

DRAFT MINUTES
Present

Name	Organisation	Representing
Matthew Hyde	Snowy Valleys Council	Chair
Cr James Hayes	Mayor, Snowy Valleys Council	
Denise Garner	Murrumbidgee Health	Health & Wellbeing
Ken Dale	Tumbarumba Chamber of Commerce	Business & Tourism
Dave Eisenhauer	Sounds of the Mountains	Communications & Community Engagement
Katie Fowden (dial in)	Hyne	Industry
Barney Hyams	Riverina Local Land Services	Industry
Roy Humphries	Valmar	Infrastructure
Phil Clements	Forestry	Softwoods Working Group
John Larter	Deputy Mayor	SVC & Ambulance
Matt Lucas	Thrive Riverina	Business & Tourism
Brad Palmer	Australian Defence Force	Disaster Relief
Liam Knowles	Australian Defence Force	Disaster Relief
Stan Wall	LEOCON	Disaster Relief
Richard Cottam	Mount Tumbarumba Vineyard	Industry
Natalie Randall	Tumut Regional Chamber of Commerce	Industry
Steph Cooke MP (dial in)	Member for Cootamundra	Electorate of Cootamundra
Samantha Machell	Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	Donations and Disaster Relief
Paul Lloyd	Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO)	Disaster Relief
Dick Adams	SE Regional Coordinator	Disaster Relief
Fred Spain	NSW Public Works	Disaster Relief
Guy Boardman (dial in)	Snowy Hydro	Industry

Apologies

Name	Organisation	Representing
Steve Pinnuck	Greater Hume Council	
Heidi Stratford	DPC	
Angeline Mulder	Costa Berries	

In Attendance

Name	Organisation
Ian Florence	Acting Recovery Manager
Andrew Rae	Snowy Valleys Council, Mobile Recovery Coordinator
Fiona Scott	Snowy Valleys Council, Recovery Centre Coordinator
Tracy Martin	Snowy Valleys Council, Mobile Recovery Administration
Samuel Beattie	Office of Emergency Management

Actions

Date	Action	Responsible	Completed
29JAN2020	<i>Mike Kelly MP to take up with Anthony to see if a Federal on air interview with Sounds of the Mountains could be arranged; will also raise with Michael McCormack.</i>	Mike Kelly MP	
29JAN2020	<i>Minutes of sub-committee meetings to be sent to Recovery Committee members</i>	SVC officer	IN PROGRESS: Minutes/notes from sub-committee meetings requested for circulation at Recovery Committee meetings.
12FEB2020	<i>A/Recovery Manager to email details of recovery centres to Recovery Committee members.</i>	A/Recovery Manager	
12FEB2020	<i>Chair to provide information issued by the State about priorities.</i>	Chair, SVC CEO	
12FEB2020	<i>Chair to speak with Fred Spain regarding fencing contractor working in Batlow.</i>	Chair, SVC CEO	
12FEB2020	<i>Amend Health & Wellbeing item in previous minutes.</i>	SVC officer	COMPLETED 14/2
12FEB2020	<i>Arrange a review of signage terminology so no misinterpretation.</i>	LEOCON Stan Wall	
12FEB2020	<i>Discuss communications further with Dave Eisenhauer</i>	Sam Beattie	
12FEB2020	<i>Fred Spain to be added to the Infrastructure sub-committee</i>	SVC officer	
12FEB2020	<p><i>Ministerial Advisory Group Bushfires Response</i> <i>Pull together actions from sub-committees – provide 2 days prior, Tuesday 18th February, from updated action plans.</i></p> <p><i>Include review of how SERMAC and NSW recovery plan worked. How to streamline so recovery process can be shortened. Input from Victoria would be beneficial. 'Assisting recovery to operate more rapidly – e.g. vouchers'. Push through the process of LEMC to OEM.</i></p>	Recovery Administration Officer	

	<i>Include final impact assessment. Should be finished today or tomorrow/finalizing final figures.</i>		
12FEB2020	<i>Chair to speak with Guy Boardman regarding how to get roads on Live Traffic.</i>	Chair, SVC CEO	
12FEB2020	<i>Look into ways to address such as wheat stabilisation.</i>	Infrastructure Sub-Committee	

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Mayor, Cr James Hayes welcomed all attendees to the meeting and introduced SE Regional Coordinator Dick Adams.

Mr Adams provided a welcome and overview of how the SE Regional matters work around local and state matters. Mr Adams has visited the community meeting/truck at Gilmore Hall which provided information about the impact on that area. Mr Adams will be visiting timber mills in the SVC area this afternoon. Barney Hyams advised Mr Adams of the issue of erosion damage; steep roads; storm events/wet winter – and vegetation required to provide stabilisation.

