

Minutes

LDMG Meeting

31 December 2010

1.00pm

Council Chambers

Type of meeting: Local Disaster Management Group - Alert Stage

Chair: Scott Norman

Note taker: David Strugnell

Attendees: Scott Norman - BSC, Donna Stewart - BSC, Mark Bartlem - DERM & QFRS, Mark Shields - QPS, Paul Turri - BSC, Rebecca Burgess - COFC, John Goudkamp - QAS, Robyn Fuhrmeister - BSC, Bill Bennett - Sunwater, Lisa Shields - QPS, Richard Marsh - BSC, Debbie Green - BSC & SES, Brendan Kiernan - Ergon, Steve Mizen - SES, David Strugnell - BSC.

Agenda topics

Road Report

Scott Norman

Discussion:

Wagoo Rd	Closed
Mitchell - St George Rd	Closed
St George to Surat	Closed
Moonie Highway St George to Moonie	Open
Moonie to Dalby	Closed
St George - Dirranbandi	Open
St George - Goondiwindi	Open - Robyn Fuhrmeister was advised by IGA staff that the Goondiwindi Road was cut at Talwood - Unconfirmed
Mitchell - Bollon Road	Open with Caution

Conclusions: Updates to continue as information becomes available.

Action items: Nil

Person responsible:

Deadline:

NA

NA

Outstanding Actions From Previous Meeting

Scott Norman

Discussion:

1. Boat to Bollon - Paul Turri - COMPLETED - Has arrived at Bollon
2. Moving vehicles to the other side of the river - IN PROGRESS - Wayne Bradley is organising
3. Albert St Door Knock - OUTSTANDING - Door knocking will begin when the river reaches 11.5m to give time to move before the power is cut at 12m.
4. Narline Resupply - COMPLETED - Ergon has dropped the resupply to the property.
5. Road Crossing Dirranbandi - COMPLETED - Paul Turri has spoken to Peter Evans (TMR) who has given go ahead for gravel on the Castlreagh Hwy.
6. Dirranbandi Levee Bank Reinstatement - IN PROGRESS - Mario is in the process of reinstating the levee
7. BSC Equipment to this side river - IN PROGRESS - Wayne Bradley is organising.
8. Ambulance to other side of River - NO ACTION REQUIRED - John Goudkamp advised that QAS is not concerned as they can use another vehicle if the need arises.
9. Council opening hours - Monday Public Holiday - IN PROGRESS - Scott to organise additional staff
10. Evacuation Centre Location - Robyn Fuhrmeister to phone Schools - COMPLETED - State Primary Principal Col Geiger has approved the use of the new hall if need be.
11. 4 drums jet A1 to Surat - Steve Mizen - COMPLETED - Ready to go if Surat decides they are required
12. Paul Fuel to Bollon - COMPLETED - Has arrived at Bollon
13. Boating on river - IN PROGRESS - Police Inspector Mark Styles to organise emergency powers to stop people boating
14. SES Measure height of power over river - Debbie Green - IN PROGRESS - SES and Ergon are measuring the line.
15. Notice Boards - Paul Turri - COMPLETED - Have been set up at Websters building and VIC, Liz D'Arcy to update.

QFCI

Date: 04 / 05 / 11 JM

Exhibit Number: 272

Conclusions: To be reviewed next meeting.

Action items: As Above

Person responsible:

Deadline:

As Above

Review Next Meeting

Outcome of Dirranbandi Public Meeting

Scott Norman

Discussion:

1. Flood height confusion – BOM and DERM use different datum – IN PROGRESS - Mark Bartlem to follow up with bureau and confirm the gauge heights
2. Bus to St George – NO ACTION REQUIRED - Offer was made for a bus to St George to stock up on groceries. No interest was expressed by those present
3. Fogging for insects - IN PROGRESS - Paul Turri and Scott Norman - To investigate fogging machines,
4. Fires for Smoke to deter insects – NO ACTION REQUIRED - Mark Bartlem advised that there were presently no fire bans in place and that normal precautions and procedures regarding fire size and permits are to be followed.
5. Butcher – IN PROGRESS - Scott Norman to investigate
6. Food Store owner out of town – IN PROGRESS - QPS and BSC through Col Chambers and Richard Backhouse are liaising with the store to ensure enough food is ordered to satisfy demand if the township is cut off for an extended period. The owner is now back in town.

Conclusions: To be reviewed next meeting.

Action items: As Above

Person responsible:

Deadline:

As Above

Review Next Meeting

River Level Update

Discussion:

Donna Stewart

The Mayor advised the meeting that the Condamine river was at 14.7m at 6am and had risen 5cm up by 9.30am

Bill Bennett advised the meeting that at present Sunwater is releasing 115,000 ML through the dam.

Conclusions: To be reviewed next meeting.

Action items: Nil

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Traffic around Andrew Nixon Bridge and Albert Street	NA	NA

Discussion:

Scott Norman

Scott Norman advised the meeting that concerns had been raised about the increased traffic around the Andrew Nixon bridge.

Conclusions: QPS are aware of the issue and are monitoring the situation.

Action items: Nil

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
SES Boat at Dirranbandi	QPS	NA

Discussion:

Steve Mizen

Steve Mizen advised that the SES boat in Dirranbandi is being made ready but they need to find an operator

Conclusions: Steve confirmed that he has the authority to appoint someone as the operator

Action items: Find an Operator for the Dirranbandi SES Boat

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Offers of Help Received	Steve Mizen	Review next meeting

Discussion: Scott Norman advised that Goondiwindi RC had offered to provide assistance. A commercial Helicopter operator has also approached the group to offer their services if required.

Scott Norman

Conclusions: Noted

Action items: Register of offers of help to be developed.

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Resupply Planning	Scott Norman	Review next meeting

Discussion:

Donna Stewart

Bollon - Road access will likely be maintained via northern routes. LDMG will assist where requested otherwise residents can make their own arrangements. SES will likely organise set times to run their boat back and forth across the river if people are in need. Steve Mizen to advise as it becomes necessary.

Thallon - Road is unlikely to be cut to Mungindi.

Dirranbandi - Local knowledge suggests that a vehicle that can handle 1m of water will get to Dirranbandi for most of the time it is isolated to be able to resupply the town. Paul Turri has organised a Council Truck.

Hebel - Need to establish how long the town will be cut off for. Scott Norman to talk to local with experience. Need to talk to store about fruit and veg orders etc as they usually come through Toowoomba.

Rural Resupply - Cannot be carried out by any means other than Helicopters. Scott Norman to ask through DDC to ask for

assistance.

Conclusions: As Above

Action items: As Above

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Move to Standby	As Above	As Above

Discussion:

Scott Norman

Scott Norman requested that the LDMG move from the Alert Stage to the Standby Stage with a view to activating the plan when the water level reached 10m.

Conclusions: The group moved to the Stand by Stage.

Action items: Advise LDMG team members

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
General Business	NA	NA

Discussion:

David to organise flyers and information
John Goudkamp – Medical Centre is organising people to get their medicine etc organised in case of isolation.
Paul Turri - Stormwater mains – flappers shut on church and Balonne streets, Barlee blocked off. Have created water storage so Barlee can be pumped out if necessary.
Scott Norman – BOM advised thunderstorms on Monday
Rebecca Burgess / Steve Mizen - High care Warrawee patients will be evacuated at 12.5m
Brendan Kiernan - Albert street power off and residents asked to leave at 12m.
Mark Shields – Websters closed tomorrow open Sunday open if needed on Monday.
Mark Bartlem – Query regarding when the plan would be activated. The meeting decided to activate the plan at 10m.
Mark Bartlem – Advised Tina from Sunwater happy to answer phones if needed in control centre.
Scott Norman – Ian Todd may need permit to cross river with workers. Steve Mizen to organise.
Donna Stewart / Scott Norman - Dirranbandi notice board to be at post office. Richard Backhouse will update
Donna Stewart – Mario has started reinstating the levee at Dirranbandi
Steve Mizen – WORK camp be in St George so we will only have them for a few days.
Bollon Café or pub to have notices posted.
Steve Mizen – Scott Walsh has advised that Bob Bundy will send two EMQ staff to help run Control Centre
Rebecca Burgess – Will ring freight lines to check on supply of medical equipment for Warrawee
Steve Mizen – SES has 300 sandbags and more will be on transport by Thursday
Scott Norman – Glen Cutler has organised sand from over the river and borrowed from dump if we need to block drains
Scott Norman – Sunday Morning water is predicted on bridge deck. When water reaches the top of cement edges it is closed
Robyn Fuhrmeister – Concerns had been raised that the private levees in Albert street will push water back into other residents houses. Robyn has responded that they are built on private property and we cannot do anything about it.
Scott Norman – BOM's official estimate remains at 12 to 13.

Conclusions: As Above

Action items: As Above

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
Meeting Closed	As Above	Review next meeting

Discussion:

Scott Norman

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.30pm. The next meeting was scheduled for 1.00pm 01 January 2011

Conclusions: Next meeting was scheduled for 1.00pm 01 January 2011

Action items: Nil

	Person responsible:	Deadline:
	NA	NA

Balonne Shire LDMG 1.00 pm 31st Dec 2010

Meeting Open

Road Report

Wagoo Rd -	closed
Mitchell Rd	Closed
St George to Surat	Closed
Moonie Highway St G to Moonie	Closed
Moonie to Dalby	Closed
SG - Dirran	Open
SG - Goondiwindi	Open

Outstanding actions

1. ~~Steve M - Medical Centre - Doctors~~
2. Paul T - Boat to Bollon
3. ~~Scott N - BOM Moonie River~~
4. Moving vehicles to the other side of the river
5. Albert St Door Knock
6. Narline Resupply
7. Road Crossing Dirran - Paul
8. Dirran Levy Bank reinstatement - commenced Council Equipment Wayne B
9. BSC equipment this side river - Wayne
- 10.

Actions 29th Dec 2010

~~QPS - Food supplies, freight liners, Bakers, Fuel~~
~~Insp Mark Styles - BOM Dirran & Moonie~~

~~BSC - Dirranbandi Meeting 3.00pm 30th Dec 2010, Richard Backhouse letterbox drop, Donna~~
~~S-Radio ABC & Burke~~
~~Scott to invite Ergon & Ambulance~~
~~Rob F - Chemist~~
~~Thallon Levy Bank~~
~~Billy Johnson SES~~
~~David Titterton Graincorp~~
~~Steve Burns - Nindigully new years cancelled~~
~~BSC web site & face book~~
~~Brooke Winters DOC's~~

Actions 30- 12- 10

1. Ambulance over river - no action
2. Council opening hours - Monday Holiday - additional staff - Scott
3. Evac Centre location - Rob to phone Schools
4. Steve 4 drums jet A1 to Surat
5. Paul Fuel to Bollon
6. Boating on river

7. SES Measure height of power over river
8. Scott- Notice Boards – Paul & Liz

Dirran meeting issues

Flood height confusion – gauges on web

Bus to SG

Fogging

Fires for Smoke

Butcher

Food Store owner out of town

General Business

1. Andrew Nixon Bridge tourists?
2. Dirran Boat
3. Michael Dickerson LGAQ
4. Goondiwindi Regional
5. Concern for Hebel
6. Resupply Planning

General Business

Check around the room
Next meeting?

Close

Balonne Shire LDMG 30th Dec 2010

Outstanding actions

1. Steve M – Medical Centre – Doctors
2. Paul T – Boat to Bollon
3. Scott N – BOM Moonie River
4. Moving vehicles to the other side of the river

Actions 29th Dec 2010

QPS – Food supplies, freight liners, Bakers, Fuel
Insp Mark Styles BOM Dirran & Moonie

BSC – Dirranbandi Meeting 3.00pm 30th Dec 2010, Richard Backhouse letterbox drop, Donna S Radio ABC & Burke

Scott to invite Ergon & Ambulance

Rob F – Chemist

Wayne B – Resupply Narine

Richard Backhouse – Dirran Levy reinstatement – Paul T MRT road crossing

Since then

1. Thallon Levy Bank – go – start 30-12-10
2. Billy Johnson SES
3. David Titterton Graincorp
4. Steve Burns – Nindigully new years cancelled
5. BSC web site & face book
6. Brooke Winters DOC's

General Business

1. Carnarvon Highway
2. Council Equipment Wayne B
3. Ambulance over river
4. Council opening hours – Monday Holiday – additional staff
5. Evac Centre location
6. Status Alert?
7. Dirranbandi – Who – What?

Check around the room
Next meeting?

Close

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SATURDAY 1ST JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs DS Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy), RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Wayne Bradley (Works Supervisor), Mr Ben Gardiner, Mrs Debbie Green, Mrs Di Francisco, Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer Assets) Dr Cameron Bardsley, Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kiernan, Ergon Energy), Steve Mizen Local Controller, Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mark Bartlem (SunWater) Mark Shields QPS Lisa Shields QPS, John Goudkamp QAS.

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance.

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

Road Reports	.6m over outside of Balonne Shire on Moonie Highway between Shire boundary and Westmar. .6m over at Horse Creek
	Western Downs Regional Council advised that Loudon Bridge is now open to heavy vehicles and an update will be carried out at 1:00pm today to ascertain if it can be open to light vehicles.
Castlereagh Highway	Mayor was requested to advise in further reports to the radio that the Castlereagh Highway between Dirranbandi and Hebel is closed to all traffic
Gore Highway	Open
Mark Shields	Mark advised that the road is open at Talwood and Nindigully. Investigate Mungindi Barwon & Weir Rivers and place on notice boards.
Albert Street	Door knock to be carried out when water reaches 11.5m – Steve Mizen & Mark Bartlett to assist.
Website	Adjust website "Risk of Inundation of low lying dwellings.
Dirranbandi	OK
Bollon	Fuel is in order
Boats on River	No unauthorised boats are to be on river between bridge and Aussie Hotel – Ben Gardiner, Steve Mizen & Brendan Kiernan. Debbie Green advised that the SES boat will be launched from near Murchison Street downstream of the Aussie Hotel. Debbie Green requested a list be made of persons utilising the boat from "Wagaby" who will be crossing the river regularly.
Power Line over river	Power line at Police Station will be live until the river gets to 12 meters.
Taxi Service	Mark Shields made an inquiry if a taxi service would be operational.
Notices for Dirranbandi, Hebel & Bollon	Notices will be faxed to Richard Backhouse at Dirranbandi for erection at the Post Office. Notices for Hebel will be faxed to Mary Lou Larard at Hebel for erection at the Store. Notices will be posted on the notice board at the Bollon Café.
Register Offers to Help	A Register to be kept of all Offers to Help.
Helicopter	CEO advised that the District Emergency Group is organising a Helicopter to be send in to assist with resupplies.
Flood Mapping Warrawee	David Strugnell is working on flood mapping for 12m – 13.29m. Bec advised that when river reaches 12.5m Warrawee has to be evacuated. Resolved that an alert be made at 12m and evacuation at 12.5 for all patients. If water gets to 13.2m the road in/out of Warrawee is cut.

		Bec further advised that she was organising medical supplies for Warrawee.
	Warrawee Subcommittee	To be formed – Bec, Robyn Fuhrmeister, John Goudkamp & Steve Mizen – Bec to arrange.
	Motels	Robyn Fuhrmeister inquired if Motels could be booked for approximately 2 weeks duration for able bodied Warrawee patients. Brendan Kiernan advised that Ergon had a number of rooms booked at Riverland and Merino Motor Inns and that since these weren't all going to be utilised, most would be available.
GENERAL BUSINESS	Fogging Machine	Meeting of Councillors 10am 2.1.11 to discuss actions
	Signs	"No Pedestrians on Bridge" to be erected.
	Bridge Closure	Wayne Bradley advised that he will be closing the Andrew Nixon Bridge this afternoon prior to 6:00pm. Mayor to contact ABC advising them of this & notices be placed on notice boards. Physical barrier to be erected.
ACTIVATION OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		It was resolved to activate the Disaster Management Committee and report to the DMQ. To be officially opened this afternoon located in the Health Department.
		Public be requested to remain calm as there will be at least two days notice of any impending flooding.
EVACUATION CENTRE	St George State School	Meeting was advised that the new multi purpose building at the State School would be made available as an evacuation centre. Robyn Fuhrmeister to liaise with Red Cross, Lifeline and Service Clubs to assist. Noted that Anthony Hart (Lions) had indicated he would be available to cook for Centre.
	Terms of Reference Evacuation Centre	Robyn Fuhrmeister to facilitate.
EMQ STAFF		Noted that EMQ staff would be made available on Monday 3 rd January, 2011.
	SES Boat Maranoa River	Noted that SES Boat would be utilised from Sunday 2 nd January, 2011. Mark Bartlem advised that the Maranoa River would start to recede on Monday.
	Flooding Houses	Mark Shields advised that Inspector Stiles had requested the number of homes inundated in the March 2010 flood, and potentially what homes could be inundated this time.
AMBULANCE/ MEDICAL SERVICES	Vehicles	John Goudkamp inquired what vehicles would be available on other side of river should patients needs to be transported from/to Bollon. Cameron Bardsley advised that currently the Bush Nurse at Bollon was on leave, and patients may have to receive medical attention from Cunnamulla. John Goudkamp has already put the Ambulance Centre at Cunnamulla on alert. Could require assistance to have medical practitioners transported to/from Dirranbandi this week.
CASTLEREAG H HIGHWAY	St George-Dirranbandi Hebel Access	Meeting noted that if the river gets to 12m, blowouts in the road at "Kurray" may occur. It was noted that Hebel would access from the south for approximately 2 weeks.

**RESUPPLY
GROUP
BOM METER
READING
HEIGHTS
NEXT MEETING**

To comprise of Debbie Green, Wayne Bradley, Paul Turri, Fred Bradley, Scott Norman & Donna Stewart and to meet at 3:30pm this afternoon. It was noted that the meter reading heights for the Balonne River have been reported as incorrect. Height gauges inaccurate.

Next Meeting to be held at 1:00pm on Sunday 2nd January, 2011. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1:55pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE GROUP TO DISCUSS VECTOR CONTROL IN THE SHIRE ON SUNDAY
2ND JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 10:00AM**

- ATTENDANCE** Mr Scott Norman, Cr Fuhrmeister, Mr Paul Turri, Mr Karl Hempstead, Ms Chelle Skinner, Mr Tony Griegg & Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).
- PURPOSE OF MEETING** To discuss the control of mosquitoes and sand flies during flood event.
- Karl Hempstead advised that he had a machine available which belongs to the DEEDI. He will discuss the Council's use of the machine with Graham Hardwick (DEEDI) and doesn't think it will be a problem.
- Tony Griegg advised that he has been reseaching the availability of another machine, but wanted to ensure that it was the type of machine that Council required prior to purchasing at a price of \$14,000.00.
- Discussion on the different types of machines available and how contact will be made with Gold Coast City Council to find what quantities they used when fogging in St George last flood.
- AMALGAMATED PEST CONTROL** It was agreed that Tony Griegg contact Wade Cameron, and/or Gavin Taylor of Amalgamated Pest Control St George, who are licensed to use these type of machines, and request that they use their vehicles and Council supplies the fogging machines and chemicals for use.
- FOGGING OTHER TOWNS IN SHIRE** It was agreed that fogging in other Towns in the Shire would be carried out when Council was able to do so.
- The discussion was concluded at 10:15am.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SATURDAY 2nd JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:04PM**

ATTENDANCE Crs DS Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy), RG Fuhmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Wayne Bradley (Works Supervisor), Mrs Debbie Green, Mrs Di Francisco, Dr Cameron Bardsley, Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kiernan, Ergon Energy), Steve Mizen Local Controller, Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mark Bartlem (DERM) Sgt Gary Green, Lisa Shields QPS, John Goudkamp QAS, Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Mrs Janette Schurmann (Evac) Mrs Sally Stride, (Qld Health), Senator Barnaby Joyce, Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) and Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING Scott welcomed all in attendance.

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING **Bridge** Scott advised meeting that the Bridge was closed at approximately 10:00pm last night 1st January, 2011.

Road Reports Scott gave a verbal report on current road closed situation. Barwon Highway currently open but expected to close in approximate 12 hours for possibly 1-2 days. Roads close to water treatment Plant will be closed and notices erected accordingly.

Notices to be placed at Dirranbandi Post Office advising of any closures. SES Boat for Dirranbandi – Steve Mizen arranging operators.

Photos 2010 Flood Warrawee Photos detailing water levels of 2010 flood to be displayed on notice boards advising the public where water reached during that flood event. Bec advised that 22 patients would be relocated to another Care Facility and 2 patients to return to families.

Will require air evacuation for the 22 patients – Bec & Steve Mizen to arrange.

SES Boats Gary Green inquired who to contact should the use of SES boats be required.

Vector Control Fogging machine will be in St George this week and able to commence work by end of week.

RED CROSS Lisa from Red Cross joined the meeting by teleconference on 0419 318 326.

Evacuation Centre Robyn Fuhmeister advised that contact had been made with QBuild to obtain bedding for the Evacuation Centre.

- Meals to be supplied by Church Groups with Service Clubs providing dinner for the Centre.
- Registration forms would be completed by any person wishing to utilise the Evacuation Centre.
- Entertainments would be provided and there was a need to train someone to operate the Mobile Cinema which Council owns.
- Provision of drinking water was discussed however this would be provided by Anthony Hart & daddy cools by Care Balonne.
- Need to obtain the Apex Coldroom.
- Request Police patrols around the Evacuation Centre – Gary Green to organise.
- Bedding for 100 persons required.
- Review meeting 3rd Jan – need contact phone number to provide to the public

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Noted that when river reached 12.4m some houses would have wet floorboard.

