Held in the Shire of Perenjori Council Chambers, Fowler Street, Perenjori on 19th April 2012, commencing at 1.30pm

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<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tr>
<td>12046.4.1</td>
<td>REVIEW OF THE COUNTRY LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND</td>
<td>53</td>
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<td>12046.5</td>
<td>MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>12046.6</td>
<td>DATE OF NEXT MEETING / MEETINGS</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>12046.7</td>
<td>CLOSURE</td>
<td>58</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
12041 PRELIMINARIES

12041.1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS
Deputy President Cr Laurie Butler officially opened the meeting at 1.35pm

12041.2 OPENING PRAYER
Cr Laurie Butler led council in the opening prayer

12041.3 DISCLAIMER READING

12041.4 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present:
Cr Laurie Butler
Cr Graeme Reid
Cr Rodney Desmond
Cr Harold Wass
Cr Jenny Hirsch
Cr Lisa Smith
Stan Scott – CEO
Doug Stead – DCEO
Kimberley Wheeler – EA

Apologies:
Cr Chris King
Cr John Cunningham
Cr Robyn Benton

12041.5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Nil

12041.6 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS
Nil

12041.7 NOTATIONS OF INTEREST

Financial Interest – Local Government Act s 5.60A
Proximity Interest – Local Government Act s 5.60B
Interest Affecting Impartiality – Shire of Perenjori Code of Conduct.

Cr HC Wass declared a financial interest in item 12045.7 Uranium Exploration
Cr RP Desmond declared a financial interest in item 12045.7 Uranium Exploration
Shire of Perenjori

Ordinary Meeting

MINUTES

19th April 2012

Cr Lisa Smith declared a proximity interest in item 12045.7 Uranium Exploration

12041.8 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

12041.9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Ordinary Council meeting held 15th March 2012 are attached.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr GK Reid
Seconded: Cr RP Desmond

That the minutes of Ordinary Council meeting held on the 15th March 2012 are a true and accurate record.

Carried: 6/0

12041.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

12041.11 MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETING MAY GO BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil
12042 FINANCE

12042.1 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

APPLICANT: DEPUTY CEO
FILE: 0
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: 0
AUTHOR: GYPSIE DOUGLAS– SENIOR FINANCE OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER DOUG STEAD - DCEO
REPORT DATE: 12th APRIL 2012
ATTACHMENTS MARCH FINANCIAL ACTIVITY REPORTS

Executive Summary:
As required by the Local Government Act and Financial Management Regulations a Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is required to be presented to each monthly meeting. This statement is used with Council’s adopted 10% variance or $5000 figure which was adopted by Council at its July meeting. A report detailing the variances is also included.

Other Financial statements are also attached as per the Finance Committee preferences.

Statutory Environment: N/A
Policy Implications: N/A
Financial Implications: N/A
Strategic Implications: N/A
Consultation: N/A

UHF Haines Norton

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Officers Recommendation:

1. Statement of Financial Activity
That the Statement of Financial Activity for the period ended 31st March 2012 including report on variances be accepted as presented.

2. Finance Report
That the Finance Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 be accepted as presented.
3. **Acquisition of Assets**

That the Acquisition of Assets Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 with a balance of $1,532,764.00 as presented be received.

4. **Reserves Report**

That the Reserves Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 with a balance of $939,279.00 as presented be received.

5. **Net Current Assets**

That the Net Current Assets report for the period ended 31st March 2012 with a balance of $981,186.00 as presented be received.

6. **Bank Reconciliation's**

That the balances of the Municipal Fund of $912,941.50 and the Trust Fund of $41,405.37 as at 31st March 2012 as presented be received.

7. **Sundry Creditors Report**

That the Sundry Creditors Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 with a balance of $275,509.45 as presented be received.

8. **Sundry Debtors Report**

That the Sundry Debtors Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 with a balance of $1,767,094.00 as presented be received.

9. **Accounts for Payment**

That the Accounts paid from the Municipal Account consisting of Cheque Numbers 18216 - 18238 and EFT Numbers 3438 - 3494 for $616,506.10 and the Trust Account consisting of Cheque Number 829 and EFT Numbers 3439 – 3492 for $6,003.00 for the period ended 31st March 2012 as presented be accepted.

10. **Rates Outstanding**

    That the Rates Outstanding Report for the period ended 31st March 2012 as presented be received.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr RP Desmond  
Seconded: Cr JH Hirsch

That items 1-10 of the financial activity statement for March be accepted.

Carried: 6/0
12043  HEALTH BUILDING & PLANNING
12044  PLANT & WORKS
12045 GOVERNANCE

12045.1 BUDGET REVIEW

APPLICANT: SHIRE OF PERENJORI
FILE: 0
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: 0
AUTHOR: STAN SCOTT – CEO

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: DOUG STEAD – DCEO

REPORT DATE: 12th APRIL 2012
ATTACHMENTS: BUDGET REVIEW

Executive Summary:
Each Local Government is required to conduct a budget review between 1 January and 31 March each financial year. A budget review is a detailed comparison of the year to date actual results with the adopted budget.

Applicants Submission:
The budget review is bound separately.

Page 1 provides a comparative rate setting statement.

Page 2 provides an overview by activity of the effect of proposed amendments.

Pages 3 - 6 highlights the significant proposed amendments to anticipated budget revenues and expenditures. An explanation appears against each variation.

Pages 7 - 29 provide line by line variations to the chart of accounts with explanations against each proposed variance.

Pages 30 to 32 provide a revised capital budget.

Further pages set out the, Roads program, Borrowings and Grants.

Background:
- The review has been carried out by senior staff responsible for their own budgets.
- Council is to consider the review and determine whether or not to adopt the review, any part of the review or any recommendations made in the review.
- Within 30 days after Council has made its determinations, a copy of the review and determination is to be provided to the Department of Local Government.
Statutory Environment:
The requirement is covered by Regulation 33A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 (FM Regulations).

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:
The budget review fine tunes the budget for the balance of the year, taking account of changed circumstances that were not evident when the budget was adopted.

Strategic Implications:
Council has committed to strategic investments in housing and community facilities.

Consultation:
The budget review reflects changes agreed by Council during the year, and has the input of all senior staff.

Comment:
2011/2012 has been a year of consolidation. The effect of this is evident in the review:

- Following on from the GRV rating of their accommodation camps, the mining companies are now utilising our discount structure. This was not anticipated in the original budget and has resulted in additional costs of $63,000.

- Turnover through the accommodation village has increased to the extent that an additional 8 units have been added. Turnover in the Village has increased by $70,000.

- Admin staffing costs have increased by $60,000 as a result of changes in our mix. A new IT position has been created which will not only reduce our future IT expense but will also provide a service to the community.

- Mining activity has seen the budget for Mining Project fees increase from $787,500 to $925,000. Our margin on this is $45,000.

- Against this, the sale of residential property did not achieve anticipated levels and the budget has been reduced by $100,000.

The Council continues to maintain a strong financial position.

Voting Requirements:
Absolute majority

Officers Recommendation:
That Council adopts the 2011/2012 Budget Review.
COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOTION

Moved: Cr GK Reid  
Seconded: Cr JH Hirsch

That council abandon the Aquaculture project and inform other stakeholders accordingly.

Carried: 6/0

Motion

Moved: Cr JH Hirsch  
Seconded: Cr HC Wass

That Council adopts the 2011/2012 budget review subject to the above change.