The Chair also welcomed Ian Florence from Noosa Shire Council, working as Recovery Manager for SVC for the past two weeks. Ian advised that a new recovery team is about to commence. John Craig commences on Monday as Recovery Manager and will be at SVC for 6 months. Ian introduced the recovery team in attendance. A Recovery Assistance point will be opened in Batlow on Saturday, and three other mobile recovery assistance points will also open in Talbingo, Tumbarumba, Adelong.

ACTION: *Contact details for recovery team to be disseminated to Recovery Committee Members.*

The Chair advised that:

- Two proposals will be submitted to regional and state for short term housing for Batlow and Tumba as there is currently no funding available.
- The waste issue is a priority for the General Manager's group, working through the EPA.
- Some issues around the eligibility for rate relief offered from the State. A fact sheet will be available within the next week to clarify. Also looking at water matters/relief.

Fred Spain, Representative for NSW Public Works in this area

- Working on bushfires since September last year; north, central coast to the Snowy Valleys region.
- Aiming to complete assessments by mid-March. Hazardous materials (not just asbestos) assessments results are available within a week. About 40% completed. Only 3 licensed premises that can take asbestos.
- Lang O'Rourke appointed as managing government contractor. Residents need to contact Service NSW until Lang O'Rourke take over. All who have registered with Service NSW will have their details provided to Lang O'Rourke. Eligibility criteria to be met. There is a government policy that Lang O'Rourke have to abide by. There will be a

vetting system to ensure good contractors. Sub-contractors can register on NSW procurement website.

- Eligibility will be for primary residences and small businesses; primary producers. Sheds nearby may also be eligible (based on distance from residence).
- Lang O'Rourke will be at recovery centres. Ken Dales advised a representative at recovery centres would be appreciated. There is an overload of paperwork for residents.
- Aiming to have most properties cleaned up by June this year.
- Fences are not included.

Sam Beattie advised that community meetings enable quick agency reports/one-on-ones. All agencies will be at recovery centres. Details will be emailed via Acting Recovery Manager Ian Florence to this group.

Jeremy/Communications Manager/SE Regional advised that people are encouraged to be proactive and make a phone call. Trying to address this issue.

ACTION: *A/Recovery Manager to email details of recovery centres to Recovery Committee members.*

Chair to provide information issued by the State about priorities.

Chair to speak with Fred regarding fencing contractor working in Batlow.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 29 January 2020 were confirmed as being a true and accurate record with the amendment under Health and Wellbeing regarding contaminated clean out – only Victorian government.

Stan Wall / Denise Garner

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION: *Amend Health and Wellbeing item.*

3. Actions from Previous Meetings

Actions from previous meetings were reviewed and reported as being completed, unless otherwise remaining on the Action list.

4. Report on Sub-committee Action Plans

Actions Plans for the Agriculture, Infrastructure, Waste and Environment, Health, Wellbeing and Education and Donations & Disaster Relief sub-committees were considered.

Denise Garner: Health, Wellbeing and Education

The Action Plan from this sub-committee was circulated; 6 February sub-committee meeting minutes have been circulated; next meeting tomorrow.

Natalie Randall: Business & Tourism

Agencies on the ground; Chamber is continuing to work with industry regarding labour supply market in our area.

Ken Dale: Business & Tourism

Minutes circulated to members. Accommodation in Batlow and Tumba info requested. Mountain bike tracks / adventure sport focus. Rebuilding boating and fishing tourism; extension of free camping opportunities that don't interfere with caravan parks; high end resort?; development of ongoing festivals; and new events.

Matt Lucas: Business & Tourism

Cycling tourism activity in Talbingo will suffer major loss for up to 3 years. Focus on rail trails. Potential through Forestry to develop recreational trails. The gateway to focus locally – Snowy Valleys/Snowy Monaro.

Dave Eisenhauer: Communications & Community Engagement

Minutes distributed. Communications and infrastructure seem to cross over. Do we have just communications sitting by itself and Infrastructure by itself? A report is being created to be brought to the Recovery Committee. Feedback received re lack of information. Road closure information was very confusing i.e. terminology such as 'soft/hard' closures. Education for the community would address this issue.

Jeremy/Communications Manager/SE Regional agreed that in every disaster, communication is our biggest challenge, even when a lot of information out there, but people may not see/hear it; we work with Councils.

ACTION: *LEOCON Stan Wall to arrange a review of terminology so no misinterpretation.*

Sam Beattie to discuss communications further with Dave Eisenhauer

- Denise Garner advised that the community request for supportive counselling - same person, same place, same time has been actioned.
- Ian Florence advised communications has been added as a Standing Item to all sub-committees.
- Scanner App valuable during the bushfires. Being able to access RFS radio also helps.
- The Chair advised that the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) will be reviewing the EOC process; loss of communications will be discussed.
- SVC Mayor and CEO met with Telstra CEO, at Jingellic and where advised that demographics determines infrastructure.
- Ken Dale advised that UHF was the only means of communication that worked during the fires, most reliable, however line of site an issue/repeaters limited.
- Paul Lloyd advised that a collective justification could make the difference when advocating for communication infrastructure.

