

PRESENT: Kylie Kerr (Chairperson) (WSC / A/LEMO), Nicole Benson (WSC / Alt LEMO) (Minutes), Jason Connolly (NSW Police / A/LEOCON), Annabelle Watson (REMO), Zachary Estens* (NSWFR), Brad Size (NSWFR), Dez White (NSW RFS), Tristan Cameron* (NSWFR), Rodney Coombes (VRA), John Whittall* (NPWS), William Robinson (LLS), Chris Druce (NSW Health), David Dickey (TfNSW), Charles Knyvett (LLS), Rodney Williams (VRA), Lucas Torr (SES), Adrian Rusten (FRNSW), Lisa Obst (NSW Ambulance), Kendall Lewis (LLS), Michael Cubillo (SES) and Karen Cho (SES).

** Attendance by Zoom Video Conference.*

APOLOGIES: Andrew Young (RFS), Stephen Gilbert (VRA Coolah), Michael Harvey (FRNSW), Stephen Knight (FRNSW), Michael Wiegold (NSW Police / Alt LEOCON), Brendan Mansell (NSW Ambulance), David Hunter (NSW Ambulance), Nathan Roberts (NSW Ambulance), Aaron Powell (NSW RFS) and Sarah Masonwells (NSWRA).

PRESENTATION

SES Zone Operations Readiness Officer, Ms Karen Cho facilitated an SES Western Flooding After Action Review. Feedback will be raised internally and with the NSW Office.

- Communication and Information Management feedback - Michael Cubillo (SES) raised that communications between SES, VRA and other emergency services is best face to face. Sometimes called to jobs that had been dealt with by the other parties.
- VRA feedback - Rodney Coombes (VRA) said they had only dealt with Dubbo SES
- External Communications – Nil.
- Resourcing – Nil.
- Recovery – Nil.
- Other Issues – Michael Cubillo (SES) asked what EMP does the caravan park in Coolah have? They need a better plan other than asking for sandbags – as it is private property and emergency services don't play a role.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4/2223 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Warrumbungle Shire LEMC meeting held on Monday, 20 February 2023 in Coonabarabran be accepted.

White/Dickey

BUSINES ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Contact List

The A/LEMO asked members to update the contact list and advise Tracy Cain (WSC).

2. Acting and Alternate LEMO Positions

Kylie Kerr (WSC) to undertake Acting LEMO position for a period of six weeks. Nicole Benson (WSC) appointed Alternate LEMO.

3. REMO Report – April 2023

The REMO Report was received and noted.

4. NSW Reconstruction Authority Report – April 2023

The NSW Reconstruction Authority Report was received and noted.

5. NSW SES Agency Report – February to May 2023

The NSW SES Agency Report was received and noted.

6. Fire & Rescue NSW Agency Report – February 2023

The NSW SES Agency Report was received and noted. The following items were discussed:

- Coolah and Coonabarabran FRNSW Representative said nothing significant to report and the open day was held last weekend.
- Hydrant Inspections in Coolah – three (3) in a row were capped and it has been rectified. Needs to be noted as a risk associated with staff changes and how records are kept.
- Zachary Estens (FRNSW) – asset inspectors have been inspecting and recording hydrants for the entire Shire. Information will be provided to FRNSW.

7. NSW Rural Fire Service Agency Report

Dez White (RFS) provided a verbal agency report on the last fire season. As they didn't have a s44 they now have to run an exercise. Aerial support was beneficial.

8. NSW VRA Agency Report

Rodney Coombes (VRA) had nothing to add verbally but, statistics will be emailed in.

9. NSW Ambulance Agency Report

Report to be included as a standing item on the Agenda.

10. Events

Date	Summary of Major Events in the Shire	Estimated No of Participants
20/05/2023	Black Gate Distillery World Whisky Day – 72 Forest Road, Mendooran (TBC)	
26/05/2023	Coonabarabran LALC Sorry Day Memorial March – John Street, Coonabarabran	500
02-06/06/2023	North West Equestrian Expo – Coonabarabran Showground	1,000+
15/06/2023	North West Cross Country – Coolah	1,200 + Spectators
08/07/2023	Coonabarabran NAIDOC Ball – Coonabarabran Town Hall	
22/07/2023	Imperial Hotel Winter Cup Race Meeting – Coonabarabran Racecourse	
02/09/2023	Mendooran Turf Club Race Meeting – Mendooran Racecourse	
02/09/2023	Tour de Gorge in the Pilliga Forest Bike Ride – Dandry Gorge, Baradine	

Date	Summary of Major Events in the Shire	Estimated No of Participants
29/09/2023	Coonabarabran Pony Camp Street Parade – John Street, Coonabarabran	40
22/10/2023	Coonabarabran Cup Race Meeting – Coonabarabran Racecourse	
10-11/11/2023	Tunes on the Turf Music Festival – Dunedoo Sports Club	
11/11/2023	Coonabarabran RSL Remembrance Day Service – John Street, Coonabarabran	

- Coonabarabran North West Equestrian Expo – discussed in the context of attendance numbers.
- North West Cross Country in Coolah – 15 June 2023 – 1,200 children plus spectators in attendance.

11. Hartwood Music Festival Bushfire Management Report

Aaron Powell (RFS) advised that bushfire management issues in relation to the Hartwood Music Festival were resolved prior to the event.

12. Evacuation Centre Audits

- Zachary Estens (WSC) talked through the audit noting that some facilities need to be reviewed as to their suitability. PA systems and bedding was discussed. RFS said they have bedding that could be supplied.
- REMO stated that the Department of Education have advised if there is a suitable alternate location it should be used as opposed to a school. Schools are doable, however it's a lengthy process requiring a MoU. Police also raised issues with child protection around using schools.

5/2223 RECOMMENDED that Schools be removed as evacuation centres and only pursued in the case of no suitable alternate location.

Conolly/Obst

13. CV-19 Reports

- Nil to report.
- It was recommended that this item be changed to a standing item around Infectious Diseases.

14. Biosecurity Exercise Brief

- David Dickey (TfNSW) verbally advised they weren't invited to the debrief and no information was ready. The exercise was around Foot and Mouth and DPI is the lead agency.

ACTION ITEM – debrief to be sourced and discussed as a 'lessons learnt'.

15. LEMC Exercise – Inland Rail Derailment Scenario

The LEMC exercise in relation to an Inland Rail derailment scenario is currently on hold until the Dubbo exercise is finished. Will be discussed at the Coonabarabran meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The following matters were discussed:

- David Dickey (TfNSW) – wind farm and transporting of blades on Saxa Road, which is closed. Will now possibly go through Dunedoo.
- Adrian Rusten (FRNSW) thanked the Police for highway patrol and impact on safety at worksites through presence.
- A/LEMO advised that WSC is now on live traffic and information on road closures etc will now be provided on that platform.
- First black spot mobile phone tower was switched on last week near Uarbry. Tilt is building a taller one in the National Park.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence was received and noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.47pm.

The next meeting is to be held on Monday, 21 August 2023 at the Fire Control Centre, 111 Saleyards Road, Coonabarabran commencing 7.00pm.

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CHAIRPERSON