Carried: 6/0
SHIRE OF PERENJORI
BUDGET REVIEW 2011/12 OVERVIEW

The budget review has been carried out with a view of operating and capital projects. The significant amendments to the budget are outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Original Budget</th>
<th>Revised Budget</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>03116</td>
<td>The mining companies, now having had their accommodation camps rated as GRV are taking advantage of the discount structure.</td>
<td>113,000</td>
<td>176,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>03300</td>
<td>The final version of the 2011/12 Financial Assistance Grants increased our allocation by $46,000</td>
<td>-1,113,830</td>
<td>-1,159,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>03500</td>
<td>A very conservative original budget; interest on our bank balance has now been set at a more realistic level.</td>
<td>-20,000</td>
<td>-45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12710</td>
<td>The original budget covered a 12 month period, however the contract only got underway in September 2011. The review has taken this into account, the reduction in income is offset by the reduction in costs.</td>
<td>-457,600</td>
<td>-381,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>13150</td>
<td>Fee income in the caravan park has not reached budget partly due to the loss of the Barracks which amounted to some $51,000 in 2010/11.</td>
<td>-237,500</td>
<td>-200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>13151</td>
<td>The above loss of accommodation income has been offset by new unbudgeted business, being the ongoing contract to service the Barracks for the owners.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-26,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Caravan Park Village Operating Revenue.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-26,880</td>
<td>-26,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>13158</td>
<td>We have had two long term contracts for accommodation which have now come to an end. However demand remains strong and an additional 8 units have been added to the original 16.</td>
<td>-405,000</td>
<td>-475,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Economic Services Operating Revenue</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-26,880</td>
<td>-26,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>13703</td>
<td>The Aquaculture project has been carried through successive budgets since 2009/10 and each time has been left behind in favour of other projects. In the absence of further discussion this project has been taken out of the current budget.</td>
<td>-50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>13500</td>
<td>Fees from building permits have exceeded original budget estimates by a significant amount.</td>
<td>-8,000</td>
<td>-25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Development
Operating Revenue
10  13903  The anticipated sale of residential land in the original budget did not materialise. The effect of this is that we were unable to increase the repayment on Loan 98 as forecasted. -100,000  0  100,000

Other Economic Services
Operating Revenue
11  13700  Standpipe water charges. Now controlled by WaterCorp -45,000  -5,000  40,000

Works & Services
Private Works
Operating Revenue
12  14100  Private work has increased over the anticipated level helped by supplying Morawa with Drive Trail cut outs. -45,000  -90,700  -45,700

Mining Projects Private Works
13  14106  The contract with Karara has been extended again. -787,500  -925,000  -137,500

EXPENDITURE

GOVERNANCE
Administration General
Operating Expenditure
14  04200  Administration Salaries have increased over budget for several reasons: the IT department is a new position, deemed to be essential as our IT equipment and systems were no longer meeting our needs. There was an overlap of staff when a resignation had been received but the final parting delayed. Salary adjustments were necessary mid term. 309,500  370,000  60,500

Archiving; extensive effort has been put into getting all documents properly archived. Additional material was discovered in the Chambers storeroom which had not been budgetted for. We anticipate needing one more visit from Kim Boulton next year. 5,000  15,500  10,500

Consultancy Fees: We anticipated needing the services of outside consultants which proved to be unnecessary. 30,000  3,500  -26,500

HEALTH
Medical Centre
Operating expenditure
17  07208  Doctor’s Practice support - additional amount 5,000  25,000  20,000

HOUSING
Housing Other
Operating Expenditure
18  09229  Loan 97 Mining House, interest expense. Loan will only be drawn down in April with interest at half yearly. 13,860  0  -13,860

19  09231  Flat Pack house maintenance. Paid as capital in Aug 2011; taken up in 2010/11 Annual Report. 45,454  0  -45,454

20  09233  Loan 101 Staff Housing, interest expense. Loan will only be drawn down in April with interest
## Shire of Perenjori
### Ordinary Meeting
#### MINUTES 19th April 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Operating Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Housing - Staff</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>09227 S0 Hesford Street, was in very bad condition and going to be sold off, decision taken to retain and upgrade due to housing shortage</td>
<td>7,550 17,500 9,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Recreation and Culture</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11407 Parks &amp; Gardens: Per WS work will be completed within budget</td>
<td>140,000 120,000 -20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Swimming Pool</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11205 Removal of old pool.</td>
<td>75,000 55,000 -20,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Other Culture</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11800 Community Event - Ag Society: Donation paid through Dry Season funding</td>
<td>8,000 0 -8,000</td>
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<td><strong>TRANSPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Streets &amp; Road maintenance</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12202 Road Maintenance Council Funds: Per WS will be completed within budget</td>
<td>480,722 437,950 -42,772</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Main Roads Service Agreement</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
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<td>12265 Engineering Consultant: cost allocated directly</td>
<td>20,000 0 -20,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>ECONOMIC SERVICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td><strong>Caravan Park</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13102 Caravan Park maintenance</td>
<td>50,000 60,000 10,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Caravan Park Village</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13172 CVP Village maintenance</td>
<td>15,000 25,000 10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Other Economic Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13173 Midwest Transportables share of profit, additional units and increased activity.</td>
<td>280,000 344,250 64,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Other Economic Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13609 Standpipe Water charges: Now controlled by WaterCorp</td>
<td>40,000 10,000 30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13606 The Aquaculture project has been carried through successive budgets since 2009/10 and each time has been left behind in favour of other projects. In the absence of further discussion this project has been taken out of the current budget.</td>
<td>100,000 0 -100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORKS &amp; SERVICES</th>
<th>PRIVATE WORKS</th>
<th>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36 14000 Private works expense; increased call for this service, includes work done for Morawa on drive Trail cut outs 35,000 60,000 25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC WORKS OVERHEAD</td>
<td>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</td>
<td>37 14217 Rent subsidy expense; increase due to new wage agreement 62,140 75,950 13,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLANT OPERATING COSTS</td>
<td>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</td>
<td>38 14400 Fuels &amp; Oils; consumption below budget 200,000 180,000 -20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>39 14409 Depot Admin wages; Casual employee 13,000 6,000 -7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>40 14412 Plant leases; new plant acquired 132,000 180,000 54,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>41 14414 Apprentice Mechanic; not employed 40,000 0 -40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>42 14413 Consultant (Mechanic); Contract adjusted during year 84,000 98,000 14,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHIRE OF PERENJORI</th>
<th>BUDGET MOVEMENTS BY ACTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ORIGINAL BUDGET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INCOME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL PURPOSE</td>
<td>-3,400,026 127,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNANCE</td>
<td>-13,308 711,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW &amp; ORDER</td>
<td>-18,560 87,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>-2,003,850 109,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELFARE</td>
<td>0 2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSING</td>
<td>-316,369 366,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMUNITY AMENITIES</td>
<td>-72,613 230,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECREATION &amp; CULTURE</td>
<td>-607,706 834,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPORT</td>
<td>-1,196,458 2,084,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC SERVICES</td>
<td>-846,385 788,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKS &amp; SERVICES</td>
<td>-898,596 832,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>-9,393,871 7,674,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET RESULT</td>
<td>-1,719,710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12045.2 DIFFERENTIAL RATES FOR 2012-13

APPLICANT: SHIRE OF PERENJORI
FILE: 0
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: 0
AUTHOR: STAN SCOTT – CEO
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER STAN SCOTT – CEO
REPORT DATE: 13 April 2012
ATTACHMENTS WALGA Economic Briefing January 2012

Executive Summary:
Council is required to advertise its intention to impose a differential rate, and must again seek Ministerial permission for mining rates.

Applicants Submission:
Council must advertise (local public notice) its intention to impose differential rates or differential minimum rates and allow a 21 days comment period before resolving to impose differential rates. The period in which advertising may occur is 1 May 2012 to 30 June 2012.

The proposed rates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basis for Rating</th>
<th>Current Rate in $</th>
<th>Proposed % Increase</th>
<th>Proposed Rate in $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Rental Value</td>
<td>12.0854</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
<td>12.569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Rate – Unimproved Value</td>
<td>1.6042</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
<td>1.668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining Rate – Unimproved Value</td>
<td>24.5422</td>
<td>22.24%</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MINIMUM RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural – UV</td>
<td>$184.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$110.00</td>
<td>4.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Townsite – GRV</td>
<td>$56.00</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining Tenements</td>
<td>$307.00</td>
<td>20.52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The proposed increases for GRV and Rural Rates are based on the predicted increase in the Local Government Cost Index for 2012-13. The Local Government Cost Index is designed to more accurately reflect increases in costs than CPI which is oriented towards household goods and services.

The Shire of Perenjori will likely experience higher costs than the index due to the impact of mining. All employers are experiencing wage cost pressures because of the competition with mining and mining contractors for skilled staff. The mining UV rates for Perenjori have been compared with other Shires in the Midwest for whom
mining is a significant activity. As can be seen from the table Perenjori is now at the lower end of the range.

