



North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils

Dowerin | Koorda | Mt Marshall | Mukinbudin | Nungarin | Trayning | Wyalkatchem

# Council Meeting

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Shire of Koorda  
Council Chambers

## MINUTES

1.30pm Light Lunch  
2pm Meeting

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## ANNUAL CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

MONTH	ACTIVITY	MEETING
January		Executive
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 Council refreshes itself on NEWROC Vision, Mission, Values (review Vision and Mission every other year)</li> <li>👉 Council reviews NEWROC project priorities / strategic plan</li> </ul>	Council
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 WDC attendance to respond to NEWROC project priorities</li> <li>👉 Submit priority projects to WDC, Regional Development and WA Planning</li> </ul>	Executive
April	👉 NEWROC Budget Preparation	Council
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 NEWROC Draft Budget Presented</li> <li>👉 NEWROC Executive Officer Contract/Hourly Rate Review (current contract expires June 2027)</li> <li>👉 Local Government Week agenda to be discussed at Executive meeting to determine if EA should attend</li> </ul>	Executive
June	👉 NEWROC Budget Adopted	Council
July		Executive
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 Information for Councillors pre-election</li> <li>👉 NEWROC Audit</li> </ul>	Council
September		Executive
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 NEWROC CEO and President Handover (every 2yrs)</li> <li>👉 NEWROC Dinner</li> </ul>	Council
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>👉 NEWROC Induction of new Council representatives (every other year)</li> <li>👉 Review NEWROC MoU (every other year)</li> </ul>	Executive
December	👉 NEWROC Christmas / End of Year Drinks	Council

### **ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

Compliance

Media Releases

### **NEWROC Rotation**

Shire of Mt Marshall

Shire of Nungarin

Shire of Wyalkatchem

Shire of Koorda

Shire of Mukinbudin

Shire of Trayning (Oct 2023 – Oct 2025)

Shire of Dowerin

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## NORTH EASTERN WHEATBELT REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

Minutes for the Council Meeting held at the Shire of Koorda Council Chambers, commencing at 2.10 pm on 26 March 2024.

### MINUTES

#### 1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cr Brown, NEWROC Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 4.10 pm.

#### 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

##### 2.1 Attendance

Cr Melanie Brown	President, Shire of Trayning, NEWROC Chair
Cr Gary Shadbolt	President, Shire of Mukinbudin
Cr Pippa De Lacy	President, Shire of Nungarin
Cr Jannah Stratford	President, Shire of Koorda
Cr Tony Sachse	President, Shire of Mt Marshall
Cr Robert Trepp	President, Shire of Dowerin
Cr Owen Garner	President, Shire of Wyalkatchem
Leanne Parola	NEWROC CEO, CEO Shire of Trayning
Dirk Sellenger	CEO Shire of Mukinbudin
Zac Donovan	CEO Shire of Koorda
Ric Halse	CEO, Shire of Nungarin

##### 2.2 Apologies

Caroline Robinson	Executive Officer, NEWROC
Sabine Taylor	CEO, Shire of Wyalkatchem
Ben McKay	CEO, Shire of Mt Marshall

##### 2.3 Observers

Cr Mark Leslie	Shire of Trayning
Cr Mischa Stratford	Shire of Wyalkatchem

##### 2.4 Leave of Absence Approvals / Approved

Nil

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DELEGATIONS REGISTER

##### 3.1 Delegation Register

Please find below a delegations register as per the new policy adopted in March 2017:

Description of Delegations	Delegatee	Delegated to	Approval
Records Management	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council
NEWROC Financial Management	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council Dec 2017
Bendigo Bank Signatory (NEWROC)	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council Dec 2017

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Bendigo Bank Signatory (Shire of Trayning)	Council	CEO	Council Dec 2017
NEWROC Website	CEO	NEWROC EO	Council June 2017

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**5. MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 December 2023 have previously been circulated.

**RESOLUTION**

**That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 December 2023 are received as a true and correct record of proceedings.**

**Moved Cr Shadbolt                      Seconded Cr Garner                      CARRIED 7/0**

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 27 February 2024 have previously been circulated.

