



Waste Management Community  
Reference Group

**MINUTES**

**9 May 2011**

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# WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

## MINUTES

9 May 2011

(REF: COMMITTEES-12158)

A meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group was held at the EMRC Administration Office, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 226 Great Eastern Highway, BELMONT WA 6104 on **Monday, 9 May 2011**. The meeting commenced at **6.07pm**.

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.07pm.

## 2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

### Committee Members

Mr Peter	Pearson	Chairman
Mrs Sally	Paulin	Deputy Chairman
Mr Berry	Ambrose	Member
Mr Malcolm	Barker	Member
Mr Anthony	Fowler	Member
Ms Dianne	Katscherian	Member
Mr Mark	Simpson	Member

### Apologies

Ms Ruth	Balding	Member
Mr Edwin	Dell	Member
Mrs Tina	Klein	Member
Mr Ray	Lewis	Member

### EMRC Officers

Mr Peter Schneider	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Stephen Fitzpatrick	Manager Project Development
Ms Tania Wells	Waste Education Coordinator
Ms Mary-Ann Winnett	Personal Assistant to Director Corporate Services

### Consultant(s)

Ms Gae Synnott	Consultant, Synnott Mulholland
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The Manager Project Development advised that Mr Dell had requested leave of absence from 1 May 2011 to 31 July 2011 inclusive.

### WMCRG RESOLUTION(S)

MOVED MR AMBROSE                      SECONDED MS KATSCHERIAN

THAT MR DELL BE GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM 1 MAY 2011 TO 31 JULY 2011 INCLUSIVE.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

## 4 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil



## **5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

### **5.1 MINUTES OF WMCRG MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2011**

That the Minutes of the Waste Management Community Reference Group meeting held on 14 February 2011, which have been distributed, be confirmed.

#### **WMCRG RESOLUTION(S)**

MOVED MR AMBROSE                      SECONDED MR BARKER

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2011, WHICH HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BE CONFIRMED.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **6 PRESENTATIONS**

### **6.1 RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT UPDATE**

The Manager Project Development gave a presentation on the Resource Recovery Project and provided an update on the project activities.

## **7 BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING**

Nil

## **8 REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Nil

## **9 REPORTS OF RELEVANT RESOURCE RECOVERY COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS**

Nil

## **10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

A member referred to a survey released by the Waste Authority and Towards Zero Waste seeking responses from the Western Australian community about their attitudes to waste avoidance and recycling and suggested WMCRG members may wish to participate. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that she would forward the survey to members.

A member advised that she would be attending the Informa Population WA Forum at the Parmelia Hilton Hotel from 9-10 May 2011 and would be giving a lecture entitled '*Population and Waste Management in Western Australia - Is it a load of rubbish or back to the future?*' Feedback on the lecture would be distributed to members.

## **11 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **11.1 RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT UPDATE**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting in conjunction with item 6.1 Resource Recovery Project Update.



## 11.2 WASTE EDUCATION UPDATE

The Waste Education Coordinator provided an update on waste education activities as follows:

- Battery recycling - over 4 tonnes of batteries have been collected since January 2011;
- EMRC's event recycling trailer has been well utilised by member Councils over the past 3 months e.g. Whiteman Park events & Town of Bassendean;
- Working on the design and print of the 2011/2012 Waste and Recycling Guides on behalf of each of the six member Councils. One hundred and fifty thousand guides are distributed to residents in the Region each year;
- Implementing a waste education strategy for Mundaring transfer stations and currently looking into signage options for Coppin and Mathieson Road Transfer Stations. The emphasis is to educate residents to separate and recycle waste;
- Working with consultants Eco Change to conduct surveys on residents who use the public place compact fluorescent light (CFL) recycling stations. A report summarising the findings of the surveys and recommending future actions will be available by the end of May 2011. The project has been funded by a SWIS grant;
- Produced Watch Your Waste columns in March and April 2011, which is published in six community newspapers, highlighting battery and CFL recycling, EMRC events (e.g. HHW day, ICAW) and tours of Red Hill;
- Working on new HHW, Litter and Solar educational activities for the Red Hill Environmental Education Centre;
- Work is ongoing at the Re-Use Permaculture Garden at the Red Hill Environmental Education Centre and a new sign has also been installed at the garden. Helena College students are designing garden art which will be installed at the garden;
- Creating a new R-Gang website and migrating all content from the old site over to the new look site ready to be launched in July 2011;
- Coordinated the EMRC's first Corporate Clean Up Australia Day. Over 20 staff participated with 3½ sacks of recycling and 5 sacks of general rubbish collected on the morning;
- Attended and gave worm farming demonstrations at Garden Week;
- Coordinated an Earth Carers wood working training course last weekend - 25 attended;
- ICAW – a compost and woodworking workshop was held in Bullsbrook - 25 attended; and
- The Shire of Kalamunda is holding a Household Hazardous Waste drop off day at Lawnbrook Road Transfer Station on Saturday 14 May 2011. This has been advertised in 6 community newspapers.

A member advised that she had only recently found out that the Coppin and Mathieson Road Transfer Stations at Mundaring recycle plant pots and suggested that this be highlighted in EMRC's waste columns in community newspapers. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that clean pot plants can also be recycled via the yellow-top recycling bins.



### **11.3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

The Manager Project Development provided an update on community engagement activities and community feedback on the draft Community Partnership Agreement (CPA).

The Manager Project Development advised that the draft CPA had been distributed for comment. Approximately 10 comments were received and most of the comments have been supportive. The intention was that the CTF would meet again in mid-June to consider whether any changes to the CPA were required. The EMRC would then consider validation of the CPA from the wider community via a two-stage telephone survey. Any comments would be considered by the CTF such that the final CPA will be submitted to Council for endorsement.

