

MINUTES OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL, ORDINARY MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL
SUPPORT CENTRE
2 CRAWFORD STREET, KATHERINE, NT
ON WEDNESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 8:30 AM

1 PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

- Mayor Tony JACK;
- Deputy Mayor Judy MacFARLANE;
- Councillor Helen LEE;
- Councillor Selina ASHLEY;
- Councillor John DALYWATER;
- Councillor Samuel EVANS;
- Councillor Gadrian HOOSAN;
- Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT;
- Councillor Patricia FARRELL;
- Councillor Owen TURNER;
- Councillor Jana DANIELS;
- Councillor Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR; and
- Councillor David MURRUNGUN.

1.2 Staff

- Marc GARDNER, Acting Chief Executive Officer;
- Cristian COMAN, Manager Corporate Compliance;
- Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator (Minute Taker);
- Bhumika ADHIKARI, Executive Administration Support Officer; and
- Bethany O'SULLIVAN, Communications Coordinator.

1.3 Guests

- Amanda HAIGH, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Jake QUINLIVAN, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Rod HOFFMAN, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Miranda HALLIDAY, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Alec MOYLAN, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Kallum PECKHAM-McKENZIE, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Alfred FARRELL, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet; and
- Will BRIDGEMAN, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet.

2 MEETING OPENED

The Ordinary Meeting of Council Meeting opened at 0830

3 WELCOME TO COUNCIL

The Acting Chief Executive Officer welcomed members, staff and guests and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8 CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

9 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Ordinary Meeting of Council.

10 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

10.1 FORMAL SWEARING IN AND OATH OF OFFICE

All newly Elected Members were formally sworn-in by the Acting Chief Executive Officer, reciting the Affirmation of Office.

Affirmation:

I, Name SURNAME, promise that I will well and truly serve the people of the Roper Gulf region as a Councillor on the Roper Gulf Regional Council without fear or favour, affection or ill-will, and that while I continue to be a Councillor I will to the best of my skill and knowledge perform the functions of the Office of Councillor lawfully, impartially and in good faith.

10.2 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

100/2021 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/Samuel EVANS)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Approves the principal member to continue to bear the title of Mayor;**
- (b) Undertakes a secret ballot for the appointment of its Mayor and Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 61 of the *Local Government Act 2019*; and**
- (c) Appoints Tony JACK as Mayor of Roper Gulf Regional Council for the term of Council**

N.B. The election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor was undertaken by way of secret ballot with the Acting Chief Executive Officer as the Returning Officer for the process which was also scrutineered by Amanda HAIGH and Jake QUINLIVAN of the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet. The results of which were publicly declared in open session. The decision to hold a secret ballot was unanimous.

The results were publicly declared as follows;

Mayor:

Cr MacFARLANE; (self-nominated) 6

Cr JACK (nominated by Cr DALYWATER); 7

Deputy Mayor:

Cr LEE (nominated by Cr JACK); 4

Cr MacFARLANE (nominated by Cr DAYLIGHT); 9

10.3 DEPUTY MAYOR

101/2021 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Judy MacFARLANE)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Approves the Deputy Principal Member to carry the title of Deputy Mayor; and**
- (b) Appoints Councillor Judy MacFARLANE as Deputy Mayor for a term of 2 years.**

N.B. The decision pertaining to length of term of the Deputy Mayor was decided by Council by way of a show of hands, and this was done in open session, the results of which are as follows;

Those in favour of two (2) year term: 7

Those in favour of four (4) year term: 6

Council adjourned for official photographs and morning tea, the time being 09:58 AM

Council resumed the meeting, the time being 10:49 AM

Councillor Selina ASHLEY left the meeting, the time being 10:49 AM

Councillor Selina ASHLEY returned to the meeting, the time being 10:54 AM

10.4 MAYORAL CASTING VOTE

102/2021 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

That Council decides that the Mayor has a casting vote for the duration of its Term by adopting the CL005 Meetings Procedure Policy:

- (a) Option A – The Mayor has a Casting Vote.**

10.5 FORMAL DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

103/2021 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Owen TURNER)

CARRIED

All Elected Members formally declared interests according to law.

