

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, 28 April 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.

The meeting commenced at 8.54 AM with Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin as Chair.

1. OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

1.1 Elected Members Present

- Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin
- Cr Ronald Plummer
- Cr Jack Club - Phone
- Cr Noel Hayes
- Cr Hal Ruger
- Cr Lennie Barton
- Cr Pam Corbett
- Cr Russell O'Donnell
- Cr Heather Wilson

1.2 Staff Members Present

- Emma Bradbury – Chief Executive Officer
- Sid Vashist – Director of Corporate Services - Phone
- Santosh Niraula – Director of Infrastructure
- Troy Koch – Director of Operations
- Sharen Lake – Director of Community Development
- James Sanders – Acting Finance Manager
- Millicent – Rushwaya – Quality & Governance Officer - Phone
- Renjith Kollakkombil – Record and Compliance

1.3 Visitors Present

1.4 Apologies

- Cr Greg Marlow
- Cr Derek Walker
- Cr Anita Bailey
- Deputy Mayor Dianne Seri Stokes - Resigned

1.5 Absent Without Apologies

Nil

1.6 Disclosure Of Interest – Councillors And Staff – Under Section 116(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*

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

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION

That Council: confirm the Minutes from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 March 2022

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 75/22

Discussion on:

- Cultural Competency Advisory Committee meetings are to recommence scheduled for the last Wednesday of the month.
- Reconciliation Action Plan

STANDING AGENDA ITEM ON MONTHLY UPDATES ON ALL DIPL PROJECTS.

MOTION:

That Council:

- a) note the Purkiss Reserve Project Control Group is meeting on weekly basis and reflect the regular update by a standing Agenda item on all DIPL projects; and
- b) invite DIPL to provide a monthly update to Council on shared projects as a standing Agenda Item.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 76/22

3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 ACTION ITEMS

MOTION

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the Motion Tracker and Action Items table.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Pam Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 77/22

Items Discussed,

OC 47/22 (Item 4.1) – Presentation from Australian Electric Vehicle Association:
Not a priority currently

OC 50/22 (Item 6.1) - CEO to write to mining companies to address Traffic Management:
Clarification was provided to the CEO that Council is seeking the Traffic Management Plan
from ELMO.

Item 3.1 Sacred Site List:

Inform LA to consult on

Item 9.1 Ali Curung Youth Centre:

Priority – report back with more detailed action

Item 9.1 Tender process report - Identify and encourage Local Businesses:

Need to discuss with 3 Governments about everyone's level of responsibility
Prepare a responsibility "cheat sheet" explaining who is responsible and for which area

OC 51/52 NT Liquor Commission:

Write to the Federal Government about the need for proper consultation to regionalise the
Alcohol Management Plan and request information on the process.

OC 64/22 (Item 9.1) Infrastructure Directors Report:

Locate and follow up on the old correspondence from the Go Kart club

OCCS 71/22 (Item 18.2) Send a letter expressing thanks to Anyinginyi Health:

Starting to rebuild the relationship with Anyinginyi CEO and invited for Anzac Day Chair.
Need to write a letter to reaffirm that the Council encourage acceptance of diverse cultures.
Youth Centre is to increase engagement and also aimed at reducing kids going into
prison.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

6.1 MAYOR'S REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the report from Mayor Jeffrey McLaughlin for April as printed in the Agenda.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ronald Plummer

Seconded: Cr Jack Club

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 78/22

Cr Hal Ruger left the meeting, the time being 09:53 AM

REVIEW OF RATING STRATEGY FOR 2021-2022

MOTION:

That Council: circulate review of the concessional mining and pastoral rating strategy for 2021-2022 proportional to QLD.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 79/22

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

7.1 THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Report for April.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Heather Wilson

Seconded: Cr Noel Hays

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 80/22

Cr Pamela Corbett left the meeting, the time being 10:25 AM

Cr Pamela Corbett returned to the meeting, the time being 10:26 AM

Cr Jack Club went offline for 5 minutes at 10:27 AM

Cr Hal Ruger returned to the meeting, the time being 10:52 AM

BREAK FOR MORNING TEA

MOTION

That Council: break for morning tea

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded:Cr Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 81/22

RESUME FROM MORNING TEA BREAK

MOTION

That Council: resume from morning tea.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded:Councillor Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 82/22

6. ADDRESSING THE MEETING

SENATE CANDIDATE PRESENTATION

MOTION

That Council: note the Senate Candidate presentation by Jacinta Price representing CLP.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Pam Corbett

Seconded:Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 83/22

Ms price addressed the Council and spoke of her commitment to:

- Encourage decisions to be explained and heard
- Represent everybody, for all voices to be heard and involved
- The family connection with Territory and hence: Heard of, learned and addressed remote communities' concerns.

