

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 Wednesday 27 March 2024 at 8:30 am.

Jeff MacLeod

Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION

We strive to be a responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens to 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 policies 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.



BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

We need to be realistic, transparent, and accountable.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Warumungu, Mudberra, Jingili, Wakaya, Wambaya, Waanyi, Walpiri, Warlmanpa, Alyawarr, Anmatyerre and Kaytetye Country on which Barkly Regional Council live and work, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to the ancestors and elders of these lands, past, present and emerging.

May we continue to work together to Deliver sustainable outcomes through a process Based on mutual respect and understanding.

COUNCIL PRAYER

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we trust you will guide and bless this meeting of the Barkly Regional Council. We pray that you will ensure that all discussions and decisions made today are just and fair as they will affect all people within. We also pray for your guidance to ensure that all our dealings are appropriate to all those whom we represent and will reflect an equitable and honest approach to the issues to be discussed today.





Amen

1 OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

1.1 Elected Members Present

Peter Holt - Official Manager.

Meeting commenced at 8.30am with Official Manager Peter Holt as Chair.

1.2 Staff Members Present

- · Acting CEO Jeff MacLeod,
- Ex CEO Ian Bodill,
- Executive Manager Faye Jennings,
- · Chief Financial Officer Romeo Mutsago,
- · Governance Manager Emmanuel Okumu,
- · Director Operations and Remote Communities Brody Moore,
- Director Corporate Services Murray Davies,
- Director Community Services Gillian Molloy (online), Regional Manager Safe Houses & Youth Rec Sagar Chand,
- · Acting Director Tennant Creek Ryan Francis.
 - 1.3 Visitors Present

Nil

1.4 Apologies and Leave of Absence

Nil

1.5 Apologies without notice

Nil

1.6 Review of Disclosure of Interest

Nil



2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of previous minutes

2.1 Confirmation of previous minutes

MOTION

That Council received and confirmed the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 06.03.2024 as a true and accurate record on that Meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/105*

3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Actions from previous Minutes

3.1 Actions register

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the items in the action register and resolves to make any other decision in relation to the actions in the register.

AMENDED MOTION

That council

- Resolved to direct the CEO to review the action register process for each proceeding Council meeting.
- 2. Noted the progress on the actions in the register and kept open the following actions:

Item No. 6.1 – DIPL working group

This is an ongoing working group regularly liaising with DIPL and contractors. **This** will remain open until the project is delivered.



Item No. 10.1 – Operations Directorate Report – Actions as per resolution: Council Approved the actions below from the Elliot Local Authority meeting:

- 3.1 Purchase of ATV for Elliot to assist with the delivery of Municipal Services
- 3.2 To seek funding for a shade structure and toilet facilities at the Elliot cemetery.
- 3.3 To approve the use of BRC Projects drone to complete aerial mapping of E Flliot.
- 3.4 Approve and draft correspondence to Anyinginyi Health seeking an update on the proposed Elliot Sobering Up Shelter.
- 3.5 Accepts and releases \$1000 of Elliot LA Funds to Elliot and Newcastle Waters Sports and Rec. Association for the Anzac Day Barbeque.
 Director of Operations and Remote Communities to write a report to the Elliot LA on the Council decision In Progress

Item 6.3 – Audit and Risk Committee – Variation under BRD 15.03.2024 Contract was shared with ARC at 08.03.2024 meeting. Ongoing discussions with GT members – pending investigators report Furnished to ARC at 08.03.2024 Meeting In progress

Item 6.1 Reviewed Vehicle Use policy 15.03.2024 Emmanuel Okumu – The Official

15.03.2024 Emmanuel Okumu – The Official Manager raised questions around unrestricted personal use, fuel card entitlement and full licence vs. P plate CEO authorisation. Approval of the policy is pending. **In progress**

Item 6.2 - NT Remuneration Tribunal Report

Action as per resolution – send a copy of the determination to each Local Authority member whose entitlements are affected. **Local Authority Coordinator to action – In progress**

Item 8.3 – HR Report – Workforce Profile Report

Action as per resolution – Director Operations/Director Corporate Investigate smart sheet as a user friendly alternative for capturing actions from meetings.

Director Corporate Services – In progress

Item 11.1 – Ali Curung LA Minutes and action tracker

Action as per resolution – Director of Operations to draft correspondence for the CEO's approval: Draft correspondence to:

- a. Power and water inviting them to Ali Curung to address ongoing service issues.
- b. Northern Territory Government regarding the allocation of funds for the proposed Airstrip project.



- c. Northern Territory Health seeking clarification on the protocol and policies for the treatment of injured community members and after hours call outs.
- d. Northern Territory Health to request an update on the proposal of the Renal Health Clinic in Ali Curung community.
- e. Department of Chief Minister to advocate for reliable back up generator and systems to address on going power issues in community.

