# COUNCILLOR O'Connell REPORT - MEETINGS / FUNCTIONS ATTENDED

• 22<sup>nd</sup>August SRRG ZOOM

• 23<sup>rd</sup> August Special Shire meeting

• 25<sup>th</sup> August LHAG meeting - CANCELLED

• 1<sup>st</sup> September WSFN Meeting

#### WHEATBELT NORTH-EAST SUB REGIONAL ROAD GROUP

I attended from home. I chaired the meeting and our Acting Chief Executive Officer and Works Manager attended.

Discussion/decisions included:

- 1. Funding Recoup Items:
  - a) Review of Direct Grant Funding
  - b) A reminder to all Councils to claim first 40% of approved project funds
- 2. Trayning request to alter 2023-24 Road Program. For the first time, the Group did not support the change to their program
- 3. Endorsement of 2024-25 SRFtLGA Program

#### **SPECIAL SHIRE MEETING**

I attended this meeting for the Adoption of the 2023-24 Budget.

#### WHEATBELT SECONDARY FREIGHT ROUTE

I attended this meeting as the representative for North East SRRG at the new offices on Keane Street, Midland.

Discussions/Decisions included:

- Variations: involved four Shire Councils.
- Multi Criteria Analysis: Gravel Roads, KSI 2023, % w2eightings 2023.
- Basis of Design
- Employment of casual staff
- Steering Committee membership
- Contractor Price Rise
- Financial Overview
- Discussion Points: Escalation, Program Directors KPI,s

#### A Reminder that:

Minister for Water meeting: Minister McGurk is attending our October meeting Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 10am in Person. This meeting has taken nearly 18 months to organize due to available dates. Any questions/issues Councillor/Councils wish to be discussed with the Minister need to send to Robert to be sent to the Ministers office.

It is hoped that Richard George (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development) will be also able to attend to give an update on the WaterSmart Farms project including Smart Farms and other groundwater initiatives.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS / EVENTS:**

## (that I attend as a Council Delegate/Representative)

WALGA Conference Perth 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> September
LHAG meeting Kununoppin Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September
NCDG AGM Nungarin Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October
Rural Water Council meeting Cunderdin Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October
LHAG Meeting Kununnoppin Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

R & O'Connell

R.E. O'Connell (Councillor)