**RESOLUTION**

**That the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 27 February 2024 be received.**

**Moved Cr Stratford                      Seconded Cr De Lacy                      CARRIED 7/0**

**5.1 Business Arising**

Nil

## 6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

### 6.1 Income, Expenditure and Profit and Loss

<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	42-2 Finance Audit and Compliance
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Caroline Robinson
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil
<b>DATE:</b>	21 March 2024
<b>ATTACHMENT NUMBER:</b>	#1P and L
<b>CONSULTATION:</b>	
<b>STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:</b>	Nil
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple Majority

#### COMMENT

Account transactions for the period 1 December 2023 – 29 February 2024

Date	Description	Reference	Credit	Debit	Running Balance
<b>BB NEWROC Funds-5557</b>					
<b>Opening Balance</b>			<b>173,538.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>173,538.88</b>
01 Dec 2023	Bendigo Bank		0.00	4.40	173,534.48
01 Dec 2023	Xero Australia	XEROAUSTRALIPTY	0.00	61.75	173,472.73
12 Dec 2023	Payment: Constructive Visual	INV 465	0.00	22.00	173,450.73
12 Dec 2023	Payment: 150Square	INV-0261	0.00	3,660.96	169,789.77
12 Dec 2023	Payment: Bencubbin Community Resource Centre	INV-2056	0.00	40.00	169,749.77
12 Dec 2023	Payment: 150Square	INV-0260	0.00	4,549.63	165,200.14
12 Dec 2023	Payment: Nungarin Sporting Club	December Meeting	0.00	251.00	164,949.14
01 Jan 2024	Bendigo Bank		0.00	2.00	164,947.14
02 Jan 2024	Xero Australia	XEROAUSTRALIPTY	0.00	61.75	164,885.39
09 Jan 2024	Payment: 150Square	INV-0262 – Canberra All Costs	0.00	4,435.63	160,449.76
30 Jan 2024	Payment: 150Square	INV-0266	0.00	3,715.63	156,734.13
30 Jan 2024	Econisis	Power Report 1	0.00	3,272.50	153,461.63
01 Feb 2024	Xero Australia	XEROAUSTRALIPTY	0.00	61.75	153,399.88
01 Feb 2024	Bendigo Bank		0.00	1.20	153,398.68
29 Feb 2024	Bank Transfer from ATO Integrated Client Account to BB NEWROC Funds-5557	ATO Refund	2,854.00	0.00	156,252.68
<b>Total BB NEWROC Funds-5557</b>			<b>2,854.00</b>	<b>20,140.20</b>	<b>156,252.68</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>			<b>156,252.68</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>156,252.68</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,854.00</b>	<b>20,140.20</b>	<b>(17,286.20)</b>

# Balance Sheet

North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils  
As at 29 February 2024

29 FEB 2024

## Assets

### Bank

BB NEWROC Funds-5557	156,252.68
BB Term Deposit Account-1388	305,671.84
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>461,924.52</b>

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>461,924.52</b>
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## Liabilities

### Current Liabilities

GST	(3,963.39)
Rounding	0.06
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(3,963.33)</b>

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(3,963.33)</b>
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<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>465,887.85</b>
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## Equity

Current Year Earnings	(3,713.85)
Retained Earnings	469,601.70
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>465,887.85</b>

## RESOLUTION

That the income and expenditure from 1 December 2023 to 29 February 2024, P and L and balance sheet be received.

Moved Cr De Lacy

Seconded Cr Garner

CARRIED 7/0

**7. MATTERS FOR DECISION**

Cr Shadbolt left the meeting at 2.15 pm

**7.1 WASTE MANAGEMENT – GRANT APPLICATION**

**FILE REFERENCE:** 103-1 Waste Management  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Caroline Robinson  
**DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:** Nil  
**DATE:** 21 March  
**ATTACHMENT NUMBER:** #2 Quotes  
**CONSULTATION:** Ask Waste Management  
 Encycle  
**STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:** Nil  
**VOTING REQUIREMENT:** Simple Majority

**COMMENT**

At the last NEWROC Council meeting, the following resolution was passed:

**RESOLUTION**

The Shires of Nungarin, Trayning, Wyalkatchem, Koorda, Mt Marshall and Dowerin (subject to their Council decision) submits an application to the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program for waste management planning under the NEWROC organization, with the lead Shire being Trayning.

Moved Cr Shadbolt                      Seconded Cr De Lacy                      CARRIED 6/0

A [Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program](#) grant application has been prepared.

The objectives of the Program are to:

- facilitate place-based approaches to planning, characterised by collaborative partnerships engaging in shared design, stewardship and accountability of planned outcomes
- provide targeted benefits related to productivity, equity and resilience for the people of regional, rural or remote Australia
- support community priorities for regional cities, rural or remote centres and areas
- reflect the Government’s approach to regional investment as outlined under the Regional Investment Framework.