The proposed increase will bring Perenjori mining rates back into line with the general trend within the region. They will be comparable with Yalgoo after their annual increase, but still substantially less than Morawa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Government</th>
<th>Mining Rate 11-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morawa</td>
<td>45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yalgoo</td>
<td>27.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Magnet</td>
<td>26.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cue</td>
<td>24.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perenjori</td>
<td>24.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modelling the proposed rates would produce the following result.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATE TYPE</th>
<th>Rate in $</th>
<th>Number of Properties</th>
<th>Rateable Value $</th>
<th>2012/13 Budgeted Total Revenue $</th>
<th>2011/12 Actual $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Differential General Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UV Rural</td>
<td>1.6684</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>83,473,880</td>
<td>1,392,678</td>
<td>1,341,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UV Mining</td>
<td>30.0000</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1,788,949</td>
<td>536,685</td>
<td>439,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRV Townsite - Perenjori</td>
<td>12.5688</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>462,868</td>
<td>58,177</td>
<td>55,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRV Townsite - Latham</td>
<td>12.5688</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>57,564</td>
<td>7,235</td>
<td>6,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRV Townsite - Other</td>
<td>12.5688</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6,344</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRV Mining</td>
<td>12.5688</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,110,600</td>
<td>516,652</td>
<td>496,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td>464</td>
<td>89,900,205</td>
<td>2,512,224</td>
<td>2,340,535</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Minimum Rates                    | Minimum $ |                      |                  |                                 |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|                  |                                 |                 |
| UV Rural                         | 195       | 8                    | 47,000           | 1,560                           | 1,464           |
| UV Mining                        | 370       | 59                   | 27,446           | 21,830                          | 17995           |
| GRV Townsite - Perenjori         | 195       | 13                   | 650              | 690                             | 660             |
| GRV Townsite - Latham            | 115       | 6                    | 640              | 480                             | 440             |
| GRV Townsite - Other             | 60        | 8                    | 0                | 305                             |                 |
| GRV Mining                       | 305       | 1                    |                  |                                 |                 |
| Sub-Totals                       |           | 95                   | 75,736           | 27,400                          | 22,938          |
| Ex-Gratia Rates                  |           |                      |                  |                                 |                 |
| Discounts                        |           |                      |                  |                                 |                 |
| Totals                           |           |                      |                  |                                 |                 |

2,539,624                         | 2,363,473 |
12,497                            | 14,344    |
2,552,121                         | 2,377,817 |
-180,000                          | -176,233  |
2,372,121                         | 2,201,584 |
Background:

Last year the rate adopted in the budget was different from that advertised. We need to ensure that the rates adopted here by Council are reflected in the budget, or that any differences are advertised.

Statutory Environment:


A local government may impose differential general rates according to zoning under a Town Planning Scheme or according to purpose for which the land is held (as determined by the Local Government). In this case we impose different unimproved value rates on agricultural and mining land use.

Must have Ministerial approval if imposing a differential rate which is more than twice the lowest differential rate imposed by the local government. The proposed mining rate is more than twice the agricultural rate.


Differential minimum payment may be imposed. The proposed minimums for agriculture and mining are different. Ministerial permission is required to impose a lesser minimum on other town sites than is applied in Perenjori because collectively these properties exceed 50% of GRV properties to which a minimum rate is applied.

Section 6.36 Local Government Act 1995. Subsection (1)

Local public notice must be given before imposing differential rates.
- May be published between 1st May and 30th June.
- Must contain
  - Details of each rate or minimum.
  - An invitation for submissions to be made by any elector or a ratepayer (within 21 days of the notice – or can be longer).
  - Any other information as per regulations.
  - Is to advise electors and ratepayers of the time and place where a document describing the objects of and reasons for each rate and minimum may be inspected.

Submissions must be considered before imposing the differential rates.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

The proposed changes would represent an overall increase in income from rates after discount of 7.7%. Initial advice from the WA Local Government Grants Commission is that Perenjori’s allocation for untied General Purpose Financial assistance Grants is likely to increase by 15% for 12/13 – an increase of $111,000.

Strategic Implications:

Council is going through a period of substantial growth through the provision of strategic infrastructure to support growth. As Karara moves from construction to mining the capacity of the associated accommodation villages is likely to decrease with a commensurate decrease in mining GRV rates. This is likely to impact from 2013/14.
Consultation:
The advertising process is the consultation requirement.

Comment:
The increase in general rates is based on the general increase in the local government cost index. The mining rates increase is justified on two fronts:

- Mining activity is placing serious upward cost pressures on local wage levels and the cost of contractors; and
- A comparison with nearby shires indicates that we are tacking below the rating trend in the region for mining rates.

Minimum rates have been calculated by applying the general increase and rounding up to the next $5 increment.

Voting Requirements:
Simple Majority

Officers Recommendation:
That Council advertise its intentions to impose differential rates and differential minimum rates as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basis for Rating</th>
<th>Current Rate in $</th>
<th>Proposed % Increase</th>
<th>Proposed Rate in $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Rental Value</td>
<td>12.0854</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
<td>12.569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Rate – Unimproved Value</td>
<td>1.6042</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
<td>1.668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining Rate – Unimproved Value</td>
<td>24.5422</td>
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<td>20.52%</td>
<td>$370.00</td>
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That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.33 (3) of the Local Government Act to impose a differential rate on the unimproved value of mining tenements that is more than twice the lowest unimproved value rate in the Shire.

That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act to impose a minimum rates differential rate on the unimproved value of mining tenements that is more than twice the lowest unimproved value rate in the Shire.

That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.36 (5) of the Local Government Act to impose a minimum GRV rates that do not comply the with provisions of Section 6.36 (2), (3) and (4) of the ACT.
2.52pm Cr JH Hirsch left the Chambers  
2.54pm Cr JH Hirsch returned to the Chambers  
3.02 pm Doug Stead left the Chambers  
3.05pm Doug Stead returned to the Chambers

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
Moved: Cr GK Reid  
Seconded: Cr RP Desmond
That Council advertise its intentions to impose differential rates and differential minimum rates as follows:

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</tr>
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MINIMUM RATES
Rural – UV                                    | $184.00           | 5.98%               | $195.00             |
Perenjori Townsite – GRV                      | $184.00           | 5.98%               | $195.00             |
Latham Townsite – GRV                         | $110.00           | 4.55%               | $115.00             |
Other Townsite – GRV                          | $56.00            | 7.14%               | $60.00              |
Mining Tenements                              | $307.00           | 20.52%              | $370.00             |

That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.33 (3) of the Local Government Act to impose a differential rate on the unimproved value of mining tenements that is more than twice the lowest unimproved value rate in the Shire.

That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.36 of the Local Government Act to impose a minimum rates differential rate on the unimproved value of mining tenements that is more than twice the lowest unimproved value rate in the Shire.

That Council seek ministerial approval under Section 6.36 (5) of the Local Government Act to impose a minimum GRV rates that do not comply with provisions of Section 6.36 (2), (3) and (4) of the ACT.

Carried: 6/0
INFLATION

The Consumer Price Index, Perth grew 2.8% in the year ending September 2011, which was broadly in line with the rate over the previous four quarters. Consumer prices are forecast to increase at a similar rate through the remainder of 2011/12 reflecting further wages growth and reasonably strong economic expansion in the State. This is offset by subdued conditions in the housing sector and some food prices returning to more normal levels following the natural disasters of last summer.

It is estimated that the CPI will increase 3.5% through 2012/13, including the estimated 0.7% increase associated with the introduction of the Carbon Tax in July 2012. The majority of this increase will be seen in the first two quarters of 2012/13. It is then anticipated that consumer inflation will ease to 3.25% through June 2014 as the impact of the Carbon Tax works through.

![Consumer Price Index, Perth History and Forecast](image1.png)

Figure 1 Consumer Price Index, Perth
Source: ABS Cat No 6401.0 Consumer Price Index, Aust. Sep 2011

For most of the past eight years the rate of consumer inflation in Western Australia has been considerably higher than the national average, and at times has been more than 1% per annum higher. As the Reserve Bank can only set a single target cash interest rate, this has meant that at times fiscal policy consistent with national targets have been out of step with those ideal for Western Australia.

