Elected: Unopposed	Luke Stevens	
3 rd LIEUTENANT	Jasmine Treloar	
	Joe Maiolo	
Elected: By Ballot	Jasmine Treloar	
4 th LIEUTENANT	Brock Cooper	
	Daniel Livingston	
Elected: By Ballot	Brock Cooper	
SECRETARY	Graeme Baldwin	
Elected: Unopposed	Graeme Baldwin	
TREASURER	Bruce Hunt	
Elected: Unopposed	Bruce Hunt	
TRAINING OFFICER	Robert Wilson (Bluey)	
	Iann Todd	
Elected: By Ballot	Robert Wilson (Bluey)	
MAINTENANCE OFFICER	Gordon Newton	
Elected: Unopposed	Gordon Newton	



South Yunderup / Ravenswood Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

It is a requirement that the Ballot Papers be Held for 28 Days, once this goal is reached, they will be destroyed. Slips taken by the Voting Officiator.

It is a requirement at the AGM to nominate the FCO to be the brigade be the representative on the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC).

Motion: Accepted Nominations by the Leadership Committee and results above.
Recommendation that the Fire Control Officer, be nominated as the brigade representative at BFAC.

MOVED: Iann Todd

SECONDED: Steph Newman

CARRIED: Unopposed

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers...

7.0 Life Memberships

The following people have been put forward to receive Life Memberships to our brigade for their long-standing service and commitment, in addition to those already nominated.

No new nominations for 2026.

Motion: Recommendation to accept the above listed people to receive life membership to the brigade, be confirmed and accepted.

MOVED: N/A

SECONDED: N/A

CARRIED: Unopposed

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

No General Business

AGM Meeting closed at 7:29pm.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, 15th June 2026.

A sausage sizzle will be provided prior to every meeting starting at 1800.

Partners and families are welcome to join us.



WEST MURRAY VOL. BUSHFIRE BRIGADE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY 01st MAY 2026

Opened: By ...L. Barker.... at1831...hours and all welcomed

Present:

Jason Rowley	Justin Crotty	Brett Finlay
Ron Jones	Ronald McBride	Harmony Alchin
Anthony Scott	Alana Scott	Tibor Fekete
Lisa Busuttill	Liam Barker	Benjamin Barker
Millie Penman	Lance Giles	Tyler Bright
Andrew Taylor	Wade Donovan	Harry Hemmings
Neil Bradshaw	Jesse Liddell	Krystal Wallis
Ben Mountain		

Minute Taker: Lisa Busuttill

Guests: Ricky Southgate Donna Walker

Apologies:

Apologies with proxy votes:

Rachael Hinton	Mark Wood	Cameron Wilsdon
Terry Eaton	John King	Amy Healy
Robert Kettle		

All proxy voted were emailed, printed, and given to Chairperson beginning of meeting.

Previous AGM Minutes: 02nd May 2025

Moved: B. Finlay

Second: J. Crotty

That the minutes be received as true and correct. **CARRIED**

Business Arising: NIL

Corres.:

AGM Nominations Opened – emailed 01.04.2026

General Meeting Minutes 01.04.2026 – emailed on 02.04.2026

Member's Award Nominations – emailed on 02.04.2026

AGM/Annual Dinner Invitation – emailed on 02.04.2026

Multiple reminders – AGM Nominations

Multiple Reminders for RSVP AGM/Annual Dinner

Updated 2026 SW Regional Training Calander 2026 – emailed on 13.04.2026

AGM Nominations Closed – emailed on 14.04.2026

AGM Position Nominees – emailed on 17.04.2026

AGM Proxy Votes – emailed on 20.04.2026

Proxy Votes Due – emailed on 29.04.2026

Moved: A. Scott **Second:** L. Giles

That inwards be received and outwards endorsed.

CARRIED

Treasurer's Report:

Moved: B. Mountain **Second:** T. Bright

That the report be received.