The intended outcomes of the Program are to:

- demonstrate the value of partnerships between governments, communities and businesses for effective planning, coordination and delivery of regional infrastructure
- develop and deliver regional precincts comprised of multiple infrastructure components, which provide benefits related to productivity, equity and resilience
- contribute to the Australian Government’s current policy priorities, including but not limited to Closing the Gap, transition to a net zero economy, Australia’s emission reduction goals, social and affordable housing, and National Cultural Policy.

It is the intent of the Program to:

- deliver grants across a broad geographic spread of regional Australia, including remote and very remote areas
- support precinct projects of differing scales and functionalities
- encourage projects from lesser-resourced applicants.

As a requirement of the grant, NEWROC must make contact with:

- RDA Wheatbelt – completed
- Member Shires – letters of support prepared but not yet sent
- Indigenous leader – to be discussed
- Waste Authority WA - completed

Two quotes have been received for the application. The NEWROC EO has met with Ask Waste Management and Encycle.

The scope was:

- Investigate and determine a preferred regional landfill site;
- Deliver a masterplan for the preferred site;
- Undertake studies and obtain approval from relevant authorities for site operation as a landfill;
- Design and cost transfer stations for each participating NEWROC Shire;
- Develop a detailed business case to underpin individual council decisions regarding their future commitments to this project and to support future grant applications for physical project delivery;
- Design and implement a consultation and communications plan to satisfy the information needs of both community and potential funding partners;
- Incorporate circular economy principles and identify economic opportunities locally, recognising the NEWROC as a precinct for waste recovery and resources.

Members need to review and discuss the two quotes as this will influence the grant application and cash / in kind that the NEWROC commits (note we do not need to match the grant request but it is favorable to contribute towards some costs, minimum grant is \$500K)

Quote	Deliverables	Cost ex GST	Comments
ASK Waste Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the Business Case to reflect post-covid costs and changes in legislation and best practice guidance</li> <li>Producing a Business Case for an in-house waste service (bin pick up and transfer by NEWROC)</li> <li>Development of, and implementation of a Community Consultation Programme</li> <li>Producing a Master Plan for the Regional Resource</li> </ol>	\$588,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous relationship with NEWROC</li> <li>• Needs to be updated to include nine waste transfer sites</li> <li>• Project management included across the work</li> <li>• Circular economy is included but potentially not the economic opportunities</li> <li>• NEWROC in kind contribution can be to assist with the community engagement</li> </ul>

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	<p>Recovery Facility (the regional hub of the RRRP)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Producing Master Plans for seven Waste Transfer Stations (the satellite facilities for the RRRP))</li> <li>6. Developing and liaison with the group to produce Governance Arrangements</li> <li>7. Preparing and submitting Planning and Environmental approval applications for all eight facilities.</li> </ol>		<p>and efforts by the NEWROC waste sub committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash contribution could also be put forward for contingency costs, to increase the focus on partnerships that deliver circular economy and economic opportunities, potentially establishing relationships with a University</li> </ul>
Encycle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inception and Review of current business case and work</li> <li>2. Future site analysis and selection (transfer stations and regional site)</li> <li>3. Business case for waste management and internal service</li> <li>4. Governance arrangements</li> <li>5. Community Engagement</li> <li>6. Planning Approvals</li> </ol>	\$1,725,777	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not all services can be delivered in house by Encycle, they will engage numerous sub contractors</li> <li>• Has not visited the sites and hence potentially lacks this understanding</li> <li>• Additional costs of applications and designs not included</li> <li>• NEWROC in kind contribution can be to assist with the community engagement and efforts by the NEWROC waste sub committee</li> <li>• Cash contribution could also be put forward for contingency costs, to increase the focus on partnerships that deliver circular economy and economic opportunities, potentially establishing relationships with a University</li> </ul>

Community engagement is a key part of this project and will influence its success and outcomes. The Regional Precincts funding has a strong focus on partnerships – bringing government together to deliver regional precincts that are tailored to the local needs and have a shared vision in how that precinct connects to the region.

A community engagement plan should be developed prior to this grant application, with consideration towards keeping communities informed along the whole way.

The Shire of Mukinbudin advised it did not wish to proceed in the grant application. The Shire of Dowerin was still to vote on the project proceeding.

NEWROC has a term deposit of \$305K. Members should discuss the longer term allocation of these reserve funds as well as current and/or future individual contributions towards the waste management project.