![Difference between CPI for Perth and Average of Australian Capital Cities](image2.png)

Figure 2: Difference between Perth CPI and the national average.
Source: ABS Cat No 6401.0 Consumer Price Index, Aust. Sep 2011

This situation has reversed in the past year, with the CPI for Perth being below the national average. This result is strongly influenced by the price of housing, which has fallen over the past year. Forecasts from the State Treasury and Reserve Bank suggest that the next few years will see a return to the historical relationship, with consumer inflation in Western Australia higher than the national average driven by growth in economic activity, wages and population.

WAGES

During the so called “global financial crisis” wage costs in the public sector increased more rapidly than in the private sector. This situation has turned around in the past four quarters, with private sector wage growth again exceeding that in the public sector. More recent data on Average Weekly Earnings suggests that this trend continued through to the end of 2011.

![Wage Price Index by sector for Western Australia](image3.png)

Figure 3 Wage Price Index by sector for Western Australia
Source: ABS Cat No 6345.0 Labour Price Index, Aust. Sept 2011

The unemployment rate in WA has averaged 4.2% for 2011/12 to date. Although this is slightly below the average rate of 4.4% in 2010/11, it is anticipated by State Treasury that the unemployment rate will increase to average 4.5% over 2011/12. Unemployment is expected to remain below this level into the future, reflecting growth in economic activity and moderate growth in labour supply despite an increase in the participation rate of those aged 15 – 64 years.

The Wage Price Index is expected to increase 4.25% in 2011/12, following 3.8% growth in 2010/11. The index is anticipated to increase 4.5% in 2012/13 as tight labour market conditions continue.
ROAD AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Road construction costs have increased more strongly than the costs of other building activities since 2009 as ongoing Federal, State and Local Government funded work underpins activity in the sector. The steady increase in fuel prices has, and is expected to continue to exert pressure on road construction costs. Diesel prices increased 10 – 12% across different regions in WA during the past year with increases in international prices being only partly offset by a strengthening Australian dollar.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COST INDEX

The Local Government Cost Index increased 2.2% in the year ending September 2011. Data for the December quarter is due to be published at the end of February. Based on the analysis set out above, the Local Government Cost Index is forecast to increase 3.2% in the year to June 2012 and 4.0% in the year to June 2013.

The parameters underpinning this forecast are summarised in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Category</th>
<th>2012 Increase</th>
<th>2013 Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages and Salaries</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road and Bridge Construction</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-residential Building</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery and Equipment</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity and Street Lighting</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Costs</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost increases faced by Local Governments for electricity and street lighting remain subject to Government policy and difficult to anticipate. The estimates included are based on potential electricity distribution price increases to be provided under the Western Power access arrangement due to take effect from July 2012.

For further information or to comment please contact Ian Duncan on 9213 2031 or email i.duncan@walga.wa.gov.au.


1 Refer Local Budget 2011 International Report p1 Accessed at www.db.com
Executive Summary:

The Mount Gibson Mining Public Benefit Agreement provides that $50,000 will be paid twice yearly commencing 6 months after the trucking commencement date into an account set up for the purpose.

Applicants Submission:

The Trucking Commencement Date for the Mount Gibson Extension Hill project was 1 November 2011. This means that for the 6 year duration of the project $50,000 will become available for distribution to community projects on 1 May and 1 November for each of the 6 years.

To give effect to the agreement the Shire needs to:

- Set up a dedicated bank account for the purpose of holding the funds in trust;
- Identify a community representative to serve on the committee to distribute the funds;
- Agree to guidelines for the distribution of the funds; and
- Develop an application process that will allow community groups to bid for the funds.

Similar funds have already been in place in Mullewa and Morawa for several years. We can learn from their experience and modify their documents.

Background:

The Public Benefit Agreement executed in 2008 between the Shire of Perenjori and Mount Gibson Mining Limited states as follows:

3 **PUBLIC BENEFIT FUND**

3.1 *Subsequent to the Date of Execution, Perenjori will establish a special purpose bank account for the Public Benefit Fund.*

3.2 *During the Term, MGM will contribute $50,000 to the Public Benefit Fund every 6 months in arrears.*
3.3 The annual contribution specified in clause 3.2 relates to the mining of Hematite Ore from the Extension Hill Iron Ore Project.

3.4 Payments out of the Public Benefit Fund will be subject to the majority approval of a committee comprising:
   (a) the Perenjori Shire President or in his absence the Perenjori Shire Deputy President;
   (b) a resident living within the jurisdiction of Perenjori, as selected by Perenjori; and
   (c) the MGM Representative.

3.5 Payments out of the Public Benefit Fund must only be made for the public benefit of the citizens of Perenjori.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:

The new methodology for the distribution of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) to Local Governments was unveiled at the recent WALGA Northern Country Zone Conference in Geraldton. This type of contribution is not treated as income by the Grants Commission and should not affect future funding for the Shire of Perenjori.

Historically Council has supported community projects from its own funds, and it is not intended that this fund replace Council’s efforts. In some cases Council may choose to co-fund projects with sufficient merit.

Strategic Implications:

The Public Benefit Agreement was one of a suite of agreements between the Shire of Perenjori and Mount Gibson Mining Limited in support of the Extension Hill haematite project and associated transport arrangements.

Consultation:

Proposed guidelines and applications are loosely based on the Shire of Morawa / Sinosteel arrangements. Mount Gibson management at Extension Hill are aware of the agreement, and even reminded the CEO of the impending availability of the funds.

Comment:

To give effect to the agreement the Shire needs to:
   - Set up a dedicated bank account for the purpose of holding the funds in trust;
   - Identify a community representative to serve on the committee to distribute the funds;
   - Agree to guidelines for the distribution of the funds; and
   - Develop an application process that will allow community groups to bid for the funds.

Draft Guidelines and application forms are attached.
The committee will consist of 3 people: The Shire President, a Mount Gibson Representative and a community representative appointed by Council. The community representative could be another elected member or a staff member. Council may decide to invite applications from the public to sit on the committee.

Voting Requirements:
Simple Majority

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Council authorise the CEO to set up a new trust account as the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust with the same operating arrangements as the Shire of Perenjori Trust Account including access to electronic funds transfer and internet banking;

2. That Council endorse the Draft Perenjori Public Benefit Trust Guidelines and the Draft Perenjori Public Benefit Fund Application form;

3. That Council advertise for Expressions of Interest from community members to be appointed as the community representative on the Committee of the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust

OR

That Council appoints _______________________ as the community representative on the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr JH Hirsch Seconded: Cr LM Smith

1. That Council authorise the CEO to set up a new trust account as the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust with the same operating arrangements as the Shire of Perenjori Trust Account including access to electronic funds transfer and internet banking;


Carried: 6/0
Moved: Cr HC Wass  Seconded: Cr GK Reid

3. That Council advertise for Expressions of Interest from community members to be appointed as the community representative on the Committee of the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust

Carried: 6/0
12045.4 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2012/13

APPLICANT: SHIRE OF PERENJORI
FILE: 0
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: 0
AUTHOR: STAN SCOTT – CEO
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER STAN SCOTT – CEO
REPORT DATE: 9 APRIL 2012
ATTACHMENTS
Centenary Committee Letter – Town Hall
Centenary Committee Letter – Townscape
Perenjori Agricultural Society Contribution

Executive Summary:
The Shire has received a number of requests for funds that will have an impact on the 2012/13 budget.

Applicants Submission:
There have been a number of requests for support that will require budget allocations in the 2012/13 budget. Council may wish to respond to these requests now rather than wait for adoption of the final budget.

Council will soon be advertising for submissions for applications for the Perenjori Public Benefit Trust. It may be appropriate to advertise for budget submissions at the same time.

The Specific requests are:

Centenary Committee - The town hall is the proposed venue for the Centenary Dinner Dance on Saturday 29 September. The hall has suffered some water damage due to a storm event earlier this year, but is also suffering from wear and tear. The floors need repair, sanding and varnishing. The walls require repair and painting. The toilets require upgrade. An allocation in the order of $30,000 would be required.

