Summary of Business

Excerpts from the Minutes of the EWA Board of Directors meeting
held at 6.30pm on 19 August 2026

ATTENDANCE: A Wilkins (Chair), R Hovell (Vice-Chair), R O'Halloran (Finance Director), PA Huntington, K Kent, M Dagostino, J Moffitt

IN ATTENDANCE: Sophie Parkes (Acting CEO)

APOLOGIES: K Freeman

Disclosure of Interest

Anne Wilkins 2024-2026	Member, Moora & Districts Horsemans Assoc Member, Swan River Dressage Club
Rory Hovell 2024-2026	Showjumping Competitor CEO & Manager Yalambi Farm Stud (Breeder) Yalambi Jumping Classic Show Organiser Equestrian Coach
Roslyn O'Halloran (Finance Director) appointed 2025	Child is a member of Swan Valley Pony Club
Pollyann Huntington 2025-2027	WAYER Organising Committee (OC), FEI Official, EAJOC Committee Member
Kelly Kent 2025-2027	Wallangarra Adult Riders – Committee Member/Communications Australian Friesian Warmblood Horse Society – Deputy Chair Event Director OC, EWA Para Dressage Showcase 2026
Michael Dagostino 2026-2028	Director of Perth Racing Director of Harvey Water Equestrian Competitor
Jodi Moffitt 2026-2028	
Kaisa Freeman 2026-2028	
Sophie Parkes 2026	Previous chair of Jumping WA, Equestrian Competitor, Equestrian Coach, Manager of Yarrada Farm Riding School

1. **FINANCE REPORT**

The Board reviewed the organisation's financial position, including cash reserves, aged receivables and the savings achieved through the insurance market review.

The Board noted receipt of the City of Swan rates assessment. The Chair has requested a rebate in order to reduce the amount payable.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve and adopt the July Financials.

2. **EQUESTRIAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

2.1 Acting Chief Executive Officer

The Chair welcomed Sophie Parkes to her appointment as Acting CEO for an interim period and welcomed Pollyann Huntington back to Western Australia.

IT WAS RESOLVED to confirm the delegated financial authority applying to the Acting CEO, on the same basis as previously applied to the CEO.

2.2 SEC Advisory Committee

The Vice-Chair reported on the introductory site meeting held on Saturday 1 August 2026, attended by six of the ten appointed members. The Board noted the strong calibre of the group and its experience across large-scale operations, governance, finance, risk, grants and marketing. A prioritisation matrix is being developed to sequence the committee's work programme, with priority areas including pricing, operating costs, risk minimisation, presentation of the facility and midweek utilisation of the venue.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the Terms of Reference for the SEC Advisory Committee as amended.

2.3 State Discipline Committees

The Board discussed options for improving financial autonomy for State Discipline Committees, so that committees are not required to fund event expenditure personally and seek reimbursement. An issues paper addressing options, risks, controls and governance will be prepared for consideration by the Audit & Risk Committee and subsequently by the Board.

3. STATE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

3.1 C Quest Arena

Tenders were received for the construction of the C Quest arena and warm-up arena surfaces and were considered in detail by the Board. An announcement will be made once arrangements are finalised.

Pleasingly, this will be a significant improvement on the current surface and an exciting step forward for the facility.

3.2 Facilities & Projects

- SSIF Grant – An application has been submitted covering replacement of the existing lift, a mobile ablution block including an accessible toilet, and CCTV cameras. The outcome is awaited.
- SEC Business Case – A review was presented to the Board. Further work will strengthen the strategic asset management framework, the cost-benefit analysis and demonstration of broader public and community benefit, a staged delivery approach, and the communication strategy.

4. MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIPATION

- Regional Clinics – A clinic with Les Bunning and Karen Spice will be held at the end of August in Geraldton.
- Membership Retention – The membership retention strategy will be updated and considered at the September meeting alongside membership pricing for the coming year.
- Christmas & New Year – The Board discussed the operating hours for the Christmas period and will agree on a staff plan to cover this period.

The next meeting of the Board will be held in mid-September 2026.