



City of Busselton

Geographe Bay

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Agenda

8 March 2022

Hosted by video conference via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 8th March 2022 commencing at 6:30pm.

CITY OF BUSSELTON

AGENDA FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON
8 MARCH 2022

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CITY OF BUSSELTON**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 8 MARCH 2022**

NOTICE is given that a meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee will be held via Microsoft Teams video conference on Tuesday 8th March 2022 commencing at 6:30pm.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.



MIKE ARCHER
Chief Executive Officer, City of Busselton

1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING, ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Presiding Member noted this meeting is held on the lands of the Wadandi people and acknowledged them as the Traditional Owners, paying respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging and Aboriginal Elders of the other communities who may be present.

2. **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Attendance:

Refer to attached list.

Apologies:

3. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

4.1 Confirmation of minutes from meeting held 14 December 2021

Moved:

Seconded:

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions - Ed Hatherly

7. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

7.1 Farewell and thank you to Tanya Gillett - Blake Moore

7.2 Proposed WhatsApp group for all landowners/households in CoB for HVM Bans - Allan Guthrie

7.3 Letter of concern from Smiths Beach Residents - Matt Muir

8. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS

Attachment 8.1 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Peter Thomas

Officer Recommendation

1) Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Peter Thomas

9. MATTERS OF URGENCY

10. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 14 June 2022 6:30pm (location to be confirmed).

12. CLOSURE

Attachment 8.1 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 8th March 2022

Agency: Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Officer Representing: Peter Thomas

Matters to be discussed:

- **Covid Restrictions**

DFES LSW has enacted its business continuity plans due to the increasing cases of Covid in the area. This means the following,

- Face to face training and meetings are to cease
 - Includes, staff and volunteers from SES, VFRS and VMRS
- Brigade and Units to roster volunteers for equipment checks (Max 3)
- Any volunteer exhibiting signs of illness should advise leadership and get tested.
- After every incident members to clean all contact surfaces

- **Training**

Due to the Covid restrictions all face to face training has ceased. DFES staff are currently working on training that can be done online via platforms like MS Teams.

This includes new member qualification training, skills maintenance, and skill refreshers. The Region has already put in place and trialled these methods in 2020 successfully.

- **Incident Response**

It has been a very busy last few months with major incidents in the following local governments Augusta Margaret river, Busselton, Donnybrook Balingup, Manjimup and Bridgetown. Volunteers, staff and support agencies have all worked amazingly together during these challenging times. It was a first for the state to see 4 level 3 fires occurring at the same time. This put incredible strain on our resources state wide but with great commitment and resolve from volunteers and staff we got through reasonably well.

- **DFES Staff**

The LSW region is facing a number of staff changes. Area Officer Leeuwin will have a new officer appointed in the next month, District Officer Nelson (Manjimup) is currently vacant and awaiting new appointment, 2 Bushfire Mitigation officers will be replaced in the next month and a new Volunteer Management Support Officer Ruth Jackson started with the region on Monday the 21st Feb.