4.1 AGRIBUSINESS PRESENTATION

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the presentation from Agribusiness Fran Kilgariff AM, Chloe Sullivan and Natalie Fries.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ronald Plummer

Seconded: Cr Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 84/22

Presentation by Chloe Sullivan and Natalie Fries on:

Progress of the Project - Stage1 was the Project extended for 3 years

Cultural value assessment

The scientific investigation by the government

Pastoral lease review

EPA assessment

Community consultation

Planned production - citrus, mandarin, grapes and vegetables

Addressing:

Improve fresh food dependency in adverse situations – Example: recent road closure

Infrastructure to be improved – cold storage, internet etc.

Report by Agribusiness yearly as public documents.

Estimated 100 permanent jobs, picking period 1000 jobs – local jobs

DISCUSSION BETWEEN COUNCILLORS AND PRESENTATIONS

	Discussions on:	Explanations
1	Market sustainability	MoU for dry fruits
2	Effect on Ti Tree grape farmers	Economic impact assessment
3	Water quality and quantity (water table)	Evaluation and monitoring by project and NTG
4	Burial grounds in the area	CLC is studying the site for the sacred value
5	National Farmers Federation	National Farmers Federation was conducting a study on jobs
6	Water quality and water table	Independent review of scientific study and evaluation of water allocation, salinity, etc. 30 years of water allocation
7	Employment options for vulnerable kids, from the correctional facilities, work camps, etc.	Currently, no plan is in place. But, the social impact assessment is aimed at addressing and mitigating negative factors, and enhancing opportunities such as part-time employment, etc.
8	Area	8000 footy fields area

9	Scholarships program for children for scientific study	Ongoing water studentship accreditation and leadership as an international standard At the beginning of May for further consultation
10	Need of establishing a Committee	
11	Need of establishing accreditation and policies to manage a project of such high intensity by the Council	

Cr Ronald Plummer left at 11:50
Cr Ronald Plummer returned at 11:51

7.2 DEPUTY MAYOR RESIGNATION

MOTION:

That Council: receive and note the resignation of the Deputy Mayor Dianne Stokes.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Hal Ruger

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 85/22

Councillors decided that currently there is no need to elect a temporary Deputy Mayor

7.3 RATIFICATION OF COMMON SEAL

MOTION

That Council: ratify the execution of the following document under the Council's Common Seal:

Extension of the Commonwealth Grant Agreement under the Drought Community Program from 01 September 2020 to 31 March 2022, between the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources and BRC.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ronald Plummer

Seconded: Cr Heather Wilson

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 86/22

CEO explained that the improved use of reporting template enhanced the communication with Councillors

7.4 RE-LOCATION OF PEOPLE & CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

MOTION

That Council: approve realignment of the People & Culture department to report to the Office of the CEO.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Pam Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 87/22

Improvement in communication and collaboration to align with Council's strategic objectives

7. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

8.1 GRANTS

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the Grants Report for the period to March 31, 2022, by Sid Vashist – Director of Corporate Services

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 88/22

More discussions are needed between government agencies to: realign of 3 Governments for better coordination in grants and funding programs

8.2 CORPORATE SERVICE REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note Corporate Service Report the report for April by Sid Vashist – Director of Corporate Services

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Jack Club

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 89/22

Discussion on:

- Funding for People and Culture department consultancy on OHS
- Documented work plan to address gaps between directors
- Underemployment

Cr Ronald Plummer left at 12:24 PM

Cr Ronald Plummer returned at 12:27 PM

Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin left the meeting, the time being 12:33 PM

Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin returned to the meeting, the time being 12:37 PM

8.3 MARCH FINANCE REPORT COMMENTS

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the Finance Reports for April by James Sanders – Acting Finance Manager.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ronald Plummer

Seconded: Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 90/22

BREAK FOR THE LUNCH BREAK AT 12:41 PM

MOTION

That Council: break for the lunch break.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Heather Wilson

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 91/22

Cr Jack Club left the meeting, the time being 12:43 PM

RESUME FROM LUNCH BREAK

MOTION

That Council: resume from lunch break.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Lennie Barton

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 92/22

8. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE REPORTS

9.1 INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the Infrastructure Directorate Report for April by Santosh Niraula – Director of Infrastructure

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 93/22

Discussions:

