

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ROPER GULF REGIONAL
COUNCIL, HELD AT THE MABUNJI CONFERENCE ROOM, MABUNJI
ABORIGINAL RESOURCE INDIGENOUS CORPORATION OFFICE
MARA TOWN CAMP, NT, 0854
ON THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 2022 AT 8:30AM

1 PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

- Mayor Tony JACK;
- Deputy Mayor Judy MacFARLANE;
- Councillor Samuel EVANS;
- Councillor Helen LEE; (audio/visual teleconferencing)
- Councillor Selina ASHLEY; (audio/visual teleconferencing)
- Councillor Patricia FARRELL;
- Councillor Jana DANIELS; and
- Councillor Owen TURNER.

1.2 Staff

- Marc GARDNER, Acting Chief Executive Officer;
- Andreea CADDY, General Manager Infrastructure and Planning;
- Cristian COMAN; Manager Corporate Compliance (Minute Taker);
- Chloe IRLAM; Governance Engagement Coordinator; and
- Bhumika ADHIKARI; Governance Officer.

1.3 Guests

- Mayor Ernie CAMP, Burke Shire Council;
- Robert WENDL, Chief Executive Officer; Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation;
- Don GARNER; Borroloola Local Authority Member;
- Ash GARNER; King Ash Bay Fishing Club Inc.;
- Patrick SHEEHAN; Nicholson Sheehan Consulting; and
- Borroloola School: 2 x staff, 3 x students.

2 MEETING OPENED

The Ordinary Meeting of Council opened at 08:51am. The Mayor welcomed members, staff and guests and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

3 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

38/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council accepts the tendered apologies from Councillor John DALYWATER, Councillor NUNGGUMAJBARR, and Councillor Gadrian HOOSAN, and Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT.

5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Ash GARNER (Mr. GARNER) on behalf of the King Ash Bay Fishing Club (the Club) made enquiries regarding the methodology and rationale used by Council when determining and imposing rates on the Club. Mr. GARNER stated that the Club believes that applied rating is neither fair or reasonable, and as such requests to formally discuss Council's rating methodology. Mr. GARNER further stated that the Club is a Not-For-Profit organisation and requests for it to be rated accordingly.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer (A/CEO) formally acknowledged the Club's concern, and provided a formal response noting former correspondence with Club representatives, and prior review. Council did make a formal decision on the rates to stay at current amount, and noted that a formal rate review across Council will be performed in near future.

A/CEO explained the function and purposes of rates, and further explained that a review will take some time to formalise.

Mr. GARNER, on behalf of the King Ash Bay Fishing Club objected to the rating classification and made comparison to the rates imposed on other for-profit organisation in region, respectfully requesting a speedy resolution to matter pointing out that the Club's board has a 12 month tenure, and as such it is limited in capability when dealing with drawn out matters.

Mayor JACK acknowledged Ash's concerns, and stated that Council is prepared to work collaboratively with Club. It was noted that Council will expedite review within limits of practicality.

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL - 23 FEBRUARY 2022

39/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council confirms the draft minutes from its Ordinary Meeting held on 23 February 2022 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of that meeting's decisions and proceedings.

DM JUDY MACFARLANE LEFT THE MEETING, THE TIME BEING 09:30 AM

DM JUDY MACFARLANE RETURNED TO THE MEETING, THE TIME BEING 09:31 AM

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 ACTION LIST

40/2022 RESOLVED (Jana DANIELS/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes the Action List; and**
- (b) Approves the removal of completed items.**

8 CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

- (1) Expiry of alcohol restriction provisions in remote communities;
- (2) Ngukurr Oval and Community Parks water pump (Cr. TURNER);
- (3) Lighting on ovals (Cr. EVANS);
- (4) Community Grants;
- (5) Invitation for Minister PAECH to attend Council's Ordinary Meeting in June 2022;
- (6) Funding for additional training for interagency collaboration (Cr. EVANS).
- (7) Solar Lights and Black Spots (Cr. TURNER);
- (8) Water pump Barunga oval and parks (Cr. LEE);and
- (9) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation.

9 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr. TURNER formally declared an interest arising due to his board membership on the Yugul Mangi Development Aboriginal Corporation, noting this *may* be a perceived conflict when discussing the Yugul Mangi Ward Report.

10 PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

10.1 PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

41/2022 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Samuel EVANS) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Previous Committee Meeting Minutes report.

11 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

42/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS) CARRIED

That Council accepts the incoming correspondence report.

12 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

43/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Patricia FARRELL) CARRIED

That Council notes the outgoing correspondence.

13 WARD REPORTS

13.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIPS

44/2022 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Owen TURNER) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Local Authority Memberships Report.