Evacuation Centre Door Knocks Hope to have open as soon as possible. This to be discussed further at tomorrow's NDMC Meeting

Sgt Green advised that many of the lower end of St George residents have been door knocked by Police advising of current situation, and most people have already made other arrangements should their residences be inundated.

EMQ Staff Noted that 2 EMQ Staff and 8 SES staff will be arriving St George and already booked into Merino Motor Inn.

SES Boat Resupplies Noted that it was already at "Wagaby".

Messages Warrawee Scott advised of Meeting held yesterday and gave a briefing of what will be provided to the other towns in the Shire.

Vacant Houses Any messages and/or inquiries concerning Warrawee are to be directed to Bec Burgess.

Fuel for Dirranbandi Helicopters Police will patrol any houses vacated during floods.

Aviation fuel for Dirranbandi to be sent down ASAP – Steve Mizen to arrange.

Noted that Inspector Stiles from Roma would have to sign for any chopper use for resupplies of food, but that Mayor/and or CEO to sign for another use of choppers.

Noted that Ergon Energy was bringing three helicopters to St George and will be bringing their own fuel. These will arrive in St George this afternoon.

Brendan Kiernan requested the use of a vehicle to ferry pilots & crew around and this would be organised by Paul Turri.

Pump Station & Manholes Paul Turri advised that the Pump Station is to be plugged and sand bagged.

Warrawee Pump Station should be OK.

Tarps Wayne Bradley requested more tarps and this would be organised by Steve Mizen.

Commissioner's Point Road Water Release Steve Mizen inquired if Kilroy's had been doorknocked and this is to be arranged if not already done.

Bill Bennett advised that currently were was a release rate of 185,000mgs with 5,000mgs dumps being conducted every hour.

Noted that here had been a blowout near farms and had to raise the channel on the Dirranbandi Road.

Still having an ongoing problem with keeping water out and still supplying water to grape farmers.

An offer was made by the SES to ferry Bill to/from pumps every couple of days if required – Steve Mizen to arrange.

Bollon BNA Cameron Bardsley advised that the Bollon Bush Nurse would return to Bollon tomorrow and currently was being relieved by part time RAN in Bollon.

Mobile Hospital Cameron and John Goudkamp gave a rundown on the provision of a totally self sufficient Mobile Hospital which would be in St George tonight and the need to have a site for location.

It was agreed that it could be located at the Showgrounds.

Noted that there was ample room at Cr Fuhrmeister land on Surat Road if required.

Gary Green to arrange letter of authority for request for Mobile Hospital.

River Height	Thallon	Noted that the predicted height for Thallon was 5.5m and that the levee banks had already been increased by ½ meter to 5.7m.
Police presence		Gary advised the Meeting that Police would be rostered on for 24 hour shifts and that regular patrolled would be carried out of the Evacuation Centre and Hospital.
Road Runs		Council would conducted road patrols and advise Police of any closures etc.
1300 road closures	Website	Various attendees raised the fact that the 1300 website for road closures was unreliable.

NEXT MEETING

To be conducted at 1:00pm on Monday 3rd January, 2011.
There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 2:14pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 3rd JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:04PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs DS Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy), RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Wayne Bradley (Works Supervisor), Mr Fred Bradley, Mrs Debbie Green, Dr Cameron Bardsley, Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kiernan, Ergon Energy), Steve Mizen Local Controller, Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mark Bartlem (DERM) Sgt Gary Green, Lisa Shields QPS, John Goudkamp QAS, Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Mrs Sally Stride, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Peter Dennis (WAS), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Mr Steve Strugnell (Telstra), Mr Shane Golding (Telstra), Mr Jay Dobbin (EMQ), Ms Michelle French (EMQ), Mr Fred Bradley (BSC), and Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested everyone present to introduce themselves to the Meeting.

Scott advised the Meeting that he had received an email from the Premier's Department advising that an Emergency Cabinet Meeting had been called to discuss the current flooding event.

This morning's BOM meeting had advised that it had released a range of scenarios.

Inspector Stiles

Inspector Stiles joined the Meeting via teleconference.

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

1. High Care Warrawee Patients to be evacuated at 12.5M Other 13M

This will be attended to when the need arises.

~~Photos 2010 Flood to be displayed on notice boards~~

Warrawee patients - Will require air evacuation for the 22 patients – Bec & Steve Mizen to arrange.

Bec advised that high care patients have been relocated to Hospital.

The Temporary hospital had been offered to house all other patients but this was not feasible. Inspected Stiles advised that use of the temporary hospital was not suitable, and recommended air evacuation for these patients.

Flood Heights

Inspector Stiles requested

Forecast height water is in house yards.

Forecast height water is under houses.

Forecast height water inundates houses.

**EVACUATION
TEAM
MEETING**

Agreed to hold an Evacuation Team meeting this afternoon at 4:00pm in the Council Boardroom.

Comprise:- Col Geiger (School) CEO, Mayor, QAS, Care Balonne together to EMQ.

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

~~Evacuation Centre - Contact had been made with QBuild to obtain bedding for the Evacuation Centre.~~

- ~~• Meals to be supplied by Church Groups with Service Clubs providing dinner for the Centre.~~

- ~~• Registration forms would be completed by any person wishing to utilise the Evacuation Centre.~~

- ~~• Entertainments would be provided and there was a need to train someone to operate the Mobile Cinema which Council owns.~~

- David Strugnell will provide training.
- Provision of drinking water was discussed however this would be provided by Anthony Hart & daddy cools by Care Balonne.
- Need to obtain the Apex Coldroom.
- Request Police patrols around the Evacuation Centre Gary Green to organise.
- Bedding for 100 persons required.

Houses vacated by flooding Police will patrol any houses vacated during floods.

Aviation Fuel Dirranbandi Steve Mizen to arrange ASAP.

Helicopters Brendan Kiernan requested the use of a vehicle to ferry pilots & crew around and this would be organised by Paul Turri.

More Tarps for Wayne Bradley Steve Mizen to arrange

Commissioner's Point Road Have Kilroy's be doorknocked Police to arrange.

Noted Kilroy Family would evacuate at 13m.

Water Release for grapes Ferry Bill Bennett to/from pumps every couple of days Steve Mizen to arrange.

Noted that an Electrician had obtain some old timers and these were put in place and working well, with no need now for ferrying.

Letter of Authority for placement of Mobile Hospital Sgt Green to arrange.

LGAQ Disaster recovery co-ordinated late this week

Richard B extending Dirran levy around back of houses near pump station

Sand Bagging Depot Machine Sand Bags

Communications Officers Liz D'Arcy to be shadowed by Peter Smith.

Vector Control On way from Brisbane

Helicopters Tasked from EMQ

Sit Reqs EMQ will do

GENERAL BUSINESS

Boat time tables - Via Amphitheatre

EMQ resupply - In hand

Data to BOM - Elevations data to be provided

Data to Roma - Bring provided to Sgt Gary Green to be delivered to Roma on 03.01.10

Minister's Visit - Minister Neil Boyle MP, was in Office this morning together with Deputy Commissioner Sgt Ian Stewart.

Media to the Mayor - Is being carried out.

Free Board Dirranbandi Levy - Mr Richard Backhouse to provide details.

Gauging Heights extensions - Attended to by Peter Goodwin, Bill Bennett (SunWater) and Brendan Kiernan (Ergon). Has been increased to 15m.

Sea Kings Navy - Michelle French EMQ and Police to check out.

Emergency levees see near map - Meeting to discuss emergency levees to be called for 2:30pm this afternoon.

Michelle French will ascertain if more chopper fuel is required and will obtain if needed.

Agforce and Grainco be requested to send representatives to LDMG Meeting to discuss fodder drops.

Further flooding

Wayne Bradley advised the Meeting that he had undertaken inspections from Scout Hutt past Showgrounds to Australian Hotel will remain flood free. He is envisaging putting further temporary levees around part of the Town to prevent further inundation.

Jay Dobbin advised that he may be able to obtain temporary levees which had been used in Charleville flood.

**LEEVE BANK
TEAM
MEETING**

Agreed to hold a Levee Bank Extension Team meeting this afternoon at 2:30pm in the Council Boardroom.

Comprise:- Col Geiger (School) CEO, Mayor, QAS, Care Balonne together to EMQ.

RED CROSS

Cr Fuhrmeister advised the Meeting that Red Cross Queensland was ready to come to St George to assistance.

Agreed to activate Red Cross Queensland.

**ROGERS
GULLY
NINDIGULLY
TELSTRA**

Wayne Bradley advised that it was likely that Rogers Gully would be cut prior to the road being cut at Talwood.

Steve Strugnell advised that Telstra was able to provide lines through new levee banks if required.

NEXT MEETING

To be held on Tuesday 4th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their assistance in helping out with the flood event, thus far and closed the Meeting at 1:45pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 4th JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:06PM**

ATTENDANCE

Cr. DS Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy), RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mrs Debbie Green, Dr Cameron Bardsley, Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kieman, Ergon Energy), Steve Mizen Local Controller, Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Sgt Gary Green, John Goudkamp QAS, Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Mrs Sally Stride, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Mr Laurie Bill (QFRS), Mr Bruce Smith (QFRS), Mr Ian Brimblecombe (Cotton Grower), Mrs Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Mr Tim Salisbury (Reliance Petroleum), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Mr Glen Rogan (Cotton Farmer), and Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested everyone present to introduce themselves to the Meeting.
Scott advised the BOM has a new flood height prediction and advised that rain is forecast for Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM
LAST MEETING
GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Seven Patients are being airlifted out today with further patients being relocated to the St George Hospital.

- Levee Banks Council will place levee banks behind Scout Hall, Murchison Street area on The Terrace and the lower end of Town.
- Hospital Cameron Bardsley advised that the hospital will commence evacuating at 13.5m and totally move at 14m.
- Red Cross Local Branch is in action and the Brisbane Team will arrive in St George this afternoon.
- SES Steve Mizen advised that outside SES crews are due to arrive, and the local SES Team stood down for a rest period.
- Stormwater Paul Turri advised that stormwater drains have been plugged and Andrew Street is the lowest area in St George. There will be sump placed in Elizabeth Street and local Contractors will empty sump.
- Cotton Farms Ian Brimblecombe advised that they were attempting to put levee bank to protect the farms area.
- Channels Bill Bennett advised the some channels have sunk on the St George Dirranbandi Road.
- Swift water rescue Four Furies from Toowoomba, two swift water rescuers are already in town and two further swift water rescuers will be here from Surat tomorrow.
- Reliance Petroleum DEEDI Tim Salisbury advised that Reliance Petroleum will provide any assistance it can, if required.
Bob Ewers advised that there are no ramps available for fodder drops at this stage. Possibly be monetary assistance from Government very shortly to assistance in fodder drops.
- Evacuation Centre Robyn Fuhrmeister advised that the Evacuation Centre is opened and ready for occupation.
- Thuraggi Channel Glen Rogan advised that Thuraggi Channel only has a capacity of 10 megalitres.
- Lifeline Tracey Campbell advised that Lifeline was ready to deploy a team if so required.

Portaloos	Gavin Leader (QAS) inquired if there were any Portaloos available in St George for use by the Mobile Hospital. Advised to liaise with Steve Mizen and Debbie Green.
Police	Sgt Green advised sic police staff had been deployed to Dirranbandi and there would be more coming to St George tomorrow. Water Police were coming as well. Door knocking to continue advising residents of the current and expected situation.
Sand bags	Ian Brimblecombe inquired of the availability of approximately 3,000 sandbags.
SES	Meeting advised that there was an unauthorised boat on the river yesterday evening, and the local SES crews will not attend to such behaviour after dark.
Warrawee	Bec Burgess inquired of the possibility of sandbagging Warrawee and was advised that as it was out of the town's natural levee, this would not be done.
Flood Heights	David Strugnell advised that he had located copies Aerial Elevation Models of river heights in George.
BSC Facebook	Liz D'Arcy advised that she will need a Media Release to be placed on Facebook confirming height predictions.
ABC News	Col Geiger indicated that he had heard a new bulletin detailing flood heights predictions in St George, and that the information in this bulletin was totally incorrect.
Portable flood levies	Ian Brimblecombe inquired of the availability of the portable flood levee banks which had been used in Charleville
Fodder Drops	Gavin Leader (QAS) was advised that there were no lifting ramps available for use at the Airport to lift the patients in wheel chairs from Warrawee Retirement Village, who will be air evacuated out of Town this afternoon.
NEXT MEETING	To be held on Wednesday 5 th January, 2011 at 1:00pm. There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:34pm at 1:45pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5th JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:02PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs DS Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy), RG Fuhmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mrs Debbie Green, Dr Cameron Bardsley, Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kieman, Ergon Energy), Steve Mizen Local Controller, Sgt Gary Green, Mr John Goudkamp QAS, Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Mr Laurie Bill (QFRS), Mr Bruce Smith (QFRS), Mr Peter Dennis (QAS), Ms Michelle French (EMQ), Mrs Tracey Campbell(Lifeline), Ms Deb McMaster (Warrawee), Mr Shane Golding (Telstra), Mrs Lisa Shields (QPS), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Ms Coby Walker (DEEDI/QBFP), Mr Peter Goodwin (BSC) Ms Helen Coronas (CDO BSC), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Eleanor Carter (Red Cross), and Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested everyone present to introduce themselves to the Meeting.

APOLOGY

Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater)

Road Closure

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED .5m at Horseshoe Lagoon
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	CLOSED .8m at Rogers Gully
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED .8m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	CLOSED 7.1m at Mt Driven Gauging Station 2.0m over Claude Bowhay Bridge

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

1. ~~Warrawee Patients to be evacuated~~
2. ~~Data to BOM~~
3. Free Board Dirranbandi -0.5M to 1.0M
4. Sea Kings – In Roma at present & expecting Hercules with chopper fuel tomorrow.
5. Chopper Fuel Michelle F – All on track.
6. Phone Number Evac Centre – 46253920
7. Levee Banks – Use natural levee around the town and additional levee in place behind Scout Hall – working on rill inserts other areas will activated at 13.5m
8. SES Crews – Six arrived and some on the river at present. Another two members from Begonia area in town.
9. Storm Water – In hand. Some have been opened to let out rain water, will be blocked off again.
10. Cotton Farms – Repairs carried out to some levee banks.
11. Life Line Tracey Campbell – On standby.
12. Portalos – Two from QAS and Gavin Leader will activate.
13. Generator – Will truck in when available.
14. Hospital Evac – High Care have been air evacuated. Other will be attended to when water gets to 13.5m.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Water tower sand bagging - Continuing
C130 coming Thursday morning
Sewerage Pump station 3 on as long as possible – Ergon Energy will keep power on as long as possible.
Flood mapping to Cabinet Meeting
Community anger

QAS John Goudkamp inquired if he was able to obtain height of various QAS Officers houses – David Strugnelli to assist.

Peter Goodwin Peter requested assistance to have all vehicles of employees of various businesses in the CBD, removed from CBD area when stormwater enters streets.

Lifeline Tracey Campbell advised that counselling would be available for those requiring same.

Generator Steve Mizen has one available for use at the Evacuation Centre, if required.

Hospital Dr Bardsley advised that someone had authorised a chopper to collect a patient from Bollon & deliver to St George, then airlifted by plane to Toowoomba. All transfers must be arranged through St George Hospital.
Scott Norman to speak with Inspector Stiles, Roma Police concerning this matter.

Sandbagging Meeting was advised that Elders Rural Services of St George had been giving assistance in utilising their truck and assisting with sandbagging of various business and private premises in St George.

Ergon Energy Brendon Kiernan advised that Ergon would keep power on as long as possible to keep sewerage pump stations operating.

Emergent Cabinet Meeting Meeting was advised that an emergent Cabinet Meeting had been called for today to discuss the local flood event

Air Ops OK

Sandbags Debbie Green advised that the SES had used 10,000 sand bags already and have only 2,500 left. Will be rationing until more supplies made available.

Warrawee Bec Burgess thanked everyone involved in helping to assist evacuate Warrawee patients and requested Police surveillance of the Warrawee Retirement Village whilst it remains vacant.

Ergon Energy Brendan advised that two extra Generator experts will be in St George assist.

Night Patrols Sgt Green advised that Police, SES and Fire & Rescue Officers would be conducting night patrols throughout the town during the flood event.

Prime Minister Senator Joyce advised that he has spoken with Ms Gillard who has offered any assistance the Federal Government can give, and any requests should be made through Senator Joyce.

Red Cross Cr Fuhrmeister advised that the Evacuation Centre had been handed over the Red Cross Association.

DERM Sandbagging – to Liaise with Debbie Green.

EMQ Michelle French advised that she had received a request for the number of Electrical Contractors available in St George to assist in the inspection of businesses and houses that get inundated.
Brendan Kiernan (Ergon Energy) to attend.

Boating & Fisheries Here to offer support and assistance as and when required.

Mayor Thanked Council employees for their work in the last few days trying to

secure the town. Further thanked John Grabbe for his assistance and knowledge this morning.

Senator Joyce

Thanked all involved in their assistance with the filling of sandbags and sandbagging the town where required.

NEXT MEETING

To be held on Thursday 6th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:29pm.

MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:02PM

ATTENDANCE

Crs RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mrs Debbie Green (Balonne SES), Dr Cameron Bardsley (Medical Superintendent), Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Mr Laurie Bill (QFRS), Mr Bruce Smith (QFRS), Mr Shane Golding (Telstra), Mr Steve Strugnell (Telstra), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Ms Helen Coronos (CDO BSC), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Eleanor Carter (Red Cross), Mr Andrew Busby (QAS), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mr Paul Kuhn (DEEDI/QBFP), Mr Dave Hatton OAM (EMQ), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Mr and Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested everyone present to introduce themselves to the Meeting.

SGT IAN STEWART STATE DISASTER CO-ORDINATOR

Scott then introduced Deputy Commissioner Ian Stewart, the State Disaster Co-ordinator for this flood event. D/C Stewart spoke inter alia St George the last major town in this event; the downgrading of the hydrology; the threat of the event put in place on 22nd December, 2010; thank the community for all the assistance given; congratulated the community on the improvements put in place since the last March 2010 flood event and spoke of the wonderful community spirit at this time; that the Australian Governor-General is in Queensland at present looking at the flood devastation; and that numerous Federal Government Ministers are in the State, State Recovery has been established which is being headed by Major-General Mick Slater; and further congratulating the public in the State that there has not been a life lost to date as a result of this event.

D/M Stewart then retired from the Meeting.

FLOOD HEIGHTS/ ROAD CLOSURES

The CEO then passed around the latest Balonne Shire Flood Update detailing the BOM expected peak in St George at less than 14m, and provided the following road closures:-

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED .6m at Horseshoe Lagoon
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	CLOSED .9m at Rogers Gully
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	CLOSED Between .6 & .8m over Claude Bowhay Bridge

He further advised that he had conducted a flight in a helicopter yesterday afternoon, and that there no evidence of any flood waters entering the town from any direction other than the river adjacent to the town.

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

1. ~~Warrawee Patients to be evacuated~~
2. ~~Data to BOM~~
3. Free Board Dirranbandi -0.5M to 1.0M
4. Sea Kings – In Roma at present & expecting Hercules with chopper fuel tomorrow.
5. Chopper Fuel Michelle F – All on track.
6. Phone Number Evac Centre – 46253920
7. Levee Banks – Use natural levee around the town and additional levee in place behind Scout Hall – working on rill inserts other areas will activated at 13.5m
8. SES Crews – Six arrived and some on the river at present. Another two members from Begonia area in town.
9. Storm Water – In hand. Some have been opened to let out rain water, will be blocked off again.
10. Cotton Farms – Repairs carried out to some levee banks.
11. Life Line Tracey Campbell – On standby.
12. Portaloo's – Two from QAS and Gavin Leader will activate.
13. Generator – Will truck in when available.
14. Hospital Evac – High Care have be air evacuated. Other will be attended to when water gets to 13.5m.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

- Require Mobile Phone No's of everyone present
- Water tower sand bagging – Steve Strugnell advised that Telstra was attending to this bagging work for safety reasons for the Telstra and other equipment on top of the tower.
- C130 coming Thursday morning – In Town
- Sewerage Pump station 3 on as long as possible
- Flood mapping to Cabinet Meeting
- Community anger

Evacuation The Meeting was advised that following a Meeting with Deputy Premier Paul Lucas and the Deputy Commissioner for Police Ian Stewart earlier in the day, it had been established that should the river height reach 14.25m, the town would be evacuated to the Showgrounds providing there was road access.

Health Issues The Director of Corporate & Community Services Mr John Carleton requested knowledge of any straying dogs to be reported to him.

Sandbags The Meeting was advised that 3,000 sand bags were in Roma awaiting transport to St George.

Forward planning The director of Technical Services Mr Paul Turri advised that all levies and other works are working well.

Inspector Mark Stiles Inspector Stiles commended on the fantastic job that has been done so far in preparation of the flood which has been exemplary. He stated that the CEO and Mayor worked as a great team and it has been a pleasure working with them.