Director of Operations and Remote Communities – In progress

Item 11.2 – Plant and machinery report

Director of Operations and Remote Communities – to follow up and update Council on the status of seeking external funding to purchase priority plant required; excavator, loader and backhoe.

Director of Operations and Remote Communities – In progress

Item 9.2 – International Womens Day Celebrations in Elliot.

A report of the event to be submitted to the next Elliot Local Authority Meeting.

Regional Manager of Safe Houses – In progress

 $\label{lem:condition} \begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Item 10.3-Local Authority Minutes and Actions Ampilatwatja.} \\ \textbf{List of recommendations from LA members for Regional Plan.} \\ \end{tabular}$

Director of Operations and Remote Communities – In progress

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously Resolved OMC-24/106

- 4 ADDRESSING THE MEETING
 Nil
- 5 OFFICIAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Official Manager's Report

5.1 Official Manager's Report

MOTION



That Council receives and notes the Official Manager's report.

Background: The report provides updates of the Official Managers activities including the following area;

- The Official Manager informed the council that the most critical issue for all Local Authority meetings during March and April is to provide input to the Regional Plan 2024-25 so that when the draft is presented at the next LA meeting there is clear direction from the LA members on what they want council to deliver for their community in the next financial year.
- The report further provides update that council has commenced recruitment for a new Chief Executive Officer and it will be done by ANSON. That in that period of recruitment, Mr McLeod will act as the CEO for two months up to the end of May 2024.
- The report notes that on March 21 the BRC hosted the Australian Citizenship ceremony and welcomed 12 new Australian Citizens.
- The report also provided update of the Council's recent meeting with Senator Chisholm, the Assistant Minister for Regional Development, to discuss the Barkly Regional Deal and infrastructure needs across the region
- That council has commenced regular meetings with PowerWater to ensure improved collaboration across the Barkly. Some of the issues raised included the replacement of streetlights in Tennant Creek, emergency power in Ali Curung (where a 3-day power failure meant the community did not have running water), the failure of Smart Meters, issues raised by the Elliott LA including the quality of drinking water, and the possibility of a solar power project at Juno.
- The report provides that the report on the Investigation of the Barkly Regional Council by Ruth Morley has now been presented to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Chaney Paech. The report was completed on time and went to the Minster on 12 March.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/107*

6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS

Chief Executive Officers Reports



6.1 The CEO's Report

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the CEO Report.
- 2. Requests the CEO to organize with LGANT a Local Buy presentation to BRC staff and Local businesses.

Action required.

That the CEO organize with LGANT a Local Buy presentation to BRC staff and Local businesses. (Local Buy is a procurement organization established by Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) to meet the procurement needs of Local Government).

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously
Resolved OMC-24/108

Chief Executive Officers Reports

6.2 Petition by concerned residents.

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. receives and notes the petition from the concerned residents.
- 2. Resolves to make any other direction

AMENDED MOTION

That council resolves to ask the CEO to have a letter written providing update to the petitioners through the post office box provided.

Background: On 13 March 2024, the office of the CEO received a petition from concerned residents regarding Streetlighting on Kargaru Town Camp Road.

Action required: Acting Director of Tennant Creek to draft a letter for the CEO signature providing response to the recent Kargaru Town petition.

RESOLVED



Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/109*

Chief Executive Officers Reports

6.3 Ratification of Common Seal

MOTION

That Council resolves to ratify the execution of the documents retrospectively under the Council's Common Seal.

AMENDMENT BACKGROUND

Under section 38 of the Local Government Act 2019, Execution of documents cannot be ratified by 2 staff members i.e. CEO and CFO for example. They can only be ratified once they are signed by the CEO and at least one elected member under the Council's Common Seal.

AMENDED MOTION

That the documents be presented to the Official Manager to affix a signature to the Common Seal Documents.

The aforementioned documents being:

- Deed of variation to Project Agreement(s)
- Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the National Indigenous Australians Agency and Barkly Regional Council.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/110*

Chief Executive Officers Reports



6.4 Work Health & Safety Policy

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the reviewed Barkly Regional Council Work Health & Safety Policy or;
- 2. Recommends other changes to the policy

AMENDED MOTION

That council resolves to defer this policy to the next ordinary council meeting and directs that the policy be sent back to the ELT for further review and the revised version be presented at next Ordinary Council Meeting.

Background: The Official Manager said the policy should be made clear on how it seeks to deal with and prevent the WHS related risks.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/111*

Chief Executive Officers Reports

6.5 Vehicle use policy update.

MOTION

That Council receives and notes a verbal update review of the vehicle use policy.