Centenary Committee – the committee is taking a wider view than just the event itself, and would like to see the town looking at its best. This will require additional effort and investment on top of the existing street scape investment. This could include street bins, seating, planters, more plantings and will complement the new walk trail. These improvements would cost in the order of $20,000. If we also develop some new entry statements on each of the roads leading into town this would cost around an additional $20,000.

The Perenjori Agricultural Society - has requested a contribution of $5,000 again this year. This is in keeping with previous contributions, and will be even more important this year with the competition for sponsorship from the Centenary.
Background:
Each year Council makes contributions to programs or activities for which Council perceives value.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:
Impacts on next year’s budget include:

- An expected part year reduction in GRV rates associated with mining as Karara moves from construction to mining;
- An increase in FAGS General Purpose grants of in the order of $110,000
- A Public Infrastructure Fund contribution of $200,000 from mount Gibson for capital projects..

Strategic Implications:
Some projects will require planning prior to budget adoption. Council has already committed $25,000 this year and in 2012/13 to the centenary celebrations. Many of the suggested improvements will have lasting benefits.

Consultation:
The Centenary Committee is meeting fortnightly and is in the process of developing its own budget.

Comment:
Each of the projects has merit and would likely be funded as a matter of course during budget deliberations. However to allow adequate preparation and implementation time funds need to be available virtually from 1 July 2012.

Voting Requirements:
Absolute Majority

Officers Recommendation:
That Council allocate the following in its 2012/13 Budget and authorise the administration to implement these project immediately after 1 July 2012 to ensure that they are in place in time for the centenary.

- Town Hall Maintenance $30,000
- Street Scape Improvements $20,000
- Entry Statements $20,000
- Perenjori Show Contribution $ 5,000

3.16pm Cr GK Reid left the Chambers
3.19pm Cr GK Reid returned to the Chambers
COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr JH Hirsch  
Seconded: Cr RP Desmond

That Council allocate the following in its 2012/13 Budget and authorise the administration to implement these project immediately after 1 July 2012 to ensure that they are in place in time for the centenary.

- Town Hall Maintenance: $30,000
- Street Scape Improvements: $20,000
- Entry Statements: $20,000
- Perenjori Show Contribution: $5,000

Carried: 6/0

---

The President
Perenjori Shire Council
25th March 2012

Dear Chris,

As part of Perenjori's centenary celebrations in September the Centenary Committee will be holding a Dinner Dance in the Town Hall. We are, however, concerned about the current state of the hall and ask that Council can ensure its condition will be rectified well before September.

Yours sincerely

Julie King
Chairperson
Centenary Committee
The President
Perenjori Shire Council

25th March 2012

Dear Chris,

As part of Perenjori’s centenary celebrations in September the Centenary Committee will be holding a Dinner Dance in the Town Hall. We are, however, concerned about the current state of the hall and ask that Council can ensure its condition will be rectified well before September.

Yours sincerely

Julie King
Chairperson
Centenary Committee
Perenjori & Districts Agricultural Society

A.B.N: 31 163 849 680
Show Date: 18th August 2012

Stan Scott
CEO Shire of Perenjori
Box 22
Perenjori 6620

27th February 2012

Dear Stan,

The Perenjori & Districts Agricultural Society once again request permission to hold their annual Show at the Stan Cannon Memorial Oval on the 18th August 2012.

To assist the Society with obtaining a band for the night entertainment we would like to ask to be considered for $5000 from the community funding money if available.

Once again we thank the Shire of Perenjori for the support given to this community event each year.

P King
Secretary
Executive Summary:
Regional Development Australia Midwest Gascoyne has requested $5,000 per year for the next 3 years to support the continuation of the Outback Business Network.

Applicants Submission:
Regional Development Australia Midwest Gascoyne has requested $5,000 per year for the next 3 years to support the continuation of the Outback Business Network.

Background:
This was previously supported by desert Knowledge Australia and under new arrangements they are seeking additional partners. While much of the impact to date has been more Gascoyne than Midwest this has great potential as an economic development strategy.

Statutory Environment:
*Local Government Act 1995* S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:
The proposed commitment is $15,000 over 3 years.

Strategic Implications:
The Shire has a history of participating in wider regional strategies.

Consultation:
Nil

Comment:
The proposed contribution of $5,000 is quite modest and half that provided to support the Mid West Procurement Officer Project.
Voting Requirements:
Absolute Majority

Officers Recommendation:
That Council commit $15,000 over 3 years to support the Outback Business Network.
That the CEO seek more projects with direct impact on Perenjori businesses.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
Moved: Cr JH Hirsch Seconded: Cr HC Wass
That Council commit $15,000 over 3 years to support the Outback Business Network.
That the CEO seek more projects with direct impact on Perenjori businesses.
That Council invite a member from Regional Development Australia to the June Forum to address Council.

Carried: 6/0
Mr Stan Scott  
CEO  
Shire of Perenjori  
PO Box 22  
PERENJORI WA 6620

Dear Mr Stan Scott

SPONSORSHIP FOR OUTBACK BUSINESS NETWORK

For the past 3 years Regional Development Australia Midwest Gascoyne in partnership with Desert Knowledge Australia (DKA) has delivered the Australia wide program - Outback Business Network across the region.

The current funding arrangements are now being reviewed with national sponsorship for the next three years being sought. As part of the new business approach DKA is seeking local delivery partners to provide local sponsorship.

I am seeking your support to continue the delivery of this role in the region for the next three years, with financial support of $5000 pa for this three year period from July 2012.

As with many remote areas in Australia, the ability to connect with people across industry, region and Outback Australia can cause many challenges. With Outback Business Network we have been able to improve and provide a successful service for small and medium sized enterprises to ensure we provide efficient communication, promote business, reduce cost and increase revenue within our five service industries.

I have put together a few significant outcomes in the region for your information:

**Bush Beds**  
Bush Beds is about creating a regional approach to tourism and gathering all our operators under one heading. The project is based on a pilot in SA called Station Stays (www.stationstays.com.au). Bush Beds is going to include all accommodation providers, not just Station Stays. Bush Beds will be a strong part of trade shows such as the Perth Caravan and Camping show and Perth 4WD show. The project is primarily about giving a face to the Gascoyne Murchison Region.

**Yamatji Aboriginals Contractors Association (YACA)**  
This association is about opportunities for Aboriginal companies across the Yamatji region to be a voice and gain business opportunities for Aboriginal entrepreneurs. It will also be easier for companies and government to conduct business by providing a direct portal to Aboriginal companies in the Mid-West region. It will be a forum for contracting companies with both opportunities and grievances. The priority is for all YACA members to connect, communicate and to form as an Association - winning business for Aboriginal people in the Midwest/Gascoyne region.
The Art of Business
We invited all artists from Outback Australia to participate in a fantastic professional development opportunity. Western Australian artist Jill Yelland delivered a cross regional Seminar series delivered by web and teleconference to existing or emerging small business operators in the Creative Industries. The 'Art of Business' program focuses on how to create and sustain a commercially viable visual arts business.

Virtual Trade food Fair
Businesses with an interest in using, promoting and selling outback and regional produce or Australian native foods attended the Virtual Trade Fair. It is a unique opportunity to experience the local produce of suppliers from across outback Australia. Each site in each region across Australia joined the Virtual Trade Fair using web-conferencing to link suppliers and customers with samples of each product at every site.

Bringing Together the Gascoyne and Mining
Croslands Resources Ltd is the owner of the Jack Hills Iron Ore Project located in the north of the Mid-West. The OBN organised and Showcased Gascoyne businesses & capabilities to Croslands Mining to bring together what opportunities may be available for their business.

Food Wine & Culture - Cross Regional Outback Business Networks
This was a cross regional event held in conjunction with the ‘Heart of Gold’ Festival in the Goldfields showcasing a diverse cross-section of predominately local produce & creative industries. This resulted in some $10,000.00 plus in sales on the night and some great leads for participating businesses.

I am confident that the Shire of Perenjori understands and appreciates the need for a reliable network to support the region’s growth and hereby request your consideration and your support of sponsorship. I have attached a prospectus for you to consider. You may already have an economic development budget for your local government that this program would complement.