13.2 YUGUL MANGI WARD REPORT

45/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) **Receives and notes the Yugul Mangi Ward Report;**
- (b) **Approves the recommendations from the Ngukurr Local Authority Meeting held on 08 March 2022;**
- (c) **Notes the recommendation from the Urapunga Local Authority provisional**

- Meeting held on 08 March 2022; and
(d) Appoints Roxanne ROBERTS to the Ngukurr Local Authority.

13.3 SOUTH WEST GULF WARD REPORT

46/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Judy MacFARLANE)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes the South West Gulf Ward Report;
- (b) Notes the recommendations from the Borroloola Local Authority provisional Meeting held on 03 March 2022; and
- (c) Notes the recommendations from the Robinson River Local Authority provisional Meeting held on 03 March 2022.

13.4 NUMBULWAR NUMBIRINDI WARD REPORT

47/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes the Numbulwar Numbirindi Ward Report;
- (b) Approves the recommendations from the Numbulwar Local Authority Meeting held on 09 March 2022;
- (c) Appoints Travis MIRNIYOWAN to the Numbulwar Local Authority;
- (d) Receives and notes Councillor David MURRUNGUN's formal resignation from Council and formally thanks him for his service; and
- (e) Invites David MURRUNGUN to continue with his appointment as a member of the Numbulwar Local Authority.

13.5 NYIRANGGULUNG WARD REPORT

48/2022 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/Helen LEE)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes the Nyirranggulung Ward Report;
- (b) Approves the recommendations from the Barunga Local Authority meeting held on 05 April 2022;
- (c) Notes the recommendations from the Bulman Local Authority meeting held on 07 April 2022;
- (d) Appoints the following applicants to the Manyallaluk Local Authority:
 - Ben ULAMARI;
 - Elena LAWRENCE
 - Sherese DOOLEY;
 - Lloyd BROWN;
 - Eileen AVELUM;
- (e) Notes that no nominations were received for the 24 February 2022 – 25 March 2022 'Call for Nominations' period for the Beswick and Barunga Local Authorities; and
- (f) Requests that the Chief Executive Officer formally calls for a nomination to fill the one (1) vacancy of the Manyallaluk Local Authority and one (1) vacancy on the Beswick Local Authority.

13.6 NEVER NEVER WARD REPORT

49/2022 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes the Never Never Ward Report;
- (b) Notes the recommendations from the Hodgson Downs (Minyerri) Local Authority provisional Meeting held on 07 March 2022;
- (c) Accepts the tendered resignation from Samuel SWANSON from the Hodgson

- Downs (Minyerri) Local Authority;
- (d) Nominates to hold the Daly Waters and Larrimah Community Consultative Meetings on 11 May 2022;
 - (e) Notes that no nominations were received for the 24 February 2022 – 25 March 2022 'Call for Nomination' for the Mataranka Local Authority; and
 - (f) Rescinds appointment of Cr. DAYLIGHT on Mataranka and Hodgson Downs (Minyerri) Local Authorities and amends total number of members to accommodate this.

MORNING TEA 10:20AM – 10:46AM

14 GENERAL BUSINESS

15 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

15.1 MAYOR'S REPORT

50/2022 RESOLVED (Jana DANIELS/Samuel EVANS) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Mayoral Report.

15.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT - APRIL 2022

51/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Judy MacFARLANE) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

15.3 COUNCIL ATTENDANCE AT THE AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (ALGA) NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY CANBERRA 19-22 JUNE 2022

52/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Owen TURNER) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Approves the attendance of the following Elected Members to the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly to be held from the 19 June to 22 June 2022:
 - Mayor JACK;
 - Deputy Mayor MacFARLANE;
 - Cr EVANS;
 - Cr DANIELS;
 - Cr TURNER;
 - Cr FARRELL;
 - Cr. ASHLEY; and
- (b) Requests the attendance of the Chief Executive Officer and two support staff to the event.

16 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Mayor Ernie CAMP of Burke Shire Council presented to Council in relation to Commonwealth funding not being provided for Savannah Way Road (Wollorgorang Road). Mayor CAMP pointed out that the Way forms part of the National Highway 1, and requires full sealing, on both sides of the Northern Territory / Queensland border.

Mayor CAMP pointed out the lack of maintenance and lack of appropriate maps coverage and resources for Way, and further noted the national significance of the Way.

Mayor CAMP pointed out ancillary benefits of completely sealing the way e.g. better nutrition / health outcomes through increased availability of fresh rather than preserved food, improved community wellbeing, satisfaction and business due to improved access.

Mayor CAMP provided Council with summary sheets containing pertinent information on matter.

Mayor CAMP expressed desire for collaborative approach and cooperation with Council, to commence with advocacy and lobbying for mutual benefit of both regions.