Actions since the February Executive Meeting:

- Visit to Bendinger Landfill and Narembeen Waste Transfer Station, hosted by ROEROC
- Regional Precincts grant application has been prepared

**RESOLUTION**

**Executive recommends the NEWROC contribute \$30,000 cash to the grant application.**

**Executive recommends both quotes are included in the grant application. Ask Waste Management quote is used in the budget preparations.**

**NEWROC engage Grants Empire at a cost of \$660 to review the application prior to submission.**

**Moved Cr Stratford**

**Seconded Cr De Lacy**

**CARRIED 6/0**

Cr Shadbolt returned to the meeting at 2.17 pm

## 7.2 POWER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	107-1 Power
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Caroline Robinson
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil
<b>DATE:</b>	21 March 2024
<b>ATTACHMENT NUMBER:</b>	#3 Draft Impact Report #4 Hansard extract
<b>CONSULTATION:</b>	Mark Wallace, Econisis Rob Cossart (WDC) Rik Soderlund (WBN) Rebekah Burges (WEROC) Hon Mia Davies
<b>STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:</b>	Nil
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple Majority

### COMMENT

In January, NEWROC members agreed to commission a report into the economic impact of the January power outages on businesses, wider community and telecommunications.

Econisis is completing this report and has provided the draft for review. Mark was unable to quantify the economic impact of mobile phone outages but he could quantify internet outages. He will keep investigating how this might be reflected in the report. Agriculture is also not included in the impact assessment.

The WBN will provide three case studies on businesses to support the NEWROC impact report.

The NEWROC EO, together with WDC CEO, WBN CEO, RDA Wheatbelt Director and WEROC EO have met online twice to discuss the impact of the power outages and what can be done collectively.

Hon Mia Davies has raised the issue in State Parliament (see Hansard extract).

WALGA held a roundtable online with a selection of local governments, however it was not formally placed on the GECZ Agenda.

Actions since the February Executive Meeting:

- Report sent to stakeholders (below)
- NOTE: No response from Minister for Energy, Darren West. NEWROC EO will follow up.
- Article on ABC Wheatbelt, radio interview and news item
- Quairading power story in The West, NEWROC report sent to Dylan Caporn (reporter)
- Cr Brown and NEWROC EO met with Andrew Skinner (COS) Minister Punch, Shelley Court (Policy) Minister Punch, Amy Tait (Policy) Minister for Energy and Rob Cossart (WDC)
- Economic Regulatory Authority has requested NEWROC meet with them to discuss the report
- NEWROC EO has liaised with Rob Cossart, WDC who is presenting our report and solutions to Chair of Telecommunications Review (Alannah McTiernan) who is in Carnamah Friday 22 March

**RESOLUTION**

**NEWROC receives the Econis Economic Impact Report on Power and Telecommunication Outages.**

**NEWROC submits the report to the Wheatbelt Development Commission, RDA Wheatbelt, State Ministers for Regional Development, Energy, local state and federal members, WALGA, GECZ, RDA Wheatbelt, TELSTRA, Minister for Small Business, Department of Water, Federal Minister for Communications and Water Corporation.**

**NEWROC submit a response to the Telecommunications Review Panel on the economic impact of power outages.**

**Moved Cr Shadbolt**

**Seconded Cr Garner**

**CARRIED 7/0**

### 7.3 NEWROC TOWN TEAM BUILDER

<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	130-1 Economic Services
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Caroline Robinson
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil
<b>DATE:</b>	16 February 2024
<b>ATTACHMENT NUMBER:</b>	#5 NEWROC TTM Plan
<b>CONSULTATION:</b>	Jimmy Murphy Alyce Ventris
<b>STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:</b>	Nil
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple Majority

#### COMMENT

NEWROC EO met with Jimmy Murphy to discuss the NEWROC Town Team Builder.

A workplan for 2024 was developed (and attached):

1. Koorda Skate Park Project (RAC Funded)- 5-7 April
2. Koorda Skate Park Launch Event + Skate Safety Workshop- July
3. Wheatbelt Town Team Social (road safety focus)- July
4. Mukinbudin Main Street Slower Speeds Project- July/August (Project TBC)
5. Wyalkatchem Do Over - May-September (Street party September, TBC)
6. Face to face Placemaking Education Training with LG's- TBC
7. 1x Youth led project- location TBC - by October

NEWROC was also included in the FRRR Drought Project which will be delivered in 2024/25. The project 'Wheatbelt Rising' will include the following:

- Growth and improved strength of community-based networks Improved implementation of place-based practices by communities to build and enhance resilience to drought.
- NEWROC Do Over including Youth space project
- Leadership workshop (May and August)
- 3-5 drought preparedness activations (e.g vibrant main street mural, green infrastructure, community gardening, mindful meditation, block party- TBC) - 2x by June, 3x July-Oct
- Establish 5 new Town Teams across the WEROC/NEWROC Deliver funded projects (10-15) Deliver workshops (1-4)
- Town Team Social/Networking events (2)

A contract between NEWROC and Alyce Ventris concluded on 31 October 2023.