I would be happy to discuss any questions you may have regarding the program, please feel free to call on 99645757. I look forward to your consideration and ongoing success for the Midwest Gascoyne region.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Alan Bradley
RDAMWG EO

24/4/12
Executive Summary:

At its March Ordinary Meeting Council requested that the CEO obtain quotes from WALGA, LOGO and FitzGerald Strategies for the appointment of a CEO.

Applicants Submission:

Each of the three consultants have extensive experience recruiting CEO’s for Local Government, and have submitted substantive proposals.

The Local Government Operating Guideline suggests as follows:

A recruitment consultant may be involved in the following aspects of the selection process –

- development or review of the position description;
- development of selection criteria;
- drafting of the advertisement;
- preliminary assessment of the applications;
- final shortlisting;
- drafting of the questions for interview;
- coordinating interviews; and
- finalising the contract.
Each of the consultants would assist with each of the elements described above. A comparison of the offering from the various consultants is set out below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WALGA Workplace Solutions</th>
<th>LOGO Appointments</th>
<th>FitzGerald Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff</strong></td>
<td>Three Staff</td>
<td>Four Staff, Executive Director,</td>
<td>One Staff member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Executive Manager, Manager &amp; Adviser</td>
<td>Manager and 2 x Advisers</td>
<td>Sole operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timeline</strong></td>
<td>12 weeks</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Price (ex GST)</strong></td>
<td>$8000</td>
<td>6% of Annual Salary, Approx. $7,700</td>
<td>$3250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td>Charged at Cost</td>
<td>Charged at Cost</td>
<td>Fee include two visits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guarantee</strong></td>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>3 months</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Experience</strong></td>
<td>85 CEO’s plus numerous other positions, though not clear over what period</td>
<td>Provided Services to 16 Local Governments in last 4 years</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Background:**

The CEO has accepted an offer from the Shire of Toodyay and will have commenced the formal 3 month notice period by the time of the April Council meeting.

**Statutory Environment:**

There are three sections of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act) that have direct application to the appointment of a CEO. **Section 5.36 of the Act** requires a local government to employ a “suitably qualified” person to fill the position of CEO. **Section 5.39** contains provisions for the contracts of CEOs. **Section 5.40** requires that all employees are to be selected in accordance with the principles of merit and equity.

**Policy Implications:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

With advertising costs, travel and accommodation the final cost of either LOGO or WALGA will approximate $15,000.

**Strategic Implications:**

The appointment of a CEO is one of the most important strategic decisions Council will make.

**Consultation:**

Quotes have been invited for the 3 most commonly used consultants.
Comment:
In terms of the number of CEO’s vacancies handled by individual consultants it would appear that the 3 consultants in order would be WALGA, LOGO and FitzGerald Strategies.

LOGO appointments was the consultant 7 years ago the last time the Shire recruited a CEO. WALGA handled the recent Toodyay selection. Mike FitzGerald has a very good network, particularly amongst smaller Local Governments. Mike assisted the Shire with the current CEO’s first performance appraisal.

Any of the 3 consultants would complete the task competently. FitzGerald Strategies as a sole trader is significantly, cheaper, pricing on the other two is comparable.

The Guideline advises as follows:

The selection and appointment process to be applied to a CEO position must be approved by council prior to advertising as prescribed under Local Government (Administration) Regulation 18C.

Extensive consideration should be given to the overall process, especially the shortlisting, whether preliminary interviews will be conducted and whether final interviews will be with full council. Council must be very clear about the methods, techniques and questions used during the selection process.

It is essential that the council manages the process professionally and members involved in the process have a thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

Council may decide to establish a committee to coordinate the preliminaries of the selection process. This committee should liaise with the employment consultant if one is appointed.

The respective roles of a consultant, council committee, full council and an individual elected member must be clear.

Managing this process is something at which consultants are of necessity very well versed. It is therefore suggested that Council arrange a Special Meeting to meet with the chosen consultant as soon as possible, and that Council determine at that meeting how the selection process will be managed, and what decisions will be made by full Council, whether a committee will be appointed and what the respective roles and responsibilities will be. The consultant is better placed than the current CEO to advise Council on these issues.

Voting Requirements:
Absolute Majority

Officers Recommendation:

1. That Council determine which consultant to appoint to conduct the CEO selection;

2. That Council convene a Special Meeting at the earliest opportunity to meet with the consultant and review the process and documentation.
COUCNIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr RP Desmond  Seconded: Cr JH Hirsch

1. That Council appoint WALGA Workplace Solutions to conduct the CEO selection.

Carried: 6/0

Moved: Cr JH Hirsch  Seconded: Cr RP Desmond

2. That Council convene a Special Meeting at the earliest opportunity to meet with the consultant and review the process and documentation

Carried: 6/0
Cr HC Wass, Cr LM Smith and Cr RP Desmond declared an interest in item 12045.7 Uranium Exploration.

12045.7 URANIUM EXPLORATION

APPLICANT: SHIRE OF PERENJORI
FILE: 0
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: 0
AUTHOR: STAN SCOTT – CEO
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: STAN SCOTT – CEO
REPORT DATE: 8 March 2012
ATTACHMENTS: Tengraph Maps

Executive Summary:
M&M Walter Consulting, on behalf of Enterprise Uranium Pty Ltd has lodged 4 applications for exploration leases that cover parts of the Shire of Perenjori.

Applicants Submission:
M&M Walter Consulting, on behalf of Enterprise Uranium Pty Ltd has lodged 4 applications for exploration leases that cover parts of the Shire of Perenjori. While mining companies are required to declare to the department what minerals they are exploring for, the name of the mining company does suggest that uranium could be a target.

All exploration activity on private land is subject to stringent requirements and should leases be granted the company will have to adhere to these processes.

Background:
Every month new applications for exploration licenses are lodged, and in most cases are not referred to Council unless there is a sensitive issue in play.

The 200 blocks applied for by the proponent is the maximum allowable.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:
All mining leases generate rates income.

Strategic Implications:
It is a long way between an exploration lease and a mining project. Council may eventually need to form a view on uranium mining.

Consultation:
The CEO spoke with the consultant who lodged the claims on the miners behalf.

Comment:
There is an opportunity to object to the issue of an exploration lease, though it would not necessarily result in a lease not being granted. As Council is aware there is an long and intensive approval process that will be required should the applicant find and prove up a resource and seek to develop that resource into a mine. These processes provide ample opportunity for comment, particularly in relation to environmental issues.

Council may:
- Object to the issue of the exploration leases;
- Do nothing at this stage and await further developments; or
- Commence a consultation process with the community to determine a policy position.

In the CEO’s view issue of exploration licenses is a first step in a very long process, and it would be premature to jump to a policy position without further consultation. If no resource is identified it may be a moot point. The community’s view on uranium mining may be one of the issues canvassed as part of the development of the Community Strategic Plan, but we will need to be careful that it does not dominate wider discussions.

Voting Requirements:
Simple Majority

Officers Recommendation:
1. That Council not object to the issue of the proposed exploration licenses;
2. That Council consult with the community as part of the development of its Community Strategic Plan to gauge views on future uranium mining in the Shire of Perenjori.

Item 12045.7 Uranium Exploration is laid on the table due to a lack of Quorum
Executive Summary:
WALGA is inviting applications for a Scholarship in the Diploma of Local Government (Elected Member).

Applicants Submission:
The Diploma has now achieved national recognition. The scholarship covers training and assessment fees, travel and accommodation up to $10,000.

Background:

WALGA PRESIDENT’S SCHOLARSHIP

DIPLOMA OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ELECTED MEMBER)

2013 NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Following WALGA’s accreditation as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), a Diploma of Local Government (Elected Member) was developed to meet an important strategy in building Western Australian Elected Member capability and skills. As a nationally recognised qualification, the course content covers areas that directly relate to the roles and responsibilities of Elected Members and focuses on the high level of expertise that is required to effectively govern.

What will I win?
The scholarship will cover the full Diploma training cost and assessment fees, along with relevant travel and accommodation costs, up to the value of $10,000.

How do I apply?
To apply for this scholarship simply state in around 250 words what benefits you, your Council and your community would gain from this professional development opportunity.

