

**PRESENT:** Nicole Benson (Chairperson) (LEMO/WSC), Russell McArthur (LEOCON/Police), Anabelle Watson (REMO/Police), Dez White (RFS), David Hunter (NSW Ambulance), Zac Estens (NSWFR), Andrew Young (RFS), David Dickey (TfNSW), \*Rod Williams (VRA) and \*Sarah Masonwell (NSWRA).

*\* Attendance by Zoom Video Conference.*

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Amanda Wherrett (WSC/Minutes).

**APOLOGIES:** James Easterbrook (NPWS), Robert Foxall (NSW Ambulance), Tristan Cameron (LLS) and Rodney Coombes (VRA).

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**1/2324 RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Warrumbungle Shire LEMC meeting held on Monday, 15 May 2023 in Coolah be accepted.

**Estens/White**

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

- Zac Estens advised that hydrant inspections across the Shire are complete.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Contact Lists

The contact list was circulated prior to the meeting. The REMO will email the LEMO an updated contact list.

2. REMO Report

The REMO report was received and noted. The REMO advised that there is no funding available for training in regional areas for the rest of the financial year.

3. NSW Reconstruction Authority Agency Report

The NSW Reconstruction Authority Agency Report was received and noted. Sarah Masonwell will arrange to meet with the LEMO soon.

4. NSW SES Agency Report

The NSW SES Agency Report was received and noted.

5. Fire & Rescue NSW Agency Report

No report tabled for this meeting.

6. NSW RFS Agency Report

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

- Between the 1 May and 11 August there were 97 incidents reported, 75 in the Warrumbungle area mostly grass fires that escaped agricultural burns.
- New Wildfire Investigator to start soon.
- Fire Control Centre has had funding of \$250,000 for upgrades to the communications facilities.
- The Fire Mapper app is being rolled out to volunteers for upcoming fire season.
- Currently focused on hazard reduction burns.
- Currently going through soft rebranding, there are changes in RFS correspondence and vehicle livery in future.

7. NSW VRA Agency Report

No report tabled for this meeting. Rod Williams verbally advised that several members are in training.

8. NSW Ambulance Agency Report

No report tabled for this meeting. David Hunter verbally advised four new staff will arrive in Coonabarabran soon and training will commence.

9. NSW LLS Agency Report

The NSW LLS Agency Report was received and noted.

10. Red Cross Agency Report

The Red Cross Agency report was received and noted.

11. Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of Major Events in the Shire</b>	<b>Estimated No of Participants</b>
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	
07-08/09/2023	St Lawrence’s Primary School Horse Sports – Coonabarabran	
24-29/09/2023	Coonabarabran Pony Camp – Coonabarabran Showground	
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	
TBC	Wings and Things, Coonabarabran Aerodrome <i>(not confirmed to occur)</i>	

12. Infectious Diseases

It was discussed that this agenda item is somewhat irrelevant in 2023 and that it be removed.

**2/2324 RECOMMENDED** that Infectious Diseases be removed from the agenda and discussed on an as needs basis.

**Hunter/Estens**

13. Biosecurity Exercise Debrief

While there was no update from the last meeting it was decided to leave this item until it could be followed up again. To be discussed at the next meeting.

14. LEMC Exercise – Inland Rail Derailment Scenario

It was noted that the Inland Rail project has slowed significantly. Discussion whether to use the derail scenario as the activity or choose another scenario more likely to occur, for example bushfire preparedness scenario. It was agreed that a bushfire scenario would be suitable.

**ACTION ITEM** – that a bushfire preparedness scenario be delivered before the next meeting.

15. REZ – Impacts on Emergency Services

The LEMO advised that the development of REZ (Renewable Energy Zones) projects such as wind farms, solar farms and battery energy storage systems will significantly impact infrastructure such as roads and road infrastructure. It will also affect communities and local economies particularly where workers camps are located. It was discussed that this would likely flow on to emergency services during the construction and operation of the facilities and that this agenda item should be a standing item to be discussed at each meeting.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

The following matters were discussed.

- David Hunter (NSW Ambulance) will be training during October and another staff member will attend meetings in his place for approximately 6 to 8 months.
- David Dickey (TfNSW) advised that vehicles carrying blades up to 96m in length are still scheduled to use Saxa Road.
- David Dickey (TfNSW) further advised that where hazard reduction burns are carried out on highways the operator should have a Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS) and Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) in place before any works commence.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was received and noted.

**NEXT MEETING**

Date – Monday 20 November 2023.

Location – Council Chambers, Administration Building, 59 Binnia Street, Coolah.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.35pm.

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CHAIRPERSON