



MINUTES OF THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD
IN THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE COUNCIL OFFICE ON
THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2025 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:40AM

1.1 NOMINATION FOR CHAIR

WLA2025-001 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Pamela Abbott)

That the Authority nominated Member Colin Craig as Acting Chair for this meeting.

2 WELCOME – A/Chair Colin Craig

3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Member Terry Abbott and Member Pamela Abbott, Member Colin Craig, and Member Howard Abbott who arrived at 10:55am

Councillors:

President Roxanne Kenny and Councillor Maryanne Malbunka

Council Employees:

James Walsh – Projects Office Manager, Kaisa Suumann – Coordinator Youth Boards, Sai Katam – Project Officer and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance

Guests:

Trude Blizzard – Project Manager, Power and Water

Kenny Vowles – Wuk Wuk Consulting for Power and Water

Via Teams: Renae

Katharine O'Donoghue – Representative from Member for Gwoja's office

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Ruth Katarintja

Ada Williams – Coordinator Council Services (attending workshop training)

Absentees:

Chairperson Billy Porter and Councillor Mark Inkamala

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

WLA2025-002 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That the Authority:

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) accepted the apology received from Member Ruth Katarintja; and
- c) noted the second absence of Member Billy Porter.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations/Membership

3.5.1 MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report details the membership of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.

As stated in Council's Policy - *MC01-CP 8.1 Appointed Members:*

8.1.1 – **Appointing Members** – local authorities

- a. Eligibility – anyone can be nominated from the local authority area, including MRC employees and youth board members.
- b. Nominations – when there is a vacancy on a local authority, the Council will give notice and there will be 21 days for nominations to be submitted.

8.1.3 – **Revocation of membership** – the Council will determine when membership of either the local authority or a council committee can be revoked.

WLA2025-003 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)

That the Local Authority:

- a) acknowledged and welcomed Ruth Katarintja and Cr Maryanne Malbunka to the Authority;
- b) noted the attendance at the previous meeting;
- c) requests that Council approve to revoke the membership of Billy Porter for being absent from two consecutive Local Authority meetings;
- d) called for community nominations to open to cover the vacancy newly created; and
- e) voted in favour of Member Colin Craig as Chairperson for the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

WLA2025-004 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

WLA2025-005 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Pamela Abbott)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority accepted the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held 12th of November 2024 as an accurate record of the proceedings.

6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

WLA2025-006 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Maryanne Malbunka)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted the that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

WLA2025-007 RESOLVED (Pamela Abbott/Terry Abbott)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

WLA2025-008 RESOLVED (Pamela Abbott/Terry Abbott)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 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.

Note: A Representative from Remote Housing did not attend this meeting.

8.2 POWER METER CHANGES - POWERWATER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This section provides an opportunity for representatives from Power & Water to provide the Local Authority with updates regarding the changes to power meters in community.

WLA2025-009 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Colin Craig)

That the Local Authority accepted the updates from Power & Water regarding the new power meters that will be installed in the community.

8.3 TRACHOMA PROGRAM

WLA2025-010 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That members agreed to support the Trachoma Program as presented by the Representative.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 ACTION REGISTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides a running list of Local Authority action items as reported in previous meetings.

WLA2025-011 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Pamela Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the progress on the action item as reported in the previous minutes;
- b) noted that the Action will be renamed to 'Advocate for secure and ongoing Sport & Rec funding for community;
- c) accepted the recommendations of the CEO as follows:
 - seek updates from the Youth Services team on the progress of funding negotiations to ensure the LA is kept informed; and
 - note that any program implementation details (staffing, hours, holiday/after school programs) would be managed as operational requirements within the funding guidelines.

9.2 YOUTH BOARD REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report outlines the recommendations from the Wallace Rockhole Youth Board meeting on 18th of February 2025 and seeks feedback from the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.