Red Cross Ms Eleanor Carter advised that nine names were down to utilise the Evacuation Centre last evening, however no-one arrived. The meeting was advised that the swift water rescue teams would be in town tonight.

Police Sgt Green advised that a car had run into water at Nindigully last evening, but no-one was injured.

Ergon Energy Brendan Kiernan advised that Ergon would be retesting the power lines across the river as far as Bollon tomorrow between 2:30pm and 4:30pm,

NEXT MEETING

and further that when the Balonne River rose to 13.5m, it would be turning off the power to George Faessler's farm.
To be held on Friday 7th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.
There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:30pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
FRIDAY 7TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:06PM-**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Dr Cameron Bardsley (Medical Superintendent), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Const Shelly Robinson (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Mr Laurie Bill (QFRS), Mr Bruce Smith (QFRS), Ms Helen Coronos (CDO BSC), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Eleanor Carter (Red Cross), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mr Dave Hatton OAM (EMQ), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Matt Holliday (QFRS), Capt Les Robin (ADF), Const Shelly Robinson (QPS), Mr Peter Dennis (QS), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

Sgt Gary Green (QPS)

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested everyone who were not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:
 Matt Holliday - QFRS
 Les Tobin – attached to Sea Kings
 Anne Lee – Care Balonne
 Shelly Robinson – Qld Police
 Dr Adam Coltzau – Hospital

**FLOOD HEIGHTS/
ROAD CLOSURES**

The CEO then passed around the latest Balonne Shire Flood Update detailing the BOM expected peak in St George at less than 14m, and provided the following road closures:-

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED 6m at Horseshoe Lagoon
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	CLOSED .8m at Rogers Gully
Camarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN to 4x4 high clearance vehicles only with Weight Limit of 5tonnes.

He advised that the BOM Warning for Balonne River at St George remains a peak of less than 14m late in the weekend (Sunday 9th January 2011).

Ergon Energy will be turning off the power to customers west of the Balonne River (St George) to and including Bollon from approximately 2.30pm to 4.30pm on Friday 7 January 2011, to raise the conductors

located at the Balonne River to a safe height. Ergon Energy will be contacting all customers affected by the power disruption.

St George Flood Line at 14.5m

A map of St George with an anticipated 14.5m is available

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

1. Levy Banks – Behind Scout Hall completed. Working on the Logan Lane levee Bank this morning. Police conducted a door knock of area and there were no problems encountered. Those persons outside the levee bank were staying in home at present.
2. SES Crews – No change
3. Storm Water – OK at this stage
4. Cotton Farms – The reinforcing of banks around the Cotton Farms have been reinforced.
5. Sandbagging water tower – completed.
6. C130's – Les Tobin advised that one C130 was in the field now to bring fuel for the Sea King choppers. They were to be stationed in Roma and fly down as required. Will now be able to refuel in St George and stay in the area longer. The mobile house could possibly be in St George tonight, other wise tomorrow morning.
7. Stray Dogs – Four dog attacks reported to date
8. Swift Water Rescue due today? – The meeting advised that four are in Town now.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

- Security Alert for Balonne Shire – Update given by Police
- Dignitaries' visit – Meeting to be held following this meeting (Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Fuhrmeister & CEO)
- Helicopters –
- If required in local area
 - a. St George to dispatch;
 - b. Roma area – Roma to dispatch
 - c. Other areas – Brisbane to dispatch.
- Elizabeth Street - Some water in Elizabeth Street this morning and this was being pumped out – Contingency plans have been in place since last week to have any excess stormwater pumped and taken away in tankers by Contractors. All are on standby.
- Cars near Amphitheatre The Terrace - Most vehicles at Amphitheatre belong to persons who are over the river at this stage.
- Can still get to the dump at Thallon – No problems at this stage.
- Vector Control – The roster has been placed on website.

**Around the DERM
Room**

DTS advised that some Dam Specialists from DERM had requested details on the how the construction was planned and how the heights were established

Stormwater

Cr Marsh suggested that the public be made aware that contingency

plans are in place

QAS

Requested official height at present. Advised 13.04m

Red Cross
Evacuation Centre

Again no beds utilised last evening. 9 People are currently registered to use the Centre.

QFRS

The QFRS are available to assist wherever possible.

QPS

Advised that the Fisheries have now left, but left two boats to be used by the Police and SES. There are now seven extra staff on duty as four members had left area.

Les Tobin

Some ADF Staff staying at Airport for fuel supply security

NEXT MEETING

To be held on Saturday 8th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:30pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SATURDAY 8TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:04PM-**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Paul Turri (Director of Technical Services), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Dr Cameron Bardsley (Medical Superintendent), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Ms Helen Corones (CDO BSC), Ms Eleanor Carter (Red Cross), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mr Dave Horton OAM (EMQ), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Mr Andrew Quick (Red Cross), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Mr Colin Hannecan (Lifeline), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Mr Craig Stolte (QFRS0YSAR), Mr Nigel Higgs (QFRS Rural Operations), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Bernard Trembath - QFRS
Colin Hannecan - Lifeline

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS/
ROAD
CLOSURES**

The CEO then passed around the latest Balonne Shire Flood Update detailing the BOM expected peak in St George at less than 14m, and provided the following road closures which indicate no changes since yesterday:-

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED .6m at Horseshoe Lagoon
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	CLOSED .8m at Rogers Gully
Camarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN to 4x4 high clearance vehicles only with Weight Limit of 5tonnes.

BOM Warning for Balonne River at St George has changed. We are expecting a peak near the March 2010 flood level of 13.4m during today and tomorrow (Sunday 9th January 2011). It will remain above 12M all next week

The peak is expected to reach Dirranbandi 14th January 2011 - peak is expected to be 5.4m. For reference March 2010 peak was 5.28m. It is expected the level will remain at above 5m until 27th January.

It is expected Hebel will peak 16th January; these are long range

forecasts and indicative only.

Moonie

The peak has now past Nindigully, and is expected to reach Thallon today, Saturday 8th January (expected peak 5.4m), the river was 5.35m this morning, and still rising. The expected peak is to be below the March 2010 flood.

The water is now below the Claude Bowhay Bridge on the Moonie Highway. The Moonie Highway is now open to 4WD vehicles with extreme caution and has a 5 tonne load limit.

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

1. SES Crews - OK
2. Storm Water – Elizabeth Street – Leak and this is being pumped out.
3. Re Supplies – Only one resupply to a rural property. One load went to Dirranbandi yesterday and one today with essentials. Major resupply to Store in Dirranbandi is being coordinated by Richard Backhouse, Dirranbandi, and Debbie Green St George. Continuing resupplies to Dirranbandi by road. Doctor was ferried to Dirranbandi this morning. Will forward resupply to "Narlina" tomorrow.
4. Cars near The Terrace where levee is being erected– one vehicle was left on site yesterday afternoon but was removed last evening.
5. Vector Control – Doing fogging runs early morning and evenings in St George – Will be fogging in other towns when access is gained.
6. Recovery – Brief Council Meeting yesterday and Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister has been appointed to head the Recovery Group.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. Mayor advised that visits by the Prime Minister Julia Gillard; Premier of Queensland Anna Bligh; and Opposition Leader John-Paul Langbroek went off well. Mayor brought to their attention the need for funding for Flood Mitigation in the Community. If this is not provided it will delay the implementation of Flood Mitigation works too long. She has requested at least \$100,000.00 to finish and improve works already implemented.
- b. Noted that a bank had breached at "Kia-Ora" but was not affecting the Town of St George.
- c. Levees have been increased to 14m at various locations in St George.

Around the SES Room

Debbie Green advised that there had been a report that Bollon has run out of fuel, however it was receiving supplies on Monday from Cunnamulla.

Reliance Petroleum Angela Doran advised that her company had been unable to renew fuel supplies because of the 5 tonne load limits placed on access roads to the Town. Mayor indicated that she would endeavour to assist in gaining resupplies.

Ergon Energy Brendan inquired what was to be done with houses along The Terrace

which did not have access or power supply. He was advised to reconnect supply, if the houses were out of danger.

QFRS QFRS Officer inquired whether the mobile house brought in for temporary accommodation was required to be erected near Mobile Hospital. (Noted that it could be erected overnight). Was advised not to erect at this stage.

Habitat Officer inquired if it should be erected. He further advised that QFRS Staff had been rotated.

Red Cross Eleanor Carter advised that no-one was in the Evacuation Centre again last night, however had just received a request for a family of 9 and another family of 4 to utilise the Centre.

SunWater Bill Bennett advised that all was in hand with the supply at Beardmore Dam and that SunWater was still in control of the flow.
To be held on Sunday 9th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:20pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SUNDAY 9TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Const Mark Shields (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mr Dave Hatton OAM (EMQ), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Mr Craig Stolte (QFRS), Mr Bernard Trembath (QFRS), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Mr Tim Watkins (QAS), Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee Retirement Village), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

An apology for nonattendance was received from Mr Paul Turri (DTS)

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Ms Dale Preston – Red Cross

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS/
ROAD
CLOSURES**

The CEO then passed around the latest Balonne Shire Flood Update detailing the BOM expected peak in St George at less than 13.4m, and provided the following road closures which indicate no changes since yesterday:-

No Updates todate

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED .6m at Horseshoe Lagoon
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	CLOSED .8m at Rogers Gully
Camarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN to 4x4 high clearance vehicles only with Weight Limit of 5tonnes.

The Meeting noted that the vehicle carrying the papers had managed to get through to Goondiwindi and return this morning. Height at Rogers Gully is unknown.

Flood Height Predictions

The river water supply in St George had failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply. Please restrict your use to inside only. Your understanding and co-operation is appreciated.

BOM Warning for Balonne River at St George has changed. We have reached a peak of 13.2m yesterday and it remains at that level today. St George Flood

Line at 14.5m - A map of St George with an anticipated 14.5m flood line is available. This line relies upon natural high points in the land combined with minor earth works as they become necessary. Due the lower than expected peak the protection line to 14m has been completed and the situation will be monitored. St George reached a peak of 13.2m yesterday and remains at that level today (Sunday 9th January). Flood levels will remain high (above 13m) until mid next week.

Dirranbandi is isolated by road. High clearance vehicles are currently being used to resupply Dirranbandi via private property. The peak is expected to reach Dirranbandi 14th January 2011 - peak is expected to be 5.4m. For reference March 2010 peak was 5.28m. It is expected the level will remain at above 5m until 27th January. These are indicative long range predictions provided by the Bureau of Meteorology that will be refined as the peak moves down stream. The Dirranbandi levee is at least 0.5m above the predicted peak.

It is expected Hebel will peak around 16th January; these are long range forecasts and indicative only. The town of Hebel is not expected to be inundated.

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS
FROM LAST
MEETING**

Outstanding actions

1. SES Crews – Warwick Team left St George this morning. Begonia Team is still in town.
2. Storm Water – Elizabeth Street – No problems
3. Re Supplies being carried out
4. ~~Cars near The Terrace – No problems~~
5. Vector Control – Continuing morning & evening in St George. Will start fogging Thallon and Nindigully when vehicles can get through.
6. Recovery – Robyn Fuhrmeister reported no problems.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

- a. River Water Supply St George - The river water supply in St George had failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply, utilising a diesel pump to pump into reservoir and is trying to rectify the low lift pumps which are working below capacity. Noted that Council had to pump 130 tonne of sand from the reservoir after the last flood, and this is possibly the cause of the failure this time.
- b. Main Road Permits - phone Tony Allen 0428 229506 – CEO advised that following discussions with Main Roads, and visual inspections had been carried out on the bridges from Dalby to St George. Main Roads has agreed to issue permits to allow some trucks to come through to bring in fuel and other supplies.
- c. Dirranbandi Resupply – Meeting advised that supplies were currently getting through to Dirranbandi by kind courtesy of some landholders allowing access through their properties. This would continue until no road access and resupplies will be carried out by air. Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) is endeavouring to organise a resupply run for Tuesday 11.01.11, but this may not eventuate until later in the week.
- d. Mapping inundation of houses – CEO advised that a number of requests have been received wanting to know the number of houses

inundated – Water Police to attend.

- e. Telethon near Bridge – Senator Barnaby Joyce advised that a telethon conducted by Ms Liz Hays from Channel 9's 60 Minutes, would be conducted near the bridge (possibly in the Huff Street-The Terrace area for a Telethon across the State raising funds for flooded regions. This commences at 6:30pm. – No alcohol to be brought into area. Persons are requested to bring cards, games or something to occupy themselves with. Possibly bush poetry. Brett Nosse to be invited to supply music for the evening. The Meeting was advised that maybe the flood victims do not want this kind of event close to their homes, but they will be asked first. The DCCS was requested to ensure fogging was conducted in the area prior to the event.

Around the Room	Water Police	A second crew were coming into St George this afternoon. Const Mark Shields attending to same.
	Dept Communities	Cr Fuhrmeister advised that the Department of Communities would be sending in a crew to St George tomorrow to arrange funding for those who were entitled to same. She requested a list of houses without power and Brendan Kiernan (Ergon Energy) would supply list.
	QFRS	Bernard Trembath (QFRS) sought the Meeting's guidance on the proposed erection of the mobile dwelling. Advised that most of the QFRS crew had left the area and one person would be here until the end of next week.
	Telethon	Senator Joyce requested that people attend by 6:15pm. The Meeting was advised by Mr Col Geiger that there was going to be live music at the Cobb & Co Hotel tonight, and suggested maybe some patrons will venture down to the Telethon after attending the Cobb & Co function.
	ADF	Capt Les Tobin advised that Australian Defence Force personnel would be in St George tomorrow Monday 10 th January, 2011, at 11:15am.
	DCS	Cr Fuhrmeister advised that the Dept Communities personnel would be establishing a location on The Terrace.
	SunWater	SunWater was still carrying out 5,000mg stops and may increase to 10,000mg late to day or tomorrow morning. Noted that there was some water coming down the Maranoa River, but is not expected to make much impact on St George (approximately 4,500mg).
	EMQ	Mr Dave Hatton (EMQ) advised that he would be leaving St George today and thanked the Council and Committee for their help and friendship during this trying time.
	Red Cross	Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross) advised one family stayed in the Centre last evening and has received a request for three more people to be booked for tonight. She suggested that other arrangements may have to be made if the Centre is not being utilised.
NEXT MEETING		To be held on Monday 10 th January, 2011 at 1:00pm. There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:20pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 10TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr SL Norman (Chief Executive Officer), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Const Mark Shields (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr David Strugnell (Technical Officer), Mr Gavin Leader (QAS), Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mrs Kathy Avery (Qld Health) Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Scott welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS/
ROAD
CLOSURES**

On Sunday 9th January, the river water supply in St George failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply. Please restrict your use to inside only, until further notice. Your understanding and co-operation is appreciated.

The Balonne River at St George reached a peak of 13.2m yesterday and it remains at that level today. Flood levels are predicted to remain high (above 13m) until mid week and above 12m for the rest of the week. St George Flood Line at 14.5m - A map of St George with an anticipated 14.5m flood line is available. This line relies upon natural high points in the land combined with minor earthworks as they become necessary. Due to the lower than expected peak the protection line to 14m has been completed and the situation will be monitored. The temporary levies shall remain in place until it's deemed the danger has passed.

The Balonne River, St George remains closed for all recreational boating. Only boats authorized by the Queensland Police Service are permitted on the river. The strong current and live electricity lines over the river present a risk to boating.

Balonne River Minor Dirranbandi - The flood level has now reached the March 2010 level of 5.3m. The peak is expected to reach Dirranbandi on Friday 14th January 2011, and is expected to be 5.4m. It is expected the level will remain at or above 5m until 27th January. The Dirranbandi levee is approximately a minimum of 0.5m above the predicted peak. Dirranbandi is isolated by road and high clearance vehicles are currently not able to be used to resupply the town. Alternate arrangements for resupply are in place.

It is expected Hebel will peak around Sunday 16th January; the town of Hebel is not expected to be inundated however Hebel and surrounding properties face a long period of isolation.

ROAD

CLOSURES

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel))	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN .2m at Rogers Gully & falling
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED .8m at "Goorarooman"
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Outstanding actions

1. River water - On Sunday 9th January, the river water supply in St George failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply.
2. Number of Properties effected – QPS
 - a. Water in Yards 25
 - b. Water in house 11 of the 25
 - c. Private Levy Banks working – 3
 - d. Private levy Banks leaking -2
3. Telethon Hutt Street-Logan Lane area went off well last evening. Event raised approximately \$10m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. ADF Visit – Capt Tobin advised that a meeting conducted by Naval Base Commander in Roma this morning endeavouring to ascertain where ADF assets would be deployed to. ADF personnel in St George will probably be relocated from Wednesday 12th January, 2011.
2. Bridge Inspector MRD – Claude Bowhay Bridge inspected by Main Roads Inspector and road is now open.
3. Dirranbandi Resupply – The access which had been used through private properties has now been cut by flood waters.
4. Bore Water Evac Centre – Bore Water has been tested and is pure, but bit cloudy.
5. Thallon Levee – Started weeping yesterday but this has now been contained.
6. SES Boat breakdown – Problems with motor on big boat – Still have small boat and Begonia boat available. Should be repaired by tomorrow.
7. Evacuation Centre – Occupied by one family only. Relocation to be arranged by Recovery Team following this meeting.
8. Recovery Committee – To hold briefing following this meeting and conduct Initial Recovery Meeting on Tuesday 11.01.11 @ 1:00am.
9. Staffing Council – Local Disaster Co-ordinator – Meeting noted that Overseer Wayne Bradley is on leave and being relieved by Mr Fred Bradley. CEO taking two days leave and will be relieved by DCCS.

Around the Counselling Room

EA advised that Goondir Health has a "Bringing Them Home" Counsellor available - Mr Paul Treadray.

- Flood Boats for workers Steve Mizen inquired how long the flood boats would be used for ferrying workers over the river and return. To discuss further after it is established when the big SES boat motor will be repaired.
- Inspections of inundated homes Steve Mizen inquired if homes were to be inspected prior to occupancy and was advised that this is all part of the recovery process.
- Sandbagging Senator Barnaby Joyce thanked those who had assisted in filling sand bags. A possible community celebration was discussed when the water came off the bridge.
- Council Staffing DCCS advised that Council Staff would be deployed to other areas in the Shire when access is available.
- QAS John Goudkamp advised that QAS was available to assist in any regard.
- Red Cross Ms Dale Preston reiterated Centre only occupied by one family.
- DNR Housing Mrs Tina Zohl advised that DERM had vacant housing but it required a request for occupancy from the Local Disaster Management Group, as part of DERM's conditions. Recovery Chairperson Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister to attend.
- Cleaning goods Mayor advised that she had been informed that a company had offered a large quantity of cleaning products for use in the cleanup.
- Emergency Accommodation Debbie Green advised that she had received phone call from a gentleman in Melbourne who has accommodation available in Lightning Ridge for use by the Committee at no charge, should it be required.

NEXT MEETING

To be held on Tuesday 11th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:19pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 11TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:04PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr John Carleton (Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator) Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Paul Turri (DTS), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Const Mark Shields (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Mrs Tracey Campbell (Lifeline), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Mrs Kathy Avery (Qld Health) Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), MR Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator John Carleton welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Ron Roberts – QAS

Peter Riley – QF&RS

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS/
ROAD
CLOSURES**

Flood Update:

St George - 6am Tuesday

The Balonne River at St George was 13.1 metres and falling slowly. Major flood levels will remain high (above 13 metres) until Wednesday.

High level major flooding is expected to continue in the Balonne River system downstream from St George to the NSW border throughout January. This includes the Bokhara, Culgoa, Balonne Minor and Narran Rivers and Ballandool Creek.

Dirranbandi & Hebel

The peak flow will be in the Dirranbandi during Wednesday and in the Hebel area later this week.

Thallon – 6am

The Moonie River level at Thallon was at 5.1 metres. Moderate flooding continues to slowly rise further downstream at Fenton where levels are expected to be similar to the 1988 flood peak of about 5.1 metres.

Moderate to major flooding is occurring in the Moonie River between Nindigully and Fenton with the flood peak approaching Fenton.

Mungindi

Weir River - Minor to moderate flooding continues to ease on the Weir River between Surrey and Talwood. The flood peak is now in the Jericho area where major river flooding has developed. Heavy rainfall will cause further rises and a return to moderate to major flooding in the upper Weir River in the next 24 hours.

Roads Update

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN .2m at Rogers Gully &
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED .8m at "Gooraroom"
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway p
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Westmar-Dalby)	CLOSED at Dalby

Further

Old Police have advised that all roads to Miles, Dalby and Warwick are cut. Gore Highway Goondiwindi to Millmerran is OPEN WITH CAUTION to all traffic.

Gore Highway is CLOSED at Pampas between Millmerran and Brookstead.