AMENDED MOTION

That council resolves to defer this policy to the next ordinary council meeting and directs that the policy be sent back to the ELT for further review and the revised version be presented at next Ordinary Council Meeting.

Background: Concerns raised by the Official Manager regarding the policy around personal use of council vehicle, fuel card among others, still needed to be addressed.

Action required: The CEO to have the policy discussed with the ELT and the concerned resolved before the next ordinary council meeting.



RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously
Resolved OMC-24/112

7 FINANCE REPORTS

Finance Reports

7.1 Finance Directorate Report

MOTION

Council receives and notes the Finance Report for the year-to-date 29 February 2024.

Background: The report summaries the Finance Directorate activities for the year-to-date 29 February 2024.

1. Audit Risk Committee/Finance Risk Committee.

The council directed that the Audit Risk Committee and the Finance Risk Committee should not be combined as one committee. They should be operating as two separate committees.

2. Risk Function Workplan

The Council emphasised the need for a comprehensive outline of the mitigation strategies being put in place to address financial risks. This includes identification of potential risks, assessment of their impact, and development of proactive measures to mitigate their effects; defining reporting lines.

Official Manager questioned why the issue of carrying out internal audit on procurement practices as recommended by the audit and risk committee was not shown in the committee's report.

He further said that emphasis needs to be placed on the workplan aligning with the organisations strategic objectives, regulatory obligations and best practice.

- 3. Financial Reporting Council emphasised the need for the financial reporting to be provided by community highlighting expenditure for each ward.
 - 3. The Grants Report is currently being captured under the Corporate Services
 Directorate. This is to be reported under the Finance Directorate going forward.



Action required: The CEO and ELT discuss and review Audit Risk Committee/Finance Risk Committee and advise council.

The CEO to follow up with the finance directorate and advise the council on when the internal audit of the procurement process will be carried out.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/113*

8 CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Corporate Services Directorate Reports

8.0 ICT Report

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the ICT Report.

Background: The Corporate Services Director addressed the issue of the current points to points system utilized by BRC, highlighting its impending obsolescence and the necessity for its replacement in the near future. It was emphasized that proactive measures need to be taken to ensure the smooth transition to a new system while safeguarding the Council's interests throughout the process.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/114*

Corporate Services Directorate Reports

8.1 Grants Report

MOTION

That Council notes and accepts the Grants Report.



Background: This report presents an overview of the status of Grants applications, reporting and acquittals for the Barkly Regional Council. The report aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current Grants landscape and relays what grants have been applied for in the reporting period, what grants are currently opening and opening soon, what current opportunities are in progress and what previously applied for grants have been successful (or unsuccessful). In addition, reporting requirements for grants in progress is also noted.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/115*

Corporate Services Directorate Reports

8.2 Monthly workforce profile report

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the Monthly workforce profile report.

Background: A Report was generated to provide Council with a snapshot around personnel and any underlying trends.

Director of Corporate Services explained that a significant number of casual staff were removed from employment, due to non- attendance or resignation.

He further said that council has recruited one of the highly experienced training officers who is due to start in the month of April and reporting requirements for Council to include a Workforce training report.

Action required: HR department present the Workforce Graphs differently going forward – pie graph or similar.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/116*

9 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE REPORTS



Community Development Directorate Reports

9.1 Barkly Animal Management facility - funding options

MOTION

That Council notes and accepts the Barkly Animal Management facility report.

AMENDED MOTION

That Council:

- Resolves to defer accepting the Barkly Animal Management facility report until
 further notice and directs the Director of Community Development to first provide
 Council with a developed comprehensive project plan showing; how much the
 facility is likely to cost, operational costs, as well as addressing the diverse needs and
 concerns of all parties involved.
- 2. Refer the matter to the Animal Management Advisory Committee for further discussion and advise.

Background: This report seeks council ratification to authorise the sourcing of funding for the development of an animal management facility in the Dog Dreaming cultural region of Tennant Creek. The facility aims to address the current inadequacies in veterinary services, pound area management, and community engagement regarding animal welfare.

The official manager's view was that it wouldn't be worth it to begin by looking for funds when we don't know the likely costs involved. He further said that the AMAC should first discuss such a matter, and their report should be attached to the Directorate report as advice to the council, as that is one of the reasons why AMAC was established.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried unanimously
Resolved OMC-24/117

Community Development Directorate Reports



9.2 Community Development report

MOTION

That Council receives and accepts the Community Development February report.

ADDED MOTION

That Council directs the CEO to have the Council Bylaw report provided to council in the next ordinary council meeting.

Background: Some sections of the Council Bylaws reflect information that may require reviewing and updating to reflect the Barkly Region instead of Tennant Creek Municipality. The Official Manager requires that a report outlining areas of the bylaws which requires changes be presented to council for further decision.