Mayor JACK acknowledged Mayor CAMP's presentation and thanked him for his attendance. Mayor JACK acknowledged and agreed with Mayor CAMP's presentation(s) and submissions, further noting the inadequacies of roads infrastructure and mapping in Region.

17 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT DIVISIONAL REPORT

Nil.

18 CORPORATE SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISIONAL REPORT

18.1 POLICY REVISION

53/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Judy MacFARLANE) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Adopts the Elected Members Administration Policy with amendment to cover Elected Member liability in greater detail;**
- (b) Rescinds the CL006 Elected Member Allowance Policy; and**
- (c) Rescinds the CL009 Elected Member Development and Support Policy.**

18.2 BUDGET 2021-22 REVISION 2

54/2022 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Jana DANIELS) CARRIED

That Council approves the Amendments Budget 2021-22 Revision 2.

18.3 AMENDMENT OF DATE OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL IN JUNE 2022

55/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Selina ASHLEY) CARRIED

That Council resolves to hold its Ordinary Meeting on Thursday 16 June 2022 in Katherine.

18.4 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING UPDATE

56/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update.

18.5 COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31.3.2022

57/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Patricia FARRELL) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the financial reports as at 31 March 2022.

18.6 REGIONAL PLAN 2022-2023

58/2022 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Selina ASHLEY) CARRIED

That Council in accordance with Section 35 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

- (a) Approves the Draft 2022-2023 Regional Plan; and
- (b) Resolves to formally put the Draft 2022-2023 Regional Plan out to public consultation in accordance with Section 35(3)(c) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

19 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND PLANNING DIVISIONAL REPORT

19.1 MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE REPORT

59/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Major Projects Update Report.

General Business (Chapter 14) was addressed after the Divisional Reports above.

14.1 EXPIRY OF ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES

To be deferred to Council's Ordinary Meeting in June 2022. No Resolution passed.

14.2 NGUKURR OVAL AND COMMUNITY PARKS WATER PUMP

60/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Samuel EVANS)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes Councillor Owen TURNER's concerns pertaining to the lack of adequate water pumping and associated effects on parks and ovals in Ngukurr, especially as the dry season commences, with dust being a major concern.

14.3 LIGHTING ON COMMUNITY OVALS

61/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes Cr. EVANS' concerns pertaining to the lack of adequate lighting of ovals for larger communities within the Roper Gulf region.

14.4 COMMUNITY GRANTS

62/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes Mayor JACK's promotion of Council's Community Grants programme, and associated successful turnout. Council further notes the community feedback requesting the application process be made more accessible, further support from office staff.

14.5 INVITATION TO MINISTER TO ATTEND JUNE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

63/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council formally invites the Minister for Local Government to attend its Ordinary Meeting of Council on 16 June 2022 to discuss several concerns affecting Council including:

- Land tenure and access pertaining to energy cable (Singapore);
- Electoral Representation review;
- Local Authority Project funding;
- COVID-19 requirements for elected members;
- Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics(DIPL) projects disputes.

14.6 FUNDING FOR TRAINING FOR INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

64/2022 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Jana DANIELS)

CARRIED

That Council considers funding options for stakeholders and partner organisations for the purposes of training, so as to obtain mutual and community benefit.

14.7 SOLAR LIGHTING AND BLACK SPOTS

65/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS)

CARRIED

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to organise a streetlight audit for Ngukurr and Urapunga, organise associated repairs.

14.8 WATER PUMP ISSUES - BARUNGA OVAL AND PARKS

66/2022 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes Cr. LEE's concerns pertaining to the lack of adequate sporting facilities in Barunga, in particular, the lack of an adequate water pump compromising the condition of parks and ovals, noting negative flow-on effects of dust, and the compromise of Council's public image.

Council requests for the Chief Executive Officer to follow up the matter.

14.9 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MABUNJI RESOURCE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

To be deferred to Council's Ordinary Meeting in June 2022. No Resolution passed.

20.1 DECISION TO MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

67/2022 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Patricia FARRELL)

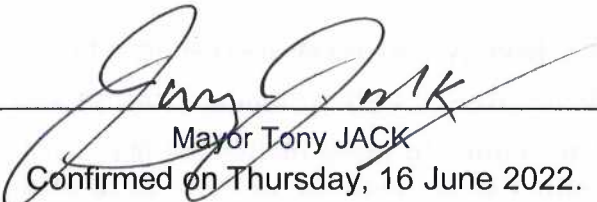
CARRIED

That Council moves into Confidential Session and requests all guests, members of the public, and other persons, including staff, who are not supporting Council with the business contained therein, to leave the Meeting.

20 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 2:37 PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Thursday, 28 April 2022 and will be confirmed at the next meeting.



Mayor Tony JACK
Confirmed on Thursday, 16 June 2022.