

Emerald Saleyards Committee Meeting Minutes

19 August 2019

Meeting chaired by: Cr Christine Rolfe

Present: Cr Megan Daniels, Cr Gail Nixon, Tim Maguire, Nick Edwards (Elders), Ian Burnett (Agforce), Terry Ray (Landmark).

Apologies: Michelle Webster, Steven Opperman (LRTAQ)

Minute Taker: Aimee Carson

Item	Topic	Discussion Summary	Action
		Meeting Commenced at 1.32pm.	
1	Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meeting	The minutes of the previous Emerald Saleyards Coordination Committee held on 22 May 2019 were confirmed. Cr Daniels moved, Cr Nixon seconded the minutes of the previous meeting.	

3	Conflict of Interest or Material Personal Interest	There was no conflict of interest or material personal interest to report.	
4	Workplace Health and Safety	<p>Tim Maguire advised the committee that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been another couple of incidents where contracting staff have been injured. • Every two weeks a member of the safety team attend the Saleyards toolbox meeting held on Tuesday with Council staff. • A safety team member has also attended a Saleyards toolbox meeting held on Thursday morning with agents and contracting staff. • There are a number of projects that are progressing this year that are reasonably involved, WHS has been involved with the site inductions. • All of us would like to have a zero tolerance with this workplace but don't believe we ever will be able to due to working with live beasts. • Capital projects continue to improve the WHS outcomes for all workers in the yards. • The ongoing improvements are mitigating historic risks. • Continual improvement ideas are being provided by all users to improve the safety of workers which is very helpful and appreciated. 	
5	Financial Update	<p>Andrew Gissel provided the financial update as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaudited full year result for 2018/19 financial year. • Net earnings deficit for the year of \$9K which is \$37K shy of budget (\$27K surplus). • Operating revenue (\$1,313K) is \$6K or 0.4% above budget (\$1,308K) with a \$25K shortfall in the main revenue line (yard dues) due to retracting throughput offset by the other revenue streams. • Operating expenses (\$1,045K) are \$61K or 6% over budget (\$984K) with an overspend on Employee Cost (\$39K) and External Service Providers (\$17K) reflective of the increased activity during the first 3 quarters of the year. • Cattle numbers for June (8,520) were down significantly on last year (11,690) as well as on revised budget (13,255). Total throughput for the year (109,182) is up by 6,720 head on last year (102,462) but down by 3,818 head or 3.8% on revised budget (113,000). 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The throughput took a dive in the final quarter of the financial year with the drought-driven destocking now complete. • Aged debtors are up by \$38K to \$84K with nothing in 90 days and \$1.6K in 60 days. • Capital expenditure for the year came in at 99% of budget with \$475K out of \$479K budget spent or committed as at 30 June. 	
6	Reports from ALMA National Saleyards Expo	<p>The reports from both Cr Rolfe and Tim Maguire following their attendance at the ALMA National Saleyards Expo were distributed with the agenda.</p> <p>The presentation “Looking Over the Fence : Muchea’s Experience with Animal Activists” presented by Louise Butcher was discussed as follows:</p> <p>Cr Rolfe advised that the presentation provided a six point plan when/if activists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six Point Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adhere to best practice; ○ Call 000 and local police; ○ Explain the harm; ○ Ask them to leave; ○ Do not engage; and ○ Film what you see. • The police were called 20 minutes after the protestors arrived; police arrived 40 minutes later. • The protestors were successful in stopping selling for 2 hours. <p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The protestors achieved what they were hoping to, to an extent. • The protestors will do anything except break the law as that is what they are advised to do. <p>Cr Rolfe –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare, biosecurity and security of saleyards was the focus of the conference. <p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed, the first morning talk and presentation set the mood for the rest of the conference. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues at the feedlot, message from all is to not engage with any protestors that enter the saleyards. • Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association have released a statement that was developed by Zuka Legal. They highly recommended that the first thing to do when protestors arrive at the saleyards is to read the statement, give them time to remove themselves from the yards and then to call the police if they do not leave. • After the feedlot issue, police fundamentally made 6-8 arrests, but following the review of CCTV footage there was 48 people charged. • The interesting point as they were making subsequent arrests, and searches of protestors properties, when police went into the kitchen there was McDonalds and pizza wrappers. • Dealing with people that are paid by large enterprises to do this role. The problem will not go away; the protestors will continue to hit high profile locations that are within a two hour drive of large city centres. • Do believe that regional facilities need to stay vigilant. • Protestors will not attempt to step over the line as they are instructed not to do that. • Unknown where these activists will be going in the future. • Activity police are seeing is indicating the issue will not leave. <p>Cr Daniels –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has there been any training with your staff? <p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have discussed with staff when I returned from the conference. • Have advised staff not to engage. • All agents need to ensure that producers do not engage. <p>Terry Ray –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately, a bush fellas first response is to engage. <p>Cr Rolfe –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Muchea Livestock Centre has spent \$20K on education, cameras, gates, induction to the facility. • Rachael O'Brien presentation covered emergency animal disease response, need to ensure that it is in the saleyards biosecurity plan. 	
--	--	--	--