Samantha Machell: Donations & Disaster Relief

First meeting held last week/second next week. Need to collate a list of external funding availability; there are a couple of avenues locally for donations; separate meetings with reps from each community group to work together towards simplifying. Is there a way we can discuss and coordinate local donations? Need to liaise with other committees with regard to what needs they have identified.

Barney Hyam: Agriculture & Livestock

A good cross-section of industries represented from Elerslie to Tumut. LLS recovery committee jointly working with Murray – advisory re establishment of pastures. Identified priorities and added apiarists. Fencing, fodder, erosion and staff are the priorities. Actions list still in draft to be further discussed at the next meeting this Friday. Waste drop off/staging area required for irrigation pipe/recycling to enable people to start re-constructing; also a mental health issue.

Roy Humphries: Infrastructure, Waste & Environment

An action plan has been developed; progress made in a number of areas. Priorities made. 24 items identified. The document circulated.

The Chair advised that this is a broad committee – how to capture infrastructure not government owned but does have a community purpose? Example Union Jack memorial hall, owned by a community group.

ACTION - Fred Spain to be added to the Infrastructure sub-committee

Phil Clements: Forest Industries

Forest sub-committee established Terms of Reference using existing mechanisms. First major meeting 28 February. Until then email communications. Current actions – information/data provision; requests from politicians in particular. Liaising with Tumut Regional Chamber of Commerce. Status paper will be made available to this committee. The DPI policy review session will be available in about 2 weeks; we have been invited to attend. Future work revolving around 6 key platforms.

The Chair requested that sub-committee action plans include two extra columns, how much \$ required and funding source.

5. General Business

Ministerial Advisory Group Bushfires Response

Request for items to be lodged for 20 February.

ACTION: *Pull together actions from sub-committees – provide 2 days prior, Tuesday 18th February, from updated action plans.*

Include review of how SERMAC and NSW recovery plan worked. How to streamline so recovery process can be shortened. Input from Victoria would be beneficial. 'Assisting recovery to operate more rapidly – e.g. vouchers'. Push through the process of LEMC to OEM.

Include final impact assessment. Should be finished today or tomorrow/finalizing final figures.

- Please share any details that may be relevant to any sub-committee.
- RFS have been attending the community meetings which will have assisted in accurate communication regarding the bushfires.
- Andrew Rae will be addressing community outreach recovery.
- Directional signs for recovery centres may be of assistance.
- Paul Lloyd requested that recovery committees work with the LEOCON, to share information and work on what might come next e.g. land slips/erosion as OEM works on all kinds of disaster management.
- Assessments have been made regarding replacement of road signage. In the meantime information boards are in place.
- If you are aware of any agencies that have not been included/invited to attend the recovery centres, please advise Sam Beattie/OEM.

CRM report card

A report for Customer Request Management (CRM) over a 2 week period was circulated. Data relates to matters that cannot be resolved on the spot/ items that require action. Issues last week and this week were around waste and infrastructure; trees on private and public property. Most requests for assistance made via phone. Useful information for sub-committees.

Guy Boardman, Snowy Hydro: Industry

Working hard to get the Talbingo boat ramp open for the public hopefully this week. Still in recovery mode all around our assets in Talbingo/Cabrumurra. Issue re access around Talbingo dam, nothing holding the hills together, rain – slips – having to constantly clean up. Just because open doesn't necessarily mean will keep/stay open. Snowy powering forward – working on recovery however not too bad.

ACTION: *Chair to speak with Guy regarding how to get roads on Live Traffic.*

Katie Fowden – looking to put on a temp third shift, dust extraction because of ash; would welcome a visit to Tumba. Waiting on forest data; talking with various levels of gov. Hyne Trust – recently pledged \$100, 000 to local SES. May involve coordination with Council who owns the shed. One ask is a significant generator. Ongoing maintenance etc to be considered.

Liam Knowles/ADF – have been working in these remote areas such as Jingellic/Ournie/Tooma. 95% supporting land owners / farmers – dangerous trees/fences. BlazeAid then follow. All ADF work coming in through Council. ADF have been well received across the region. Still no confirmed guidelines regarding how long in this area. May be advised shortly, most probably here until end of month and possibly into March.

The Chair advised that he visited Gilmore RFS shed today where some farmers advised that fences have been put up 3 times with recent rain events. Logs from the hills are blocking culverts. Similar in Jingellic. Council has been working on clearing, however has reverted to previous situation.

Paul Lloyd advised that it needs to be reiterated/made clear that flooding is a result of the bushfires.

ACTION: *Look into ways to address such as wheat stabilisation.*

6. Confirmation of Actions to be Taken

Actions resulting from this meeting where read out.

Next Agenda item: Blue Sky Projects

Next Meeting: Agreed for this committee to meet fortnightly. Schedule meeting for 2 hours. 26th or 27th February at 12pm.

Meeting closed: 4.00pm.