10.6 COUNCIL MEETINGS

104/2021 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) Resolves to meet bi-monthly and prescribes its meeting dates for its coming Term as the fourth (4th) Wednesday of each sitting Month, unless otherwise amended by way of resolution; and**
- (b) Resolves to hold an Ordinary Meeting on 26 October 2021.**

10.7 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

That Council:

- (a) Receives and notes this report;
- (b) Appoints the following Elected Members to the Audit Committee;
 - Councillor HOOSAN;
 - Councillor MURRUNGUN; and
 - Councillor DALYWATER;
- (c) Continues with the appointment of the Independent Members of the Audit Committee, however, noting that Member Garry LAMBERT is unable to continue with his tenure beyond calendar year 2021, formal Expression of Interests are invited from suitably qualified persons to be considered at the next Ordinary Meeting;
- (d) Appoints a Finance and Infrastructure Committee, to have the same delegated function of its previous (third term) Finance Committee;
- (e) Requests for formal Terms of Reference for the Finance and Infrastructure Committee to be presented to the next Ordinary Meeting;
- (f) Appoints the following Elected Members to the Finance and Infrastructure Committee;
 - The Mayor;
 - The Deputy Mayor;
 - Councillor EVANS;
 - Councillor LEE;
 - Councillor TURNER;
 - Councillor DAYLIGHT; and
 - Councillor NUNGGUMAJBARR;
- (g) Confirms the continuation of the independent members on Council Committees

10.8 COUNCIL POLICIES

106/2021 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Council Polices Report.

11 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

6.1 ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL - 28 JULY 2021

107/2021 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council confirms the minutes from the meeting held on 28 July 2021 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of that meetings decisions and proceedings

7.1 RESOLUTION LIST

108/2021 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receive and note the Action List;
- (b) Refers item 76/2021 to the Ngukurr Local Authority for discussion; and
- (c) Requests the former clinic buildings be assessed for condition and a report be provided to the Ngukurr Local Authority.

11.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

109/2021 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the Roads Committee Meeting; and
- (b) Receives and notes the Finance Committee Meeting Previous Minutes report

12 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

110/2021 RESOLVED (Annabelle DAYLIGHT/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) **Accepts the incoming correspondence report; and**
- (b) **Sends its formal congratulations to the newly elected members of its Northern Territory Local Government counterparts**

Councillor Edwin NUNGUMAJBARR left the meeting, the time being 11:16 AM

Councillor Edwin NUNGUMAJBARR returned to the meeting, the time being 11:18 AM

Deputy Mayor Judy MacFARLANE left the meeting, the time being 11:20 AM

Deputy Mayor Judy MacFARLANE returned to the meeting, the time being 11:21 AM

Councillor Jana DANIELS left the meeting, the time being 11:25 AM

13 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

111/2021 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/Owen TURNER)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) **Notes the outgoing correspondence; and**
- (b) **Requests for Northern Territory Government to provide clarity and explanation on the application of liquor restrictions across the Northern Territory, especially in remote regions.**

Cr. TURNER notes inconsistencies on dry and wet (alcohol) provisions across the Northern Territory (NT), noting that some locations have a permit system for the consumption of alcohol while others do not. Cr. TURNER further notes, with concern, the displacement effect of blanket liquor prohibition in remote communities, pointing out that the incentive for perspective drinkers to move from alcohol consumption to prohibited drugs, or illicit home-brew, and associated black market activities.

DM MacFARLANE notes and supports permit system, however expresses significant concerns on impact of liquor sales, especially as it occurred in Mataranka.