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

1. ~~ADF Visit~~
2. ~~Bridge Inspector MR~~
3. Dirranbandi Resupply – Debbie Green advised one rural property "Yamburgan" received a resupply this morning and that the SES was endeavouring get a resupply for the Dirranbandi Store. St George Stores could take care of the accounts and possibly the resupplies from Brisbane. Steve Mizen suggested resupplies from Warwick, but was advised by Andrew Wyatt they had to come from Brisbane and be flown Brisbane-Dirranbandi.
4. ~~Bore Water Evac Centre~~
5. ~~Thallon Levy~~
6. SES Boat breakdown – Still having trouble accessing parts from Brisbane. A Police Technician was trying to access parts and the local Police could fit themselves. Noted that George Faessler's Grape Pickers would be completed next week and this would relieve the boat requirement.
7. Evacuation Centre – This has now been closed and still there as a "Plan B" should the need arise.
8. ~~Recovery Committee Held Initial Meeting 11.01.11~~
9. ~~Staffing Council – Local Disaster Co-ordinator~~

GENERAL BUSINESS

Around the EMQ Room

Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) briefly advised that Meeting of the possibility of the water going 1m over the Levee Bank at Goondiwindi and the implications for Mungindi Qld and requested what height the levee bank was at Mungindi and also the flow rates. Advised to contact Moree Plains Shire Council.

RED CROSS

Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross) advised that it still had members in St George who would be available to go to Mungindi if required.

DOCS

As Department of Community Services personnel were unable to get into St George, arrangements had been made for people to make claims over phone.

SES Steve Mizen advised that there was no SES Crew in Mungindi and no SES boat. The closest boat was in Thallon and check with Moree Plains Shire Council if a boat was available from that Council or Moree Plains SES should the Mungindi Hospital have to be evacuated.

EVACUATION **WATER &** Noted that the water and sewerage was piped over the river.
SEWERAGE
MUNGINDI
HOSPITAL Dr Coltzau advised that Mungindi had a 12 bed facility and one Doctor. Would have to evacuate to Moree. Further that there was a Relieving Doctor in Mungindi at present who was to fly from Moree tomorrow with the return to duties of Dr Salvadore Aguirre who will be flying into Moree.

MUNGINDI-MOREE ROAD Senator Joyce advised that there were a lot of watercourses on road and patients would need to be flown.
Steve Mizen mentioned that because of the flooding on the Eastern Seaboard, Mungindi should be evacuated ASAP.

QAS John Goudkamp inquired of how to get patients transported to Airstrip at Mungindi and was advised that they would go by QAS vehicle ASAP over bridge prior to the river level rising. Was noted that there were three stretcher patients currently at the Hospital.

ERGON ENERGY Brendan noted that Mungindi Qld was supplied by power from Country Energy.

RED CROSS Dale Preston inquired where an Evacuation Centre could be set up in Mungindi and was advised that this would be discussed at another Meeting of NDMG Meeting to discuss the possible evacuation of Mungindi Queensland this evening at 6:00pm, when a District Disaster telelink would be set up.

ADF Capt Les Tobin advised that ADF assets which were stationed at Roma had been redeployed to Oakey for use in the flooding crisis on the Eastern Seaboard and Senator Joyce mentioned that the Local Disaster Management Group would have to organise most of the evacuation on its own as most Defence Personnel would have been seconded to Brisbane and Toowoomba to assist at those centres.

MUNGINDI HOTEL To be advised of the possible flooding and evacuation of Mungindi Queensland. Steve Mizen requested a map of the levee bank at Mungindi indicating the heights, and was advised that all of the levee bank at Mungindi was the same height.

TELE-CONFERENCE Dr Coltzau requested the meeting this afternoon at held at 4:00pm instead of 6:00pm and this was agreed to and to include Police, Ambulance Health SES etc.

ST GEORGE Meeting noted that with the severe storms happening in the various parts of Queensland and Northern New South Wales, St George could cop another large storm and residents would have to be notified of the possible dangers.

WARRAWEE RESIDENTS The Mayor inquired of Bec Burgess as to the whereabouts of the Warrawee Residents and was advised that they were at a Home in Northern Suburbs of Brisbane and would stay there until further notice.

ST GEORGE RIVER WATER SUPPLY Paul Turri advised that the problems still existed with the St George River Water Supply, however this had been by-passed for the moment and was working well.

STORMWATER Mayor inquired of DTS who would be at risk of flooding as a result of flooding following a huge downpour in St George and was advised that strategies were in place in this situation. Tracey Campbell noted that Elizabeth Street appeared to be the main threat. Cr Fuhrmeister also mentioned Bargains 4U was very low. The Meeting was advised that should there be a huge downpour even when the stormwater outlets were not blocked off, there is a problem of the water getting away. Sandbags should be placed in front of buildings before going home in the evenings.

QPS Const Mark Shields advised that the St George Police would be available to assist with door knocking should this situation arise.

QFRS Peter Riley advised that the QFRS had assisted with the pumping last evening would be available to do so again should the need arise.

ERGON ENERGY Brendan Kiernan advised that the power lines over the river in ST George had been raised and were not posing a threat to the SES boats ferrying workers across the river.
There was a problem at Hebel with a line touching water and large generators were on way to Hebel should they be needed.
He noted that possibly Ergon Energy may have to supply Mungindi Qld should there be a problem in that Town.

ADF Capt Les Tobin advised that ADF personnel have been advised they will be located in St George indefinitely where there is a problem, and his staff were available to assist with any heavy lifting that was required.

SANDBAGS Debbie Green advised that the supply was getting low again and sandbags were being rationed. More were on order.

QAS John Goudkamp advised that three members were on road staff in St George whilst others who had been seconded to St George, have since been redeployed.

RED CROSS Noted that this group was not required at the 4:00pm Meeting this afternoon.

MEAT SUPPLIES Const Mark Shields advised that meat and milk supplies were getting low in St George but that fruit supplies were good.

EMQ Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) advised that he has heard that there was a possibility that the Roma-Surat-St George Road could be open to high clearance traffic tomorrow which would allow for supplies to be brought in from Roma.
Suggestion made that possibly Robbie Paul could obtain meat and utilise the slaughter yards at Surat.

- THOMBY ROAD** Fred Bradley inquired if any assessment had been carried out on the Thomby Road and was advised that it had been done by the Maranoa Regional Council Staff.
Col Geiger advised that he had travelled up the Thomby Road 110km yesterday and this was OK.
- LEVEE LOGAN LANE AREA** Mayor requested that the Logan Lane-Hutt Street area of the levee bank be increased to 14.5m and was advised that there was only approximately 100m that was not 14.5m and to increase this 100m it would have to go into people's backyards. Andrew Wyatt suggested that we would have approximately 1-2 days should it need to be increased in height.
- QAS** Ron Roberts – QAS inquired what area the local QAS covered and would it be possible.
- QLD HEALTH** Dr Adam Coltzeu advised that the local doctors were backing up Bollon, Dirranbandi and Mungindi.
Senator Joyce stated that a lot of assets will be taken from the area and it was agreed that the Committee has to be pre-emptive in its approach to this type of catastrophe.
- BEARDMORE DAM** Capt Les Tobin inquired what the release rate was for Beardmore Dam at present, but this is unknown in the absence of Bill Bennett (SunWater).
- EVACUATION PEAK** Tracey Campbell inquired at what height was the Town of St George to be evacuated and was advised at 14.25m.

**NEXT MEETING
MUNGINDI
PRECAUTIONS
NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 11th January, 2011 at 4:00pm.

Next General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 12th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:47pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TO DISCUSS MUNGINDI PRECAUTIONARY EVACUATIONS,
HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 4:00PM**

ATTENDANCE	Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), Mr John Carleton (Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator) Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Paul Turri (DTS), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Const Mark Shields (QPS), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).
APOLOGY	An apology was received from Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Disaster District Coordinator).
OPENING	Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator John Carleton welcomed all in attendance and welcomed Mr Grey Cook, Country Energy who supplies power to the Town of Mungindi Qld who was on Teleconference.
ERGON ENERGY	Brendan advised that he had contacted Operations Control of Country Energy, and advised that as Ergon Energy are currently supplying Mungindi whilst Country Energy are upgrading their works, he will continue to supply until after the flood situation. Greg Cook advised to keep the airbreak open and Country Energy will drop and reverse as required.
Power Supply Hospital	Country Energy advised that there will be a supply to the Town and it will only be affected should the levee bank breach, and then there would be no supply to Hospital.
LEEVE BANK	Paul Turri advised that there was 4km of levee around Mungindi Qld and he knew what the height was at AHD and should know by tomorrow the actual height following a visit to that town. Const Shields advised that there was 300m over Ramalis Road and 250m over Daymar Road and this will slow down travel time To Mungindi. Steve Mizen advised that he can't contact the Local SES Controller at Mungindi at the moment, but believes the levee bank is 8.5m.
BOM	Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) advised that he had spoken with the Bureau of Meteorology this afternoon and it advised there would be a peak at Boggabilla of 12m on Thursday. Should have a better idea by 11:00am Wednesday 12 th January, 2011 for the expected peak at Mungindi, but then it may not know until Saturday or Sunday 15-16 th January, 2011, if it will experience problems. Noted that both the Weir River and Moonie River flow into the Barwon River. Greg Cook advised it was common knowledge in the Mungindi area that the gauge at Boggabilla read ½ meter higher than the Goondiwindi Meter. Meeting noted that when Goondiwindi reaches peak, takes approximately 8-10 days to reach Mungindi, and if Goondiwindi reaches 12m, then it would be prudent to expect Mungindi to reach 12m also.
MUNGINDI HOSPITAL	Patrice Robinson advised that after contact was made with Queensland Health, Mungindi Hospital was being evacuated now to Moree Hospital. This was the responsibility of Queensland Health. Assets remain the responsibility of Corporate Services Department of Qld Health based in Roma.

MOREE PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL Mayor suggested contact be made with the General Manager and/or the Mayor of Moree Plains Shire Council and that discussions take place between that Council and this Council concerning flood management.

NOTICE BOARD Agreed to set up a Notice Board at the Service Station on Queensland side of Border at Mungindi, informing residents of situation and precautionary measures being taken. To be updated daily or as required.

EMERGENCY DISASTER MEETING Noted that Dr Coltzau had contacted the Doctors Surgery in Mungindi and they didn't seem worried about any flooding.
Greg Cook advised that there was an Emergency Disaster Meeting being held at this very moment in Moree to discuss precautionary preparations for Mungindi.

MUNGINDI LEVEE Director of Technical Services Paul Turri was requested to contact the Machinery Company in Mungindi this afternoon to ensure that there was heavy machinery on the inside of the levee bank in case of any breaching.
Noted that Acting Overseer Fred Bradley would be requested to accompany DTS to Mungindi.

DRAINS Steve Mizen requested that the stormwater drains be checked and cleared in Mungindi in case the river started to backflow.

EMQ Andrew Wyatt inquired what information would be made available to the public and was advised that this would be carried out by QPS in conjunction with NSWPS.
Steve Mizen would be taking information to Mungindi tomorrow morning and would call on local Moree Plains Shire Council Office first.

COUNTRY ENERGY Country Energy was invited to participate in the NDMG Meeting to be held Wednesday at 1:00pm, and Mungindi would be the first item on the Agenda.

NEXT MEETING Next General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 12th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 4:26pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 12TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:01PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr John Carleton (Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator) Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Paul Turri (DTS), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross), Ms Karyn Child (Community Recovery), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mrs Tracey Campbell (Lifeline), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Mr Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Karen Quartermaine (SunWater), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

Acting LDMG Disaster District Coordinator John Carleton welcomed all in attendance and welcomed Mr Greg Cook, Country Energy who supplies power to the Town of Mungindi Qld who was on Teleconference, and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Karyn Child – Community Recovery
Karen Quartermaine – SunWater

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

St George - 9am Wednesday

The Balonne River at St George was 12.8m and falling slowly. Major flood levels will remain high during Wednesday.

High level major flooding is expected to continue in the Balonne River system downstream from St George to the NSW border throughout January. This includes the Bokhara, Culgoa, Balonne Minor and Narran Rivers and Ballandool Creek.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 8am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.34m and rising slowly. The peak flow is currently in the Dirranbandi area today and will reach the Hebel area later this week. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.23m and still rising.

Thallon – 6.15am

Minor to moderate flooding is easing between Nindigully and Thallon. The Moonie River level at Thallon was at 4.9m and falling. River levels downstream at Fenton have commenced to ease, following a moderate flood peak of 4.94m.

Mungindi – 10am

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.28m and steady. Moderate flooding is expected with a peak around Monday 24 January in Mungindi, resulting from flows upstream in the Macintyre & Weir Rivers. The predicted flood peak will

be revised as information has been received from BOM NSW.

ROADS UPDATE

Roads Update

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED .4m at "Goorarooman"
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1.+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Westmar-Dalby)	CLOSED at Dalby

Further

Qld Police have advised that all roads to Miles, Dalby and Warwick are cut. Gore Highway Goondiwindi to Millmerran is CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC 40km from Goondiwindi due to floodwaters.

MUNGINDI

Discussion then ensued on precautionary measures being taken for Mungindi Hospital.

Technical Services Staff Mr Paul Turri, Mr Chris Wilson and Mr Fred Bradley had made an inspection of Mungindi Qld yesterday afternoon and took note of the River height readings and height of levee bank being 9m at lowest constructed level.

Noted that contact had been made with Moree Plains Shire Council.

Evacuation Order had been placed on hospital and four patients are currently being evacuated to the Moree Hospital via ambulance from Mungindi.

Noted that the Mayor and Steve Mizen visited Mungindi this morning and made arrangements with Mr Eddie Warren at the Service Station on the Queensland side of the Town to place notices on display informing the public as to what the current situation is regarding the flooding. These will be updated when information is received.

Noted that during the last flood, the levee bank at Mungindi did seep but caused no problems.

Levee Bank Paul Turri advised that the levee from Hospital to the new Bridge was a bit higher than the rest of the levee bank. An excavator will be on standby inside the levee during this flood event for any repairs.

Country Energy Greg Cook advised that he was expecting a flood peak similar level to 1996 which caused no undue problems, and that he would have a Country Energy vehicle on standby in Mungindi as from 20th January, 2011 in case it was required. Greg is the main contact for Country Energy.

BOM

EMQ

Andrew Wyatt advised that he had spoken with BOM this morning and that BOM hasn't started to model the flood in Mungindi at this stage.

Greg Cook retired from the Meeting at 1.10pm

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

1. Dirranbandi Resupply – Orders have been received from the stores and EMQ was having its own flooding problems in Brisbane, this may

FROM LAST MEETING

- take some time to eventuate. Noted that bread, milk and meat were getting in short supply, but that mail had been taken over this morning by EHO Di Francisco who was conducting water sampling in Dirranbandi today.
2. Recovery Committee held Initial Meeting 11.01.11 – Cr Fuhrmeister advised that next Meeting 10:00am on Thursday. Noted that she would continue in this role until the end of the flood event.
 3. ~~NDMC Meeting discuss Mungindi Precautionary Evacuations held 11.01.11~~
 4. ~~DTS Meeting at Mungindi on Tuesday afternoon~~
 5. ~~Mayor & Steve Mizen Meeting Mungindi Wednesday morning~~

GENERAL BUSINESS

Around the Room

- MOREE PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL** Noted to supply Moree Plains Shire Council with Flood Updates as they happened.
- STORMWATER** DTS had identified areas in St George where this could cause problems and pumps were on pallets ready to be deployed to these areas should there be a problem. Contingencies were in place to lift and uncover drains around Town where and when appropriate.
- Noted that if 14m height levels were placed around town these would have no relationship with the river system and could give residents a false sense of flooding.
- DIRRANBANDI WATER SUPPLY** John Carleton advised that there was an issue with the water supply in Dirranbandi but these were currently under control. Notices have been displayed requesting residents to boil water prior to human consumption. Noted that Queensland Health St George Hospital recommends boil for 3 minutes.
- PAROO SHIRE COUNCIL** John Carleton advised that he had received call from Paroo Shire Council this morning offering assistance on the western side of the Balonne River where they were able to.
- ADF** Capt Tobin indicated that he and his staff may be in St George for next 48 hours or until Sunday.
- RED CROSS** Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross) advised that her group was working closely with the Community Recovery Group. Five more DOC Staff being flown into St George from Brisbane today.
- ERGON ENERGY** Brendan Kiernan advised that there was a small problem with a power pole in Hebel and it may be necessary to chopper in to rectify problem.
- QAS** John Goudkamp suggested that workers being ferried over river daily should bring extra socks with them in case of saturation.
- QAS** Mr Ron Roberts (QAS) requested that any calls made for assistance be directed to 000 and not the Toowoomba phone number.

SUNWATER Karen Quartermaine (SunWater) advised that SunWater was dropping the gates as required as flows come through.

RECOVERY MEETING Cr Fuhrmeister suggested that the Balonne Skill Centre may be available for use by the Recovery Committee.

QPS Sgt Gary Green advised that the Water Police had flown out of St George to Brisbane to attend other areas in need. Other non local Police would be returning to Brisbane for same reason.
The St George Station will remain on 24 hour call for the duration of this flood event.

QFRS Peter Riley (QFRS) advised that staff would be deployed as required.

FLOOD HEIGHTS Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) advised latest peak predictions as at 11:16am this morning by the Bureau of Meteorology, this morning.

Condamine River at:

Warwick

River levels currently falling below major and expected to continue to fall during Wednesday.

Condamine

Exceed 13 metres during Thursday with further rises and levels to around 14.8 metres by the weekend.

Charleys Creek at:

Chinchilla

Remain steady at about 7.5 metres during Wednesday.

Myall Creek at:

Dalby

Creek levels currently falling with moderate flooding.

Balonne River at:

St George (manual)

High river levels (around 13 metres) to continue until Thursday.
Further that BOM is currently monitoring the situation but didn't expect to exceed the previous peak reached in March 2010.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:32pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 13TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:01PM**

ATTENDANCE

Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator) Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Crs RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Paul Turri (DTS), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Ms Amber MacKay (Red Cross), Ms Kate Harrison (Community Recovery), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mr Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Karen Quartermaine (SunWater), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Rebecca Burgess (Warrawee), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for non attendance were received from the Mayor Cr Donna Stewart, Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), and Mrs Tina Zohl (DERM).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

FLOOD HEIGHTS

Flood Update: -

St George - 9am Thursday

The Balonne River at St George was 12.54m and falling slowly. Major flood levels will remain high during Wednesday.

Dirranbandi & Hebel - 6:00am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.31m and falling. and will reach the Hebel area later this week. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.31m and still rising

Mungindi - 10:00am. These rivers will remain at high levels into February, 2011.

The Barwon River in Mungindi is expected to peak around Monday 24 January at 7.7m. Levee banks are 9m.

McIntyre River at Goondiwindi will peak tonight @ 10.7m No Margins on Levees. Boggabilla Town has been warned. Moree Plains Shire Council did suggest that Boggabilla residents evacuate but they have not done so at this stage.

ROADS UPDATE

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Camarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED-limited access
Camarvon Highway	CLOSED

(St George-Surat)	
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Westmar-Dalby)	CLOSED at Dalby
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Weengallon)	OPEN
Barwon Highway (Weengallon-Talwood)	CLOSED

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS	SES Boat break down	The Meeting was advised that parts for the SES boat are currently in Toowoomba and will be transported to St George by St George Freightlines and will be fitted to boat by Mr Dick Fuhrmeister when they arrive.
	SES Crews	Steve Mizen advised that new Crews will be arriving in St George from Charleville to assist.
GENERAL BUSINESS	Resupply	Noted that Debbie Green who is in charge of resupplies will be taking a day off tomorrow but resuming SES duties on Saturday morning. Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) advised that St George Freightlines had delivered to St George last night and will be bringing in another truck tonight with resupplies. The tractor and trailer will take resupplies to Dirranbandi and Thallon. Frozen foods and milk will be airlifted to Dirranbandi and Thallon this afternoon. The Dirranbandi Butcher has advised that he has enough beef to last until Tuesday but was running low on other meats. Stores have been requested to place their orders with their suppliers as usual and St George Freightlines will bring supplies through. It had been thought that supplies may have to be obtained from Sydney as a result of the flooding in Brisbane and Toowoomba, but this has now returned somewhat to normal. Mail was delivered and collected to/from Dirranbandi yesterday.
	Week-end staffing	Council Office will not be open for business over weekend however the Control Centre will continue as usual.
	Vector Control	Fogging will commence in Thallon today and continue as required.
	Dirranbandi Water Supply	The Meeting noted that there were water tests come back advising that E-Coli was present in the Dirranbandi Water Supply. Further testing is being carried and the ratio of water mix being conducted. A water supply advisory notice has been issued to Dirranbandi residents requesting them to take precautionary measures with water for human consumption. Dr Adam Coltzau again stated that the official Qld Health advice for heavily contamination in water was to boil for 3 minutes, but that low contamination water was to boil for 1 minute.
	DOC's	The Meeting noted that the Department of Communities has established an office in the St George Cultural Centre and that they have fielded inquiries from 65 people do far.

Waste in Thallon The Meeting noted that the JJ Richards had been able to access Thallon this morning and was conducting a collection today even though it is not Thallon's official collection day.

Fuel The Meeting was advised that a request for diesel resupply had been requested for Mungindi, but as there was water .6m over road, it could not be delivered at this stage.

Bollon Rubbish The Meeting was advised that Council Officer Stephen Pears was assisting persons in Bollon who were unable to deliver their own bins to the Bollon Rubbish Dump.

Stranded Stock The Meeting was advised that there had been advice received of stranded stock in the lower reaches of the Shire, however Cr Fuhrmeister advised that the Balonne Shire had been declared a disaster area this morning and that fodder drops could now be arranged through DEEDI.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

Mungindi Levee Bank The DTS advised that a grader was to undertake a grade of the top of the Mungindi Levee Bank this afternoon to remove any grass etc. Thorley Earthmovers of Mungindi have been engaged to maintain the Levee Bank during the flood crisis.

