

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (RWMF) COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2020, HELD AT THE ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL – CIVIC CENTRE, ARUNTA MEETING ROOM

PRESENT

Mayor Damien Ryan
Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson
Councillor Glen Auricht (arrived 12:04pm)
Councillor Jimmy Cocking
Councillor Eli Melky (Chair)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Robert Jennings - Chief Executive Officer
Mr Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Manager Technical Services
Mr Oliver Eclipse - Manager RWMF
Mr James Sanders - Supervisor RWMF
Ms Charlotte Klempin - Environment Officer
Ms Stephanie Dominguez - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

The meeting opened at 12.01 pm

1. ATTENDANCE

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Regional Waste Management Facility Meeting - Attendance List 2019/2020					
	15 Aug 19	17 Oct 19	30 Jan 20	26 Feb 20	28 May 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	✓	✓		
Councillor Glen Auricht	✓	✓	✓		
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓	✓	✓		
Councillor Matt Paterson	✓	✓	✓		
Councillor Eli Melky		✓	✓		

✓ Attended
✓ Proxy Proxy attended in place of committee member
A Apology received
-- No attendance and no apology recorded
Not a member of the Committee at this time

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

4. BUSINESS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

Councillor Auricht entered the room at 12:04pm

4.1 Draft RWMF Master Plan Presentation

The Director Technical Services highlighted that this meeting was to give an overview of the planning and strategy that was taking place for the future.

The draft Master Plan presentation covered the following points;

- Masterplan Objectives
- Methodology
- RWMF background
- Current Infrastructure
- Daily & annual operations
- RWMF recycling
 - Increasing recycling opportunities
 - Expansion of the recycling precinct

The limitations and constraints on recycling were discussed including; high temperatures that limit salvaging and recycling, staff numbers and logistics, heavy plant and equipment infrastructure investment, dust and sediment PPE that have further impact on staff safety in high temperatures and also manual handling.

Discussion ensued in regard to the overflow area for the Rediscovery Centre saleable items, and maintaining reasonable ease of access to avoid double-handling of goods.

- Asbestos area
- Road network
- Stockpiles
- Present situation
- Infrastructure
 - Infrastructure upgrades

Mayor Ryan enquired in regard to cost, lifespan of the current weighbridge and if replacement had been considered in the long term and if funds were being put aside for eventual replacement. The Director Technical Services took the question on notice, noting this item was to be included in the Master Plan process.

- Cells (stages)
 - Cells – design objectives
 - Current stages
 - Estimated time frames to each stage

Councillor Auricht enquired where the material to cover the cells was sourced from. The Manager RWMF responded in regard to topping depths and products depending on what is being covered and noted products used included: sand, woodchips, pallets and fill from other areas that were being prepared.

Mayor Ryan requested Council invest in more detailed drone surveys to give a more accurate analysis of the depth and volume in the cells. The Director Technical Services advised this could be undertaken as part of the ongoing master planning process.

- Waste totals

Councillor Cocking noted an error in regard to the waste totals on Diligent (page 26 of the presentation) as the table had 2018 and 2019 waste total data listed twice and was missing 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 financial year waste data.

Please note: Diligent page 26 has now been updated with the waste data information from 2015/2016 financial year through to 2019/2020 financial year.

Discussion ensued in regard to the types of waste and originating areas that Council has been receiving waste from. Mayor Ryan enquired if information can be provided on the waste that is being received from Regional Centres.

ACTION:

Manager RWMF to track data in regard to waste that is being received from Regional Centres from January 2020 onwards. Director Technical Services to provide this information to Elected Members for their information prior to each Committee Meeting. The first report to be provided prior to the May 2020 RWMF Committee.

Mayor Ryan noted the recycling totals listed in the waste data details and enquired if similar recycling figures were forecast for the future. The Manager RWMF reported that efforts were aimed at continuing similar figures in regard to the amount of waste recycled. The Director Technical Services clarified that these figures would be dependent on projects happening within the region and the types of waste that is received.

- Groundwater monitoring wells
- Budget
 - Expenditure and income
- Future expansion
- Costings
- Marketing strategy

Discussion ensued in regard to creating community awareness around the services the RWMF provides and ways to avoid illegal dumping including through community education. The Environment Officer suggested future iterations of the Climate Action Plan could coincide with this strategy and could focus on having a campaign around litter reduction in households and education to minimise illegal dumping. Councillor Cocking sought clarification on the Council By-Law that relates to illegal dumping.

ACTION:

Officers to provide clarification on the Council By-Law that covers illegal dumping and report back to the RWMF Committee.

Councillor Cocking enquired if Council had investigated the shredding of waste. The Director Technical Services advised this was something still being explored. Discussion ensued in regard to the impact on the volume of waste and whether the machinery would produce enough savings in space at the landfill to justify the investment.

- References
- RWMF priorities

The Chief Executive Officer left the room at 12:06pm

The Chief Executive Officer returned to the room at 12:08pm

Priorities for the RWMF were discussed, which included: an increase of recycling from all waste streams, the engagement of a consultant for a RWMF Environmental Management Plan, continuation and progression of the Food Organics Garden Organics Trial and securing land waste of the current facility.

The Chief Executive Officer suggested it would be worth speaking with a consultant in regard to rehabilitation work. He noted a consultant who had previously worked in Katherine and Palmerston and who was licenced to do rehabilitation work could provide insight into the preparation of cells 5 and 6.

Councillor Melky discussed that the word 'waste' in the facility name reinforced the idea that the facility was a place just to send the things that you no longer want. He noted the facility was much more than a waste dump as it now included areas for the recycling of glass and plastic, pallets, green-waste, steel, food organics (internal trial phase), and a hazardous

waste compound. He suggested the reinforcement was in the branding. Discussion ensued in regard to the impact of any potential changes to the facility.

ACTION:

Director Technical Services to establish the financial and operational impact of proposed rebrand considering the following (but not limited to) redesigning, branding, uniforms, advertising and report back to the RWMF Committee.

Councillor Melky reported a location of regular illegal dumping around Northside which now included a large collection of car tyres.

ACTION:

Council Rangers to investigate the illegal dumping, if ownership of goods can be determined and what further action is required.

5. NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 1:05pm.

Wednesday 26 February 2020, 12noon

Arunta Room - Civic Centre, Alice Springs Town Council, 93 Todd Street.