Councillor Jana DANIELS returned to the meeting, the time being 11:29 AM

Councillor Samuel EVANS left the meeting, the time being 11:29 AM

Cr Samuel EVANS returned to the meeting, the time being 11:32 AM

14 WARD REPORTS

14.1 NEVER NEVER WARD REPORT

112/2021 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) **Receives and notes the Never Never Ward Report;**
- (b) **Receives and notes from the Mataranka Local Authority (provisional) meeting held on 03 August 2021;**
- (c) **Approves the recommendations from the Jilkminggan Local Authority meeting held on 03 August 2021;**
- (d) **Appoints the following Elected Member(s) to the following Local Authorities in accordance with Section 77 of the Local Government Act 2019:**
 - **Mataranka Local Authority:**
Deputy Mayor MacFARLANE, Councillor DAYLIGHT, Councillor FARRELL
 - **Jilkminggan Local Authority:**
Deputy Mayor MacFARLANE, Councillor DAYLIGHT, Councillor FARRELL
 - **Minyerri Local Authority:**
Deputy Mayor MacFARLANE, Councillor FARRELL, Councillor DAYLIGHT

14.2 NYIRANGGULUNG WARD REPORT

113/2021 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/John DALYWATER)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the Nyirranggulung Ward Report;
- (b) Approves the recommendations from the Beswick Local Authority meeting held on 09 August 2021;
- (c) Approves the recommendations from the Barunga Local Authority meeting held on 10 August 2021;
- (d) Approves the recommendations from the Bulman Local Authority meeting held on 10 August 2021;
- (e) Appoints the following Elected Member(s) to the following:
 - Barunga Local Authority:
Councillor LEE
 - Beswick Local Authority
Councillor ASHLEY
 - Manyallaluk Local Authority
Councillor ASHLEY and Councillor LEE
 - Bulman Local Authority
Councillor DALYWATER and Councillor ASHLEY;
- (g) Notes that the Beswick Local Authority Meeting did indeed attain a quorum at its Meeting on 09 August 2021; and
- (h) Notes that the Deputy Mayor tendered her apologies at the Bulman Local Authority Meeting, as she was not in attendance, and notes further attendance amendments

14.3 NUMBULWAR NUMBIRINDI WARD REPORT

114/2021 RESOLVED (Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the Numbulwar Numbirindi Ward Report;
- (b) Appoints the following Elected Member(s);
 - Numbulwar Local Authority:
Councillor MURRUNGUN and Councillor NUNGGUMAJBARR

14.4 YUGUL MANGI WARD REPORT

115/2021 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Jana DANIELS)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the Yugul Mangi Ward Report; and
- (b) Appoints the following Elected Members to the following Yugul Mangi Ward Local Authorities:
 - Ngukurr Local Authority:
Councillor TURNER and Councillor DANIELS
 - Urapunga Local Authority
Councillor TURNER and Councillor DANIELS

14.5 SOUTH WEST GULF WARD REPORT

116/2021 RESOLVED (Samuel EVANS/Gadrian HOOSAN)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the South West Gulf Ward Report;
- (b) Approves the recommendations from the Borroloola Local Authority meeting held on 05 August 2021;
- (c) Appoints the following Elected Members to the following South West Gulf Ward Local Authorities:
 - Borrroloola Local Authority
Mayor JACK, Councillor EVANS, and Councillor HOOSAN;
 - Robinson River Local Authority
Mayor JACK, Councillor EVANS, and Councillor HOOSAN

15 GENERAL BUSINESS

15.1 MEETING CALENDAR

117/2021 RESOLVED (David MURRUNGUN/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council prescribes the Local Authority Meeting Dates to sit as follows:

- (a) Beswick and Manyallaluk 11 October 2021;
- (b) Barunga 12 October 2021;
- (c) Bulman 14 October 2021;
- (d) Minyerri 18 October 2021;
- (e) Ngukurr and Urapunga 19 October 2021;
- (f) Numbulwar 20 October;
- (g) Jilkmingaan and Mataranka 09 November 2021;
- (h) Robinson River and Borroloola 11 November 2021; and
- (i) Remainder of 2021 calendar to remain unchanged.