Mungindi Notice Board Steve Mizen inquired if any public notices are to be erected in Mungindi and was advised that these were being displayed at the Service Station on the Queensland side of Mungindi by Mr Eddie Warren.

QAS John Goudkamp inquired if there was a reserve of diesel for use by Emergency vehicles and was advised that Reliance Petroleum had supplied both Caltex and Darryl and Dan's with diesel for use by emergency vehicles only.
Further supplies by Council may be available, should these outlets run out of supply.
Cr Fuhrmeister advised that some properties in the Dirranbandi area were still working and had run out of diesel. Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum) advised that supplies were being sourced from Mackay and being trucked from Miles and Roma. These supplies would be available when roads reopen.

QAS Ron Roberts (QAS) advised that he had received communication this morning inquiring if all personnel working with emergency services in the water affected areas, had received their booster shots for tetanus etc. Noted that all emergency agencies to check with their personnel.

QPD Sgt Gary Green reiterated that the local Police Station would be on 24 hour duties until after the flood crisis.

Red Cross Amber Mackay advised that the Group would be having a new team within the next few days.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Friday 14th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:20pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
FRIDAY 14TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:05PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Damian Wells (QPS), Mr Anthony Hart (Evac), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr Jon Berham (Red Cross), Ms Dale Preston (Red Cross), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Ms Bambi Baxter (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mr Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mr Chris Wilson (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:
John Berham – Red Cross

FLOOD HEIGHTS

Flood Update

St George - 9am Friday

The Balonne River at St George was 12.28m and falling slowly. Major flood levels will continue to ease slowly over the weekend and are expected to be at 11m early next week. A renewed rise is expected to peak at 12.4m late into next week as upstream floodwaters arrive.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.3m and falling slowly. The peak flow will reach the Hebel area later this week. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.35m and steady.

Thallon – 7am

A new peak has reached the Moonie Highway and was 5.85m at 9.00am this morning, just below the bridge deck. Further rises are possible during the weekend. The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 2.62m and rising slowly, whilst the river level at Thallon was 4.44m and falling. Thallon SES is monitoring the approaching peak.

Mungindi – 10.35am

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.59m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Friday 21st January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The predicted height and timing of flood peak will be reviewed as the peak moves down stream. Information on a flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

ROADS UPDATE

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway	OPEN

(St George-Nindigully)	
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED - there was a temporary levee across the road at Thallon which has been removed but may be reinstated if needed.
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Westmar-Dalby)	CLOSED at Loudoun Bridge
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Weengallon)	OPEN
Barwon Highway (Weengallon-Talwood)	CLOSED

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

SES Boat break down

The Meeting was advised that the SES Boat is now operational even through overdue for its service.

SES Crews

Steve Mizen advised that new Crews have arrived in St George from Charleville and are currently relieving the boat crews who are currently resting. These boat crossing will continue until at least Tuesday.

Vector Control

Currently fogging in Thallon and Nindigully

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resupply Press Release

In the absence in Debbie Green, Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) advised that a Press Release will be distributed to residents in Dirranbandi and St George requesting them not to panic buy as food items were, and hopefully, would be available throughout this flood event.
 Noted that meat was flown into Dirranbandi this morning and yesterday bread and other commodities were taken to Dirranbandi by tractor and trailer, however the bread had all been presold prior to arriving in Dirranbandi.
 The Meeting noted that milk would be coming to St George on Sunday or Monday from Mitchell.
 Four semi trailers of fuel trying to get from Mungindi to St George.

EMQ Staffing

Andrew advised that all was well with EMQ Staffing at this stage. Three EMQ staff including himself were going home on Sunday. Scott Walsh (EMQ Roma) is coming to St George on Saturday.

Dirranbandi Water Supply

The latest test results indicate that there was no E-Coli in the Dirranbandi Water Supply, however it will be constantly monitored with the current ratio of water mix being maintained. Boiling water advice to remain current.

Army leaving

Capt Les Tobin advised that the relieving staff had to return to Brisbane, and he had been seconded to return to Base, however this has now been reversed and he will be staying in St George. There is an Engineering Construction Squadron coming. There will be a crew in tonight to pack up the fuel and 2 or 3 Hercules arriving & departing tomorrow.

Paul Turri leave

The Meeting noted that Paul Turri was currently taking some rest leave and would be returning to duties next Wednesday.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

- Stranded Stock
- The Meeting was advised that the stranded stock in the lower reaches of the Shire were in a 200 acre paddock, but because of the changing flow in this flood event, this paddock had now shrunk to 40 acres and the stock were requiring a fodder drop. This was being arranged by Mr Bob Ewers at DEEDI.
 - Noted that the fodder drop previously requested by the Prices was no longer required as the stock had been moved to higher ground.
 - Stray stock at the St George Airport – Currently under control with the Stock Routes Supervisor assisted by two QMDC rangers assisting owner.
- Ergon Energy
- Brendan Kiernan inquired when he would be able to reconnect power to lower Alfred Street and was advised that as the peak in St George was now predicted to reach only 12.4m, and will would not affect houses in lower Alfred Street, the power could be resupplied to enable residents to clean their houses, but would be unable to reside in them as there the septic tanks were inoperable at present.
- Reliance
Petroleum
- Angela Doran inquired when the window of opportunity that the bridge may reopen as she wished to get fuel to the western areas of the Shire. Noted that she will be advised should this opportunity occur.
- Evac Centre
- Anthony Hart advised that as his services were no longer required, he thanked everyone for their assistance and friendship during this flood event.
- QPS
- Sgt Damian Wells advised that relieving staff were to return to their normal duties in Brisbane, however he has just be advised that there were now a number of Senior Staff coming to St George to assist and that the Police Station would continue 24 hour for the duration of this flood event. Sgt Wells inquired if the Evacuation Centre located in the School grounds would create a problem when school resumes and was advised that it would not and that it had to be available should the communities south of St George become isolated after school resumes. Col Geiger advised that Education Queensland is insisting that even if there are no students at the schools, school would still resume.
- Qld Health
- Dr Adam Coltzau brought to the attention of the Meeting that the local relieving Chemist was having trouble trying to obtain cold pharmaceuticals. Andrew Wyatt (EMQ) would advise the Chemist of procedures and include that the Pharmacy Guild was assisting Chemists in this regard. Could possibly have sent out on Sky Trans on Sunday.
- DEEDI
- Bob Ewers inquired when the bridge may reopen as he had received a request from Brenda Station who were wanting to shear, and needed to get the shearers and their swags and equipment over river. If they boated across, then had no way to get to "Brenda". He would be advised should the situation arise in the foreseeable future.
- QFRS
- Peter Riley reiterated he offer that the Fire & Rescue crew were available to assist with the cleaning out of houses etc. They were then requested to assist with the unloading of milk on Sunday.

Council Fred Bradley advised that even when the water was off the bridge, it had to be inspected by DMR staff from Roma and cleared of any debris and any repairs carried out. This would take as least one day.

Access Meeting was advised that there was now an access to St George via
St George Moonie Millmerran Inglewood and Warwick.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Saturday 15th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:38pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SATURDAY 15TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:02PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mrs Debbie Green (SES Deputy Controller & BSC), Ms Kate Harrison Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Damian Wells (QPS), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr John Berham (Red Cross), Mr Andrew Wyatt (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Mr Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Kate Harrison (DOC), Ms Gail Russell (DOC), Mr Peter Goodwin (BSC), Mr Chris Wilson (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

St George – 10.55am Saturday

The Balonne River at St George was 12.08m and falling slowly. Major flood levels will continue to ease slowly over the weekend and are expected to be at 11m early next week. A renewed rise is expected to peak between 12-12.5m approximately Tuesday 25th January.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 5am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.3m and steady. The peak flow will reach the Hebel area later this week. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.36m and steady.

Thallon

The new peak has passed the Moonie Highway at Mt Driven and water remains below bridge deck. Renewed rises are likely later in the weekend. The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 2.95m. Thallon SES is monitoring the approaching peak.

Mungindi – 1.30pm Friday 14th January 2011

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.68m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Friday 21st January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The predicted height and timing of flood peak will be reviewed as the peak moves down stream. Information on a flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

The meeting was advised that a convoy of three vehicles had come from Toowoomba to St George this morning. Road open with a little water over road near Millmerran.

Meeting further advised that another vehicle had departed St George this morning and on arrival at Moonie, had been advised by Police that road was CLOSED and to return to St George.

This advice was believed to have been given in error, as Main Roads

Department Inspectors from both Warwick and Tara had given the OK for the road to be opened.

**ROADS
UPDATE**

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Camarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED - there was a temporary levee across the road at Thallon which has been removed but may be reinstated if needed.
Camarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1+m at floodway past Grape Exchange
Moonie Highway (St George-Westmar)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Westmar-Dalby)	CLOSED at Loudoun Bridge
Barwon Highway (Weengallon-Talwood)	CLOSED

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS**

- Resupply Press Release has been posted on Website, notice boards and in Facebook
- EMQ staffing Andrew Wyatt advised that he and Bambi Baxter were being relieved by Scott Walsh (EMQ Roma) and Jay Dobbins (EMQ) Noted that SES Crews from Charleville would be here until at least Tuesday lunchtime.
- Army leaving? Capt Les Tobin advised the Black Hawk Helicopter was at Dirranbandi and would return to Amberley. He was uncertain of his next location or when. Tasking would be carried out on Monday with the group reactivating.
- SES Boat Crews Milk delivery was coming from Mitchell on Sunday and Qld Fire & Rescue Team would assist with the loading and unloading on/off SES boats.
- Bridge at St George Will take another look at the Bridge tomorrow. May get TMR Inspectors down to inspect for short reopening.
- Notice to residents power reconnection - Ergon Brendan Kiernan advised that power had been resupplied to lower Alfred Street residents. Would reconnect to Albert Street residents to allow for early cleaning operations.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

- Resupply Press Release Resupply had been carried out for Dirranbandi again. Truck had arrived in St George again overnight with large resupply for Dirranbandi which had been ordered prior to the flood event. EMQ and ADF had issued a request for large plane to transport goods to Dirranbandi as the quantity of goods to be transported to Dirranbandi is beyond the capability of the Council truck and tractor and trailer. (Noted took tractor and trailer 3 hours to travel Dirranbandi to meet truck and return). Will know more about aircraft either later today or early tomorrow. Official request had been forwarded at 1:00pm today. Noted that there is a crane on the tractor trailer for loading

and would require assistance of towns people in Dirranbandi to unload.

Noted that St George had a good supply of everything with the exception of meat.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

DOC

Ms Kate Harrison advised that Gail Russell and herself would be relieved by another team of seven personnel this afternoon. She thanked Robyn Fuhrmeister for assistance and advised that only one request for assistance had been received today. Their official office hours are 8:30am-4:45pm.

Ergon Energy

Robyn Fuhrmeister requested that the notice of Ergon Energy to resupply customers be put on Notice Boards in St George and on Facebook. Brendan requested the notice on Facebook be held for the time being until approval had been received from Ergon Energy Head Office.

Cleanup
Albert Street

Peter Goodwin advised that he and some other residents were going to commence cleanup operations at their residences this afternoon.

Support
Agencies

Mayor Cr Donna Stewart thanked all supporting agencies for their assistance during this flood crisis. Andrew Wyatt said he would be pleased to return to St George at some stage for a holiday and a bit of fishing.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Sunday 16th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:21pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
SUNDAY 16TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:01PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller Balonne SES), Mrs Debbie Green (SES Deputy Controller & BSC), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Damian Wells (QPS), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr Jon Berham (Red Cross), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Jay Dobbin (EMQ), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Mr Fred Bradley (Acting Overseer), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Gail Russell (DOC), Mr Peter Goodwin (BSC), Mr Chris Wilson (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:
Scott Walsh – EMQ
Jay Dobbin - EMQ

FLOOD HEIGHTS

Flood Update

St George – 9am Sunday

The Balonne River at St George was 11.51m and falling slowly. Major flood levels will continue to ease slowly over the weekend and are expected to be at 11m early next week. A renewed rise is expected to peak between 12-12.5m approximately Tuesday 25th January.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.26m and falling slowly. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.37m and steady.

Thallon

The new peak has passed the Moonie Highway at Mt Driven and water remains below the bridge deck. Renewed rises are likely later in the weekend. The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 3.26m and rising slowly. The river level at Thallon was 4.19m and rising. Thallon SES is monitoring the approaching peak.

Mungindi – 1.30pm Friday 14th January 2011

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.68m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Friday 21st January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The predicted height and timing of flood peak will be reviewed as the peak moves down stream. Information on a flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

ROADS UPDATE

Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway	CLOSED

(Dirranbandi-Hebel)	
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN WITH CARE
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie -Dalby)	CLOSED at Loudoun Bridge
Barwon Highway (Weengallon-Talwood)	CLOSED

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

EMQ staffing Noted that the crew had been relieved by Scott Walsh and Jay Dobbin.

SES Boat Crews Meeting noted that the milk delivery from Mitchell went off well with the assistance of the QF&RS local crew. One load enroute to Dirranbandi. The Boat crews were still running across river.

Bridge at St George 0.53m on the approaches 0.36m on deck 12.00 noon Saturday 16th January, 2011. CEO & Works Officer had walked the bridge prior to meeting and noted no large wash outs and only a few trees on bridge.. Window of opportunity bridge may be opened briefly in 2-2½ days. Will get a Bridge Inspector down from Roma.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resupply Dirranbandi Resupply had been carried out for Dirranbandi again. One Chinook Helicopter should be arriving St George 10:30am tomorrow. This chopper had rollers on floor so goods could be rolled on and off. Would be able to take 7-10 pellets at a time. 3-4 return flights would be carried out. There was a refrigerated truck load of goods to be taken to Dirranbandi. Noted that the Premier of Queensland had announced on the media approximately 1 hour ago that work would be carried out on Policeman's Lagoon. No further information available. Noted that Council would make 2 men available to assist the ADF personnel with resupply operations. If river fell more, might be able to send another truck into Dirranbandi.

GENERAL BUSINESS Around the Room

Mayor The Mayor advised that she had flown into Dirranbandi this morning with the EHO. The spirits of the Dirranbandi residents was high. The Army personnel had inspected the levee around Dirranbandi and were very impressed with the workmanship of the levee bank and had every confidence in the builders of the levee. She noticed that a lot of ring tanks in the area had been breached.

Reliance Petroleum Angela Doran advised that they were getting a truck of fuel in today coming through Inglewood.

DOC Gail Russell advised that they had a few people making inquiries today. She had sent a team to Thallon with information. She also requested if a team to should go to Bollon for the same purpose. Only one person unable

to access his workplace.

Power Hebel Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister inquired how long was Hebel without power, and was advised by Ergon Energy that it never lost power at any stage, there was only a pole to be repaired.

Roads Scott Walsh (EMQ) advised that Yungerman Creek approximately 25-30km south of Surat, was up again and had cut the road at Surat, however the Maranoa Regional Council would doing work on the road.
Noted that the White Family from "Riverview" had been visited.

QPS Sgt Damian Wells advised that the Police had removed a couple of kids out of the river this morning and they had been dealt with.
He also stated that there were two crews patrolling the area constantly.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Monday 17th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:16pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 17TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), and RW Marsh (Deputy Mayor), Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Patrice Robinson, (Qld Health), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac) Ms Liz D'Arcy (Communications Officer), Mr Jon Benham (Red Cross), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Gail Russell (DOC), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Chris Wilson (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

Apologies for non attendance were received from Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister, Mr Steve Mizen (SES) and Mrs Debbie Green (SES).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

He advised that there was water over the road at Roger's Gully near Nindigully and .6m over the road at "Goorarooman", Thallon. The Moonie Highway was expected to reopen late this afternoon after work had been completed on the approaches to Loudoun Bridge. The only way out of St George at present is via Moonie Goondiwindi Millmerran Inglewood Toowoomba but this is showing signs on wear. The Andrew Nixon Bridge at St George will be assessed by a Main Roads Bridge Inspector tomorrow morning and hopefully it will be reopened, if only for a short space of time before the next peak comes down river.

Flood Update

St George – 9am Monday

The Balonne River at St George was 11.15m and falling. A renewed rise is expected to peak at 12.5m approximately early in the week commencing Saturday 22nd January. The prediction shall be refined as the flood peak moves down the river.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6am

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.25m and falling slowly. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.38m and steady.

Thallon

The new peak has passed the Moonie Highway at "Mt Driven" and water remains below the bridge deck. The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 3.19m and falling. The river level at Thallon was 4.65m and rising. Thallon SES is monitoring the peak.

Mungindi – 10.30am

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.65m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Monday 24th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not

expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

ROADS UPDATE

Andrew Nixon Bridge - St George	CLOSED - Will be inspected Tuesday 18 th January and the situation reviewed.
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED - there was a temporary levee across the road at Thallon which has been removed but may be reinstated if needed. - water rising
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie -Dalby)	CLOSED at Loudoun Bridge

OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

SES Boat Crews

The Meeting noted that Local Controller SES is currently on leave and Deputy Controller Debbie Green is in charge of SES operations.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resupply Dirranbandi

Resupply to Dirranbandi had been carried out again. Scott Walsh (EMQ) advised that 7 pellets had been delivered in the first load and there were still 7 more pallets to be delivered. If the mail was sorted, it would be delivered to Dirranbandi this afternoon. There was no word on the next food resupply yet but it was hoped that the road would be reopened to allow the Flood Tractor & Trailer & a Truck to carry out this resupply.

Recovery

Noted that Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister who is the Chairperson of the Recovery Committee was currently visiting Thallon.

Council

Noted that Overseer Wayne Bradley and Project Engineer Paul Martin were both on duties again following leave. Director of Technical Services Paul Turri was due to return to duties on Wednesday.

Coaches Qld

Scott Norman has been advised that Coaches Queensland hoped to return to their normal bus runs from/to Toowoomba soon. Noted it may have to take the long route.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Around the Room

Reliance Petroleum

Angela Doran inquired if she could gain access to "Narine" and "Lower Plains" and was advised that the road was not passable again at "Kurray".

EMQ

Scott Walsh that the meat supply for Dirranbandi would be taken by air.

DOC Gail Russell advised that she had visited Centrelink in St George this morning, and that this office is not Staffed. Her staff had been referring personnel to the local Centrelink Office. She will flag this item for further attention.
Her staff will be downsizing soon as they can't to any outreaching until roads clear.
She requested a list of names, property names and phone numbers of flood affected properties. Bob Ewers (DEEDI) to provide.
She also advised that her Centre had seen two people and Saturday and nine on Sunday.
She advised that she would be leaving St George on Wednesday and would be relieved by another crew.

QPS Sgt Gary Green advised that a house had received some minor damage from kids and this matter had been dealt with.

Care Balonne Anne Lee inquired when the next peak would be & advised early next week.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 18th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:15pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 18TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:05PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Gail Russell (DOC), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Helen Coronos (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

Apologies for non attendance were received from Cr Richard Marsh, Mr Chris Wilson (BSC) and Mr Steve Mizen (SES).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Scott Norman that the Andrew Nixon Bridge reopened at 10:30am this morning for a short period, possibly only until Wednesday afternoon 19th January, 2011. Bureau of Meteorology advised this morning that the Balonne River would be rising again in St George tomorrow.

Flood Update

St George – 9:00am Tuesday 18th Jan

The Balonne River at St George was **10.9 metres** and falling. A renewed rise is expected to peak at 12.5m approximately early in the week commencing Saturday 22nd January. It is expected the fall will stop and the rise commence Wednesday 19th January. The prediction shall be refined as the flood peak moves down the river.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6:00am Tuesday 18th Jan

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was **5.24m** and falling slowly. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was **2.36m** and steady.

Thallon - 6.00am Tuesday 18th Jan

The new peak has passed the Moonie Highway at "Mt Driven" and water remains below the bridge deck. The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 3.04m and falling. The river level at Thallon was 4.84m and rising slowly. Thallon SES is monitoring the peak.

Mungindi – 11:29am Monday 17th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.584m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Monday 24th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

**ROADS
UPDATE**

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	Open 40km speed limit – limited time pending next flood peak
Balonne Highway (St George-Bollon)	OPEN to through traffic only with 40km speed limit over bridge.
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED - water over at "Goorarooman"
Carnarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie -Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION at Louden Bridge 5 Tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

**OUTSTANDING
ACTIONS**

SES Boat
Crews

Noted that the SES Boat has stopped whilst the bridge is open.

Andrew Nixon
Bridge
Dirranbandi
Reticulated
Supply

Mentioned earlier in Meeting

John Carleton advised that a test result had been return with no E-Coli present. Requires three such "no issue" results in a row, to allow for the non-boiling of water. The EHO will be conducting further testing tomorrow.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Resupply
Dirranbandi

Scott Walsh (EMQ) advised that there was a meat resupply being carried out today for the Dirranbandi Butchery. They hoped to would be able to delivery mail to/from Dirranbandi on this same resupply. As soon as roads allow, there are four crates of mail to go over to Dirranbandi and Hebel. They do have a road access through private properties and this access is only available to SES and emergency crews, and not the public.

There is a need to take more chlorine to Dirranbandi, and there is also another load of cold goods to be delivered. There is a further need to rotate a nurse from the Mental Health Unit into Dirranbandi.