CARRIED

Captain's Report:

Moved: H. Hemmings **Second:** J. Liddell

That the Captain's report be accepted.

CARRIED

F.C.O.'s Report:

Moved: W. Donovan **Second:** R. McBride

That the FCO's report be accepted.

CARRIED

Chair - ...Donna Walker.... to declare all positions vacant.

Notice of Nominations for consideration 2026 /2027

All nominations have been received via email. Names are in the order/ date received by the secretary.

Please refer to Position / Nomination paper previously e-mailed to all members.

FCO	Declared elected: Justin Crotty – Elected Unopposed
Captain	Declared elected: Justin Crotty
1st Lt.	Declared elected: Anthony Scott - Elected Unopposed
2nd Lt.	Declared elected: Cameron Wilsdon
3rd Lt.	Declared elected: Harry Hemmings
4th Lt.	Declared elected: Ronald McBride
Secretary	Declared elected: Rachael Hinton – Elected Unopposed
Treasurer	Declared elected: Alana Scott - Elected Unopposed
Training Officer	Declared elected: Brett Finlay – Elected Unopposed

Any other **AGM** Business as deemed by the Chair.

With no further business, the Chair closed at ...1915.....hours.

Please Note: Brigade Annual Dinner will begin at the conclusion of the AGM.

DFES Southwest BFAC report

as of 30/06/2026

Fire Season 25/26

DFES would like to thank the Shire of Murray for the ongoing support across the 2025 / 2026 season across the state. With brigades providing multiple shifts across other Shires as far as Shark bay to the North and Boddington to the East.

Training

The DFES Southwest region has released the 2026 training Calendar and encourages people to apply, with courses already being oversubscribed. See attached training Calendar to disseminate to brigades.

While there is an ongoing increase in training requirements for LGA, the DFES Southwest region will support LG volunteers in becoming trainers to facilitate training within each LGA to assist LGA to meet training requirements. Should you have members wishing to go down the pathway to become a trainer and assessor please let me know.

Mitigation works through Department of Justice

The DFES SW region is now utilising s95 crews from the Bunbury regional prison and Karnet Prison to carry out mitigation work on UCL UMR within gazetted town sites. DFES State Mitigation Perth based will also be available to send crews to complete work as required, including sending crews for DFES prescribed burns if required.

High Season Fleet

Thank you to the Shire for crewing the LT and 2.4 that forms part of the States seasonal fleet. This has worked well and I will look to advocate for having an appliance placed within the Shire for the 26/27 season.

Suspicious fire

Several suspicious fires have occurred in various Southwest local governments this year and DFES asks that if you observe any suspicious behaviour to call 000 immediately. If you suspect someone of arson or fire lighting, make a report online or call Crime Stoppers on 1300 333 000.

Staff Movements

As some are aware, I have taken the District Officer role. I am pleased to let you all know that Kohdy Flynn from Collie is now in the AO role commenced 4th May.

Ricky Southgate

District Officer Wellington



Dear Members,

This season presented a unique fire season. We spent a significant amount of time responding to incidents early in the season, followed by an unusually long quiet period where many of us were left wondering what was around the corner.

Throughout the season, we provided considerably more assistance to DBCA than in previous years due to the scale of their prescribed burning program. In particular, the Dwellingup Brigade bore the brunt of this commitment, contributing countless hours crewing appliances through extended day and night shifts. Your dedication and willingness to support these operations did not go unnoticed, and it is sincerely appreciated.

The Christmas period also saw many of our members sacrificing valuable time with their families to respond to incidents. While no one wants to spend Christmas on the fireground, the commitment shown by every volunteer reflects the dedication and selflessness that defines our brigades. Fortunately, our incidents were met with rapid responses and exceptional support from our own brigades, as well as neighbouring brigades from surrounding local governments, which contributed greatly to achieving positive outcomes.

