



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There currently is no officer at Council that would have the skills or time to undertake the research component of the project. The advocacy part of the project could be done within council. • It is important to ensure we engage and get investment and input from larger organisations. I.e. Brown brothers, Alpine MDF • Ongoing communications and awareness to highlight this work to local MPs. I.e. Tim McCurdy, Helen Haines, Jaclyn Symes • Important to note that "We are not asking for more than what we have" • Project to be split into two components - 1 Situational Analysis, 2 - Advocacy <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachael - Put together a one-page document that explains next steps and how the two components will be addressed. • Rachael - Organise a bi-monthly meeting to discuss progress of project • Rachael - Organise a meeting at Council with Ken Gourdien and Bruce Diffy to discuss water security, current water practices and lessons learned. • Celeste - Continue conversations with the likes of Ag Vic and NECMA around future funding
5.2	<p>Effects on Border crossing closure for primary producers – Cr Benton</p>	<p>There is confusion around what impact this might have on seasonal workers. The likes of sheep shearers if they must quarantine when returning to NSW. Livestock sales are still noted as critical and should not impact farmers wishing to attend sales.</p> <p>Action: Rachael to continue to send out information as it comes to hand from Agriculture Victoria.</p> <p>The following information has been received from Michael Bretherton from Agriculture Vic. All feedback we have received to date regarding the process has been that it is quick and easy but please let me know if you receive any counter feedback and I can feed this in through Ag Vic channels.</p>



		<p>Some additional information below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Agriculture Victoria website has information and advice for animal owners, commuting and accommodating seasonal contract workers during coronavirus, farm business FAQs on coronavirus and services for farmers during coronavirus and links to other useful websites such as Working for Victoria and Business Victoria.</i> • <i>Border restrictions are in place when travelling from Victoria into South Australia and NSW. As primary industry production and the food supply chain are essential services, business can continue to operate, including across borders, with consideration of social distancing and other conditions. For South Australia, PIRSA’s COVID-19 Primary Industries Portal describes essential traveler classifications and their requirements (Commercial transport and freight services under Schedule 1 and industries and businesses, which includes agriculture, under Schedule 2) and the permit system in NSW: https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-covid-19-nsw-border-entry-permit where the permit will outline the border entry directives that must be followed (eg seasonal workers or people providing critical services, including agriculture, freight or manufacturing).</i>
5.3	<p>Dry Seasonal Coordinators Meeting – Update – Rachael Richards</p>	<p>Rachael gave an update on the outcomes of the recent Dry Seasonal Coordinators meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Finance - People are generally positive with the start to the season however the biggest challenge will be restocking. Most of the focus is on fires and smoke taint in grapes and how to get businesses back up and running. • Dairy - Milk prices are good, good start to season, Dairy Australia and Murray Dairy looking for board members • On farm water storages are in better condition than May • NECMA conducting resilience planning with dairy and proposal for vigneronns including adaptation planning and water yield • DHHS - Food relief is a big issue and demand continues, job keeper reduction will impact on food security and shelter. Many DHHS have been drawn into Covid response
5.4	<p>Bushfire Recovery Update – Celeste Brockwell</p>	<p>Bushfire recovery is still ongoing. Council has supported the recent Wine Smoke Taint report which will be used to advocate to Government and highlight the impact across the region.</p>



		<p>Lachlan Campbell thanked the Rural City of Wangaratta for the contribution and support on this project. A position will be filled with the funding and will be announced shortly.</p> <p>Action: Vanessa Thompon to come along to next meeting and talk about the Pest and Weeds project.</p> <p>The recent funding for Pest and weeds is currently being disseminated by the Natural Resource team. It will focus on wild pest management and improved fencing for farmers in high risk areas.</p> <p>Action – Rachael to send out Wine Taint Report to committee.</p>
6.0	GENERAL BUSINESS:	<p>Question from committee around current Covid assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sending out clear messages to contact council if they are suffering hardship or looking for assistance.• Reduction in registration fees – Food vendors, caravan parks, foot path traders, discount on building and planning fees.• Business and Community Recovery Grants - \$373,000 allocated. <p>Action – Rachael to send out information regarding grants when they become available</p> <p>Council has applied to the Governments Jobs fund and applied for an additional 36 positions to be filled as part of that funding. The application is still be considered and the employment lasts for approximately 6 months.</p>
7.	Review of Committee Action Sheet	WIM D19/17637
8.	NEXT MEETING	<i>Tuesday September 15, 2020</i>
9.	MEETING CLOSED	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.58pm