Scott further advised that an EMQ Rescue Chopper has been deployed to St George. It will have a compliment of one Officer and 10 Staff. He requested the allocation of a vehicle to assist with their transport.

Recovery

Noted that the NSW SES helicopter has been resupplying Hebel Township. The Recovery Team had held a Meeting this morning, and the only issue was the isolation of Dirranbandi Town and District.

	ADF Engineers	Noted that there was a team of ADF officers deployed to St George and they were currently inspecting the levees and other possible issues the ADF may be able to assist with.
	St George River Water Supply	Noted that there was currently no St George River Water Supply as the reservoir was empty. Council Staff are currently trying to rectify this issue. Water restrictions will be severely enforced, a letter box drop will be done in the town area advising of the restrictions.
GENERAL BUSINESS Around the Room	Telstra	Meeting advised that Telstra has removed all of its equipment from the Evacuation Centre.
	DERM	Tina Zohl inquired what the height of the next peak would be and was advised 12.5m.
	QFRS	Peter Riley advised that he had another crew (sift water rescue) arriving in St George.
	DOC	Gail Russell advised that Kate Harrison will be returning to St George and utilising Outreach Teams to Goondiwindi and St George.
	QAS	Ron Roberts advised that his Headquarters wants to know the number of Warrawee Patients which would be returning. He was advised to contact Bec Burgess from Warrawee, and further that the patients could not return until after the peak in the river next week at the earliest.
	Evac Centre	Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister requested to whom she should obtain an order for the linen supplied to the Evacuation Centre. She was advised to contact the Control Centre.
	Fodder	The Mayor advised that she had been advised by Peter Goodwin that John Lyons had offered a supply of fodder for stranded stock. Bob Ewers to contact Mr Lyons.
	School Routes	Bus Debbie Green advised she had been contacted by Kathryn Dohle who has a School Bus Run and wants to know how to organise the run when School resumes.
	Education	Col Geiger advised that the school would work around the Evacuation Centre if it is still located in the School grounds, and that he would coordinate with the other Schools within the Shire.
	Reliance Petroleum	Angela Doran inquired and was advised that there was no access into Dirranbandi at this stage for fuel trucks.
Thallon Bridge	Noted that water was again over the Thallon Bridge on the Thallon-Noondoo Road.	
NEXT MEETING		Next General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 19 th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.
		There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:23pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 19TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:03PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Mr Ben Gardiner (SES), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Lt Duggan Jones (ADF), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Kate Harrison (DOC), Mr Chris Wilson (BSC), Ms Helen Coronos (BSC), Ms Liz D'Arcy (BSC), Ms Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:
Lt Duggan Jones – Aviation Branch - Army

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Scott Norman that the Andrew Nixon Bridge is open at the moment, but would be closing again as soon as water reached .2m. There is a Council crew and a Police crew in attendance ensuring that only genuine travellers were allowed across and prohibiting sight seekers.

Flood Update

St George – 9:00am Wednesday 19th Jan

The Balonne River at St George was 11m and rising. A renewed rise is expected to exceed 12m later this week, with peak of 12.5m expected later in the weekend or early next week (between Sunday 23rd and Tuesday 25th of January). The prediction will be refined as the flood peak moves down the river.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 8:00am Wednesday 19th Jan

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.09m and steady. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.35m and steady.

Thallon – 6am Wednesday 19th Jan

The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 2.96m and falling. The river level at Thallon was 4.76m and falling. The flood peak is currently downstream from the Thallon area. Noted that Roger's Gully is currently clear of water.

Mungindi – 10.00am Wednesday 19th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.51m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Monday 24th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

**ROADS
UPDATE**

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	Open 40km speed limit – limited time pending next flood peak – closure is imminent
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	CLOSED - water over road at Goorarooman
Carnarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie -Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION at Louden Bridge 5 tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

1. Resupply
Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ) advised that there would be another resupply to Dirranbandi tomorrow. Delivered three pallets to Dirranbandi and have taken EHO there for further water sampling (Results will be known at weekend). Also delivered a Nurse to Dirranbandi.
2. Recovery
Cr Fuhrmeister advised that lack of mail and isolation were the major problems at moment including youth boredom. Care Balonne would be paying for the swimming Pool to operate during this flood event.
3. ADF Engineers
The Mayor advised that three ADF Engineers were in St George yesterday and they were showed around and inspected the levees. They believed that the homes on the river side of Albert Street would need to be lifted, and possibly something could be done at the lower end of Albert Street. They would be able to assist in road reconstruction at a later date. The Mayor stated that their visit had been very timely as she had received a delegation of residents from the lower end of Alfred Street yesterday afternoon, and she was able to supply them with some answers.
Capt Tobin advised that the ADF had received a fuel resupply yesterday.
4. St George River Water
Mr John Carleton advised that there was still a problem with the St George River Water Supply in that the Reservoir was again full of sand and not working correctly. Water restrictions are now again being enforced and notices have been delivered to all St George residents this morning advising that river water is to be used for internal use only. ie

toilets, air conditioners etc. No outside use of river water at all. Chris Wilson advised that the situation is very hard to fix and as fast as they were filling the water tower, the demand yesterday almost emptied it again. Unable to clean out Reservoir until the river water level drops. They are battling with the rising and falling of the river level. They are also having trouble obtaining another pump, as all pumps are required in other parts of Queensland which have also been flooded. ADF advised that they could help obtain a filtration system but not a pump.

5. Police Minister Roberts and QPS visit Mayor advised that Balonne had received a visit of the Minister for Police Corrective Services and Emergency Services and Assistant Commissioner for Police Tony Wright. This was a courtesy visit ascertaining what had transpired in so far as the flooding situation, since his last visit recently.
6. SES Boats to across Balonne River The Meeting noted that the SES Boats would again be commencing ferrying across the Balonne River at 4:00pm this afternoon. Next Tuesday, Thursday and Friday there would be additional ferrying trips across the River taking School Children across. Debbie Green advised that they had ferried one load of bread across yesterday and would be ferrying 120 crates across tomorrow. These bread ferries were being assisted by members of the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service.
7. Future Meetings LDMG LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman suggested that following the next peak in the river, the Group would be concentrating on resupply of the Shire, and the Group may revert to holding meetings every second or third day but this will be decided at a future Meeting.
8. Dirranbandi Water Supply Mr John Carleton advised that the latest result for the testing of the Dirranbandi River Water Supply had come back clear. Only needed one further clear test, and the water would no longer have to be boiled prior to consumption.
- EMQ Scott Walsh advised that he was working on the plan to gain assistance from neighbouring Shires.
- QAS Ron Roberts (QAS) advised that the Toowoomba Office assisting with the flooding situation had been closed down, and now all official requests had to go to their Area Supervisors.
- Education Col Geiger advised that he had received confirmation that all Schools in the area would be open as from Monday 24th January, 2011, notwithstanding the number of students attending. He further advised that Staff would be airlifted into Dirranbandi and Hebel on Friday morning.
- DOC Kate Harrison (DOC) advised that a team of four locals from the Roma Office of the Department of Communities are in St George, and it was business as usual. They would be contacting property owners by phone inquiring if they required any assistance. They had received 20 requests for assistance on Monday, 7 on Tuesday and only 3 today.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

Red Cross Noted that there were no longer any Red Cross personnel at the Recovery Centre.

DEEDI Bob Ewers (DEEDI) advised that if anyone advises of lost or found stock, to make contact with him, and his office will be able to advise of the names of the owners of such stock through the NLIS system.

ADF Captain Les Tobin advised that the ADF would assist with fodder drops when requested.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Thursday 20th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:23pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 20TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:03PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller SES), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Lt Duggan Jones (ADF), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Ms Tina Zohl (DERM), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI), Ms Kate Harrison (DOC), Mr Paolo Turri (DTS BSC), Ms Helen Coronos (BSC), Ms Liz D'Arcy (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and further welcomed back Steve Mizen, (SES Local Controller)

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

Andrew Nixon Bridge

The Andrew Nixon Bridge across the Balonne River at St George is closed to all traffic.

Schools

Queensland Education has advised all State Schools in the Balonne Shire shall commence Term 1 as planned – no schools will be closed as a result of the floods.

St George – 6:00am Thursday 20th Jan

The Balonne River at St George was 11.45m and rising. A renewed rise is expected to exceed 12m on Friday, with a peak of 12.5m expected later in the weekend or early next week (between Sunday 23rd and Tuesday 25th of January). The prediction will be refined as the flood peak moves down the river.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 8:00am Thursday 20th Jan

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.20m and steady. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.33m and steady.

Thallon – 9am Thursday 20th Jan

The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 2.95m and steady. The river level at Thallon was 4.68m and falling slowly. The flood peak is currently downstream from the Thallon area.

Mungindi – 10.00am Wednesday 19th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.51m and steady. A peak of 7.8m is expected around Monday 24th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from the flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

**ROADS
UPDATE**

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie-Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION at Loudon Bridge 5 tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

- Resupply** Mrs Debbie Green advised that the fruit and vegetables which had been anticipated to arrive today for Dirranbandi, were not on the transport this morning, however groceries and medical supplies, and Australia Post mail were transported to Dirranbandi by St George Freightlines this afternoon. It has been advised that another quantity of groceries for Dirranbandi Foodworks will be arriving in St George tomorrow morning.
- Recovery** No issues.
- St George River Water** Notices advising of the enforcement of the stringent water restrictions in the Town, as the river water supply in St George has failed due to the floods.
- Dogs** Mr John Carleton advised that there had been two dog attacks in the past two days. Police are aware of the problems associated with wandering dogs. It appears that the dogs are not being cared for by their owners. Dogs that have been impounded have not been registered.
- Donations** Noted that a donation towards the Balonne Shire floods had been received from Brisbane City Council and another donation from a lady who had visited St George for an ICPA Conference in St George a few years ago.
Mayor advised that the monies donated had been placed in a Trust Fund and will be disbursed by a Committee set up for such disbursement, as it sees fit.
- Future Meetings** LDMG Mr Scott Norman had spoken with Inspector Mark Stiles who is responsible for this area, and he has agreed that the meetings could be

scaled back to every 2-3 days or so.

Agreed to conduct another meeting tomorrow Friday 21st, on Monday 24th and Thursday 27th January, 2011, and will discuss any need for further meetings then.

Noted that the resupply of the Shire would continue as required, and the Control Centre would be open as usual this weekend, and all of next week. Then a decision will be taken on it.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

- Ergon Energy Mr Brendan Kiernan advised that there would be interruption to supply on Tuesday 25th January, 2011, from 4:00am-5:00am to allow for planned works to proceed.
- DERM Mrs Tina Zohl advised that Mr Stuart Pilcher from DEEDI would be taking over Mr Mark Bartlem's position on Monday whilst Mark was on sick leave, and Mr Pilcher would be attending future Meetings of the LDMG.
- DOC Ms Kate Harrison advised that the Recovery Centre had been making packages to be forwarded to the Dirranbandi Community via the Control Centre and would also be doing this for other communities in the Shire. The DOC would continue to stay open and are currently making calls to property owners. To ensure they have covered all owners, they were also going to contact Elders and Landmark to double check all property owners have been covered.
- QFRS Mr Peter Riley advised that the Swiftwater Rescue team would be in St George again on Sunday.
- SES Boats Mrs Debbie Green inquired of Col Geiger if he could request parents of children who are being privately transported to St George, and needing to be ferried over the river to School, if the children's names could be registered with the SES. The Boat Crews need names and numbers of children requiring transport.
Col offered to contact St Patrick's School also.
- SES Mr Steve Mizen advised that the large boat would be taken to Toowoomba on Monday for a Service. It would be returned to St George on Tuesday. (Will have use of the Thallon boat whilst the large boat is out of action).
- EMQ Mr Scott Walsh advised that the EMQ Rescue Helicopter will be on the ground today at 1400hrs, and they will be rotating the SES personnel as required.
- Health Dr Coltzau advised that a relieve Doctor will be arriving in St George on Sunday and will require a flight into Dirranbandi.
He has also received a request for nurses from Dirranbandi requiring assistance to get out of Dirranbandi for their holidays. He was advised to make requests through the official channels through the Disaster District Co-ordinator
He had also received a request for assistance to the Bollon BNC however he had medications delivered to Bollon and the need there now

for assistance had ceased.

Insect Repellent

Mr Col Geiger inquired if insect repellent would be supplied to the Schools as it was during the March 2010 flood.

Request would be made to the appropriate authorities, and if this is not honoured, then possibly the Brisbane City Council donation could be utilised.

Steve Mizen suggested if it was honoured, then hand lotion type of repellent be supplied, thus denying the need for individual repellent containers.

QPS

Sgt Green advised that two Police Officers would be sent to Dirranbandi and another six into St George, thus enabling the continuation of the 24 hour surveillances in St George.

Sgt Green further advised that there would be a QPS flight into St George & Dirranbandi on Sunday

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Friday 21st January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:30pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
FRIDAY 21ST JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:03PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh and RG Fuhrmeister, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller SES), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Const Shelly Robinson (QPS), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Patrice Robinson (Qld Health), Mr Ron Roberts (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum), Mrs Anne Lee (Care Balonne), Ms Kate Harrison (DOC), Mr Paolo Turri (DTS BSC), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Ms Liz D'Arcy (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGIES

Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI) & Sgt Gary Green.

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and further welcomed Mr Richard Backhouse, (Resident Council Officer, Dirranbandi)

Dirranbandi

Scott then asked Richard Backhouse to advise the current situation in Dirranbandi.

Richard advised there is flooding is continuing at Policeman's Lagoon and only travelled as far as "Mooramanna" where the flooding stopped him. He had to then travel to Thallon then to St George.

Dirranbandi had plenty of food and the levee bank was solid. Mr Mario Brischetto is patrolled the levee and is on standby. River this morning was steady at 5.2m.

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

Stray Dogs in St George

There has been a noticeable and disturbing increase in dog attacks in St George recently, which places the community health and safety at risk. Evidence indicates that some dog owners may not be considering the needs and interests of their dogs and our community. Responsible pet ownership provides for the basic health and welfare of their dog. Council's Local Laws Officer has been instructed to take a firm approach to remove dogs wandering at large. If you observe any wandering, abandoned or neglected dogs in the St George area, please contact us on (07) 4620 8888.

St George River Water

The river water supply in St George has failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply. Demand outstripped supply on Wednesday and the town was without river water for a period. Please restrict your use to inside only and essential commercial use, until further notice. Your understanding and co-operation is appreciated.

Dirranbandi Drinking Water – Residents of Dirranbandi are advised to boil the reticulated water supply if being used for human consumption. Corrective action has been taken however until test results are confirmed please continue to boil water. Further information at http://www.balonne.qld.gov.au/news/2010/Dirran_Water.shtml

Schools

Queensland Education has advised all State Schools in the Balonne Shire shall commence Term 1 as planned – no schools will be closed as a result of the floods.

St George – 8:30am Friday 21st Jan

At 3pm, Thursday 20th January, the Balonne River at St George was 11.98m and rising. A renewed rise is expected to exceed 12m today, with a peak of 12.5m expected later in the weekend or early next week (between Sunday 23rd and Tuesday 25th January). The prediction will be refined as the flood peak moves down the river.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 8:00am Friday 21st Jan

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.02m and steady. The peak is currently in the Hebel area. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.31m and steady.

Thallon – 6:00am Friday 21st Jan

The Moonie River level at Nindigully was 2.95m and steady. The river level at Thallon was 4.6m and falling slowly. The flood peak is currently downstream from the Thallon area.

Mungindi – 9:00am Friday 21st Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 6.69m and rising. A peak of 7.9m is expected around Monday 24th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from the flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

ROADS UPDATE

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED 1m over bridge at Surat 0.6m over road past Grape Exchange
Camarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Camarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN
Camarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Goondiwindi)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway	OPEN WITH CAUTION at

(Moonie -Dalby)	Louden Bridge 5 tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
Thallon-Noondoo Road	CLOSED
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

It was noted that there was 1m of water over the Bridge at Thallon and Council will request a Main Roads Inspector to inspect same.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

Insect repellent for schools RFA from the centre through to Queensland Education

Dog attacks Noted the increase and request all person witnessing roaming dogs to report to Council.

St George River Water Supply Unchanged with still restricted use.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Resupply Dirranbandi - Debbie Green advised that a semi trailer got into Dirranbandi as we speak. Richard Backhouse was taking back the mail and two School Teachers with him to Dirranbandi this afternoon. Dirranbandi would be out of fuel by Sunday and resupplies in this area were currently being negotiated.

Richard advised that Stephen Burnett had a tractor which could go through up to .9m and would assist in this regard if needed. Needed to get through "Doondi" and this window of opportunity was closing. If the fuel was not brought in this weekend, it would be another fortnight before fuel would get to Dirranbandi.

Hebel – Hebel residents are requesting fruit and vegies be brought in from IGA at St George. Scott Walsh will follow up this request through the EMQ channels. They further requested that their mail be delivered at least once per week. (Noted that EMQ could not deliver mail on its own, but possibly could with resupply of medication. Noted that there is no access to Hebel from the South either, however bread was being delivered by air.

Properties – Scott Walsh advised that arrangements are being made for resupplying "Kirima" and "Tooroora" at Dirranbandi.

Recovery All is going well in this area.

ADF movements In the absence of any ADF personnel, Scott Norman advised that there was a visit this morning from Lt Col Jobson and others to observe the situation, and Lt Duggan Jones would be returning to Amberley with them later today. Capt Les Tobin will remain in St George.

Council hours of business Closed over week-end.

SES movements The SES Control Centre Open will remain open and continue operations in the ferrying areas and resupply, and advised that EMQ Staff are being rotated.

Noted that the SES phone number quoted in the Balonne Beacon was incorrect.

Storm water drainage and manholes A cleanup of the Stormwater drainage and manholes around Schools in St George had commended.

Australia Day arrangements. Australia Day Celebrations taking place in Bollon this year, are proceeding and CEO Helen Coronos gave a brief outline of what the agenda for the day

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

Reliance Petroleum Donations Angela Doran advised that she would be taking leave next week and would be replaced by Mr David Dunn who would be attending NDMG meetings next week.

Cr Fuhmeister advised that a truck load of goods were arriving St George on Sunday and would be camping at the showgrounds.

EMQ Scott Walsh advised that Jay Dobbin would be replaced tomorrow and there would be two Flood Boat Officers from Wallumbilla will be arriving on Sunday, and Scott will remain located in St George for time being.

DOC Kate Harrison advised that there are two groups of people on working visas in town and trying to get letters of support for an extension to their visas. Have approached Balonne Shire Council Staff, Senator Barnaby Joyce's Office and Centrelink. There visas do no expire until September/October. Sgt Green is aware of the situation.

There is another group of people who are Australian residents and they lost everything in the Brisbane floods, while working in St George, and these people are genuine.

Education Col Geiger advised that he had contacted the Principal of St Patrick's School to advise the parents of school children attending and requiring ferrying across the river to book with SES Boats prior to School resuming.

QPD Const Shelly Robinson advised that Sgt Gary Green was an apology for the meeting today, and that there has been a rotation of staff and QPS was able to continue with 24 hour surveillance of St George.

QAS Ron Roberts advised that a relieving Officer from St George needed transport from St George to Dirranbandi on Thursday. He was requested to refer to EMQ in Roma. The EMQ was a rescue platform only. Scott Walsh offered to follow up on this matter.

Qld Health Dr Adam Coltzau advised that Doctors in area had all been tasked for Sunday/Monday.

Qld Health Patrice Robinson advised that she had received a request from Supervisor Fred Bradley for vaccinations be made available to Council Staff carrying out flood relief duties, and there would be carried out in conjunction with a major revaccination program. DTS to follow up.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Monday 24th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:27pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 24TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:02PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh and AF Sevil, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller SES), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Capt Les Tobin (ADF), Mr Jeff Fechner (QF&RS), Mr Brendan Kiernan, (Ergon Energy), Dr Adam Coltzau (Qld Health), Ms Patrice Robinson (Qld Health), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Stuart Pilcher (DERM), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Mrs Natasha Beardmore (Care Balonne), Ms Kerri Neville (DOC), Mr Jon Benham (Red Cross), Mr Paolo Turri (DTS BSC), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Ms Liz D'Arcy (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and stated that he hoped that this would be the second last Meeting of the Natural Disaster Management Committee for this flood event, and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Mr Jeff Fechner – Qld Fire & Rescue Service

Mr Stuart Pilcher – DERM Toowoomba

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

Minor Earthquake – Dirranbandi Area

The Courier Mail has reported;

"AN earthquake in central southwest Queensland early this morning has left residents feeling slightly rattled.

At 5:40am (AEST) an earthquake measuring 3.6 on the Richter scale occurred between Dirranbandi and St George, about 500km southwest of Brisbane.

Australian Seismological Centre director Kevin McCue said the earthquake was big enough to do minor non-structural damage to local properties and felt out to a distance of 30km or 40km.

"It wouldn't have been enough to wake people up but anyone who's a light sleeper or awake would have felt a slight rattle," he said. "Local farmers may have had minor cracks in their homes near the epicentre." The earthquake was measured on seismographs as far as northern South Australia."