During the season, our brigades responded to a total of **148 incidents**. While this was fewer than the previous season, the number alone does not reflect the significant commitment required. Many incidents involved extended operations, including lengthy mop-up and patrol activities that kept crews on the fireground for many hours. The table below (as of 1 July) provides a comparison of brigade responses against the previous year.

Incidents Attended and IRS Reports completed	2024/2025			2025/2026		
	Incidents Attended*	IRS Report completed	Perc. Completed %	Incidents Attended*	IRS Report completed	Perc. Completed %
Brigade						
COOLUP BFB	97	71	73%	88	44	50%
DWELLINGUP BFB	52	7	13%	60	1	2%
NORTH DANDALUP BFB	76	51	67%	77	50	65%
STH YUNDERUP / RAVENSWOOD	97	68	70%	102	68	67%
WEST MURRAY BFB	114	85	75%	109	67	61%

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Many of these incidents saw command responsibilities shared between our Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers, Brigade Captains, Fire Control Officers, Lieutenants and brigade members.

This demonstrates the depth of leadership, capability and resilience that exists within both our brigades and the Shire's emergency management structure.

I would particularly like to acknowledge and commend every brigade leader and member who stepped into command roles throughout the season. Whether serving as an Incident Controller, Crew Leader, Ground Controller or Sector Commander, you accepted the responsibility with professionalism and confidence while also mentoring others to develop their own leadership skills. That willingness to share knowledge and build capability across our brigades is what strengthens our organisation for the future.

A special thank you must also go to Pinjarra VFRS. Your members provided outstanding support throughout the season, assisting at numerous incidents and even taking on the role of Incident Controller at several fires. Your professionalism and partnership continue to strengthen our emergency response capability, and we are extremely grateful for your ongoing support.

During the season we were fortunate to receive a High Season Light Tanker, which was shared between brigades, followed later by a High Season 2.4 appliance that was stationed at the Coolup Brigade. I would like to thank DFES, and in particular Ricky Southgate, for providing these additional resources to support our brigades throughout the fire season.

To the Deputies:

This was our first year operating with three Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers, and I have genuinely enjoyed working alongside each of you.

Jussy, another season completed. You should be incredibly proud of the way you have continued to grow into your role. You embraced every challenge that came your way and tackled each one with confidence and professionalism. Your growth as a leader has been outstanding.

Jarron, this was your first season as Deputy, and you threw yourself into the role from day one. You became a sponge for knowledge, actively seeking opportunities to learn while always being willing to step outside your comfort zone. Your passion for the brigades and your commitment to the role have not gone unnoticed.

Whether you were taking control of an incident, getting on the end of a hose, speaking with Air Operations personnel, driving an appliance to the fireground, collecting welfare supplies or simply being there to support those around you, you consistently demonstrated what leadership looks like. You led by example, and I sincerely commend everything you contributed throughout the season.

Brendan, this was also your first season as Deputy, and you transitioned into the role with remarkable ease. Your calm approach, operational knowledge and confidence were evident every time you took command of an incident. You have been a valuable addition to the leadership team

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To DFES, thank you for your continued support of our brigades and the Shire throughout the season. Your assistance, advice and operational support are greatly appreciated.

A warm welcome also to Ricky Southgate as our new District Officer. We are grateful to have you working alongside our brigade members and leadership teams, and we look forward to continuing to build a strong working relationship with you.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the Shire of Murray and our Councillors for the confidence they continue to place in me. Thank you for trusting that every decision I make is done with the best interests of our brigades, our volunteers and the wider Shire community at heart.

To those who have recently stepped into new leadership positions within our brigades, remember that you are never alone. You are part of one brigade family that extends across every brigade within the Shire. Pick up the phone, ask for advice, seek support and trust one another. Continue to mentor each other, challenge each other and encourage one another to become better leaders, better firefighters and better people, both on the fireground and off it.

Thank you all for another safe and successful season. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together.

"Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence and inspiration".

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