



PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY  
WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 2022

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Brian Wade	Steve Lewis (CEO)
	Fiona Fitzgerald (Deputy Chair)	Lee Smith (RM)
	Graham Winter	Robyn Fenech (Director)
	Matthew Young	John Barratt (Director)
	Mike Ansell (Chair)	Carol McKenzie (Committee Secretary)
	Michael Pekin	
	Nicolas Pozniakov	
	Paul MacGillivray	

**APOLOGIES** Anne-Louise Dubrawski  
Murray Webb  
Gabi Ghasseb  
Tresslyn Smith

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 5:00 pm.

The Chair recognised and thanked Mark Ritchie who has stepped down from the Committee and noted we were unable to thank him personally at the last meeting.

The Chair welcomed the new Committee members and everyone in the room had an opportunity to introduce themselves. The Chair noted the role of the Committee is to be a conduit to get information to and from the community and encouraged members to read the pre-notes sent to them to prepare any questions.

At the request of the Chair the RM gave a quick oversight of all the berths, the companies involved in the port and the type of products that go through each berth. The RM spoke about the Port Master Plan which outlines the direction and expansion of the port over the next thirty years. Bunbury is a unique port in that we have a large amount of land that gives an incredible opportunity to expand the port and assets for future generations.

The RM noted the Outer Harbour is part of the Transforming Bunbury Waterfront Project. There are currently two customers using the tanks and the sheds whose leases will be expiring in the next couple of years. The port is currently using the old power station area in the Inner Harbour as a laydown area for grain and woodchips and noted the Port runs a herd of between 100 and 150 head of cattle.

The Chair noted the Turkey Point Road and Bridge Project. The RM mentioned the project will involve building a new access road into the northern end of the port. As the port is becoming busier the interactions with light vehicles and the volume of heavy trucks are becoming a safety concern and the new entrance will remove that interaction. The bridge has

had environmental and various other approvals and we are due to commence geotech works soon. There are a few Western Power transmission poles and power lines that will be relocated.

The Chair advised that there is normally a feature topic in the meeting and encouraged members to suggest what topics they would like to see presented.

A question was raised regarding the role of the Committee. The RM explained it is a legislative requirement under the Port Authorities Act and a conduit to inform the community about what is happening in the port and in turn to bring any community concerns to the port. Members were encouraged to share information with the community. Southern Ports sends out a yearly survey to members of the community and the results have generally been very good with most queries being around noise and dust issues. Southern Ports are quick to act on any community concerns.

### **1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no new declarations.

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Chair explained the Draft Minutes are sent out to members for approval or otherwise by circular resolution.

The Minutes of the previous Committee meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were noted as approved via circular resolution on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The circular resolution was affirmed by the Committee.

### **3. Action Items from Previous Minutes**

The Motion to Amend the Minutes of the PCCC meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 was sent on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (Action item 2.1)

The Turkey Point Bridge and Road Project link was sent with the draft Minutes (Action item 2.2)

The Strategy FY23+ was sent with the draft Minutes (Action item 4)

Tour of the new trugs to be organised when the weather is better (Action item 9)

The Bunbury Port Open Day to be held in early 2023 (Action item 10.1)

Community Investment Program Spreadsheet was printed and attached to the meeting notes for this meeting (Action item 10.2)

### **4. Southern Ports Executive Update (CEO)**

The CEO provided the following update:

This last financial year has seen 36 million tonnes of trade through the three ports with over half of the trade going through Bunbury. Customers have been resilient through the covid pandemic with record trade in various products, with special note of the grain export.

Our current strategic projects are in our Master Plan, a draft of which is available on our website. The Plan shows the capacity of the port and future trade which is excellent for all. The Master Plan helps us to determine and justify investment in the port and to show what projects we need to undertake to facilitate trade. It is a very important part of planning and investing.

Southern Ports Sustainability Plan underpins our strategy, with commitment from the Board, to achieve an 80% reduction in net zero emissions by 2030 (consistent with the Government aspiration) and there has been some good work done in this space.

With funding from Government, we are undertaking an Asset Recovery Program for our older assets.

We are involved in a study with the Department of Transport and the South West Development Commission to look at the future of the Outer Harbour and the time frame for the hand-over of the area.

## **5. Projects Update (RM)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes provided the following update:

State Government have announced funding for a couple of major projects within Southern Ports being:

- A replacement pilot boat.
- Berth 8 shed fire system and fire ring main completion.
- Asset Recovery Program across all sites – this will be the largest capital spend on our aging infrastructure.

## **6. New Staff and Safety and Security Update (RM)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes and provided the following update:

We have a few vacancies including an electrical tradesperson, OHS Advisor and an Admin Assistant Traineeship. We have two Finance Officers commence in Bunbury and one Operations team member retirement.