Mr Kevin McCue has advised Council that there is no cause for alarm. There is no damage to levy banks at Dirranbandi. As a precaution Geoscience Australia, the Australian Government agency responsible for monitoring earthquakes been contacted and they confirmed a small event at that location that was no cause for concern.

The first the LDMG knew of this was a phone call to the Mayor from a Newspaper Group, this morning.

Stray Dogs in St George

There has been a noticeable and disturbing increase in dog attacks in St George recently, which places the community health and safety at risk. Evidence indicates that some dog owners may not be considering the needs and interests of their dogs and our community. Responsible pet ownership provides for the basic health and welfare of their dog. Council's Local Laws Officer has been instructed to take a firm approach to remove dogs wandering at large. If you observe any wandering, abandoned or neglected dogs in the St George area, please contact us on (07) 4620 8888.

St George River Water

The river water supply in St George has failed due to the floods; Council has found a temporary solution and restored a limited supply. Demand outstripped supply on Wednesday and the town was without river water for a period. **Please restrict your use to inside only and essential commercial use, until further notice.** Your understanding and co-operation is appreciated.

Schools

Queensland Education has advised all State Schools in the Balonne Shire have commenced Term 1 as planned – no schools will be closed as a result of the floods. Arrangements have been made to boat school children across the Balonne River at St George where necessary.

Flood Update

St George – 9:00am Monday 24th Jan

The Balonne River at St George was 12.46m and falling. Major flood levels have remained steady at a peak just under 12.5m for the past 24 hours; it is expected to hold close to this peak for the next three days.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6:00am Monday 24th Jan

The Balonne Minor River in Dirranbandi was 5.05m and steady. The level at Dirranbandi is expected to remain above 5.0m well into February. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.26m and steady. The level at Hebel is expected to remain above 2.0m well into February.

Mungindi – 10:23am Monday 24th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 7.59m and rising. A peak of 7.9m is expected around Thursday 27th January. The levees on the Queensland side are 9.0m. The fall from the flood peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at Mungindi is available at http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/wrap_fwo.pl?IDN36634.html

ROADS UPDATE

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Camarvon Highway	CLOSED

(St George-Surat)	
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Goondiwindi)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie -Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION at Louden Bridge 5 tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
Thallon-Noondoo Road	OPEN WITH CAUTION
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

It was noted that the water was now nearly off the Bridge at Thallon and the Thallon-Noondoo was now OPEN WITH CAUTION, however one can only travel as far as Noondoo.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS	Insect repellent for schools	The Meeting was advised that a supply of Insect Repellent had been made available to both the Hebel and Dirranbandi Schools.
GENERAL BUSINESS	St George River Water Supply	Unchanged with still restricted use.
	Water in Dirranbandi	Given the all clear.
	Minor Earthquake EMQ	Already mentioned earlier in the Meeting.
	Resupply gas into Dirranbandi	The Meeting was advised that Emergency Management Queensland have gone home and that there no more SITREPS were required.
	SES movements	Steve Mizen advised that there had been a Twitter gone out that there was no gas available in Dirranbandi. He phoned the Dirranbandi gas supplier who had contacted his supplier from Goondiwindi. They could not get a supply from Goondiwindi because of the 5 tonne load limit. He endeavoured to get gas from the St George Supplier and have it taken to Dirranbandi by road link.
	SES movements	Steve Mizen advised that approximately 20-25 school children had boarded the SES boats this morning to go to School.
	Visit Hon Tim Mulherin	Scott Norman advised the Meeting that he, the Mayor and Steve Mizen would be meeting the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries & Rural and Regional Queensland Hon Tim Mulherin in Dirranbandi tomorrow Tuesday 25 th January, 2011.
GENERAL BUSINESS Around the Room	Hebel	The Mayor inquired if Hebel had received a resupply of goods and was advised that they had received a resupply of groceries and mail as had a lot of properties enroute.

- St George River Water Supply The Mayor inquired of the Director of Technical Services how the situation with the St George River Water Supply was going and was advised that it remained unchanged with still restricted use. She requested a meeting of Councillors and staff immediately following the Local Disaster Management Group, to discuss the situation.
- Castlereagh Highway The Director of Technical Services advised that the Department of Main Roads had issued a Letter of No objection for a school bus to access the closed section of the Castlereagh Highway from St George to approximately 20km south of St George (near "Kurray" property) for the purpose of transporting children to and from schools at St George.
- ADF Capt Les Tobin advised that with the redeployment of the EMQ helicopter to Townsville, it made the fuel resupply redundant. It will take three Hercules/semi trailers 3 days to move the fuel and then all ADF personnel would be redeployed also.
- Red Cross John Benham (Red Cross) advised the Red Cross had been redeployed from St George a few days ago, but following requests for services, had returned to conduct mental health and outreach services. They have been to Thallon and will be endeavouring to offer outreach support to Dirranbandi and Hebel. They hope to have a list of priorities made, and then will hand over the coordination of this service to council. They currently do not have a Red Cross vehicle, but have rented a vehicle from the local Holden Dealership.
- QF&RS Jeff Fechner advised that there were currently 6 QFRS Officers in St George to assist the local brigade and will assist the LDMG any way at all possible.
- DOCS Kerri Neville (DOC) advised that the following Grants are available:
 \$200.00 for electrical safety inspection;
 \$200.00 for gas safety inspection;
 \$200.00 for water safety inspection; and
 \$200.00 for sewage safety inspection.
 These are in addition to the release of funds from the Premier's Flood Relief Appeal which has now opened.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held on Thursday 27th January, 2011 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:15pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:05PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), RW Marsh and AF Sevil, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller SES), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr Brendan Kieman, (Ergon Energy), Ms Patrice Robinson (Qld Health), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Stuart Pilcher (DERM), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Mr Darren Tomlinson (DOCS), Mr Andrew Fowy (DIP), Senator Barnaby Joyce (Senator for Qld), Mr Mark Harbottle (Red Cross), Ms Mandy Dauch (Red Cross), Mr Paolo Turri (DTS BSC), Ms Helen Corones (BSC), Ms Liz D'Arcy (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

Mr Bob Ewers (DEEDI)

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Mark Harbottle – Aust Red Cross

Mandy Dauch – Aust Red Cross

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

St George River Water Restrictions

The St George River Water failed this morning when demand out stripped supply. Demand was very high even for a very hot day and it is reasonable to assume not all people are adhering to the water restrictions, the restrictions will be enforced if people are caught doing the wrong thing.

Level one water restrictions still remain in place, a water tanker remains on standby for fire fighting capacity should supply fail again. A floating submersible pump is in transit to supplement supply and back up the diesel pump that is currently being used. This should be installed over the weekend. Until the floating pump is operational there remains a chance the river water will fail if demand again outstrips supply, the situation is being monitored and more severe restriction may be necessary.

St George – 10.44am Thursday 27th Jan

At 9pm Wednesday 26th January, the Balonne River at St George was 12.04m and falling. The Andrew Nixon Bridge is not expected to be clear for traffic until mid next week. Note: The Bridge will be walked when at .3m and request made for DMR Inspector to inspect at .2m

Dirranbandi & Hebel – 6:00am Thursday 27th Jan

Flood levels at Dirranbandi was 5.27m and steady. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.27m and steady. Flood levels at Dirranbandi and Hebel will remain high well into February.

Mungindi – 9:00am Thursday 27th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 7.66m and steady. The river peaked at 7.68m and passed Mungindi around midnight on Tuesday 25th January. The fall from this peak is expected to be slow and it is not expected to fall to 7.2m before the first week in February. Information on the flood peak at

**ROADS
UPDATE**

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Goondiwindi)	CLOSED
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie-Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION at Louden Bridge 5 tonne limit applying at Nandi Road to Watt Street
Thallon-Noondoo Road	CLOSED
St George's Terrace (Lower End)	CLOSED
Albert Street	CLOSED

**GENERAL
BUSINESS**

St George River Water Mentioned already during Meeting.

Resupply Gas to Dirranbandi Steve Mizen advised the Meeting that this was in hand.

Drinking Water Noted some properties in the Dirranbandi had polluted rainwater tanks and had drained their tanks. They now required drinking water. Arrangements were being made to provide a limited amount of bottled water to be supplied and provision of chemicals and instructions on making river water drinkable were being investigated. Police cannot forcibly evacuate the Township because the Declaration had expired.

Meat to Dirranbandi St George Freightlines were enroute to Dirranbandi now with a load of groceries, fruit and vegetables. The meat would be delivered to the Butcher tomorrow.
Noted that a portable Coldroom and generator had been obtained and this could be deployed to Dirranbandi on the tractor and trailer.
Sgt Green advised that a large helicopter would be visiting Dirranbandi morrow to take in three QPS Staff and take 2 Staff out. Maybe some room aboard to deliver goods if required, or a second flight to Dirranbandi could be arranged. Steve Mizen to follow up.

SES Movements Steve Mizen advised that the two SES personnel from Wallumbilla had left St George this morning and two SES personnel from Augathella would be here today.
He said he was happy to maintain the same boat timetable at present. Noted that the School children were taking up some time to load and unload to/from boats.

ADF Noted Capt Les Tobin and his staff had left St George yesterday.

Visit of Minister for DEEDI Mayor advised that the visit of Hon Tim Mulherin to Dirranbandi on Tuesday 25th January, 2011, went well. He looked at the levee banks and spoke with some businesses. He now realises some people are in a very difficult position and will report back to the Government.
There appears to be no grounds for assistance because of "Loss of Business" in this instance.

Meeting with Premier The Mayor advised the Meeting that there would be a Meeting of CEO's and Mayors who had been affected by flooding, in Brisbane on Monday 31st January, 2011, and she and Scott Norman would be attending.

Levee Banks St George The Meeting noted that the Council had this morning commenced the removal of the levee bank in Logan Lane where it is encroached the roadway. Scott Norman confirmed with the BOM that it was appropriate to start removing the more intrusive levies. The rest of the levee would be left in place until at least April 2011.

Debrief – formal and informal Sgt Green advised that it was envisaged to hold both a formal and informal debrief of the flood event. Following the 2010 flood, this did not eventuate. Hoped to have a formal one of all personnel who had attended LDMG Meetings, and an informal debriefing with all other personnel who had assisted with the flood event. Possibly a Barbecue on a date to be set in the future. He had received offers of goods from various businesses to assist in the Barbecue.
Cr Fuhrmeister, Chairperson of the Recovery Group, said that her Group would work closely with Sgt Green and his team in this regard.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

Red Cross Mr Mark Harbottle (Red Cross) introduced himself and advised that he and his team hoped to visit Hebel.

Ergon Energy Brendan Kiernan (Ergon Energy) advised that his team would be inspecting the power line from St George to Hebel tomorrow. There was one seat available should it be required by anyone. Could possibly take some groceries.

QFRS Peter Riley (QFRS) advised that the Swiftwater Rescue Crew had departed St George. The meeting noted how these personnel had been very favourably received in the assistance with school children being ferried across river to school

Recovery Group Cr Fuhrmeister advised that the seven trucks would be leaving St George by end of weekend. They had completed looking after the people in need from St George and surrounds including "Riverview" and "Mourachan".

Would be supplying Dirranbandi and Hebel when they were able to get trucks through.

QAS John Goudkamp advised that they would be transporting Warrawee patients from planes back to the Retirement Village over the weekend. Peter Riley advised that the QFRS Personnel were able to assist in this regard, if required.

DOC Darran Tomlinson (DOC) advised that he and Andrew Fowy (DIP) had flown into St George this morning to assist with outreach services. He wanted to be updated when roads reopened.

QPS Sgt Green advised that Inspector Mark Stiles had been relocated from Roma and has been replaced by Inspector Roger Whyte. Advised that 2-3 Officers would be relocated to Dirranbandi and that there had been no crime in either Dirranbandi or St George to speak of. The Mayor asked Sgt Green to pass on her thanks for his Officers in Dirranbandi for their assistance in taking the Minister around Dirranbandi on Tuesday.

NEXT MEETING

Next General Meeting to be held when water is off the Andrew Nixon Bridge.

ANNIVERSARY

Scott Norman advised that it was one month today since the first LDMG meeting for this flood event, on 27.12.10.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:27pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 31ST JANUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 1:04PM**

ATTENDANCE

Crs Donna Stewart (Mayor), and RW Marsh, Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), Mr Steve Mizen (Local Controller SES), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller SES), Sgt Gary Green (QPS), Mr John Goudkamp (QAS), Mr Col Geiger (State School & Evac), Mr Stuart Pilcher (DERM), Mr Peter Riley (QFRS), Ms Deearne Dodd (DOCS), Ms Jenny Maudsley (Red Cross) Ms Jane Barnes (Red Cross), Mr Paolo Turri (DTS BSC), Mr David Strugnell (BSC), Ms Helen Coronos (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).

APOLOGY

Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister

OPENING

LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator Scott Norman welcomed all in attendance and requested anyone who was not present at yesterday's Meeting to introduce themselves to the Meeting:

Ms Jenny Maudsley – Aust Red Cross

Ms Jane Barnes – Aust Red Cross

Ms Deearne Dodd - DOCs

**FLOOD
HEIGHTS**

Flood Update

Andrew Nixon Bridge Open with a 40km speed Limit

The Andrew Nixon Bridge across the Balonne River at St George has reopened. The speed limit has been reduced to 40km and the surface is uneven so traffic needs to proceed with caution.

St George River Water Restrictions

Level one water restrictions still remain in place. A floating submersible pump has been installed to supplement the diesel pump that is currently being used. This temporary measure shall remain in place until the river has fallen sufficiently to fix the blocked pumps.

Dirranbandi Reticulated Water is Safe for Human Consumption

Residents of Dirranbandi are advised the reticulated water supply is now safe for human consumption. The boiled water alert, which was a precautionary measure, has now been removed.

Levees in St George

Council has commenced removing the levee along Logan Lane and The Terrace to allow access to private properties and clear access to roads. Other levees shall remain in place.

St George – 6:00am Monday 31st Jan

The Balonne River at St George was 9.8m and falling.

Dirranbandi & Hebel – Monday 31st Jan

Both Dirranbandi and Hebel remain isolated by road. The heavy machinery that has been on standby at Dirranbandi to repair levees has been stood down. Flood levels at Dirranbandi were 5.2m and falling slowly. The Bokhara River in Hebel was 2.3m and steady.

Flood levels at Dirranbandi and Hebel will remain high well into February. Resupply will continue as long as necessary.

Mungindi – 9:15am Friday 28th Jan

The Barwon River in Mungindi was 7.44m and falling. The river peaked at 7.68m and passed Mungindi around midnight on Tuesday 25th January. The fall from this peak is expected to be slow. Heavy machinery that has been on standby at Mungindi in case levees needed repairs has been stood down.

ROADS UPDATE

Andrew Nixon Bridge – St George Balonne River	OPEN 40KM SPEED LIMIT
Castlereagh Highway (St George-Dirranbandi)	CLOSED
Castlereagh Highway (Dirranbandi-Hebel)	CLOSED
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Surat)	OPEN WITH CAUTION
Carnarvon Highway (St George-Nindigully)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Nindigully-Thallon)	OPEN
Carnarvon Highway (Thallon-Mungindi)	CLOSED
Barwon Highway (Nindigully-Goondiwindi)	OPEN WITH CAUTION
Moonie Highway (St George-Moonie)	OPEN
Moonie Highway (Moonie-Dalby)	OPEN WITH CAUTION
Thallon-Noondoo Road	CLOSED

GENERAL BUSINESS

St George River Water	Mentioned already during Meeting.
Boating on the Balonne St George	Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator) advised that he had received a request on when the ban on recreation boats would be lifted from the Balonne River. He was advised to seek the opinion of Ergon Energy in so far as the power lines which crossed the river were concerned.
SES Movements	Steve Mizen (SES) advised that the boats had completed their ferrying for this flood event.
Levees St George	Noted that the levee banks in Logan Lane and The Terrace had been removed. Other levee banks in St George would stay in place until after the wet season.
Debrief	Sgt Green inquired when debrief would be arranged and was advised when Hebel had vehicular access, possibly in three weeks from today. He would make a listing of suggested dates, and email to Council for distribution to all.
Resupply	Debbie Green (SES) advised that she was endeavouring to arrange a

resupply to Dirranbandi, however St George Freightlines were unable to transport goods, but could loan one trailer. She will continue to arrange.

Premiers & Mayors meeting Mayor advised that the proposed meeting of the Queensland Premier and all Mayors and CEOs from flood affected areas to be held in Brisbane today had been postponed to a later date, yet to be set.
Key points to be brought up at Meeting

- Raising of houses in flood affected areas;
- Funding for Flood Mitigation Study;
- Necessity to get roads open especially for cotton to get to Cotton Gins.

Recovery Deearne Dodd from Department of Communities advised that there was a new team in St George until 4th February, 2011 and she would continue to liaise with the local Police Service in conducting outreach.
Scott Norman advised that he had received a phone call from the Department who advised that the DOCs support services would definitely cease in St George on Friday 4th February, 2011.

Sandbags Scott Norman inquired how the sandbags would be removed from the CBD and local residences, and Debbie Green suggested stockpiling them at the Workshop until required further. There are pellets available for the sandbags to be sat on.
Resolved to hold another meeting (of Council personnel) at the conclusion of this meeting to discuss same.

**GENERAL
BUSINESS
Around the
Room**

QFRS Peter Riley (QFRS) inquired about the water pressure in the water tower whilst the St George Water Supply was in not in full operation. He was advised that the pumps were keeping up at present, and the pressure would continue to be low until the reservoir was cleaned out following this flood event.

Peter also requested that the QFRS be advised when the water level reached .3m over the Dirranbandi Road.

DERM Stuart Pilcher (DERM) advised that the water harvesting was available to persons with licences up to and including 100,000ML/day. This had fallen from 120,000ML/day which had remained steady for the past 8 days.

QAS John Goudkamp (QAS) advised six Warrawee Retirement Village residents had returned to St George and there was still nineteen to be brought home. He will call on the QFRS and SES if he requires assistance in getting the residents from the aircraft.

He further advised that he had to call on Scott Norman for assistance in getting across the bridge to attend to two separate motor bike accidents near Bollon over the weekend.

QPS Sgt Green advised that there has only been one property offence during this flood event, and not related to the flood event.

Red Cross Deearne Dodd inquired when the Red Cross would depart St George and was informed that as the DOC personnel would be departing on 4th February, this was probably the most suitable date

LAST MEETING

Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator) advised that this would be the last meeting of the LDMG for this event, and thanked all involved for their assistance and cooperation.

The Mayor thanked everyone also and including the visiting agencies, Scott Norman and the SES Boat Service for their assistance.

Col Geiger thanked the Mayor for her guidance and assistance at this time.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1:23pm.