To receive a nomination form email training@walga.asn.au or for general queries regarding the nomination process contact Jacqueline Dodd, Training Manager on 9213 2090.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON 30th JUNE 2012.

For a full Diploma program outline, please visit www.workplacesolutions.asn.au/training or contact the Workplace Solutions training team at WALGA on 9213 2090 or email training@walga.asn.au.
Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:

Nil

Financial Implications:

Council may wish to consider covering the costs in excess of $10,000 (if any) if the application is successful.

The Course outline is set out below:

**DIPLOMA OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ELECTED MEMBER)**

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Duration</th>
<th>Diploma Units of Competence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Roles and Responsibilities</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>LGAGENE501A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics and Conduct of an Elected Member</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>LGAGENE502A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Planning</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>BSBMGT616A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Reports and Budgets</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>BSBGCO403A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change Management</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>LGACOM602B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Development</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>LGADMIN527A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Planning</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>WALTERP501A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Asset Management</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>WALGAM501A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO Performance Appraisals</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>BSBMGT502B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing Conflict</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>BSBATSL503B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHEDULE OF FEES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Price (GST exempt)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Fee (per day)</td>
<td>$395.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Fee (per unit of competence)</td>
<td>$225.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of Prior Learning/RPL Fee (per unit of competence)</td>
<td>$395.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategic Implications:

Nil

Consultation:

Cr Karen Chappel, Shire President from Morawa has completed the Diploma and speaks highly of it.

Comment:

The Diploma provides a comprehensive understanding of most decisions and responsibilities of elected members. The Shire can arrange for individual modules to be delivered locally if there is sufficient interest, or members can enrol in specific modules delivered in Perth.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority
Officers Recommendation:
That Elected Members note the availability of the scholarship.
That Council agree to meet any additional travel and subsistence costs for any member that is successful in obtaining the scholarship

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
Moved: Cr JH Hirsch  Seconded: Cr RP Desmond
That Elected Members note the availability of the scholarship.
That Council agree to meet any additional travel and subsistence costs for any member that is successful in obtaining the scholarship
Carried: 6/0
Executive Summary:
Local Governments are invited to attend WA Transport and Roads Forum on Friday 4 May at Burswood.

Applicants Submission:
The WA Local Government Association and Main Roads WA have invited Local Governments to the WA Transport and Roads Forum. The theme for 2012 will address key opportunities and challenges to achieving best practice in Local Government transport infrastructure investment and management.

The forum is on Friday 4 May at Burswood.

The Forum will provide a valuable opportunity for Local Government to develop and express a strong voice on issues affecting local roads and transport, and to meet with other representatives from Local Government. Presenters include State Government decision makers at both the political and departmental level.

The Forum will also welcome an international guest speaker, industry and Local Government representatives. This event is free for Local Government and associated State Government representatives. The Forum will be an all day event, followed by a sundowner.

Background:
The forum is an annual event.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
The forum will impact on heavy vehicle policies.

Financial Implications:
The forum is free, but there will be costs associated with travel and accommodation.
Strategic Implications:
The discussion on heavy vehicle impacts is of significant local importance.

Consultation:
The CEO advised Crs King, Butler and Reid of the forum by email. This is in their capacity as President, Deputy President and Regional Road Group Representative respectively.

Comment:
The forum is particularly relevant to this area due to:

- The impact or potential impact of large freight task on local roads;
- Potential impacts of Rail Closures;
- Lack of enforceable cost recovery measures;
- Extractive Industry local laws and farm forestry local planning policy.

Voting Requirements:
Simple Majority

Officers Recommendation:
That Council authorise the CEO and the following elected members to attend the forum.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
Moved: Cr RP Desmond  Seconded: Cr JH Hirsch
That Council authorise the CEO and Cr Harold Wass to attend the forum.
Carried: 6/0
The WA Local Government Association and Main Roads WA invite you to the WA Transport and Roads Forum. The theme for 2012 will address key opportunities and challenges to achieving best practice in Local Government transport infrastructure investment and management. The Forum will provide a valuable opportunity for Local Government to develop and express a strong voice on issues affecting local roads and transport, and to meet with other representatives from Local Government. Presenters include State Government decision makers at both the political and departmental level. The Forum will also welcome an international guest speaker, industry and Local Government representatives.

8.00 Registration
8.30 Welcome from the President of WALGA and Welcome to Country
   Mayor Troy Pickard, President of WALGA
8.45 Minister for Transport’s address
   Hon Troy Buswell MLA, Minister for Transport
9.15 Shadow Minister for Transport’s address
   Hon Ken Travers MLC, Shadow Minister for Transport
9.45 Managing Director of Main Roads WA’s address
   Merino Hennerveld, Managing Director, Main Roads WA
10.00 Morning Tea
10.30 International presentation
   How to optimise your road investment using a pavement management system
   Gerrie van Zyl, Director, Mycube Asset Management Systems, South Africa
11.16 Keynote
   Executive Director, Emergency Management WA
12.00 Lunch
1.00 Getting funding contributions from users of permit vehicles on Local Government roads
   Bob Peters, Principal Advisor, Congestion, Freight & Productivity, ARRB Group
1.45 Panel discussion
   Who should pay for unforeseen road damage from heavy vehicles?
   Chair
   - Greg Martin PSM, Director and Principal, Greg Martin Transport Strategies Pty Ltd
   Panel
   - Bob Peters, Principal Advisor, Congestion, Freight & Productivity, ARRB Group
   - Tom Maughan, Manager – Freight Operations, Western Australian Road Transport Association
   - Cr Karen Chappell, President, Shire of Morawa
   - John Clydesdale, Commercial Stakeholder Manager – Regional Services, Main Roads WA
2.30 Afternoon Tea
3.00 Freight planning
   Reece Waldock, Director General, Department of Transport
3.45 Road safety awards presentation
   Hon Rob Johnson MLA, Minister for Road Safety
4.30 Closing remarks
   Mayor Troy Pickard, President of WALGA
4.45 Sundowner

For further information regarding the program, contact Mark Bondietti
Telephone: (08) 9213 2040
Email: mbondietti@walga.asn.au

Information included in this program is correct at the time of printing, and may be subject to change without notice.
12046 OTHER BUSINESS

12046.1 INFORMATION BULLETIN – TABLED IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- Correspondence from Regional Development Council
- Government News Volume 32
- WALGA Infopage
  - Metropolitan Local Government Review
  - Reminder on Working with Children’s Checks
  - Vacancies on Boards and Committees
  - Resolution of Misconduct complaints at the local level
  - Country Local Government Fund
  - Safe System Guiding Principles for Local Government Resource
  - Street lighting invoicing – Back Billing
  - Waste Strategy for WA Released
  - Role and expectations of rural – remote and indigenous local government
  - Clarification – WALGA support for poll provisions
  - The great bike hike
  - State planning policy 2.6
- Rural Health Matters
- RAC Correspondence
- AusRAP – How safe are our roads
- Prospect – Mach-May 2012
- Opulence in the Outback thankyou
- The Australian Local Government Yearbook

12046.2 MOTIONS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAVE BEEN GIVEN

12046.3 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12046.4 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION

Cr Laurie Butler approved the addition of item 12046.4.1 Review of the Country Local Government Fund
Executive Summary:

The Results of the Review of The Country Local Government Fund were released on 11 April 2012. The comment period closes 11 May 2012. WALGA has requested that Local Governments provide comments by 3 May 2012.

Applicants Submission:

The Review of the Country Local Government Fund has been completed by the Regional Development Trust. The complete document runs to over 340 pages, so has not been reproduced here.

The Shire of Perenjori made a substantial submission to the review, together with a further submission following consultation sessions with the Trust. The Perenjori submission is quoted 13 times in the body of the document, so there is some comfort that our views were at least considered.

Surprisingly, many country local governments chose not to make a submission. There were only 6 Submissions from Local Governments in the Midwest.

