

# BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



## MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Barkly Regional Council was held in Council Chambers, 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek on Thursday, 15 December 2022 at 8:30am.

**Emma Bradbury**  
Chief Executive Officer

### OUR VISION

**We strive to be responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens and empowers the people to be strong.**

### The Way We Will Work

**We will make it happen!**

**We will be engaged and have regular opportunities to listen.**

**We will have strong policy and budgets to ensure our programs and services are progressive and sustainable.**

**Respect is shown in everything we do and we have acceptance of all cultures in the Barkly Region and their practices through a culturally competent Council.**

**We are a responsible Council.**

**We will be a responsive Council.**

**We want to empower local decision making.**

**We want to ensure that our services are sustainable and that our region has a standard consistent level of services.**

**We want to be able to sustain our environment – our communities, our physical places, our people and our organisational culture.**

**We will aggressively pursue additional funding from both levels of government to improve the standard of living of people across the region.**

**We need to be realistic, transparent and accountable.**

Meeting commenced at 8.52 am with Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin as Chair.

## **1. OPENING AND ATTENDANCE**

### **1.1 Elected Members Present**

- Cr. Jeffrey McLaughlin (Mayor)
- Cr. Russell O'Donnell (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr. Ronald Plummer
- Cr. Noel Hayes
- Cr. Hal Ruger
- Cr. Greg Marlow
- Cr. Lennie Barton
- Cr. Pam Corbett

### **1.2 Staff Members Present**

- Emma Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
- Romeo Mutsago – Chief Financial Officer
- Rag Upadhyaya – Director Infrastructure
- Gillian Molloy – Acting Director of Community Development
- Karen Legge – Corporate & Community Planner

### **1.3 Visitors Present**

- Lachlan Wilkins – Dept of Chief Minister & Cabinet
- Steve Edgington MLA – Member for Barkly
- Megan Lawton – Justitia Lawyers & Consultants
- Mark Blackburn – Management Consultant, invited by the Office of the Chief Minister

### **1.4 Apologies**

- Cr. Dianne Stokes
- Cr. Anita Bailey
- Troy Koch – Director Operations

### **1.5 Absent Without Apologies**

- Cr. Jack Clubb
- Cr. Derek Walker
- Cr. Heather Wilson
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### **1.6 Disclosure Of Interest – Councillors And Staff – Under Section 116(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019***

The Mayor and CEO noted they will disclose a conflict relating to an item in to be discussed in Confidential business.

### **1.7 Review of disclosure of interests – Councillors and Staff (to be done at each council meeting)**

The meeting observed a minute's silence to mark the passing of Davina Cooke.

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 2.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the minutes of the November Ordinary Meeting of Council as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Councillor Hal Ruger

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 246/22*

## 3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 3.1 OPERATIONS REPORT

#### MOTION

That Council Receive and note the Operations Report for the month of October/November.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Lennie Barton

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 247/22*

The meeting noted that the Member for Barkly has also written to the Minister in relation to securing a reliable power supply for Ali Curung. Cllr Hayes noted that the Government needs to do the right thing by people in the bush.

### 3.2 TABLE ACTIONS ARISING

#### MOTION

That Council move to receive and note the actions arising update at the January Council meeting.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Councillor Hal Ruger

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 248/22*

## 4. ADDRESSING THE MEETING

*Nil*

## 5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

*Nil*

## 6. MAYOR'S REPORT

### 6.1 MAYOR'S REPORT: DECEMBER 2022

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the Mayor's Report for the month of December 2022.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNAN.

*Resolved OC 249/22*

**Action:** Cllr McLaughlin requested that Council develop an Events Register to identify regular community events for Council's support, and consider how this may support some events to be held in the future in relation to insurance cover and other related costs.

## 7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

### 7.1 MIGRATION FROM TECH1 TO REPLACEMENT FINANCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the report on the migration from Tech1 to a replacement finance and business management system.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Lennie Barton

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNAN.

*Resolved OC 250/22*

### 7.2 AUDITORS ANALYSIS OF CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

#### MOTION

That Council receive and note the presentation

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

CARRIED UNAN.

*Resolved OC 251/22*

The meeting welcomed Colin James from Lowrys Accountants to make a presentation about Council's financial position.

#### PROCEDURAL MOTION

That Item 16: General Business be moved forward for earlier discussion.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Councillor Hal Ruger

Seconded: Councillor Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

*Resolved OC .252/22*

## 16 GENERAL BUSINESS

**16.1** Clr Hal Ruger tendered his resignation, effective immediately. He will provide a letter of resignation to the CEO tomorrow.  
Clr O'Donnell and Clr McLaughlin thanked Clr Ruger for his 19 years of service to Council.

**16.2** Clr Noel Hayes tendered a letter to the Mayor with his resignation, effective at the conclusion of today's Council meeting.  
Clr McLaughlin acknowledged Clr Hayes long service to the Barkly and for providing a voice for the bush.

**16.3** Clr Derek Walker tendered a letter of resignation to the Mayor, effective at the conclusion of today's Council meeting.  
Clr McLaughlin thanked Clr Walker for his contribution to Barkly Regional Council.

### MOTION

**That Council receive and note all items of General Business.**

### RESOLVED

**Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow**

**Seconded: Councillor Lennie Barton**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 253/22*

9.53am Clr Ruger left the meeting.

9.54am Moved Clr O'Donnell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clr Marlow to break for morning tea.

10.21am Moved Clr Plummer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Clr Marlow to resume the Meeting.

## 8. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

*Nil*

## 9. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE REPORTS

### 9.1 BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP - NOMINATION OF RAG UPADHYAYA FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY PLANNING COMMISSION

#### MOTION

**That Council endorses the nomination of Raghavendra Vasudeva Upadhyaya, Director Infrastructure as BRC representative for Northern Territory Planning Commission.**

#### RESOLVED

**Moved: Deputy Mayor Russell O'Donnell**

**Seconded: Councillor Ronald Plummer**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 254/22*

The CEO noted Mr Upadhyaya's recent receipt of his PhD, and the meeting congratulated him on this achievement.

10. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE**

*Nil*

11. **LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS**

*Nil*

12. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Nil*

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

*Nil*

14. **RESCISSION MOTIONS**

*Nil*

15. **OPERATIONS**

*Nil*

16. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Nil*

17. **CORRESPONDENCE**

*Nil*

18. **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

**18.1 OFFER OF SUPPORT FROM MARK BLACKBURN**

**MOTION**

**That Council accept the offer by Mr Mark Blackburn to participate in the Confidential Session of the Meeting to provide independent governance advice, if required.**

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin**

Seconded: Councillor Greg Marlow

For: Crs Barton, Corbett, Hayes, Marlow, McLaughlin, Plummer and Ruger

Against: Cr O'Donnell

**CARRIED.**

*Resolved OC 255/22*

The meeting sought to note that accepting the offer was in order to protect Council, the CEO and staff, and to manage public perceptions.

**18.2 MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

**MOTION**

**That Council move out of the Ordinary Council Meeting into Closed Session.**

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Councillor Greg Marlow**

**Seconded: Councillor Noel Hayes**

**CARRIED UNAN.**

*Resolved OC 256/22*

The meeting moved into Closed session at 10.52am

**19. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting terminated at 1.50 pm.

This page and the proceeding 6 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday, 15 December 2022 and are unconfirmed .

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Jeffrey McLaughlin

Council Mayor

[Enter Date](#)

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Emma Bradbury

Chief Executive Officer

[Enter Date](#)

UNCONFIRMED