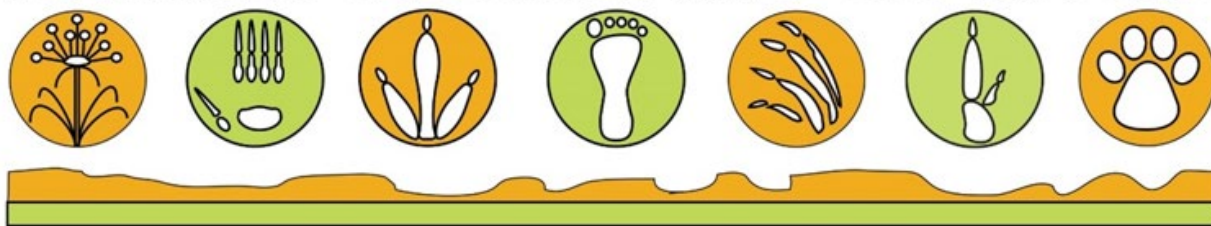


BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting of the Special Council Meeting of the Barkly Regional Council was held in Council Chambers, 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek on Tuesday 19 December 2023 at 1:28 pm.

Ian Bodill

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.

We need to be realistic, transparent, and accountable.

1 OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting commenced at 1:28pm with Official Manager Peter Holt as chair.

1.1 Elected Members Present

- Peter Holt - Official Manager

1.2 Staff Members Present

- Ian Bodill – Chief Executive Officer
- Romeo Mutsago - Chief Financial Officer
- Murray Davies – Director Corporate Services
- Gillian Molloy – Director of Community Development
- Ryan Francis – Acting Director of Tennant Creek
- Brody Moore – Director of Operations and Remote Communities
- Faye Jennings – Executive Manager (Minute Taker)
- Emmanuel Okumu - Governance Manager

1.3 Visitors Present

- Ms. Ruth Morley

1.4 Apologies and Leave of Absence

NIL

1.5 Disclosure of Interest

NIL

1.6 Review of Disclosure of Interest

NIL

2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL

3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL

4 ADDRESSING THE MEETING

NIL

5 OFFICIAL MANAGERS REPORT

Our Community Services:

Tennant Creek Pool

This week marked the commencement of the Tennant Creek Town Pool Xmas holiday program supported by the Chief Minister through grants from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Families, Housing and Communities. In addition, successful repairs have taken place at the Elliott Water Park and work at the Ali Curung Park are expected to be completed before Christmas.

I commend Brody Moore, our Director of Operations, and Lachlan Wilkins from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet for their work in developing this initiative and coordinating the input from a number of contributors across Tennant Creek.

Elliott Local Authority

Last Thursday the CEO, Directors of Operations and Community Services and I attended the Elliott Local Authority to get a better appreciation of their activities and priority projects. One area of concern has been the lack of financial information provided to the local authority on their own funding and the Council's expenditure in the area. We are seeking to address this through the development of a more comprehensive report which we should have available for all LAs early in the new year.

We are also working to develop a better communication process for the Council's interaction with local authorities to ensure their issues are followed up, that we have complete lists of the issues and projects they have raised, and that we, as a Council, respond actively and professionally to their requests for timely information. I welcome Paul Kaduru to the role of Local Authority Coordinator and confirm that BRC will continue to focus on engagement with local authorities as a priority and ensure that we maintain a Register of their administrative and financial requests to council.

Veterinary Services

Animal health and BRC's management of the program has been contentious in recent times but I am happy to report that over the last couple of months the Barkly Vet Practice has visited Elliott, Marlinja, Ampilatwatja, Ali Curung (and Murray Downs) and Wutunugurra desexing 135 dogs and cats, spending 13 days in surgery.

We have recently met with Dr David Hall and Elliot McAdam to discuss the plans for animal management in Tennant Creek and across the Barkly region for the next year. We have developed a program to be delivered by Barkly Veterinary Service for Veterinarian's visits up to May 2024. In June we will review the effectiveness of the program in terms of animal health and population.

The Animal Management Advisory Group is also being reformed and their focus over the next six months will be the finalisation of the Animal Management Plan 2024-27, with input from AMRRIC and responding to the outcome of the internal review we are undertaking in June 2024. We also want to have far greater focus on community education as part of the new Plan and we are particularly interested in how we might enhance programs for young people run in schools by the NT Education Department.

