



## **Pest and Stock Route Committee Meeting**

Minutes  
22 May 2009

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### **OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 10.40am

### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr Jo Sheppard	Mayor
Mark Watt	Chief Executive Officer
Anthony White	Pest & Stock Route Officer
Kate Beresford	Primary Producer
Andrew Gardiner	Primary Producer
David Land	Ergon Energy
Mark Handley	Ranger in Charge Currawinya
Peter Seckold	Indigenous representative

### **APOLOGIES**

*Moved Kate Beresford seconded David Land that an apology be received from Cr Don Dunsdon, Murray Wingett, Steven Downey and Geoff Dunsdon.*  
**CARRIED**

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Given the committee had not met for quite some time, no previous minutes were considered for adoption.

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

### **OFFICERS REPORTS**

Nil

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Stock Routes and Stock Routes Review – Anthony White reported on stock routes generally in the shire saying that many were non-active, however, the main stock routes used were well documented.

It was also discussed that a Stock Routes Review was being undertaken by the State Government and many of the changes were not fully known at this stage.

Pest & Weed Management Plan – It was discussed that a review of the Stock Routes Management Plan could be done. The Mayor said that Blackall-Tambo Regional Council were conducting a review of their plan and Neil Judd, South-West NRM was involved. It was suggested he could be involved with Paroo Shire's review, as they had not been involved during the last review.

*Resolved that Neil Judd CEO of South West NRM Ltd to be invited to become a representative, he is currently a member of the Blackall-Tambo Committee.*

Membership of the Committee – The CEO advised that the membership of this Committee still needed to be approved by Council. This meeting was designed to re-establish the Committee and seek new members interested in participating.

The CEO further advised that during recent native title deliberations on Quilpie, traditional owner groups had expressed an interest in joining this Committee. Given Peter Seckold was at this meeting, he was advised that the final make-up of the Committee is subject to Council approval. Other native title representatives interested in being on the Committee were Mick McNiven and Margaret Seckold.

Agenda items – The meeting discussed what agenda items can be included for future meetings. It was agreed that a good starting point would be to review the Pest & Stock Routes Management Plan. Previously this was managed by the Committee and Melissa Derrick did the updating of the document. With the plan to be reviewed again, Steve Downey may be able to organise the process given Melissa is now in Roma.

Water Lettuce – discussion was held on the outbreak of water lettuce, an aquatic weed currently infesting the Warrego River. Council has borne extra costs to control this weed through a spaying program. The Mayor advised that South-West NRM had been chasing up funding for biological control. CSIRO have sourced a small weevil, *Neohydronomus affinis*, from Brazil, which has been approved for release in Australia.

Control of other weeds – discussion occurred regarding control of weeds generally. It was agreed that Landholders should become involved and taught weed identification. Signage for Shire Roads for weed awareness was also discussed as there is a new sign to be erected that came from funding.

Rabbit Control – Discussion was held regarding rabbit infestation. The meeting was advised that the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries has released a guide for land managers 'Rabbit control in Queensland'. Copies are available at the Shire Office front counter. Land managers were encouraged to use the identification register on the website. Problems with rabbits at Eulo were also discussed. There are different ideas of eradication and control of rabbits.

The next meeting date will be scheduled for September 2009 at a date to be confirmed.

#### **CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Meeting closed at 11.35am.