



PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY
WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2024

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT	Brian Wade	Lee Smith (RM)
	Fiona Fitzgerald (Deputy Chair)	Dennielle Massang (Comms Specialist)
	Graham Winter	via TEAMS
	Mike Ansell (Chair)	Carol McKenzie (Committee Secretary)
	Murray Webb	
	Nicolas Pozniakov	
	Paul MacGillivray	
	Todd Brown	
	Tresslyn Smith	
APOLOGIES	Matthew Young	Keith Wilks (CEO)
	Michael Pekin	Robyn Fenech (Director)
		Alana Monaghan (Corporate Affairs Mgr.)

The Chair opened the meeting at 5:00 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Cr Todd Brown as the City of Bunbury Representative.

The Chair thanked the RM for organising the tour of the pilot boat for the Committee.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no new declarations.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Committee meeting held on 8th November 2023 were noted as approved via circular resolution on 12th December 2023. The circular resolution was affirmed by the Committee.

3. Action Items from Previous Minutes

Stakeholder result comparison between the three ports – the Corporate Affairs Manager requested this be held over to the next meeting as the survey results need to be presented to all Southern Ports staff first. (Action item 8)

5:05 pm Nicolas Pozniakov joined the meeting.

5:08 pm Tresslyn Smith joined the meeting.

4. Projects Update

The RM gave the following update on Projects: -

Southern Ports will be investing \$65 million in an asset recovery program across our three sites. One investment of \$2.3 million is the new pilot boat. The old pilot boat, the Freycinet, has gone down to our Esperance Port. Our new pilot boat, named Wardan, was built in Melbourne and was driven over by sea last November.

The Turkey Point Road and Bridge Project is going ahead, and we hope to break soil in March. We are currently finalising everything with the vendor. Due to cost increase for the project, we have sought extra funding from Treasury. During construction there will be some impact on Estuary Drive.

With an election budget commitment, we are replacing the aging existing infrastructure for CV13 which will increase efficiency when complete. We are investing \$4 million into this project.

The Berth 8 Substation Fire protection is also a budget promise, and we are investing \$3 million to ensure our ability to fight fires.

During the current Berth 8 shut works we will be replacing the shiploader energy chain at an investment of \$900 000. The sheave replacement will take place in early 2025.

There are some subsidence works required at Berth 2 which will cost approximately \$500 000.

5. New Staff and Safety and Security Update

The RM gave the following update on New Staff, Safety and Security: -

Our Terminal Superintendent role has been filled. The role covers the undertaking of vessel and terminal scheduling, working closely with the Pilots. The scheduling involves how the vessels are placed over a twelve-month period and estimating numbers and tonnages.

We are out to market again for a Port Logistics Manager, staffing resources are still very limited.

We have secured a candidate for our Safety and Security Lead to help give more focus on our Security in the Port. We continue to have individuals illegally accessing the port to fish so extra focus on security will help us get on top of the situation.

The RM attended a Management Forum last week where he met the new Executives. The Executive Structure has been reshuffled with two more roles added to the structure.

Chief Executive Officer – Keith Wilks
Chief Financial Officer – Adi Asthana
Chief Operating Officer – Rob Alexander
Chief People and Sustainability Officer – Monica Birkner
Chief Trade and Customer Officer – Virginia Wilson
Chief Information Officer – Amber Smith

The Regional Managers remain the same: -

Port of Albany – Paul McSweeney
Port of Bunbury – Lee Smith

Port of Esperance – Scott Bates

The new team will help bolster Southern Ports focus on Cyber Security, Intelliports digital operations, strategies and new trade which is important for the region.

A committee member noted there are forty-two positions vacant across the organisation. The RM explained several roles are not full time and are on a fixed term contract and there are departments in the organisation that need more staff such as Human Resources and Procurement. Our Project delivery team is also expanding.

6. Environment

The RM gave the following update on Environment:

Last year 300 000 tonnes of coal came through the port to supplement the electricity suppliers. Once again, the two Collie coal mines are unable to fully support Port Users, so one of our Port Users, Tronox, are looking at an alternative supply which means bringing a small amount of coal through the port again. The coal will be stockpiled at the old coal bunker site which is a better option than last year's stockpile area as it is further removed from the residential area.

The Fairy Tern breeding season was very successful this year. The port has one of the only breeding areas in the South West. Hidden cameras were installed in the area to look out for any threats to the birds. Two foxes were seen on one occasion and plans were put in place to deal with the issue, but the foxes never came back. The breeding area was cordoned off from the public.

A Committee member queried the Australia Day Fireworks exclusion zone and if it was a threat to the Hexion tanks. He was advised that good controls were in place for the event.

7. Port Trade

The RM gave the following update on Port Trade:

Trade numbers are 300 000 tonnes below last year's trade, but the port is still tracking well.