Ministerial Visit

Today we were visited by the Hon Chansey Paech MLA, Minister for Local Government and Attorney General and more recently the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the Hon Kate Worden, in her role as Minister for Sport.

We had exciting discussions with the Ministers with regard to the provision of sport and recreation facilities across the region, and particularly on how we may be able to progress the Ali Curung Youth Centre. We look forward to further engagement with the NT government on improving infrastructure, increasing our access to staffing across the region and how we can better integrate our programs with NTG Sport and Recreation regional staff.

School Holiday Program

I would like to compliment all the staff involved in developing school holiday programs and activities across the region. This is the most important time of the year for keeping youth and children engaged and I am grateful for the all the work that has gone into the program in the TC Youth Centre, the library, the pool, the sporting fields and on all our remote communities.

6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS

Chief Executive Officers Reports

6.1 Council Advisory Committees

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1) Establishes and resolves to call for nominations for the Advisory Committees—namely, (a) Remote Communities Advisory Committee and (b) Youth Centres Advisory Committee.
- 2) Directs Tennant Creek Local Authority to also perform TC advisory committee role
- 3) Receives and resolves to approve the BRC Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference



MOTION

That Council:

- 1) Established and resolved to call for nominations for the Advisory Committees—namely, (a) Remote Communities Advisory Committee and (b) Youth Centres Advisory Committee.
- 2) Directed Tennant Creek Local Authority to also perform TC advisory committee role
- 3) Received and resolved to approve the BRC Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference

RESOLVED

Moved: Official Manager - Peter Holt

CARRIED

Resolved SCM-23/12

The need to establish a Remote Communities Advisory Committee was reiterated by Peter Holt Official Manager. It was highlighted that involving Local Authority members in its formation is crucial for its successful progression. The advisory committee is set to operate throughout the administration period, and it was emphasized that its structure will adapt to align with government decisions, ensuring continuity. Additionally, it was noted that the regional advisory committee will address broader issues beyond individual community concerns. Unlike voluntary roles, this committee will comprise paid representatives. Peter Holt Official Manager recommended that all councillors from the Pata Ward will serve as paid representatives for Tennant Creek.

7 CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Nil

8 TENNANT CREEK DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Nil

9 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Community Development Directorate Reports

9.1 Community Development

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and approves the request to waive dog adoption fees.

MOTION

That Council received and approved the request to waive dog adoption fees with a view to managing the population in the pound.

RESOLVED

Moved: Official Manager - Peter Holt

CARRIED

Resolved SCM-23/13

The council supported the proposal to waive dog adoption fees as a measure to tackle the growing population in the pound. Highlighted was the prolonged stay of dogs, raising concerns about their well-being and quality of life. Each dog undergoes essential procedures like microchipping, desexing, and essential treatments before being placed in a new home. Barkly Regional Council has agreed to evaluate this approach based on the individual needs of each animal in the pound.

10 OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE REPORTS

Operations Directorate Reports

10.1 Canteen Creek road Vesting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1) Receives and notes the report from Barkly Regional Council Projects Team regarding the proposed Canteen Creek Road vesting.
- 2) Resolves to accept the request from Crown Lands for the vesting of the section of the Canteen Creek Road, noting that LGANT will maintain the road up to the completion of the community subdivision expected in 2025.

MOTION

That Council:

- 1) Received and noted the report from Barkly Regional Council Projects Team regarding the proposed Canteen Creek Road vesting.

2) Resolved to accept the request from Crown Lands for the vesting of the section of the Canteen Creek Road, noting that LGANT will maintain the road up to the completion of the community subdivision expected in 2025.

RESOLVED

Moved: Official Manager - Peter Holt

CARRIED

Resolved SCM-23/14

Murray Davies – Director of Corporate Services left the meeting – 1:50 pm

11 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

13 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

14 DECISION TO MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

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: -

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;

information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to:

cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person; or

prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; or

prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; or

subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person;

information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity;

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;

subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

14.1 Ampilatwatja LA Nominations

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.

14.2 Arlparra Local Authority

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.

14.3 Confidential Items Register

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.

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.

Status 51(1)(c)(iv) - This item is considered 'Confidential' pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 51(1)(c)(iv) 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: subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

15 NEXT MEETING AND MEETING CLOSE 1:51pm

