



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL
COUNCIL HELD AT THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL SERVICE
DELIVERY CENTRE
BARUNGA, NT
ON WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL 2024 AT 8:30 AM

1 PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

- Mayor Tony JACK;
- Deputy Mayor Helen LEE;
- Councillor Edna ILES;
- Councillor Patricia FARRELL;
- Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT;
- Councillor Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI;
- Councillor Owen TURNER; and
- Councillor John DALYWATER.

1.2 Staff

- Marc GARDNER, Chief Executive Officer;
- Cindy HADDOW, General Manager Corporate Services and Sustainability
- David HURST, General Manager Community Services and Engagement
- Cristian COMAN, Manager Corporate Compliance;
- Maricar RHODES, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer;
- Bhumika ADHIKARI, Governance Engagement Coordinator (minute secretary); and
- Daniele PIGA, Acting Governance Officer.

1.3 Guests

- Karen HOCKING; Project Manager, Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Dr Andrew TAYLOR, Senior Hydrogeologist in the Groundwater Systems Team and Groundwater Management group of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Environment Business Unit (via videoconference);
- Cameron HUDDLESTONE-HOLMES, Geologist, Senior Research Scientist CSIRO (via videoconference);
- Neil HUTH, Research Scientist (Farming Systems) CSIRO (via videoconference);
- Dr Heather STEWART, Senior Research Consultant – indigenous Science and Knowledge, Community Engagement and Information Program Environment, CSIRO (via videoconference); and
- Jodie HAYWARD, Research Technician Beetaloo Communication and Information Program, CSIRO (via videoconference).

2 MEETING OPENED

The Ordinary Meeting of Council Meeting opened at 8:52 am. 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

36/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) accepts the tendered apologies from Councillor Gadrian HOOSAN, Councillor Samuel EVANS, Councillor Selina ASHLEY, Councillor Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR; and
- (b) does not accept the tendered apology from Councillor Jana DANIELS.

5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

37/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI)

CARRIED

That Council confirms the minutes from its Ordinary Meeting held on 28 February 2024 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of that meeting's decisions and proceedings.

Councillor Owen TURNER joined the meeting at 9:06 am.

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 ACTION LIST

38/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/Edna ILES)

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

- Barunga Festival and Planning – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Marc GARDNER;
- Roads – Central Arnhem, Roper and Carpentaria Highway; Mayor Tony JACK;
- Mulgagan Camp Management, Mayor Tony JACK; and
- Thank you Letter to Actor Chris HEMSWORTH, Mayor Tony JACK.

9 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

10 PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

10.1 PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

39/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

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

11 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

40/2024 RESOLVED (Owen TURNER/Edna ILES) CARRIED

That Council accepts the incoming correspondence.

12 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

41/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That Council notes the outgoing correspondence.

13 WARD REPORTS

13.1 NEVER NEVER WARD REPORT

42/2024 RESOLVED (Annabelle DAYLIGHT/Edna ILES) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the Never Never Ward Report; and
- (b) requests the Chief Executive Officer open a '21-day Nominations Period' to fill one (1) vacancy on the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority.

13.2 NYIRANGGULUNG WARD REPORT

43/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Helen LEE) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the Nyirranggulung Ward Report;
- (b) approves the Provisional recommendations from the Wugularr (Beswick) Local Authority Provisional Meeting held on 02 April 2024;
- (c) approves the recommendations from the Barunga Local Authority Provisional Meeting held on 03 April 2024;
- (d) requests the Chief Executive Officer open a '21 days nomination period' to fill the one (1) vacancy on the Barunga Local Authority; and
- (e) accepts the nominations received for Aiden LINDSAY, Margaret LINDSAY, Nathaniel MILLER and Shantal MUNDAL for the Bulman Local Authority.

13.3 SOUTH WEST GULF WARD REPORT

44/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the South West Gulf Ward Report.

13.4 NUMBULWAR NUMBURINDI WARD REPORT

45/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/Owen TURNER) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the Numbulwar Numburindi Ward Report; and
- (b) reschedules the Numbulwar Local Authority Meeting from 06 June 2024 to 05 June 2024.

13.5 YUGUL MANGI WARD REPORT

46/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/Owen TURNER) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Yugul Mangi Ward Report.

Deputy Mayor Helen LEE left the meeting, the time being 09:43 am.

Deputy Mayor Helen LEE returned to the meeting, the time being 09:48 am.

14 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

14.1 COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORT

47/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Edna ILES)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Council Meeting Attendance Report.

14.2 ACTING PRINCIPAL MEMBER'S ALLOWANCE

48/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/Annabelle DAYLIGHT) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Acting Principal Member's Allowance Report.