Alana Monaghan will be commencing with our Corporate Affairs Department and will be based in the West Perth Office. Alana comes to us from Mills Wilson.

The yearly Emergency Training Exercise will be held in October which is usually staff only training. This year the emergency scenario may escalate to the CEO.

## **7. Environmental Report (Enviro. Mgr.)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes provided by the Enviro. Mgr. and gave the following update:

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 (ACHA) will replace the current Aboriginal Heritage Act (AHA) and the RM noted the Act is under review and development. One piece of the Act is around dredging, and the RM mentioned that Southern Ports has a good relationship with Aboriginal Organisations.

A Committee Member enquired about corella control. The RM advised the Port assists the City of Bunbury and have a licence to cull the birds.

## **8. Port Trade (RM)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes and provided the following update:

Southern Ports has had another record year which will be the third year in a row with multiple record months within the year. July has been a quiet month this financial year which is normal. Customers indicate this may be another record year.

There is a lot of future trade in commodities such as alumina, spodumene, and copper concentrate. Western Australia also has some of the largest spodumene reserves in the world.

Safe trade is very important to Southern Ports and one of our achievements was zero LTI's in Bunbury in the last financial year.

A Committee Member enquired if the corporate business model was aligning as a green business and if there was discussion happening regarding this. The RM noted Southern Ports have renegotiated their power contracts as two companies within the port are our biggest consumers of power. Southern Ports is moving toward and taking steps to become sustainable ports. The RM also noted we have had queries from a couple of potential windfarm customers.

The Chair asked about what would cause the Port to shut with reference to the Port shutting for three days a couple of weeks before. The RM stated it would be from a combination of swell, wind, and wave patterns. The DUKC (Dynamic Under Keel Clearance) system used by the Pilots determines the safe passage and draft for vessels to move in and out of the port to ensure safety and to stop the risk of fouling the channel. The RM also noted with the severe weather a couple of weeks ago a large amount of sand and weed has moved into the Inner Harbour. The CEO noted the Port makes the call to close the port to help our customers.

## **9. Marine Update (Harbour Master)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes provided by the Harbour Master and gave the following update:

The new tugs are run by Svitzer and are working well, are more maneuverable, and more efficient. They are more powerful than the last tugs with an 80-tonne bollard pull.

The CEO advised that all the Pilots have undergone training for RoRo (Roll on, Roll off) vessels which are car carriers and are affected more by wind. The training has been good for forward planning.

The RM added there was a record number of movements this year which has placed Bunbury in the position of being an excellent training ground for new Pilots which in turn supports our other two ports.

## **10. Corporate Affairs (J Mills)**

The RM referred to the pre-meeting notes provided by J Mills and gave the following update:

A media report was provided to the Committee.

The RM encouraged Committee Members to go onto Facebook and LinkedIn and noted there is a large amount of information on those sites, and we are encouraged by the increase in user numbers.

The CEO advised a presentation of the other two ports can be given to the Committee if they were interested.

## **11. Community Feedback (PCCC Members)**

The Chair mentioned the West Australian study on port efficiencies targeting Fremantle Port and enquired how these efficiencies were gauged. The CEO explained that report covered 300 container ports and Fremantle fell into the bottom 3% regarding container handling. Fremantle is aware of their position and are working on a strategy going forward covering areas such as capital investment and sound management.

A Committee Member enquired if the Master Plan included the district on the southern border of the port and if there would be any interactions regarding this area. The RM noted this area had recently been sent to the Planning Manager for comment.

A question was asked if the Surveys sent out had any questions regarding the port expansion and the opportunity for members of the public to comment. The Chair noted the expansion is not specifically noted in the Survey and stated the community awareness of the Master Plan is minimal. The RM added there will be Master Plan presentations to the South West Development Commission and the City of Bunbury. The Master Plan will be sent to the Minister for approval and then out to the wider community for consultation. The CEO added that development is influenced by customer demand and asset management.

## **12. Any Other Business**

The Stakeholder Function will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Mike Ansell thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed at 6:29 pm

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## ACTION ITEM LIST

FROM MINUTES OF PORT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION COMMITTEE - BUNBURY

17 AUGUST 2022

ITEM NO	ACTION	DATE AROSE	ACTION BY	STATUS
9	Tour of new tugs when the tugs are available	09/02/2022	L Smith	Date to be advised after the new tug arrives
10.1	Bunbury Port Open day	12/05/2021	L Smith/J Mills	Due to be held in 2023
12	Invitations to the Stakeholder Function to be sent to the Committee	17/08/2022		