

SHIRE OF DALWALLINU

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Of the meeting held in the Shire Administration Centre, 58 Johnston St Dalwallinu on Monday 10 February 2025.

1. MEETING OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 3.17pm.

2. ATTENDANCE RECORD

2.1 Present

Jemma Counsel (Chair)	Shire of Dalwallinu – Councillor
Hanna Jolly	Shire of Dalwallinu
Jeanette Syme	Dalwallinu Hospital (via Teams)
Sam Dickins	Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service
David Hughes	Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service
Stewart Benton	St John Ambulance
Matthew Trozzo	St John Ambulance (via Teams)
Justin Burt	Dalwallinu District High School
Jo Spadaccini	Department of Communities
Steve McCrea	OIC Dalwallinu Police
Matthew Chomiak	Dept of Fire & Emergency Services (via Teams)

2.2 Apologies

Shelbey Robinson	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Bec Chown	Kalannie Primary School
Jimwell Cruz	Shire of Dalwallinu – Councillor
Jean Knight	Shire of Dalwallinu
Aaron Mills	Bushfire Brigade
Ricki Hathway	St John Ambulance
Mark Schorer	Department of Communities
Michael Phillips	Department of Communities
David Kelly	Western Energetics (Aquirian)

2.3 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

Nil

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: Sam Dickins
Seconded: Steve McCrea

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 November 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

6. STANDING ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT EACH MEETING

6.1 Update of contacts (Committee and Emergency)

Dalwallinu District High School – New principal Justin Burt. Jon Atwell to be removed.

DFES – Matthew Chomiak DFES Area Officer.

St John – Matthew Trozzo Community Paramedic.

6.2 Any Incident Support Group (ISG) activations or incidents – debrief

Nil

6.3 Any LEMC exercise held – report and /or debrief

Nil

6.4 Training – future dates

Annual training for 2024/2025 to be undertaken during the next meeting in May 2025. Shire has liaised with DFES to try get some resources to do this. A desktop exercise on a bushfire in close proximity to Dalwallinu townsite.

Matthew Chomiak (DFES) to prepare exercise template and will distribute that to the members to review.

6.5 Funding applications

Nil

7. PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Michael Phillips from Department of Communities provided new Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan (LERSP). The plan was presented to the committee.

The following changes required: Dalwallinu Evacuation Centre – remove Dalwallinu Town Hall as evacuation centre and reduce capacity of Dalwallinu Discovery Centre to 50.

Moved: Hanna Jolly

Seconded: Steve McCrea

That the Department of Communities Local Emergency and Support Plan (LERSP) be accepted.

CARRIED

Shelbey Robinson provided District Emergency Management Advisor (DEMA) report from February 2025. Report attached to the minutes.

8. PRESENTATION OR EXERCISES

Nil

9. AGENCY UPDATES

9.1 Department of Communities (Jo Spadaccini)

Teams busy with cyclones (up north) and fires.

Audits for evacuation centres are now completed.

Dalwallinu Hospital (Jeanette Syme)

Fairly calm at the moment. Some new overseas nurse arriving soon to relief staff shortages. Evacuation and bushfire plans are up to date.

Volunteer Fire Rescue Service (Sam Dickins)

All appliances back at the station. Juniors starting 10 February. Stable 11 crew members. Have worked actively with bushfire crews during the season. Many call outs to Midwest recently.

Dalwallinu District High School (Justin Burt)

New to the role. Will familiarise himself with the school's evacuation and bushfire plan.

Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Matthew Chomiak)

- Regional Duty Co-ordinator – 1800 966 077
 - 24/7 on call position to provide support to the DFES region and stakeholders
 - Maintain situational awareness of incidents, hazard risk factors and evolving emergencies.
 - Communicate any significant incidents or emerging risks to the Regional Superintendent.
- ACH sites – Aboriginal Cultural Heritage land
 - Considerations and requests now required to operate machinery on land that has been deemed an ACH site.
 - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage ACT 2021
 - DFES have mapping that show sites (FESMAPS) or alternatively can be viewed on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System.
- DFES Northam staffing & vehicles
 - Additional 2 x light tankers, 1x 3.4 appliance based at Northam Regional Office and will be used where risk is the highest & crew availability.
 - A lot of breakdowns across the region with delays in repairs.
- LEMC Tabletop exercise May 2025
 - Happy to organise and send out an exercise brief to all prior to next LEMC
 - Have resources at DFES Northam to run a tabletop exercise that can be brought to Dalwallinu.
- Seasonal review
 - Quick a busy start to bushfire season with majority of incidents being started by machinery during harvest or dry lightning events.
 - Please see attached page for incidents in Dalwallinu LG area since 1st October 2024.

St John Ambulance (Stewart Benton and Matthew Trozzo)

Volunteer numbers stable but happy to accept more volunteers especially in Dalwallinu. Doing regular training activities and express interest to join Fire and Rescue training activities.

Dalwallinu Police (Steve McCrae)

The sergeant would like to visit the emergency service's co-location building to see the layout and plans. Request of current communication channels.

Shire of Dalwallinu (Hanna Jolly)

Will update the WhatsApp group and send a test message out.

10. LEMA & RECOVERY PLAN REVIEW

Local Emergency Management Arrangements will be advertised for community comment in March 2025. Final version to be accepted by LEMC in May 2025 meeting and endorsed by the Council May 2025.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Annual meeting dates Schedule:

- Monday 5 May 2025
- Monday 4 August 2025
- Monday 3 November 2025

Sam Dickins expressed interest of bringing the fire appliance to the Shire's Community Day on 15 March. Hanna Jolly to follow up and provide details of the day.

12. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING

Moved: Sam Dickins

Seconded: Stewart Benton

That the next meeting be held on 5 May 2025 at the Shire Administration Centre commencing at 3.15pm.

CARRIED

13. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting at 3.54pm.