14.3 INFORMATION SHEET - PERSONAL USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

49/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/Owen TURNER)

CARRIED

That Council:

- a) receives and notes the Information Sheet – Personal Use of Social Media Report; and
- b) requests to table this report to all the Local Authority Meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:27 am and reconvened at 10:50 am.

Cr Owen TURNER left the meeting, the time being 10:51 am.

14.4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

50/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Annabelle DAYLIGHT)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the Conflict of Interest Register report; and
- (b) requests to present Conflict of Interest video to all the Local Authority Meetings.

14.5 AUTHORISATION OR RATIFICATION THROUGH COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF FUNDING AGREEMENTS AND DEEDS OF VARIATIONS EXECUTED WITH THE COMMON SEAL- PERIOD - BETWEEN 01 JULY 2021 TO 27 MARCH 2024

51/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council provides retrospective resolutions for all Funding Agreements and Deeds of Variation received at the Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meetings from 01 July 2021 to 27 March 2024, signed and executed with the common seal.

15 CORPORATE SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISIONAL REPORT

15.1 POLICY REVISION - HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

52/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/John DALYWATER)

CARRIED

That Council adopts via resolution the following policies pertaining to Human Resource Management:

- (a) COR06 Code of Conduct (staff);
- (b) HR002 Bullying, Discrimination and Harassment Policy;
- (c) HR003 Employee Discipline Policy;
- (d) HR011 Leave Policy; and
- (e) HR031 Performance Management Policy.

15.2 POLICY REVISION - FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

53/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/John DALYWATER)

CARRIED

That Council resolves to:

- (a) adopt the revised OCEO002 Financial Delegations Manual;
- (b) adopt the revised GOV031 Procurement Policy; and
- (c) rescind the FIN003 Purchasing and Payment Policy.

15.3 BUDGET REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

54/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/Helen LEE)

CARRIED

That Council approves the budget review and the following budget amendments:

- (a) addition of \$250,000 for Project Management outsourcing through a Consultancy;
- (b) reduction of \$250,000 of Wages and Salaries in Infrastructure Services and Projects Division (ISP) to account for the Project Management Consultancy;
- (c) addition of \$150,000 for the completion of the Mataranka Aged Care facility;
- (d) addition of \$10,000 for the Lot Development and Section 19 (S19) lodgement for a new lot in Barunga;
- (e) addition of \$75,000 for Financial Accounting Consultancy;
- (f) reduction of \$75,000 of Wages and Salaries in the Corporate Services and Sustainability Division to account for the Financial Accounting consultancy; and
- (g) addition of \$111,422 for the employment expenses of a Procurement Coordinator.

15.4 COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

55/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/Annabelle DAYLIGHT) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Council's Financial Report as at 31 March 2024.

15.5 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS UPDATE

56/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Helen LEE)

CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update Report; and
- (b) authorise acceptance of the Local Authority Funding Acquittal 2023-24 Financial Year as laid before the Council today and as resolved at the Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting on the Wednesday, 27 March 2024.

16 COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT DIVISIONAL REPORT

16.1 PROGRAMS UPDATE

57/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/Patricia FARRELL)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Programs Update Report.

16.2 AGED CARE & DISABILITY SERVICES REPORT

58/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/John DALYWATER)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes this Aged Care & Disability Services Report.

16.3 NGUKURR NIGHT PATROL UPDATE

59/2024 RESOLVED (Helen LEE/John DALYWATER)

CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the Ngukurr Night Patrol Update Report.

16.4 AGED CARE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

60/2024 RESOLVED (Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI/John DALYWATER) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes this Aged Care Strategic Plan Update Report.

16.5 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ON ANTIPARASITIC TREATMENT ANALYSIS STUDY

61/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Annabelle DAYLIGHT) CARRIED

That Council supports the formal acknowledgement (recognition) of Council's contribution to the Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) Anti-parasitics Treatment Study.

17 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES AND PLANNING DIVISIONAL REPORT

17.1 POTENTIAL PROJECT NGUKURR SPORTS HALL

62/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/Helen LEE) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the following report pertaining to a potential project for an ablution block at the Ngukurr Sports Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm and reconvened at 12:52 pm.

18 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Heather STEWART, Jodi HAYWARD, Cameron HUDDLESTONE-HOLMES, Neil HUTH, Andrew TAYLOR presented to Council on Underground Water research and Agricultural (Land Management & impacts at 9:30 am and left the meeting at 10:10 am.

19 GENERAL BUSINESS

19.1 BARUNGA FESTIVAL AND PLANNING – CEO Marc GARDNER

63/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the verbal update from the Chief Executive Officer on the Barunga Festival and Planning.