		<p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Newsome director of Outcross provided a presentation regarding the software. • Looked at Outcross two years ago but that is when LE came out with the offer. • Outcross has purchased the LE software company. • Tom mentioned that moving forward changes to the software will be developed by grabbing the best out of both systems. • Chain of Responsibility (CoR) is still there however a lot of the earlier literature was that anybody within the process was 100% responsible for anything that happens down the line. The legislation has been watered down a fair bit and there will be less of an impact. <p>Cr Rolfe –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwick yards water shortage, CoR, in all presentations, person at the start of the chain should be responsible not the saleyards. Fit to load to be imbedded in the process. • Overall it was a very interesting conference. 	
7	Saleyards Manager Update	<p>Tim Maguire advised the committee that:</p> <p>Operational Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers have dropped back with the number of head being 500 to 1,600. • Last two sales have seen the numbers increase again. • With the ongoing dry spells, will see how the next couple of months play out. • Most weaner turn over would be completed now. • Have had a lot of support of the weaner sales held. • The reduction in numbers at sales allows us to focus on capital projects. • Presentation of the yards is a little disappointing at the moment due to being without a bobcat for a while. <p>Capital Works Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year we will be completing the 4 components of the Building our Region and Building Better Regions funding. • Earthworks for hay shed is completed. • Shed kit will be delivered on 28 August, builders on site 8 September. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double decker dump ramp will be here second week in September. • Roof over the draft area – the piers and foundations completed, kit arrives on Monday, construction to commence 30 August. The roof will be constructed at the turnaround and then a crane will be used to install it into the saleyards. Have coordinated the electrical install while the roof is being constructed. • Spelling yards – GBA managing the project, need an agreement with Qld rail, it costs \$40K for them to review the easement over the railway line. Pre-lodgement with town planning has been held, there will be another meeting to discuss further. There are a number of hurdles to overcome before we can progress the spelling paddocks projects. • All individual selling pens are now individually lit. All timber poles will be removed and two asbestos pits to be removed. • Works 4 Qld funds to concrete lanes 3 and 4, earthworks completed, concreting will be completed this week. • A lot of changes will be made in the next two months. 	
8	General Business	<p><i>Spelling Paddocks</i></p> <p>Terry Ray – asked about the spelling paddocks project.</p> <p>Tim Maguire – will be used for dipping and feeding as the request for these services are increasing so there is need for the additional paddocks.</p> <p>Terry Ray – how do you cross the railway line?</p> <p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need an easement over the rail to be developed as per QR standards. • It is proposed that the walkover will be from pen 17a. • Will have hay feeding racks instead of on ground as we spend a lot of money cleaning the pens. • If can feed from a rack it will reduce the cost of hay, the need to clean the pens and reduce the wastage. <p><i>Car Park Issues</i></p> <p>Tim Maguire –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We previously discussed investigating the cost of fencing 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will need to look at the cost to ensure 4 rail cattle fence to capture a beast and to stop what is happening on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. • Hoons are going up the stock route towards Wills Road, then over the underbelly car wash, then doing donuts in the car park. If a truck driver pulls up at the ramp and then walks around to turn the light on, the hoons could run someone over. • 5 lads were in between classes with their uniforms on, saleyards staff grabbed the number plates, rang the school and they have dealt with the matter. • With the refuse station closed on Monday, there have been three different vehicles have pulled up and dumped their rubbish in our bulk bin. • There is also a truck servicing company that is using the car park to test the truck brakes after change of brake pads. • Therefore, we need to somewhat secure the facility. <p>Cr Daniels – are you proposing to install gates?</p> <p>Tim Maguire – can do so by providing a pin number for drivers to access the facility.</p> <p>Cr Rolfe – advised that we need to keep a note of the issues with the waste/rubbish issues.</p>	
		Meeting Closed at 2.40pm	