16 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

17 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT DIVISIONAL REPORT

18 CORPORATE SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISIONAL REPORT

18.2 DELEGATIONS MANUALS

118/2021 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That the Council adopts the Organisational Delegations Manual, and the Financial Delegation Manual

Council adjourned for lunch, the time being 1208hrs

18.3 COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

119/2021 RESOLVED (Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR/Selina ASHLEY)

CARRIED

That Council;

- (a) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to administer the Community Grants Program;
- (b) Prescribes Minor Grants as up to \$3,000;
- (c) Prescribes Major Grants as up to \$5,000;
- (d) Within Council prescribed guidelines; and
- (e) Increases the budget for the Community Grants Program from \$65,000 per annum to \$80,000 per annum.

Council resumed meeting, the time being 12:50pm

Councillor Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR left the meeting, the time being 12:51 PM

Councillor Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR returned to the meeting, the time being 12:52 PM

18.1 NOMINATIONS FOR CASUAL VACANCIES LGANT EXECUTIVE

120/2021 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That Council nominates the following Elected Members to act as its representatives to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT):

- Mayor Tony JACK;
- Councillor Samuel EVANS.

N.B.: The Acting Chief Executive Officer sought clarification regarding this matter and that the Council was ineligible to nominate for the casual vacancy position on the LGANT Executive, however the Council at its first meeting was required to confirm two representatives for the Association from the Council. It is noted that the Deputy Mayor, Judy MacFARLANE is appointed to the LGANT Executive until November 2022.

18.4 AUTHORISED OFFICER MANAGEMENT OF APPOINTMENTS

121/2021 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

That Council, in accordance with Section 167 (l) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the management and appointment of Authorised Persons as prescribed at Part 9.7 of the Act.

18.5 VARIATION TO 2021-2023 MUNICIPAL AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES, HOUSING MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND HOMELANDS JOBS GRANT AGREEMENT

122/2021 RESOLVED (Selina ASHLEY/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That Council:

- a) Approves the variation to its Municipal and Essential Services, Housing Maintenance Services, and Homelands Jobs 2021-24 Deed of Agreement, by signing, dating, and affixing the Common Seal to one copy of the Deed of Variation; and
- b) Acknowledges the Territory Government in respect of the funding provided.

Cr Samuel EVANS left the meeting, the time being 01:11 PM

18.6 LGANT - ELECTED MEMBER INDUCTION SYMPOSIUM

123/2021 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes this report pertaining to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory's Elected Member Induction Symposium.

Cr Samuel EVANS returned to the meeting, the time being 01:14 PM

18.7 COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31.08.2021

124/2021 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/David MURRUNGUN)

CARRIED

That the Council;

- (a) Receives and notes the financial reports as at 31 August 2021; and
- (b) Requests that the Barunga and Ngukurr expenditure reports to be recompiled and reissued noting its incorrect information as originally published.

19 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND PLANNING DIVISIONAL REPORT

20 CLOSED SESSION

DECISION TO MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

125/2021 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Samuel EVANS)

CARRIED

Members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the Closed Session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld. This action is taken in accordance with Section 65(2) of the Local Government Act, 2008 as the items lists come within the following provisions:-

20.1 Confirmation of previous Confidential Session Minutes- 28 July 2021 - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2008 s 65(2) and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2008 reg 8(d).*

20.2 Recruitment of a Chief Executive Officer - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2008 s 65(2) and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2008 reg 8(a) (d).*

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

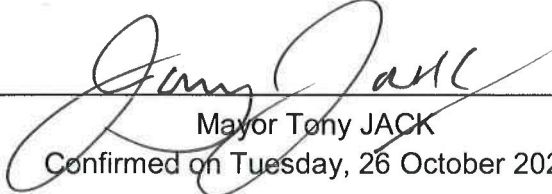
RECOMMENDATION:

That Council moved to return to the open session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council and declared the resolutions made in the confidential session not be available to the public in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2008*, section 201.

21 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 1416hrs.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 29 September 2021 and will be confirmed at the next meeting.



Mayor Tony JACK
Confirmed on Tuesday, 26 October 2021.