The 2023/24 Budget allocation to the role was \$35,000.

The actual expenditure to date is \$16,049.

#### RESOLUTION

**NEWROC receives the information.**

**A new contract is issued to Alyce Ventris, under the same conditions, until 30 June 2024, upon which it will be reviewed in line with the budget process.**

**Moved Cr Garner**

**Seconded Cr Trepp**

**CARRIED 7/0**

## **New Information for all Town Teams in NEWROC**

Town Team Movement, in partnership with the State Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), are thrilled to announce the Streets Alive program. The program funded from the State Funds for Local Government Roads consist of \$5 million over 5 years for capacity building and support for eligible community organisations and local governments for projects designed to calm traffic on local roads in urban areas across WA.

There are two streams of funding:

- Stream 1 offers 'seed' grants of \$5,000 inc GST in all towns and neighbourhoods across WA for eligible community groups; and
- Stream 2 offers grants of \$50,000 inc GST and \$100,000 inc GST in all towns and neighbourhoods across WA for eligible community groups and LGAs.

Program guidelines and eligibility criteria of Stream 1 grants for eligible community groups will be available and open for expressions of interest from April 1, 2024.

Details of Stream 2 grants for eligible community organisations and LGAs will be released in May.

[Welcome to Streets Alive! - Streets Alive](#)

<b>8. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION</b>
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<b>8.1 LIVE SHEEP BY SEA</b>
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<b>FILE REFERENCE:</b>	130-1 Economic Services
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Caroline Robinson
<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:</b>	Nil
<b>DATE:</b>	21 March 2024
<b>ATTACHMENT NUMBER:</b>	#6 Hansard extract
<b>CONSULTATION:</b>	
<b>STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:</b>	Nil
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple Majority

**COMMENT**

Update on meetings:

- Cr Stratford and Quentin Davies met with Senator Van in Perth on 2 February.
- Report and request to meet emailed to Kate Chaney MP. Unavailable.
- Request to meet Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture whilst in Perth on 19 February. Unavailable.
- Hon Mia Davies has raised the issue in State Parliament (see Hansard extract)
- Coalition Live exports WA tour; dates available [here](#)

Actions since February Executive:

- NEWROC EO attended agriculture meeting in Hyden with Rick Wilson and additional Federal members of Parliament

<b>RESOLUTION</b>
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<b>NEWROC receives the information.</b>
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<b>Moved Cr De Lacy</b>	<b>Seconded Cr Trepp</b>	<b>CARRIED 7/0</b>
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## 9. OTHER MATTERS, INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

Nil

## 10. GENERAL UPDATES

- NEWROC EO will make contact with Place Based Capital participants to get them together again. Social media tiles will be available for all members to promote the learnings and work of the participants and to start the education process.
- [WBN Wheatbelt Futures Forum](#). 1 May 2024. NEWROC EO will be attending.
- Bringing Dowerin Down Town: [The Future of Farming is Now!](#) Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July
- Lack of police staff in the district is becoming an issue with four of the local stations only having one office each, it was agreed to invite the District Superintendent to a future NEWROC meeting
- Cr Garner asked whether NEWROC agendas are sent to all Councillors, or just the delegates, the response from other Shires was mixed, with half providing them to all Councillors, and half only providing them to delegates. The Minutes of the NEWROC Council meetings are referred to Ordinary Meetings of Council in all cases.
- Cr Trepp asked for an update on the power project at the next NEWROC meeting.

## 11. 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

30 April	Executive	Shire of Mt Marshall
28 May	Council	Shire of Dowerin
25 June	Executive	Shire of Trayning
30 July	Council	Shire of Mukinbudin
23 August	Executive	Shire of Nungarin **FRIDAY
24 September	Council	Shire of Wyalkatchem
29 October	Executive	Shire of Koorda
26 November	Council	Shire of Dowerin

## 12. CLOSURE

Cr Brown thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 2.40 pm.