



Minutes for the Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group (EWBG) Annual General Meeting held Monday 16th of October, 2023 at Merredin Recreation Centre.

Chairperson: Scott Stirrat.

- 1. Opening of Meeting:** 10.33am.
- 2. Attendance and Apologies:**
 - a. Attendance:** Ross Della Bosca, Mark Crees, Steve Hunt, Jim Sullivan, Margaret Sullivan, Jamie Taylor, Travis McConnell, Steve Palm, Stuart Putt, Scott Stirrat, Lisa O'Neill, Peter Barnes, Ron Burro, Jason Davis, Romolo Patroni.
 - b. Apologies:** Melissa Price, Len Armstrong, Jo Dean, Mia Davies, Rebecca McCall, Dean Sinclair, Darren West, Tom Mulcahy, Hon. Jackie Jarvis and Gary Guerini.
- 3. Disclosure of Interests:** Nil.
- 4. Confirmation of Minutes:**
 - a. Board Meeting held 12th of June 2023, at Merredin CRC, Merredin.
 - b. AGM held 18th of October 2022, at Merredin CRC, Merredin.

Motion:

That the minutes presented from the meeting held on the 12th of June 2023 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

***Moved: R. Patroni. Seconded: M. Crees.
Carried.***

Motion:

That the minutes presented from the meeting held on the 18th of October 2022 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

***Moved: J. Sullivan. Seconded: S Palm.
Carried.***

- 5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**
 - a. Wild Rabbit Control Update (addressed in general business).
 - b. Bankwest Term deposit (addressed in finance).
- 6. Adoption of Financial Statement:**
 - a. 2022/2023 Audited Financials presented.

Action – that the motion to move the 2022/2023 Audited Financials occurs at the next EWBG Board meeting due to a small error in the totalled numbers. Audit Partners Australia will resend audit and the board will set to move this audit at the next meeting.



b. 2022/23 Budget Forecast as per Operational Plan.

Action: The Committee of Management will meet prior to the end of December 2023 to endorse the 2024/25 Operation Plan for EWBG.

c. Change of Bank

EWBG Executive Officer to investigate the change from Bankwest to Bendigo/Commonwealth/Westpac as Bankwest will no longer be holding a business section to their bank.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Motion:

The Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group appoint Audit Partners Australia as the auditors for 2023/24 fiscal year.

**Moved: S. Hunt. Seconded: S. Putt.
Carried.**

8. Setting of Membership Fee

Motion:

The Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group's will set a membership fee of \$100 for 2023/24 for the eleven member Shire's of the group.

**Moved: M. Crees. Seconded: S. Palm.
Carried.**

9. Chairs Report

Motion:

That the Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group's Chairpersons report was presented by Scott Stirrat and included in the 2022-2023 Annual report.

**Moved: S. Stirrat. Seconded: M. Crees.
Carried.**

10. Agenda Items

a. EWBG Overview

EWBG Executive Officer provided an overview of the operations and set up of the EWBG to increase understanding of the EWBG for all interested parties.



Action: to increase public promotion of environmental benefits from the EWBG's control activities.

b. LPMT Update

An update on operations was presented by Jamie Taylor and a written update from Stuart McEwan.

c. DBCA Update

DBCA will be providing a new MOU for the EWBG. Operations will continue the same for this financial year. In 2024/25 DBCA will be looking to employ an individual to assist with Biosecurity operations and will no longer be providing funds to the EWBG. The EWBG will continue to support DBCA's control activities where possible.

d. DPIRD Update

DPIRD update as per presented document.

e. WSA Update (IGO).

Western Area's Ltd (known now as IGO) will no longer be parting in a Sponsorship Agreement with the EWBG.

f. Rabbit Control

The EWBG to this point have received 16 EOI's into the Wild Rabbit Bait Mixing Days (3 x Kondinin, 5 x Lake Grace, 3 x Kulin, 2 x Merredin, 1 x Westonia, 1 x Yilgarn). The EWBG will continue to advertise these mixing days through to January.

11. General Business:

a. National Biosecurity Levy

Concerns were raised regarding the introduction of a National Biosecurity Levy. The EWBG will further investigate this levy and provide an update to the Board at the next meeting.

b. Newsletter to landholders

The EWBG will look for ways to actively engage landholders on a more regular basis. Every 6 months will look to send a newsletter with information about activities of the EWBG.

Action: The EWBG will approach the eleven member Shire's to obtain information about data sharing opportunities for Landholders of the EWBG (mailing list).

12. Next Meeting: March 2024 (TBC).

13. Close of Meeting: 11.43am.