



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON MONDAY 28 JULY 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was postponed to 11.44AM before being declared open

2 WELCOME

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /
NOMINATIONS**

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Ruby James, Member Denise Brady, Member Brett Stockmen, Member Rosina Kunia

Councillors:

Member Marlene Abbott

Member Abraham Poulson – attended via Teams from the Areyonga Office

Council Employees:

Belinda Urquhart – CEO, Keith Hassett – Director Community Services, Mark O'Bryan – Area Manager, Ruth Tahere – Acting Manager Project Manager, Ryan Rosenberg – Project Management Officer and June Crabb – Governance Coordinator

Guests:

Nil

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Priscilla Abbott, Member Selinda Lily De Rose and Member Winsome Newberry

Absentees:

Nil

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

DRLA2025-036 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Rosina Kunia)

That members:

- a) notes the attendance; and

- b) accepts the apologies received from Members Winsome Newberry, Priscilla Abbott and Selinda Lily De Rose

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the current membership of the Local Authority and to record the attendance at the previous meeting.

***DRLA2025-036 RESOLVED* (Denise Brady/Rosina Kunia)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that the Local Authority currently has full membership;
- b) notes the attendance of members at the previous meeting;
- c) notes two absences without notice will result in an automatic dismissal of membership;
- d) receives the resignation from Denise Brady; and
- e) acknowledges one vacancy on the authority.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

***DRLA2025-037 RESOLVED* (Rosina Kunia/Denise Brady)**

That the Docker River Local Authority notes the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRM PREVIOUS MINUTES

***DRLA2025-038 RESOLVED* (Ruby James/Brett Stockmen)**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd of May 2025 be adopted as an accurate record of proceedings.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

***DRLA2025-039 RESOLVED* (Marlene Abbott/Denise Brady)**

That the Docker River Local Authority noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

DRLA2025-040 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority notes the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

DRLA2025-041 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Docker River Local Authority declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Every four years, people living in the Northern Territory elect representatives to serve on their Local Government Council. Local Government is the level of government most connected to your community, and the 2025 Local Government Elections will be your chance to stand up and represent your local area.

DRLA2025-042 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) urges all eligible residents to ensure they are enrolled to vote;
- b) encourages community members to consider nominating as candidates;
- c) notes that nominations close Thursday 31st July; and
- d) notes and accepts the Information for Candidates for the 2025 Local Government Council Elections.

8.2 REMOTE HOUSING - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND TENANCY TEAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This section provides an opportunity for representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to provide the Local Authority with updates regarding Remote Housing programs, repairs, maintenance and tenancy.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepts the updates from Remote Housing representatives; and
- b) raises matters relating to housing repairs, maintenance and tenancy within the community.

Minute Note: A Representative was not in attendance to this meeting.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MacDonnell Regional Council develops Community Infrastructure plans for each community every five years. These plans are created in consultation with the Local Authority to record the community's priorities for the future development of their Infrastructure.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

Members discussed the following priorities at their previous meeting:

- Laundromat
- Ablution block
- Football oval, grandstand and stage
- BMX track
- Water Park
- Playground equipment

DRLA2025-043 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Denise Brady)

That the Local Authority did not add any further priorities in relation to the development of the community's infrastructure plan.

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER

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.

DRLA2025-044 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Marlene Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that \$76,372.87 are funds *at risk*;
- b) accepts the 2024/2025 Project funding allocation of \$47,100.00
- c) notes the progress on their current projects as of the 18th July 2025 as provided by the Project Management Office:
 - 2122 – Park and playground structures, noted the quote of \$55,000.00 to remove playground, build up the park area and reinstall playground was too excessive and members instead, requested that the contractor be contacted to provide a revised quote to uplift the playground and move it away from where the water is pooling.
 - 2570 – Mobile Water Trailer, allocating \$5,000.00 towards freight costs, noting that it is expected in Alice Springs within the next month and will be delivered out to Docker River once it is registered.

- d) closes project 2129 – Solar lights at entry post, returning \$3,478.95 to unallocated noting that they had been built too close to the road and were a safety concern;
- e) creates the following new projects;
 - Bases for the Solar lights, allocating \$10,000.00 and agreeing that the Civil team will remove the solar lights at the entrance to Docker River as they had been installed too close to the road, that the CSC and the Civil team liaise with community on where to install them.
 - One bin trailer, allocating \$18,000.00 to the project.
- f) did not discuss the priority of the wishlist items.

9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

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.

DRLA2025-045 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Rosina Kunia)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes the spending of your 2024/2025 Discretionary funds;
- b) receives the 2025/2026 funding allocation of \$4,000.00;
- c) notes that these funds must be spent with invoices received before 30 June 2026; and
- d) did not allocate any funds at this meeting.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 MRC POSITION VACANCIES REPORT

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.

DRLA2025-046 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Brett Stockmen)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Docker River as of the 18 July 2025.

10.2 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2025-047 RESOLVED (Denise Brady/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority of Docker River notes and accepts the attached report

10.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2025-048 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Rosina Kunia)

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the Community Services Report.

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Nil

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GERNERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members of the Authority have an opportunity to raise matters that they wish to discuss in General Council Business.

DRLA2025-049 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority during General Council Business was informed that the CSC will be taking leave for six weeks and Kelly Ryan will be Acting CSC in his place.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members can discuss matters in relation to services provided by the Northern Territory Government. This may include:

- NT Housing
- Roads outside of MRC's Area
- Education
- NT Health

DRLA2025-050 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Ruby James)

That the Local Authority:

- a) notes that no additional matters were raised; and
- b) closes the action – Digital Connectivity Project.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:46 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Monday 28 July 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.