19.3 ROADS – CENTRAL ARNHEM, ROPER AND CARPENTARIA HIGHWAY - Mayor Tony JACK

64/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Annabelle DAYLIGHT) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the verbal update from the Chief Executive Officer on Roads – Central Arnhem, Roper and Carpentaria Highway; and
- (b) requests Department of the Infrastructure Planning and Logistics (DIPL) to provide information on roads Upgrade to the Community and sources (website) to find the road upgrade information.

Note: affected areas due to wet season Buffalo Creek, Donkey Flat, Roper River Policeman crossing, Central Arnhem Roads shoulders.

Cr Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI left the meeting, the time being 01:30 pm.

Cr Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI returned to the meeting, the time being 01:33 pm.

19.4 MULGGAN CAMP MANAGEMENT - Mayor Tony JACK

65/2024 RESOLVED (Annabelle DAYLIGHT/Edna ILES) CARRIED

That Council receives and notes the verbal update on Mulggan Camp Management.

Note: Gary GILES joined the meeting at 1:39 pm and updated on Alcohol Management Plan in Mulggan Camp, working on register to identify residents and visitors of Mulggan Camp, Matthew AHMAT is consulting with residents on Alcohol Management plan as well as future plans for accommodation, repairs and maintenance. Additionally developing a visitors management plan. Overall working on future of Mulggan Camp. He left the meeting at 1:46 pm.

19.5 THANK YOU LETTER TO CHRIS HEMSWORTH - Mayor Tony JACK

66/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Helen LEE) CARRIED

That Council writes to Actor Chris HEMSWORTH for his recent visit to the Council area including Wugularr(Beswick), Nitmiluk, Bulman and Weemol.

S.1 REGIONAL PLAN 2024-2025

67/2024 RESOLVED (Annabelle DAYLIGHT/Edna ILES) CARRIED

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

- (a) approves the Draft 2024-2025 Regional Plan; and
- (b) resolves to formally put the Draft 2024-2025 Regional Plan out to public consultation in accordance with Section 35(3)(c) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

68/2024 RESOLVED (Edna ILES/Patricia FARRELL) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) confirms the minutes from Confidential Session of the meeting held on Wednesday, 28 February 2024 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of that meeting's decisions and proceedings; and
- (b) makes public the resolution from this report in the open minutes of this Council meeting.

20.2 PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MINUTES CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

69/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That Council:

- (a) receives and notes the previous Committee Confidential Session Meeting Minutes Report; and
- (b) makes public the resolution from this report in the open minutes of this Council meeting.

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

DECISION TO MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

70/2024 RESOLVED (John DALYWATER/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That pursuant to *section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda:-

20.1 Confirmation of Previous Minutes Confidential Session - The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(e), information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

20.2 Previous Committee Minutes Confidential Session - The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(d) (e), information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity;

AND information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

- 20.3 Incoming Correspondence** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv) (d), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person; AND information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.*
- 20.4 Action List** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv) (d), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person; AND information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.*
- 20.5 Chief Executive Officer's Report** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv) (d), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person; AND information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.*
- 20.6 Compliance Review Report** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iii) (c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*
- 20.7 Audit Response 2022-23** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(ii) (c)(iii), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.*
- 20.8 Repugnant Resolution** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(e), information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.*
- 20.9 Independent Auditor Management Letter** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*
- 20.10 Audit and Risk Committee** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*
- 20.11 CouncilBiz update** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv) (d), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person; AND information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.*
- 20.12 Steps to Improve Procurement Compliance** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*
- 20.13 Rates and charges review** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(i) (c)(ii), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.*
- 20.14 Councillor Travel Allowance Matter** - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(ii) (c)(iii) (e), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; AND information provided to the council on*

condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

20.15 ICT Transition Plan (Guide) - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*

20.16 CDP SERVICES AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISIONAL REPORT - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(i) (c)(iii) (c)(iv) (e) (f), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person; AND information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest; AND information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.*

20.17 Roper Gulf Regional Council - Approved Back on Track Service Provider - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(a) (c)(iii), information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.*

20.18 Proposed Lease - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(i) (c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*

20.19 Fees and Charges CHSP, HCP, NDIS - *The report will conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 and Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s51(1)(c)(i) (c)(iv), information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person; AND information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the interests of council or some other person.*

The meeting moved to the Confidential Session at 2:05 pm.

RETURN TO OPEN

71/2024 RESOLVED (Patricia FARRELL/Kathy-Anne NUMAMURDIRDI) CARRIED

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be re-opened to the public.

The meeting re-opened to the public at 3:42 pm.

21 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 3:42 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 24 April 2024 and will be confirmed at the next meeting.

Mayor Tony JACK
Confirmed on Wednesday, 26 June 2024.