We are working with Synergy on their battery project for Collie. Synergy will be bringing the batteries through Bunbury Port to an allocated laydown area. This is proposed to commence in August.

Albemarle are still bringing in equipment. Lithium production has had a down turn in the market but this will not have much of an impact in Bunbury and Albemarle will continue to bring in their equipment.

We are expecting an announcement before the end of the month regarding an offshore windfarm. The port will be pivotal to the offshore industry which will require more infrastructure in the port.

A Committee member enquired about the Kojonup windfarm and if it is complete. The RM noted Stage one is complete, and Stage two has commenced. Eighteen turbines have come through the port for this project and Synergy will also be bringing in a turbine, so we need to allocate more laydown area.

A Committee member asked why there were no ships out at an anchor noting this is very unusual. The RM noted there is a major shut at Berth 8 covering a three-week period and several companies also do maintenance shuts at this time.

Discussion was had around the closure of the Alcoa Terminal at Fremantle Port. It was noted this has not had an impact on Alcoa or the port in Bunbury.

8. Marine

The RM gave the following update on Marine:

Wrack removal will commence on 19th February 2024 followed by a dredging campaign from 9th March 2024. Wrack is removed first to stop any issues and blockages with the Dredger. Dredging is done in March and October/November every year.

The pilot boat naming ceremony will be held at the Outer Harbour on 7th March 2024.

The Port Management Information System (PMIS) is now available. This system is focused on marine operations and will provide our pilots and shipping agents with an easy tool for vessel scheduling and management.

Inner harbour groyne works and navigational aids upgrade will commence next week and will take up to twelve weeks.

The new mooring pens for the tugs and the pilot boat has gone out for design. These will be built in the Inner Harbour amalgamating with future expansion plans. We have no timings at this stage but will have a short-term solution using pontoons in the casting basin.

9. Corporate Affairs

The Commercial Specialist gave the following update on Corporate Affairs:

The Steve Lewis Regional Scholarship applications are open until the 6th March 2024. This scholarship will put one student through Curtin University to gain an Undergraduate Degree in key areas such as Science and Engineering or Business and Law. This is open to applicants from the South West, Goldfields, Esperance and Great Southern. The Scholarship has been advertised in the media, radio, and all social media platforms.

There was strong media coverage done on the arrival of the new pilot boat, leveraged by Hart Marine and Southern Ports. The naming ceremony will be held at the Outer Harbour on 7th March 2024 and all Committee members should have received their invitations.

We had Minister Stephen Dawson down in Bunbury for a tour of the port.

Bunbury held the annual Stakeholder Function last November where guests were given a presentation by the CEO.

Media Coverage from 1st November 2023 to 30th January 2024 included:

- Australian Maritime and Shipping Port of the Year
- The Steve Lewis Regional Scholarship
- Arrival of the pilot boat
- FY23 results at stakeholder function
- Wickepin Kaolin Project
- Auslan Choir (CIP recipient)
- Landmarks alight for 16 Days in WA
- Critical minerals strategy and luncheon
- Offshore wind development.

Supporting the Community

- Eight groups were supported in the Bunbury Community Investment Program round two:
 - BMX Club Inc
 - Bunbury Baptist College
 - Communicare
 - Eaton – Australind Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services
 - Gelorup Bush Fire Brigade
 - South Bunbury Education Support Centre
 - Southern Forests Community Landcare (Warren Catchment Council Inc)
 - St John Ambulance WA (Pemberton Substation)
- The next Community Investment Program round closes 15th February 2024
- \$24 665.00 funding was provided in the last round.
- Support was provided to Goomburrup Aboriginal Corporation.

Coming up:

- Short Term
 - Wardan naming ceremony
 - Annual corporate photo shoot
 - Bunbury Show
- Long Term
 - Stakeholder satisfaction survey
 - Intranet Development
 - Expanded Communications team

10. Community Feedback

A Committee member enquired if the issue in the Red Sea is affecting any shipping coming from the port. The RM noted that very few vessels from here go to that area so there is no impact on trade for Bunbury.

The Heritage Committee for the Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation will be undertaking undersea mapping across the basalt rock area which may be of interest to the Port.

The International Transport Federation has managed to recoup a large amount of lost seafarer wages in response to complaints received. There is a campaign to get volunteers to help with seafarer needs.

In December the Chairs of all the Port Community Consultation Committees met to discuss their operations across all three ports.

A short discussion was had around the sheep and cattle vessel that was turned back. The RM noted there is a biosecurity issue with the vessel as it entered a different precinct before being turned back.

11. Any other business

There was no other business.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 6.22 pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 22nd May 2024

ACTION ITEM LIST

FROM MINUTES OF PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY

7 February 2024

ITEM NO	ACTION	DATE AROSE	ACTION BY	STATUS
11	Stakeholder result comparison between the three ports to be held off to the next meeting	08/11/2023	A Monaghan	