The Manager Project Development advised that the CTF had also looked at the draft tender evaluation criteria and they would be asked to provide comments to EMRC officers. Once the CPA has been endorsed by Council, it will form part of the tender documentation.

The Manager Project Development advised that the Resource Recovery website has been updated to reflect the current status of the Resource Recovery Project and the Community Engagement Officer would be developing a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) section for the website. The Manager Project Development invited members to provide feedback on the website.

### **11.4 FUTURE ROLE OF THE WMCRG**

Ms Gae Synnott led discussion about the possible future role of the WMCRG, including EMRC needs in terms of community input for the next few years. There are currently three community groups covering different aspects of the EMRC's operations and projects, and discussions ensued whether EMRC require three community groups for input.

Highlights from discussions at previous meetings included:

1. WMCRG October 2009: Two groups envisaged:
  - a. WMCRG with a broad brief;
  - b. Red Hill Community Liaison Group (RHCLG) formalised; and
  - c. Terms of reference proposed for each.
2. WMCRG November 2009: Continuation of 2 groups seen as a short-term situation:
  - a. In long-term formalised RHCLG would take up WMCRG role;
  - b. Therefore, WMCRG in transition; and
  - c. RHCLG would have a role in development of Community Partnership Agreement (CPA).
3. WMCRG February 2010: Interim measure proposed:
  - a. To develop Community Task Force (CTF) to develop CPA; CTF to exist until task completed;
  - b. WMCRG and RHCLG to continue business as usual in short-term; and
  - c. Discussion to be revisited mid 2011.

The estimated timelines for the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) project are as follows:

- Public Environmental Report (PER) and Environmental Approvals – from 2011 until mid 2012;
- Tender process – second half of 2012;
- Tender evaluation – first half of 2013;
- Contracting – second half of 2013; and
- Construction and commissioning (20 months) – 2014 to August 2015.



*Item 11.4 continued*

Discussion ensued regarding each of the three existing community groups:

- Waste Management Community Reference Group (WMCRG):
  - Current terms end in December 2011; what should its role be after this point?
  - Continue to meet on an as-needs basis, or stay connected via email without meeting, or disband?
  - In next 6 months, WMCRG will contribute to the PER;
  - If group didn't continue beyond December 2011, this presents a risk for the EMRC when the EMRC starts discussing technologies – broader perspective and wisdom of the WMCRG is important;
  - Important that the combined knowledge of the WMCRG would be available for the Resource Recovery Park and any other issues that arise within the whole region;
  - The degree of community representation from the WMCRG would be far wider than the RHCLG and there would be other matters in the waste field that fall outside of the RHCLG so there would still be a role for the WMCRG as long as it's still made up from the member Council areas;
  - Still a role for a broader group:
    - With broad representation; and
    - For broader areas of waste management.
  - On the other hand if the WMCRG were to be disbanded at the end of 2011 it may provide an opportunity to recruit other interested community members when needed in 2013-2014;
- Red Hill Community Liaison Group (RHCLG):
  - Keep RHCLG with a focus on Red Hill;
  - Important that the RHCLG have the opportunity to express local concerns;
  - Local group provides an opportunity for those living closer to the proposed facility to air their grievances and adds transparency to the whole project and should continue in some form;
  - May need to consider formalising the RHCLG around 2013-2014 so it is in place to review EMRC adherence to the CPA during construction phase and beyond;
  - Formalising the group could deter participation in the group – the value of the informality of the RHCLG is that they can say whatever they like whenever they like;
  - Ask RHCLG where they see their future, and how they feel about a requirement to formalise;
  - Could a different model be considered to achieve the links between the community and EMRC?
  - Red Hill ombudsman – people would be able to contact the ombudsman (maybe a member of the public) who over time provides answers to all the questions;
  - Could have a formal group of three people at Red Hill that would be repositories for the community and take the questions and get the responses from the relevant people;
  - A group to oversee the CPA – possibly comprising members of the RHCLG, CTF and WMCRG – approximately 16?
  - Also important to have representation from the other member Councils as they're also affected by waste – reduce representation from each member Council area?
  - Utilise the Council model:
    - Have a formal group but hold an informal forum in the first half of the meeting to enable the community to make comments and ask questions;
    - Second part of the meeting could be more technical and everyone welcome to listen;



*Item 11.4 continued*

- Community Task Force (CTF):
  - Work is expected to be completed in August 2011;
  - Could expand their Terms of Reference (TOR) and ask them to get involved with the PER process.  
(This would ensure there are opportunities for community involvement and understanding of the technical options of the technology).

The Committee felt that consideration should be given to the issues raised at this meeting and then the EMRC should consider:

- What does EMRC need from community groups e.g WMCRG, and in what form?
- The type of input EMRC required from the WMCRG, CTF and RHCLG;
- Whether to keep the WMCRG going on an as needs basis until a decision has been made on whether there's a role for the WMCRG or that a new or combined group should be established; and
- What the EMRC considers the WMCRG's future role should be and this should be the governing criteria for the WMCRG.

The Committee agreed that members should have a useful role and not hold meetings for the sake of them.

Members also suggested that it may be worthwhile to talk to the community liaison group run by the West Australian Airports Corporation (Perth airport) as the EMRC could learn from their mistakes.

The EMRC should also clarify whether Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is to be a component of the PER.

The CEO summarised the issues raised and stated that the EMRC would assess all the comments and feedback with a view to making a recommendation to the group.

## **12 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE WMCRG**

The next meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group will be held on **Monday, 8 August 2011** at the EMRC Administration Office, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Ascot Place, 226 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont WA 6104 commencing at 6.00pm.

### **Future Meetings 2011**

Monday	8 August	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	21 November	at	EMRC Administration Office

## **13 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15pm.