On the pages that follow the recommendations have been set out and the CEO’s comments included. It is proposed that these comments be provided to WALGA and the Department,

Background:

The opening page of the review notes as follows:

On the 28 June 2011 the Minister for Regional Development; Lands (Minister) referred a review of the Country Local Government Fund (CLGF) to the Western Australian Regional Development Trust (Trust) pursuant to section 12(b) of the Royalties for Regions Act 2009 (Act).
The Minister advised the Trust that he considered it an appropriate time to conduct an independent, evidence-based review of the CLGF, particularly given that it will be completed prior to the program’s fourth year of operation. The Minister provided the Trust with terms of reference, and required the results of the Trust’s review of the CLGF to be presented to the Minister by the end of January 2012.

The Trust advises the Minister that it has taken evidence, undertaken consultation, and examined the issues in accordance with the terms of reference.

The evidence, findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Trust on the CLGF are presented …. for the Minister’s consideration.

Statutory Environment:
Local Government Act 1995 S3.1 – the general Function of Local Government is to provide for the good government of people in its district.

Policy Implications:
Nil

Financial Implications:
The Country Local Government fund has made substantial money available to the Shire of Perenjori over the last 4 years – almost $2 million including the regional contribution to the early childhood centre.

Strategic Implications:
CLGF is particularly important for strategic investments.

Consultation:
Council reviewed the Perenjori submission before it was lodged.

Comment:
WALGA makes the following observations:

The Trust’s recommendations are broadly consistent with the Association’s submission to the Issues Paper.

However, some matters, particularly regarding the role of the Department of Regional Development and Lands (RDL) as assessors of Local Governments, present as prima facie concerns for the sector.

The Trust has recommended that the CLGF should continue with current or increased funding and should become more strategic and outcomes focused. The focuses of the CLGF will continue to be infrastructure creation and renewal, Local Government capacity building and the facilitation of amalgamations.

WALGA’s commentary goes on to highlight positive and negative aspects of the results of the review.

Before moving on the specific recommendations it is worth commenting on some of the maps and the accompanying descriptions:

- Map 3 lists Morawa as not participating in structural reform, Mingenew as a declining population, Three Springs as neither and Perenjori as both declining population and not participating in structural reform. These 4 shires went
through the entire amalgamation process up to the point of community veto – that could hardly be described as not participating. When the amalgamation proposal was voted down the 4 shires have started working to reinvigorate regional cooperation through the Midwest Regional Council. The 2011 census data will confirm that Perenjori’s population is NOT declining.

- **Map 5** lists Morawa and Mingenew and Three Springs as amalgamations. This proposal has now been abandoned. These 3 shires together with Perenjori have started working to reinvigorate regional cooperation through the Midwest Regional Council.

- **Map 5** lists Morawa and Perenjori (together with Dalwallinu) as a group and Mingenew and Three Springs as a separate group for CLGF. In fact the same 4 hires that explored amalgamation and make up the Mid West Regional Council are a regional grouping for CLGF purposes (the North Midlands Group). There was however a regional drive trail that involved contributions from Greater Geraldton, Morawa, Perenjori, and Dalwallinu – working across regional groupings and development commission regions to produce a regional outcome.

What is disturbing about these maps and the data they represent is that collectively RDL and DLG do not actually know what is happening.

Whether some of the results of the review are positive or negative largely depends on whether your Local Government is a winner or a loser. It appears that access to funding could be a reward for good governance and good planning. This highlights the importance of the current strategic planning process.

Given the importance of these issues it does raise some issues for Council to consider in the context of the next budget and ongoing administration:

- Is staffing adequate to provide the level of administration required to be best practice and leave us best placed to access funding;

- Are our staff adequately trained to manage the range of tasks and responsibilities arising from the quantum of funds and the size and number of projects to be managed;

- Is the office space adequate to accommodate our organisation.

We have invested in technology, and have competent and committed administration staff. We need to ensure that we have the skills and systems in place to be one of the winners.

**Voting Requirements:**

Simple Majority

**Officers Recommendation:**

That Council endorse the comments set out on the pages that follow

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr RP Desmond  
Seconded: Cr LM Smith

That Council endorse the comments set out on the pages that follow and that the CEO point out the errors in the Document.

Carried: 6/0
In June 2011, the Minister for Regional Development referred a review of the Country Local Government Fund (CLGF) to the Western Australian Regional Development Trust (WARDT).

To undertake the Review, the WARDT released an Issues Paper and called for submissions from Local Governments, WALGA and other stakeholders. The Association provided a comprehensive submission to the Trust, containing nine recommendations, which was endorsed by State Council on 7 December 2011. The Association’s full submission to the Issues Paper is available to download from http://www.walga.asn.au/MemberResources/GovernanceStrategy/CurrentandEmergingIssues.aspx.


The report has been released for a comment period closing on Friday, 11 May 2012. Feedback from Local Governments is requested by Thursday, 3 May 2012 to guide the Association’s submission.

Comment

If the Trust’s 26 recommendations are implemented, there will be changes to the nature of the Country Local Government Fund and the way it is allocated to Local Governments from July next year.

The Trust’s recommendations are broadly consistent with the Association’s submission to the Issues Paper. However, some matters, particularly regarding the role of the Department of Regional Development and Lands (RDL) as assessors of Local Governments, present as prima facie concerns for the sector.

The Trust has recommended that the CLGF should continue with current or increased funding and should become more strategic and outcomes focused. The focuses of the CLGF will continue to be infrastructure creation and renewal, Local Government capacity building and the facilitation of amalgamations.

For Further information please contact

Tony Brown, (08) 9213 2051 or tbrown@walga.asn.au
Tim Lane, (08) 9213 2029 or tlane@walga.asn.au
The Trust has recommended scrapping the fixed percentage split between individual Local Governments and regional groupings of Local Governments in line with the shift towards an outcomes based and more strategic program. The Trust’s Recommendation 9 states that the CLGF should contain both an individual component and a regional component. Further, the Trust recommend against the 2013-14 CLGF being allocated entirely to regional groups of Local Government as is intended.

The Trust argues in the report that some Local Governments, particularly geographically large Local Governments, regional centres and SuperTowns, should be considered ‘regions’ in their own right and should not be forced into regional groups that deliver sub-optimal outcomes. Conversely, the Trust argues that some Local Governments should only have access to funding as part of a regional group of Local Governments.

The Trust has recommended that there should be two CLGF funding pools: a contestable funding pool and a non-contestable grants pool. The Trust argues the CLGF should be outcomes focused and not ‘entitlement’ focused.

A potential issue of concern for the sector is the enhanced role proposed for the Department of Regional Development and Lands as assessors of Local Governments. The Trust has recommended that funding to Local Governments from the CLGF be contingent on RDL assessments of Local Governments in terms of prospects, capability, capacity and risk. The Trust has also recommended that RDL analyse all Local Government Forward Capital Works Plans to ascertain infrastructure status, needs and priorities of each Local Government. The Trust envisages that RDL’s assessment and rating process may deem some Local Governments ineligible for one or both pools of funding.

This presents as a particular issue of concern for the Local Government sector. If the Trust’s recommendations are implemented, some Local Governments, potentially with the least financial capacity and a significant infrastructure backlog, may be determined as ineligible for CLGF funding.

Changes to the accountability requirements for the CLGF are also proposed. The report suggests that Local Government audit processes could be refined to provide a thorough assessment of CLGF projects to prevent multiple auditing of projects. The Trust also recommends the standardisation of Local Government accounting systems, asset management systems, depreciation systems and forward capital works plans.

A positive recommendation from the Trust is the move from the current ‘financial year’ approach to a ‘project time’ approach. The Association argued for this change in its submission to the Issues Paper.

Another positive proposal from the Trust is the recommendation that the Department of Regional Development takes a less ‘desktop’ based approach to administering the CLGF. It is recommended that RDL project officers get out into the country to directly liaise with Local Governments involved in CLGF projects.

The Trust has also recommended that the role and involvement of the Regional Development Commissions be clarified in future iterations of the CLGF.

The Association will prepare a response to the report by the 11 May 2012 deadline. Input from Local Governments is requested by 3 May 2012 to assist in shaping the Association’s submission.
12046.5 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

12046.6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING / MEETINGS

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on the 17th May 2012

12046.7 CLOSURE

With no further business the Ordinary Council Meeting was closed by Cr Laurie Butler at 4.39pm.

I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and correct record of the meeting held 19th April 2012

Signed: ______________
Presiding Elected Member
Date: ________________