

# *The Warren Blackwood Strategic Alliance (Inc)*

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## **MINUTES – WBSA BOARD MEETING 7 OCTOBER 2008 - MANJIMUP**

**1. Present:** Margaret Bird (Chair), Tony Goode, Barbara Dunnet, Denise Jenkins, Andrew Campbell (for Jeremy Hubble), Louise Kingston, Gail Duns (observer), Brian Moore, Martin Cuthbert (for Tim Clynch), Shirley Broadhurst, Brian O’Hare, Roger Downing, Alan Lamb, Graeme Baesjou (SWDC), Dale Putland (DPI – guest speaker).

**2. Apologies:** Jeremy Hubble, Shane Collie, Deanna Giumelli, Wade De Campo

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** That the minutes of the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2008 are accepted as a correct record.

Moved – Louise Kingston      Seconded – Brian Moore      Carried

**Business Arising From Previous Minutes:** Reply from Minister for Health re Mobile Dental Unit copied to Board Members. Audit Report sent to all Board Members. Executive Officer selection process implemented. Letter of thanks be sent to Mark McGowan MLA.

**4. Correspondence (as circulated):** That the Correspondence in was noted and the Correspondence out was approved.

Moved - Barbara Dunnet      Seconded – Shirley Broadhurst      Carried

**5. South West Framework – Guest Speaker – Dale Putland (DPI):** Dale reviewed the background to the document explaining that the process commenced two years ago in Bunbury with a broad range of attendees. A 78 page paper emerged from the initial meeting without a great deal of consensus, each party or department expressing somewhat isolated views. From there the paper was workshopped into the current form, which is regarded as about 80% complete. The WA Planning Commission believes that that the process has assisted in fostering closer relationships between disparate stakeholders. Dale made mention of the criticality of early identification of industrial land in towns and the extrapolation of climate change implications (eg greater fire risk).

In conclusion, Dale stated that the Framework was intended to be a strategic guiding document assisting in the development of policies and in the facilitation of a more co-ordinated approach to realising our regional vision. Although formal response comments had closed on 30 September, Dale would welcome additional responses to help “flesh out” the Framework document.

What followed was a robust discussion, principally focussing on omissions, corrections and a strong concern in particular regarding population/demographic assumptions. It was pointed out that, given developments in place and emerging, it was inappropriate to rely upon census data and flawed information from documents such as WA Tomorrow. The Board was especially concerned that the Framework might be used to influence decision making in relation to important infrastructure including aged care, schools, hospitals and so forth.

Many remarks were made in respect of the accuracy of material in the Framework including the omission of rural population and resources information, incorrect data on location of schools and hospitals/medical facilities and other matters. It was also noted that it was important to include information highlighting emerging industry and other growth factors.

It was agreed that Board members would consider their position to the Framework and prepare responses either directly back to DPI or for collation and consolidation by the Executive Officer.

- 6. The Changed Political Environment:** A general discussion took place incorporating the new State Government, the Royalties for Regions funding and the new Federal funding program. It was noted that the local Member for Blackwood Stirling, Mr. Terry Redman and the Regional Development Minister, Brendon Grylls had been “doing the rounds” seeking views on matters for funding. The Board concluded that, as a matter of urgency, we needed to aggregate and prioritise our funding requirements. The Executive Officer was asked to solicit material from members into a consolidated document that could be used as the basis for any further discussions with key funding players.
- 7. S. West Regional Water Plan:** The Board was updated on our regional responses to date. It was noted that although formal responses had closed, some stakeholders including the WBSA had received short extensions. In conclusion, members were invited to pass on additional responses to the Executive Officer for inclusion in his brief response paper.
- 8. Discussion/Status of Other Key Regional Identified/Possible Issues inc:**
  - Proposed Electoral Boundaries
  - SSS Report/WALGA
  - Sewerage Infill
  - Munda Bididi Trail
  - Electricity Headworks
  - Roads eg Muir Highway
  - Fly In/Fly Out Survey – regional airport

Progress was noted in respect of sewerage infill (Manjimup, Pemberton) but concerns remain in other communities, especially Boyup Brook. Graeme Baesjou (SWDC) advised that a report supporting the Munda Bididi project was nearing completion. Louise Kingston provided background material regarding the Manjimup regional airport issue. Andrew Campbell advised that the shire of

Manjimup had included supporting remarks in regard to designating Manjimup as a regional airport in their response to the Framework

- 9. Executive Officers Work Report:** Tony Goode summarised his work to date and explained that, as per the report distributed, he intended to provide regular reports incorporated within the format of the WBSA Strategic Plan.
- 10. Finance Report:** The Executive Officer explained that, due to time constraints, he had not included a formal Finance Report for this meeting. However, he noted that previous projections were basically still on track meaning that we had sufficient funds to meet requirements through to the end of the financial year. He also pointed out that we were relying upon cash reserves and that on a yearly basis we were operating at a loss and we therefore need to address this matter before the commencement of the new financial year.
- 11. Bank Signatories:** Following the appointment of Mr. Goode as the new Executive Officer, there is a need to change signatories for access to the WBSA BankWest bank account. It is proposed to add the following WBSA Board members as bank account signatories -:  
  
Wade De Campo  
Jeremy Hubble  
Louise Kingston  
Tony Goode  
  
Moved - Barbara Dunnet                      Seconded – Brian Moore                      Carried
- 12. General Business:** It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Peter Hey for his work as Executive Officer for the WBSA. Andrew Campbell made an offer to assist the shire of Boyup Brook in relation to bringing forward work on sewerage infill for the town. Louise Kingston circulated a report on her meeting in relation to the Veranus Island gas problem, noting that there were considerably more regional business ramifications than might have initially been expected.
- 13. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 at Nannup