- Tender variation to be updated in May meeting
- There is no allocated budget for tyre removal so, need ongoing allocation
- Requirement of Framework for the waste management plan
- Go Kart - Tyres are dumped at the private property. So, Council decides to involve or not.
- Council doesn't have any recycling facility.
- Transporting to the nearest facility in Darwin is expensive

TYRE REMOVAL

MOTION

That Council: request to prepare a detailed report by the Director of Infrastructure. Detailing all options at the next Council meeting or circulated as the time allows.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Hal Ruger

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 94/22

9. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MARCH REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the Community Development report for April.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Russell O'Donnell

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 95/22

Discussions:

- Look at options to obtain a temperature chart for water at Swimming Pool

- Discuss with LA changing the working hours to encourage Elliott library recruitment
- Ali Curung Safe House – contractor to verify local employment
- Options to track local employment using Tech1

Cr Hal Ruger left the meeting, the time being 01:49 PM

10. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

11.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

MOTION

That Council:

- receive and note the Local Authority Report for April;
- receive and note the minutes from the Ali Curung Local Authority March Meeting;
- receive and note the minutes from the Alpururulam Local Authority March Meeting; and
- approve the allocation of \$1000.00 of Alpururulam Local Authority funding to invite Simon Storey to host stage play and workshops in Alpururulam.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 96/22

Discussions:

- Formation of new TCLA – Chairs and shade areas, footpaths etc.
- Waiting time at Centrelink is too long up to 5 hours with only one frontline staff to attend.

MOTION

That Council: write to Minister addressing concerns of Council on safety and wellbeing of residents in obtaining the essential service from Centrelink:

- Waiting time at Centrelink is too long, up to 5 hours with only one frontline staff to attend; and
- Chairs and shade areas during waiting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Ronald Plummer

Seconded: Cr Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 97/22

11. OPERATIONS

15.1 APRIL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the *Operations Director's* report by Troy Koch – Director of Operations.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 98/22

Discussions:

- Noticed improvement in staff wellbeing, behaviour and environment.
- Mayor congratulated on Anzac day preparation work.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

16.1 SUN CABLE PROJECT LEGISLATION

MOTION

That Council: Receive and note the report.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 99/22

Discussions:

- Energy shift – Validate benefit to Territory and Council
- BRC wants one on one consultation due to extensive exposure.
- Also, BRC encourages discussion with other Councils and NTG

16.2 PROPOSAL FOR TENNANT CREEK PRAYER FACILITY

MOTION

That Council:

- a) receive and note the request from the Tennant Creek Muslim Community;
- b) affirm BRC's support for a Mosque or other dedicated place of worship for Muslims in Tennant Creek;
- d) decline request for use of the Civic Hall; and
- c) explore a range of options to provide alternative support or advice.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Ronald Plummer

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 100/22

13. CORRESPONDENCE

17.1 CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION

That Council: receive and note the correspondence for April.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Pam Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 101/22

14. DECISION TO MOVE INTO THE CLOSED SESSION

MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL

MOTION

That Council: move into confidential session.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Lennie Barton

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 102/22

RECOMMENDATION:

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 99(2)* of the *Local Government Act 2019* and *Regulation 51* of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* as the items lists come within the following provisions:-

- (a) 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;
- (b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;
- (c) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:
 - (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person; or
 - (ii) prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; or
 - (iii) prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; or
 - (iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person;

- (d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity;
- (e) subject to subregulation (3) – 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;
- (f) subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

18.3 REQUEST FOR CIVIC HALL HIRE FEE WAIVER

The report will be dealt with under Section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulation 51 (b) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. It contains information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer; AND information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

MOTION

That Council:

- a) receive and note the request from Catholic Care NT;
- b) approve the request for Civic Hall hire fee waiver for the “Dolly’s Day” event to be held; and
- c) move into ordinary.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Noel Hayes

Seconded: Cr Pam Corbett

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OCCS 103/22

MOVE OUT OF CONFIDENTIAL

MOTION

That Council: move out of Confidential.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OCCS 104/22

15. RESUMPTION OF MEETING

RESUME ORDINARY SESSION

MOTION

That Council: resume the ordinary session.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Russell O'Donnell

Seconded: Cr Noel Noel Hayes

CARRIED UNAN.

Resolved OC 105/22

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 3:30 PM

This page and the proceeding 15 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday, 28 April 2022 and are unconfirmed.

Jeffrey McLaughlin
Council Mayor

Emma Bradbury
Chief Executive Officer