**MINUTES OF A BALONNE SHIRE LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP DEBRIEF
HELD IN THE CULTURAL CENTRE ANNEXE ON
THURSDAY 24TH FEBRUARY, 2011, COMMENCING AT 3:12PM**

ATTENDANCE	Mr Bill Turnock (Meeting Facilitator), Mr Scott Norman (Local Disaster Coordinator), Cr Donna Stewart (Mayor), Inspector Roger Whyte (Inspector for the Roma Police District & District Disaster Coordinator), Sgt Russell McKee (QPS Roma), Sgt Gary Green (QPS St George), Sgt Damian Wells (QPS St George), Sgt Col Chambers (QPS Dirranbandi), Const Shelly Robinson (QPS St George), Mrs Debbie Green (Deputy Local Controller Balonne SES), Mr Ben Gardiner (Group Leader St George SES), Ms Michelle French (EMQ Brisbane), Ms Eleanor Carter (Red Cross Brisbane), Ms Patrice Robinson (Qld Health St George), Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater St George), Ms Angela Doran (Reliance Petroleum St George), Mr David Strugnell (LDMG Intelligence Officer), Ms Liz D'Arcy (LDMG Communications Officer), Cr Robyn Fuhmeister (BSC), Mr Paolo Turri (BSC), Mr John Carleton (BSC), and Mrs Kathy Elliott (Minute Secretary).
APOLOGIES	Mr Steve Mizen (Balonne SES Local Controller), Mrs Di Francisco (BSC), QAS St George, Mr Bob Bundy (EMA), Mr Les Tobin (ADF), Mr Col Geiger (Education & Evacuation Centre), Mr Scott Walsh (EMQ), Inspector Mark Stiles (QPS), Mr Will Killen (Landmark), Mr Jeff Fechner (Qld Fire & Rescue), and Cr Richard Marsh (BSC). Noted that Cr Fuhmeister would be late in attendance.
OPENING	The Facilitator Mr Bill Turnock officially opened the Meeting and welcomed all in attendance. He then introduced the Mayor.
MAYOR	The Mayor Cr Donna Stewart thanking all person for their efforts during the flood event and believed that no more could have been done in the Shire and was extremely relieved that Balonne Shire did not suffer the same destruction as some other areas in Queensland. She believed that many people went over and above the call of their duties in assisting with the flood. Special mention was made of Sgt Col Chambers and Mr Richard Backhouse (Dirranbandi Town Officer) in the resupply areas over the past five weeks
INSPECTOR WHYTE	Insp Whyte introduced himself as the new Inspector for the Roma Police District and District Disaster Coordinator. He advised that the former Inspector Mark Stiles was an apology for this forum. He believed his own role in this Debrief was to listen and learn from what was told. He was pleased that the Mr Bill Turnock was an independent Facilitator at this Forum and congratulated all groups on their roles during the flood event.
FACILITATOR HOUSEKEEPING	Mr Turnock advising the housekeeping whereabouts of certain locations and requested that any criticism of any areas of the flood event be kept factual. He

	went on to thank the Local Police Service in coordinating this Debrief.
INTRODUCTIONS	Mr Turnock requested everyone to introduce themselves to the Meeting.
LDMG LOCAL DISASTER COORDINATOR RESPONSE	<p>Mr Scott Norman (LDMG Local Disaster Coordinator), that gave an event summary of the floods.</p> <p>27.12.10 – Held information Meetings to discuss situation; 29.12.10 – Alert declared and set up a Control Room; 01.01.11 – Activated LDMG; 31.01.11 – LDMG went into resupply mode.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that Dirranbandi was isolated for over one month; • The Andrew Nixon was closed 1ST January until 30th January, 2011 <p>Moonie River at Thallon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that was no local water and no water entered into the Town as the Levee Bank had been increased by ½ meter. Believed that this height was about right. • New Year's Event at Nindigully had been cancelled as a precautionary measure in case people could not travel to and from Nindigully. • Heavy equipment was on standby in all Towns; • Had since received a request for a levee bank at Nindigully and Council is considering an application will be made through the April round of the Disaster Resilience Funding Program. <p>St George – some areas did suffer flooding at a peak just under last year's event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predictions for the timing of river peaks were just about right. Prediction of heights were a bit high. • The Choke at "Barrackdale" was watched closely and the volumes proved the only real challenge, as volume predictions caused difficulty. DERM and BOM sites were quoting from different volumes and this addressed during the event. • The installation of emergency private Levees was an issue and Council should consider developing a policy position. • Flood mapping of St George last year was a very valuable asset to find the natural levee to take advantage of when constructing emergency levees. Did not publicise the local dwelling heights as this could cause false feelings of safety. • Noted that St George does need to have an established evacuation site when the river gets to 14.25m and it was noted that the belief is that the Wattleglen Pet Foods site was not acceptable to the indigenous people of the area. • Council will made application for funding through the NDRP for a permanent levee in St George. • Council will attempt to identify funding to raise the level of houses outside the levee and it was noted that this had been brought to the notice of the Commission of Inquiry. • Department of Main Roads had given authority to Council to inspect the Andrew Nixon Bridge following the first and second peak and this brought forward the time of the opening of the Bridge.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandbagging stations – Only concern was the lack of shade; • There was no fuel going west of St George during the time the Bridge was closed; • Recommended that Council install gate valves on the stormwater drains on the river end to save pumping, if there is a rain occurrence while they are blocked off. <p>Dirranbandi – Suffered long isolation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less water around Town in this event but height greater than last flood. • Noted that The Glear closed the road during this event which had not happened in previous floods. Council had been looking at obtaining funding to raise the level of Policeman's Lagoon, but if The Glear was to continue to flood, would not be able to get to Policeman's Lagoon. • There will be a Public Meeting held for the people of Dirranbandi to discuss the preparations prior to being isolated. • Efforts of those people responsible for the high clearance vehicle access to Dirranbandi was very much appreciated. • Dirranbandi area had an earthquake which caused concern with the levee banks, but no problems occurred. <p>Hebel – Suffered similar isolation to Dirranbandi although longer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to determine the roles of the SES in NSW and Qld in resupplying Hebel; <p>Mungindi –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy machinery was in place with thanks to Thorley Earthmovers of Mungindi who had been engaged to maintain the Levee Bank during the flood crisis; • Noted the Hospital had been evacuated early; <p>Isolation of Properties –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there were problems identified in identifying properties without GPS coordinates or property names on roofs • Resupply of fresh water – Noted two properties had requested resupply however because of the weight of water, it was not possible to continuously supply this. Possible solution in future would be to have treatment kits available. <p>Communications –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice Boards were placed at Dirranbandi, Thallon, Hebel and Mungindi. Facebook proved very effective in advising the public of measures being taken as did Private Flood Watch Groups. Communication Fact Sheets were prepared most days and went to the notice boards. LDMG members, Council website and Facebook. It was suggested that a Flood Communication email address database be set up. • SITREPS were prepared by EMQ and communications were kept going through the event. • Meeting Arrangements – BOM Meetings were conducted at 11:00am daily and LDMG Meeting at 1:00pm daily. People made up their own minds whether or not to attend • Road Access – Updates were put on Council website daily. Noted that the new Main Roads website and RACQ website were not being updated regularly, and if a road was not updated regularly on the RACQ website, it would drop off after a certain time. Improvements should be made to
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	<p>both of these websites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery – Recover Committee established • Trucks with donated goods – These did cause a problem with distribution and Cr Fuhrmeister will be asked to report on same when she attends the meeting.
QPS RESPONSE	Insp Whyte thanked the local QPS in the various towns and the Mayor and CEO and team for their efforts during this flood event and said praise given, praise due, and then handed over to Sgt Gary Green.
Roles/Functions undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of QPS to assist in the emergency services response to the flood event as a member of the LDMG. • Secondary link to the Roma DDMG re briefing of the Chair – Inspector of Police – Roma District Officer. • Supervise police response in relation to the flood event in accordance with Disaster Management Plan within the Southern Police Sector (Balonne Shire) and provide operational advice to first response officers and briefing to the Roma District Officer • Ensure effective operational co-ordination across agencies on a local level in response to flood event issues. • Provide core policing services and co-ordinate effective service delivery in relation to the flood event. •
Lessons learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience from the response to the March 2010 flood event provided a solid basis for the operational planning and decision making pertaining to the December 2010/January 2011 flood event. • Proactive initiatives taken in relation to looting and general anti-social behaviour resulted in very low offence rates. • Proactive initiatives taken in relation to fraudulent flood recovery claims had a significant effect on the approval of claims and subsequent financial payments. This reduced the community dissatisfaction which was observed during the March 2010 flood event. • Planning for the worst scenario on the information provided, enabled police to obtain sufficient resources and allocate them accordingly to address the flood event. • Some break down in communication with the DDMG and the LDMG was experienced in relation to air support for Dirranbandi and Hebel townships. Some comments were made concerning full use of carrying capacity of helicopters for supply of essential items. • Resupply for Dirranbandi and Hebel townships caused some concern with residents and there was some confusion as to how requests were made and actioned. • Concerns that some residents of Dirranbandi and Hebel did not receive public safety announcements and a suggestion was made to consider the use of mobile phones/facebook and group emails in that regard. • Concerns over motorists disobeying <i>road closed/no entry</i> signs and the permit system in place. • Overall community satisfaction with efforts by LDMG involving the community was rated as high with those spoken to by police.

Recommendations for future operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Disaster Management Plan and local Standing Operating Procedures be reviewed by the LDMG and Chair of the DDMG to determine if any amendments are necessary, as a result of the formal flood event debrief.
RED CROSS	<p>Ms Eleanor Carter congratulated everyone for their efforts and especially Cr Fuhrmeister who had everything in place prior to the Red Cross' arrival. Because of the slow flood, the Red Cross was able to conduct early outreach to the outlying communities.</p>
Roles/Functions undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuation Centre Management • NRIS – Registration • Personal Support • Outreach
Lessons learnt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Go early, Go Hard" – It was fantastic to have the opportunity to get set up in the evacuation centre before the anticipated peak. This gave opportunity to ensure that systems and procedures were in place and all key contacts identified and engaged. 2. Consistency of local contacts – It was extremely helpful to have councillor Fuhrmeister as our designated Evac / council contact. This ensured that we had regular, up to date, and accurate information. It also assisted in connecting with local agencies and suppliers when additional resources were required. 3. The transition from response to recovery was made more seamless by again having councillor Fuhrmeister as the consistent contact. She was already across all the human social issues that presented during evac / outreach so it was a natural progression into that Human / social recovery brief. 4. It was beneficial to have our teams do some casual outreach in the lead up to the anticipated peak. Water was rising so slowly and many locals were quite stressed while waiting to see what damage might occur. Personal support before, during and after assists community recovery process. 5. Regular community communication was vital in keeping people informed. The fact that council provided regular public information really helped with individual preparedness both practically and psychologically.
Recommendations for future operations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a prepositioned Evacuation centre kit stored in St. George 2. Continue the practice of "Go early, Go hard" 3. Look at opportunities to do year round community and individual preparedness education.

	<p>4. Negotiate with Trans Air to routinely add additional commercial flights to / from St. George during times of emergency (It takes longer for agencies to bring in additional personnel and resources when State has to organise charters.</p> <p>5. Re-evaluate evacuation centre space – and work out more accurately how many people can be accommodated in each location.</p> <p>6. Have documented contingency plans in place for whole town evacuation – where, when , how, trigger points etc</p>
ERGON ENERGY RESPONSE	No one in attendance from Ergon Energy, however the following information was provided.
Roles/Functions undertaken	Electrical Safety
Lessons learnt	Records kept of river height at time of disconnection for all affected properties and forwarded to LDMG.
Recommendations for future operations	<p>Use information gathered during the last the floods.</p> <p>Be mindful of new assets in flood affected areas during next flood event.</p> <p>Investigate having conductors crossing the Balonne river above 18.5mtrs – This would allow the river to be at 14mtrs before encroaching statutory exclusion zones.</p>
SES RESPONSE	Mrs Debbie Green (SES & BSC) thanked all for assistance during this flood event;
Roles/Functions undertaken	<p>Emergency Operations Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood boats - Re-supply (Isolated properties & communities) <p>General (sandbagging etc)</p>
Lessons learnt	Flood boats – reduced hours of operations (except emergencies)
Recommendations for future operations	<p>Permanent docking points on both sides of river for boat operations</p> <p>Eg - clear drains on Golf Course Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - portable pontoons <p>Recording people’s names as they board the boats, in the event of an incident occurring there would be a record of whom and how many are on board. If insufficient SES personnel available approach community groups or volunteers to assist with boat staging areas.</p> <p>Resupply - designate properties into areas/regions and send a letter advising what the procedures and guidelines are for resupply of essential items</p> <p>Website – include a link to resupply guidelines or a copy of relevant sections.</p> <p>GPS locations to be recorded for all properties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - issue property with a small plaque with coordinates engraved on it, to be placed

	<p>near their phone. (Ergon may be able to assist)</p> <p>New river height gauge – opposite Police Station with previous flood heights marked.</p>																					
<p>Further comments and general information</p>	<p>Very pleasing to see the level of community spirit and involvement compared to March 2010.</p> <p>Extremely grateful to the Church of Christ congregation (coordinated by Jodie Buchanan) who provided an endless supply of food and messages to SES Personnel</p> <p>Great big Thank You to Brian Rhodes and St George Freightlines for their efforts in getting supplies to St George and Dirranbandi.</p> <p>Total Requests for Assistance for isolated property and community resupply received 93. Sandbags issued (empty) approx 20,000 throughout shire. SES Personnel Hours – Total – St George Operations 2,480.25</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr><td>St George</td><td>-</td><td>1,757.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Thallon</td><td>-</td><td>35.25</td></tr> <tr><td>Begonia</td><td>-</td><td>175.50</td></tr> <tr><td>Charleville</td><td>-</td><td>112.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Wallumbilla</td><td>-</td><td>176.25</td></tr> <tr><td>Warwick</td><td>-</td><td>191.25</td></tr> <tr><td>Augathella</td><td>-</td><td>33.00</td></tr> </table> <p>Thallon Operations 185</p> <p>Boat fuel used – 2,030 litres People moved back and forwards across river estimated at around 5,000 - Grape pickers, irrigators, shearers, council workers were amongst the people moved. - Some of the items transported by boat included but not limited to Bread, Milk, Mail, Courier parcels, pump fittings, machinery parts including tractor windows, tyres and radiators, dogs, white goods, mini-bulk container, personal groceries, medications and resupply for those west of the river.</p>	St George	-	1,757.00	Thallon	-	35.25	Begonia	-	175.50	Charleville	-	112.00	Wallumbilla	-	176.25	Warwick	-	191.25	Augathella	-	33.00
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<p>RELIANCE PETROLEUM RESPONSE</p>	<p>Ms Angela Doran thanked the St George QPS and Debbie Green of the SES for their assistance in endeavouring to get petrol tankers to various outlying areas.</p>																					
<p>Roles/Functions undertaken</p>	<p>Supplying fuel to various areas in Shire</p>																					
<p>Lessons learnt</p>	<p>Misinformation about Bridge opening and closing times for that 24 hour period in the middle of the peaks.</p>																					
<p>Recommendations for future operations</p>	<p>Surely SunWater can provide better information to the town or SES on when the water level exceeds the bridge and at what height does the decision get made to close it. They do have some prior knowledge surely. I personally fielded some pretty nasty phone calls that day, as I'm sure you guys did too. If we had been given more accurate information, we could have perhaps avoided some of the</p>																					

	<p>abuse.</p> <p>Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback, and I really appreciate all the help you all gave me, in particular, given my situation at the time of the floods.</p> <p>Mr Bill Bennett (SunWater) advised that there was only a window of opportunity to open the bridge and that it was not SunWater's call to make when the bridge would reopen or for how long. He said that he and Peter Goodwin (BSC) would shoot heights back and erect flood gauges from in front of George Thomas' residence up to the Police Station</p>
BSC COMMUNICATIONS	Ms Liz D'Arcy thanked the St George Police Service for their assistance during this event and advised that there appeared to be less rumours about what the flood would be doing.
Roles/Functions undertaken	Balonne Shire Flood Update Reports, BSC Website, BSC Facebook, Flood Information Notice Boards and surrounding towns
Lessons learnt	Overall the communications worked very well when compared to March 2010. The community seemed to panic less this time, as a result of the last flood and they knew what to expect. The daily flood reports on the Council website and Facebook helped minimise some of the rumours around town. Updates were posted daily on the St George Flood Information Group, and the Dirranbandi Flood Information Group Pages. QPS also assisted with their Media Facebook Page to help convey the flood report and other messages across the Balonne Shire and the rest of Queensland, which attracted a wider audience. Members of community found the Facebook flood updates very beneficial, especially those who were stranded outside the Balonne Shire wanting to come home.
EMQ	Ms Michelle French, Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ)
Roles/Functions undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advise and assist Local Government with the coordination of resupply and the recovery implementation process. - Member of LDMG provision of disaster management advice and support to LDMG, Local Disaster Coordinator and Chairperson. - Provide management and support to SES in collaboration with Local Government.
Lessons learnt	<p>Pro forma Letters to local shops and medical suppliers regarding resupply of properties were drafted for use by Local Government, these were in addition to the forms available in Version 2 of the Queensland Resupply Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Queensland Resupply Guidelines leave too much room for interpretation – Discussions with DDC's throughout the region have generated a consensus of interpretation for South West Region. EMQ will be making contact with the new DDC for Roma District as soon as possible, with regard to future operations. - Reliance on one source (Brisbane/Toowoomba/etc) of supply for food and other essential items (local retailers) was compromised (eastern road access) quite early. - Some difficulty in identifying at risk (flood affected) rural properties prior to and during the event.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification/location of rural properties for welfare checks, resupply, medical evacuations and recovery operations. DoCs and DEEDI developed a rural property contact/info register which needs to be captured for future events. - Community awareness/education on the resupply process for both Isolated Properties and Communities (local retailers). - Coordination and communication with NSW SES in relation to resupply/support arrangements with some of the border communities (Hebel / etc) was a little bit hit and miss. - Consider establishing Local Emergency Coordination Committees (LECC) in outlying communities (Dirranbandi, Thallon, etc).
<p>Recommendations for future operations</p>	<p>EMQ South West will be submitting forms and additional operational guidelines generated for Balonne Shire Council's operations to EMQ reps in the State Disaster Management Group, with a recommendation that they adopted and added to version 3 of the Resupply Guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If resources allow - the use of a dedicated Balonne Shire Computer for Air operations (and other areas) that is linked to the Balonne Server resulting in access to already established email lists, printers, drives and ensuring that information, emails and correspondence are kept at Balonne and not inadvertently taken by agencies. This ensures accountability and ease of sourcing information for future claims, etc. - Local retailers need to make pre- flood season contingency arrangements for the purchase/supply and transport of food and other essential items from other sources (e.g. neighbouring Local Govt areas, NSW, SA depending on road access availability). - Flood impact/damage assessment info/data of rural properties needs to be captured to ensure that these locations are included in future flood event preparations and forward planning operations (evacuations, resupply, recovery, etc). - Rural property identification GPS location coordinates of homesteads needs to be confirmed and all properties be encouraged to provide visual identification (property name on roof of building, etc). - Conduct of an annual pre-season (storm/flood) community awareness/education on the resupply process for both Isolated Properties and Communities (local retailers) to reinforce the need for individual preparations. - EMQ will conduct regular cross border meetings (LDMG/ Emergency Services) and establish an "MoU or MoA" with NSW SES to enhance and clarify coordination, communication processes and support arrangements for the border communities (Mungindi, Hebel) and rural properties. - To enhance reporting/coordination at a local community level consideration should be given to establishing Local Emergency Coordination Committees (LECC) in outlying communities (Dirranbandi, Thallon, etc). (Further information refer to LECC Terms of reference documents and LECC SOP documents attached).
	<p>Cr Fuhrmeister entered the Meeting at approximately 4:30pm.</p>
<p>QLD HEALTH</p>	<p>Ms Patrice Robinson advised that she had only just returned from Brisbane and Qld Health did not seem to be into Disaster Management Group activities there. This was certainly not so in Balonne Shire where Queensland Health was very</p>

	<p>much involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She felt that maybe Mungindi Hospital was evacuated just a bit early; • Should gather information from this forum and document; • Qld Health did evacuate high care patients from the hospital and the hospital continued operations as usual; • Warrawee Retirement Village was totally evacuated; • Mobile Hospital in area was great, even though was not required for use; • At what point should the Dirranbandi Hospital be requested to plan on obtaining enough supplies to carry it through prolonged isolation? • She then thanked one and all for their efforts during flood event.
SUNWATER	Mr Bill (Banjo) Bennett congratulated Mr Scott Norman on a job well done.
BSC INTELEGEENCE	Mr David Strugnell (BSC Intelligence Officer) advised that this event was handled a lot better than the 2010 event as he had the assistance of the Communications Officer and LDMG Secretary. When crisis was over and went into resupply mode, there did not seem to an identified point of contact for any particular area of the LDMG.
BSC TECHNICAL SERVICES	Mr Paul Turri sand when the LDMG was activation, He had the Local Disaster Emergency Plan rewritten deliberately to include Appendices and then have all relevant information contained in the Report.
BSC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	Mr John Carleton spoke extensively on environmental health during the flood event.
Roles & Functions undertaken	Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator Responsible for Environment/Public Health Sub-Plan
Lessons learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential that staff responsible for environmental /public health should be actively involved in the response at the beginning of the event to effectively administer the Environmental/Public Health Sub-Plan. • Early insertion of environmental/public health staff into isolated communities provides essential intelligence on the community's health and wellbeing. This also communicates Council's involvement with the community. • Identify waste collection options where services can not be provided during the event. • Establish communication with other local governments not affected by the event for possible assistance as supplemental or relieving staff. • Make information/fact sheets regarding before, during and after the event readily available to the community, staff and response personnel. • Increase animal control patrols to remove wandering dogs and reduce risk to community health and safety. • Engage assistance of local business in vector control operations can result in; control of vector issue, provides business with economic opportunities, allows Council staff to focus on other event issues and is value for money. • Essential to maintain water quality monitoring of town water supply and respond accordingly.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential for environmental health staff to provide food quality control of food, milk, fruit and vegetables supplied to isolated communities. • Provide dog cages at evacuation centre for temporary housing of evacuated pets. • Provide animal facility (dog pound) to house dogs and cats belonging to people staying at the evacuation centre.
Recommendations for future operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify roles of Council staff prior to an event to ensure that there is an appropriate level of response and that essential Council operations are considered (business continuity). • Prepare tools for environmental/public health staff so that essential rapid assessments can be carried out to ensure community health and safety during and after the event. • Identify potential sites for disposal of waste. • Purchase vector control equipment and/or identify service providers prior as a result of the event. • Establish and maintain communication with emergency personnel (Police, Fire, Ambulance, and SES) to identify potential environmental/public health, animal control issues. • Engage principal community areas in disaster management awareness during the year and identify key community contacts and means to disseminate disaster event communication. • Increase animal control patrols in urban areas where practical to reduce risks of dog attacks and maintain community health and safety. • In re-supply operations consider mail and money to isolated post offices where practical. Australia Post should be requested to consider delivery of mail and money in their disaster management plan. • Request involvement of the Police in identifying the location and monitoring of disaster evacuation centres and community recovery centres. <p>Develop procedures for maintaining safe drinking water in isolated sites drinking water.</p>
TRUCKS WITH DONATED GOODS	<p>Cr Fuhrmeister advised that there was an enormous amount of goods donated to the area and five truck load of goods had arrived.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very large job identifying all items • Eight families were resupplied with the majority of household items; • Five families were resupplied with small quantities of household items; • There was still approximately \$3,000.00 in donations to come in • This flood event had restored her faith in community spirit.
CLOSURE	<p>Mr Bill Turnock commended the operation of the all agencies in the LDMG for their cooperation, and closed the Meeting at 5:00pm.</p>