WLA2025-012 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Howard Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

1. receives and notes the minutes from the Wallace Rockhole Youth Board meeting held on 18th February 2025;
2. noted the updates on the recommendations previously raised:
 - a) Construction of a Small-Size Football Oval noting that their preference for the oval was across from the old orchard;

- b) **Basketball Court Surface Repairs** noting that an update had been provided for in the Projects Report;
- 3. **approved the following recommendations from the Youth Board's 18th February 2025 meeting;**
 - a) **\$300 from LA Project funds towards an Easter event organised by the Youth Board; and**
 - b) **the balance of the Youth Boards Movie Nights Project – be allocated towards an external hard drive.**

9.3 REGIONAL PLANNING INCORPORATING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Regional Plan is developed every year after consultation with MacDonnell Regional Council's (MRC) communities and directs how we will deliver our vision, mission and goals. The Regional Plan guides MRC staff to deliver on our mission to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services.

The Local Authority is asked to guide and support MRC staff in the development of the 2025-26 Regional Plan in the consideration of the development of the community and planning in relation to the community's infrastructure.

WLA2025-013 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- **accepted the consultation and agreed to provide support MRC staff in the development of MRCs' 2025-26 Regional Plan; and**
- **provided its priorities in relation to the development of the community's infrastructure.**

9.4 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.

WLA2025-014 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Howard Abbott)

That the Local Authority:

- a) noted the Acquittal and Certification of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Project funding as at 30 June 2024;
- b) noted that \$23,130.51 are funds *at risk* of being returned to NTG;
- c) noted the progress on their current projects as provided by the Project Management Office and kept open:
 - 2223 – Upgrade to Gordon Ida Park
 - 2226 – Movie equipment and supplies for the Youth, noting that the remaining funds of \$202.59 will be spent on an external hard drive; and
 - 2227 – Sporting equipment, as an invoice is yet to be received.
- d) noted that no projects were closed at this time;
- e) created a new project – Easter event, allocating \$300.00
- f) discussed the priority of the wishlist items and noted the following:
 - Football oval with a nearby water source, noting that the PMO Office will determine the feasibility of a suitable location;
 - Cracks in the basketball courts, that the estimates received exceeded the expectations of the authority and members agreed to add this item to the Community Infrastructure Plan; and
 - noted completion and removed Repair wall at Levi Penham Park.

9.5 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.

WLA2025-015 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Howard Abbott)

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority:

- a) noted the spending on their 2024/2025 Discretionary funds;
- b) noted that \$2,374.91 were funds allocated to spend on fruit trees for the residences; and
- c) noted that a Purchase Order has been raised for the CSC to collect.

9.6 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.

WLA2025-016 RESOLVED (Pamela Abbott/Terry Abbott)

That the Local Authority accepts the list of vacant positions available with MacDonnell Regional Council in Wallace Rockhole.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the Council Delivered Services in Wallace Rockhole across the area of Local Government Service Delivery

WLA2025-017 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Pamela Abbott)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Services report

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 January 2025 in the Finke Local Authority community.

WLA2025-018 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Finance report as at 31 January 2025.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

WLA2025-019 RESOLVED (Colin Craig/Terry Abbott)

That the Local Authority raised and discussed the following matter relating to General Council Business.

a) **Grading the road.**

Members advised that the grader team were in community late last year, however due to rain, they did not finish the section they had graded and the road was left in rough condition. Members would like to know when the grader is returning.

b) **Tap at the Cemetery**

The PMO office will look into the cost and feasibility of a tap at the cemetery and will pass the information onto Council Services.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback on matters that members may have regarding non-council services.

WLA2025-020 RESOLVED (Pamela Abbott/Terry Abbott)

That the Local Authority raised and discussed the following matters in General Non-Council Business:

a) **Old Power Station**

Governance advised members that the Representative from NTG will follow

up with Power and Water to determine if their subsidiary, Indigenous Essential Services' still hold a lease to the old power station. Should there not be a lease on the property, members could apply for a S19 lease through CLC if they wish to do so.

b) No insulation in houses.

Members were advised that maintenance and repairs falls under Tjuwanpa. Should the community prefer to be serviced through NTG Housing, NTG would take over the leases for those houses, however this would mean that the community would have to pay rent as they currently do not do so.

Member Pamela Abbott advised that she is still waiting on her air-conditioner to be replaced after an NTG Housing Contractor damaged it.

She also advised of the septic tanks are not being emptied and the house next door to her is leaking sewerage.

She asked if NTG and MRC's CEO write to Tjuwanpa requesting that they attend the Local Authority meeting as they had not been proactive in community.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 1 MAY, 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:17 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 20 March 2025 and are UNCONFIRMED.