Action required: The CEO to instruct the relevant directorate staff to prepare the report and have it ready for the next council meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt Carried Unanimously Resolved OMC-24/118

10 TENNANT CREEK DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Tennant Creek Directorate Reports

10.1 Tennant Creek Directorate Report

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the Tennant Creek Directorate report for February.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously Resolved OMC-24/119



Tennant Creek Directorate Reports

10.2 Kargaru Road Report

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the Street lighting to Kargaru Road report.

Background: The BRC has identified the need for installing street lighting along this road, and funding has been successfully secured through an application process. Recent events have underscored the urgency of this initiative. Following an unfortunate accident on the road, where a resident was struck and injured, concerned residents have submitted a petition highlighting the lack of street lighting as a contributing factor to such incidents.

Action required: Acting Director of Tennant Creek to draft a letter for the CEO signature providing response to the recent Kargaru Town petition.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/120*

11 OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Operations Directorate Reports

11.1 New Position Proposal - Senior Regional Area Manager

MOTION

That Council

- 1. Notes and accepts the report proposal to amend the BRC organisational structure to create the position of Senior Regional Area Manager.
- 2. Approves the creation of a Senior Regional Area Manager position within the Operations Directorate due to operational need.

AMENDED MOTION

That Council resolves not to accept this report and directs the CEO to carry out further review on issues of organisations structure as well as roles and responsibilities of officers.



Background: Proposal for the creation of a new position within the Barkly Regional Council, Senior Regional Area Manager - communities.

The Official Manager questioned whether such need for creation of additional positions has been discussed in the ELT and found to be crucial and necessary.

Action Required: CEO to review.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously
Resolved OMC-24/121

Operations Directorate Reports

11.2 Arlparra - Local Authority Minutes and Actions

MOTION

That Council

- 1. Notes and accepts the Arlparra Local Authority Minutes conducted on the 5th March 2024, as an accurate record of meeting.
- 2. Notes and accepts the updates to the Local Authority action list;
- A) \$150,000 commitment of Local Authority Funds to the proposed Rest Area and Camping Ground in Arlparra community
- B) \$50,000 commitment to upgrade the Arlparra children's playground

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/122*

Operations Directorate Reports

11.3 Alpurrurrulam - Local Authority Minutes and Actions

MOTION



That Council:

- 1. Notes and accepts the Alpurrurrulam Local Authority minutes conducted on the 29th February 2024, as an accurate record of meeting.
- 2. Notes and accepts the updates to the Local Authority action list;
- a. \$2,100 commitment of LAPF to purchase three tarpaulins currently in community for emergencies.
- b. \$15,000 commitment of LAPF to renovate a room of the community centre for the visiting community vet service.

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously
Resolved OMC-24/123

Operations Directorate Reports

11.4 Local Authority Resignations

MOTION

That Council;

- 1. Notes and accepts the Director of Operations report regarding Local Authority resignations.
- 2. Notes and accepts the Local Authority resignations of;

Mr. David Riley – Alpurrurrulam Local Authority
Mr. Jackie Mahoney – Alpurrurrulam Local Authority

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/124*

12 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil



13 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

14 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

14.1 Correspondence

MOTION

That Council receives and notes the BRC incoming and outgoing correspondence since the last OCM.

Background: Under s 55 (2) of the LG (general regulation) 2011, the Council must keep a correspondence register referencing all correspondence addressed to or sent by, the Council or its principal member.

The Official Manager is requested to note the listed BRC correspondence.

List of documents names.

- 1. CoP Sharing of Working Alone Procedure From the CEO, City of Palmerston.
- 2. Petition from concerned residents
- 3. BRC's CEO acknowledgment letter for the receipt of the petition.
- 4. Residential Youth Justice Facilities letter

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously

Resolved OMC-24/125

15 DECISION TO MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

That 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 listed to be discussed come within the following provisions: -

RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt



Carried Unanimously

Resolved OMC-24/126

15.1 Review of Enterprise Bargaining Agreement

REASONS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Status 51(1)(a) - This item is considered 'Confidential' 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, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, 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.

Status 51(1)(d) - This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(d) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

15.2 Update on CEO recruitment.

REASONS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Status 51(1)(a) - This item is considered 'Confidential' 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, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, 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.

15.3 Review of Housing Policy

REASONS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Status 51(1)(c)(ii) - This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(ii) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, which states a council may close to the public only so much of its meeting as comprises the receipt or discussion of, or a motion or both relating to, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 50(1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be re-opened to the public at 12.10pm



RESOLVED

Moved: Peter Holt Seconded: Peter Holt

Carried Unanimously *Resolved OMC-24/127*

16 NEXT MEETING AND MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 12:10pm

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the meeting of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27.03.2024 and are unconfirmed.

Official Manager – Peter Holt