

This meeting was opened at **11.45am**.

## 1. Present:

### **Elected Members:**

Mayor Judy MacFarlane

### **Community Members:**

Rhonda Duncan

Winnie Duncan

Dennis Duncan

Margaret Duncan

Lansen Paddy

Tom Thompson

Elaine Daniels

Sandra John

Heston Tyson

Hannah Duncan

Barbara John

Donald Daniels

Lionel Duncan

Annie Daniels

Sammy Duncan

Richard Collins

Jim Williams (Store Manager/Urapunga Aboriginal Corporation)

Samuel Robinson (Urapunga School Principal)

### **Staff:**

Janeen Bulsey – Area Manager Roper Region

Chantal Binding - Local Authority Support Coordinator

Lyndon Keane – Communications Coordinator

Victoria Haig – CDP Coordinator

Biddy Hamilton – CDP Compliance Officer

### **Guests:**

Craig Singleton – GEC Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

## 2. Welcome from the Mayor and Janeen Bulsey, Area Manager Roper Region

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Janeen Bulsey introduced herself.

## 3. Meeting Purposes and Discussions

Janeen Bulsey went through the purposes of the meeting:

- What services community would like here and what preferred delivery option; and
- What are the community's priorities here

**Three options were presented and discussed for service delivery arrangements for the community:**

- 1) Current option with RGRC managing and providing basic municipal services and CDP from Ngukurr;
- 2) To have a local Indigenous organisation to provide the service, e.g. Alawa Aboriginal Corporation at Minyerri subcontracting services from RGRC; or
- 3) RGRC permanently based in Urapunga with staff members, infrastructure and services managed within community, e.g current set-up in Manyallaluk.

A handout was provided to community members to help explain the above options.

There were discussions about the growing population of 128 (2016 Census) at Urapunga with the increasing need for service delivery and to be classified as a community not an outstation of Ngukurr, especially comparing its population with other communities in the RGRC region.

After a lot of discussion, the community decided that they want to advocate for option 3, and to have an Urapunga Local Authority created. It was explained that this would be a lengthy process (possibly more than 12 months) to get an outcome on and that the decision rested with the NT Government Minister for Housing and Community Development, not RGRC. The Mayor is happy to help advocate with NTG and to Council.

A report will be presented to Council at the next OCM on 25 October 2017 regarding this matter, including a signed letter from the community and the Mayor.

**CDP Issues**

A big issue expressed by community members is that there is a lack of leadership, direction and management of the CDP in the community with not much work getting completed, lack of tools and equipment to undertake the work and no CDP for women.

There were also various discussions about contract work and projects plans regarding tenders and quotes.

The CDP issues was noted and going to be addressed by RGRC. Also Craig Singleton the GEC (PM&C) to liaise with RGRC CDP Representatives and community members to identify projects participants can undertake.

**Community Priorities identified by members present:**

- CDP (including equipment & tools)
- Toilets need fixing
- Community laundry
- Rubbish management and new dump
- Remove old vehicles from community

- Sports & Rec Program (especially for kids returning from boarding school in holidays)
- New playground & equipment
- Basketball court
- Crèche & women's centre
- Art Centre

Community members advised that a new basket ball court has been pegged out, but outside of the community boundary as they want it away from community to avoid the associated noise. This then raised issues about land tenure both within and outside of the community boundary, and that the land tenure needs to be confirmed in writing before any arrangements, developments or works can occur on the subject land.

The Store is working with Urapunga School on a number of projects in providing activities for the kids. Some items are needed such as swags and RGRC informed about the Community Grants available to apply for up to \$3,000 for such items.

The community was informed that there is \$45,000 funding available to Urapunga allocated from Ngukurr's LA funding that can be spent on their priorities. The community will need to discuss and decide on this.

Craig Singleton the GEC advised that there is approximately \$20,000 to \$35,000 PM&C funding that could also be available for projects here and will look into this for them.

#### **4. Key Outcomes of the Meeting**

- Urapunga community want to advocate to Council for Option 3 above and to become a Local Authority in their own right, particularly due to the current size of the population of 128 (2016 Census) with its increasing need for service delivery and to be classified as a community not an outstation. A Report and signed letter from the community will be presented at the OCM on 25 October 2017.
- Community have advised that the Community Development Program (CDP) is lacking leadership, equipment/tools and have requested RGRC for this to be addressed including the provision of CDP for women which is currently not happening.
- Craig Singleton the GEC (PM&C) to liaise with RGRC CDP Representatives and community members to identify projects participants can undertake.
- There is \$45,000 funding available to Urapunga allocated from Ngukurr's LA funding. Urapunga to have a community meeting to decide what the money should be spent on.
- The land tenure in the community needs to be clarified in writing before any developments can occur on the subject land.

#### **5. Meeting Closed at 1 pm**

Next Meeting: November 2017 – Date to be confirmed