



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:30 AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was a provisional meeting and declared open at 11.00AM

**2 WELCOME**

**3 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Attendance, Apologies and Leave</b>

Local Authority Members

Member Rosina Kunia, Member Winsome Newberry, Member Priscilla Abbott and Member Brett Stockman

Councillors

Nil

Council Employees

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children's services, Benny Alick – Acting Area Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Office and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator (Minute taker)

Guests

Marlene Abbott – arrived 10:50am and departed 11:00am

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to acknowledge the attendance and to table, for the Authority's record, any apologies received from Members for this meeting.

***DRLA2025-50 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Winsome Newberry)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) nominated Member Priscilla Abbott as Acting Chairperson;
- b) noted the Member's attendance at this meeting;
- c) tabled apologies received from Councillors Abraham Poulson, Peter Wilson

- and President Roxanne Kenny for this meeting; and
- d) recorded Chairperson Ruby James and Member Selinda De Rosa as absent, without notice, for this meeting.

#### **4 NOMINATIONS AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Membership</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the vacancies on the Local Authority (the Authority) and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the Local Government Act 2019 (the Act).

##### ***DRLA2025-51 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Priscilla Abbott)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council;

- a) congratulated returning Councillor Abraham Poulson and welcomes newly elected Councillor Peter Wilson to the Authority;
- b) thanked Marlene Abbott for her dedication and commitment on the Authority;
- c) noted that the resignation from Denise Brady at the last meeting has resulted in a vacancy on the Local Authority;
- d) called for community nominations to open to fill the one vacancy;
- e) noted that memberships will be revoked if members are absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings; and
- f) notes the following appointments of Council;
  - o Roxanne Kenny as President
  - o Maryanne Malbunka as Deputy President.

Minute Note: Members were informed that in alignment with good governance, Docker River's first meeting in 2026 will include the selection of a Chairperson for a 12 month term. This will ensure the opportunity for broader participation in a leadership role.

#### **5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct</b>

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report contains all of the details about the MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct Policy.

##### ***DRLA2025-52 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote,

made a recommendation to Council that the Council Code of Conduct was noted.

## **6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides the minutes of the previous Docker River Local Authority Meeting held 28 July 2025 to be approved by the Authority.

### ***DRLA2025-53 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote:

- a) noted that the minutes of the meeting held 28 July 2025 was read; and
- b) that these minutes be presented for confirmation at the next Authority meeting.

## **7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by the Members for this Local Authority Meeting.

### ***DRLA2025-54 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council that the agenda papers for this Local Authority meeting as presented, was received for consideration at this meeting.

## **8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Conflict of Interest</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Local Authority in relation to declaring personal or family financial interest that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

### ***DRLA2025-55 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Priscilla Abbott)***

**That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote:**

- a) noted the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
- b) that members did not declare any conflicts of interest.**

## **10 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Project Register</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Northern Territory Government (NTG) and invested in projects and development to benefit and improve the community.

**Examples of acceptable purposes for expenditure include:**

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds /shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAPF has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

*At risk funds'* are funds that may include unallocated funds and/or funds that have been allocated but remains unspent.

### **DRLA2025-56 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)**

**That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:**

- a) acknowledged that \$62,702.87 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**
- b) noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management office as follows:**
  - **2122 – New Park location, allocating an additional \$19,719,85 to this project;**
  - **2124 - Bin Trailer still in production; and**
  - **2125 – Bases for Solar lights, noting that the six lights will be distributed evenly between the three parks.**
- c) closed 2570 – Water Trailer, returning \$3,341.20 to unallocated.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Discretionary Funds</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each financial year, MacDonnell Regional Council grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority. These funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

#### **DRLA2025-57 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council that:

- a) noted that no allocations were made at the previous meeting; and
- b) allocated \$2,000.00 towards a community bbq for Christmas with the CSC to organise.

### **11 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>MRC Position Vacancies Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Coordinator Governance</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

#### **DRLA2025-58 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, accepted the attached list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Docker River as of 3 October 2025.

Minute Note: Members were informed that casual vacancies are not reported.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Services LA Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Ellen Fitzgerald, Administration Officer</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Docker River across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

**DRLA2025-59 RESOLVED (Brett Stockmen/Priscilla Abbott)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation that the Council Services report was noted and accepted

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Aged and Children's Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of Children's Services in Docker River.

**DRLA2025-60 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Winsome Newberry)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation that the Children's Services report was noted and accepted.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>11.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Youth and Community Safety Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Annaliza Rivera, Senior Administration Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Community Safety in Docker River.

**DRLA2025-61 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Priscilla Abbott)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation that the Community Safety report was noted and accepted

**12 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Council Business</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to give Members the opportunity to discuss General Council Business items.

**DRLA2025-62 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)**

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote:

- a) noted that the new bins are currently in Imanpa awaiting delivery to Docker River; and
- b) noted that the Road Management signs will be followed up on by the Director Council Services.

**Minute Note:** The matters discussed were operational matters and not action items, however would be followed up by Council Services Area Manager. Council was also advised that some of the machinery was out of action due to repairs and maintenance needed.

### **13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>General Non-Council Business</b>

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the opportunity to raise matters relating to Non-Council Business.

#### ***DRLA2025-63 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Brett Stockmen)***

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council that the matters raised were discussed as follows:

- **Housing:**  
Members requests clarification on whether brick houses can be constructed in Docker River community, and if not, they are seeking advice on the reasons and restrictions preventing this type of construction. Members were advised to raise their concerns regarding housing allocations, empty houses and transitional housing at their Housing Reference Group meetings.
- **Notes** that House 71 had submitted an urgent request to their plumbing/sewerage issues.

Minute Note: Members advised that these matters will be forwarded to Jessica Scrutton – NTG Community Development Representative.

### **14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2026**

### **15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 11:47 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 22 October 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.