



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 10:00 AM

---

**1 MEETING OPENED at 10.02am**

*An audio recording of this meeting was made for minute taking purposes as authorised by MC09-CP Audio Recording of Meetings Policy. Councillors may request, via majority vote if required, that no audio recording be made where issues of legitimate cultural or spiritual significance are to be discussed.*

**2 WELCOME**

**3 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

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

**Councillors:**

President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Dalton McDonald (arrived at 12.15pm), Councillor Marlene Abbott, Councillor Mark Inkamala (arrived at 10.26am), Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Jason Minor, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Lisa Sharman and Councillor Tommy Conway (arrived at 10.04am).

**Staff:**

Keith Hassett – Acting Chief Executive Officer, Ken Satour – Acting Director Council Services, Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy, James Walsh – Manager Project Management Office, Katie Fuller – People and Capabilities Operations Manager, Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinator.

**Guests:**

Nil.

**Apologies:**

Nil

**OCM2025-001 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Jason Minor)**

That Council:

- a) notes the attendance at this meeting;
- b) notes that there were no apologies;
- c) notes the absence without notice of Councillor Aloyiscois Hayes;
- d) recognises that Cr Hayes has been absent without the permission of Council from 2 consecutive Ordinary Council meetings and that his appointment as an elected member of MRC is consequently terminated in accordance with s47(1)(o) of the Local Government Act 2019; and
- e) in accordance with s54(2)(b)(i) of the Act determines to appoint a candidate to the position at the April Council meeting.

**4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

ITEM NUMBER:	4.1
TITLE:	Requests for Future Leave of Absence

**OCM2025-002 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Tommy Conway)**

That Council notes no Requests for Future Leave of Absence.

**5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

**OCM2025-003 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

**OCM2025-004 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Tommy Conway)**

That Council confirms the unconfirmed Minutes of the previous Council meeting held 13 December 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

**OCM2025-005 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Abraham Poulson)**

That the papers for this Council meeting as presented be 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>

**OCM2025-006 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That Council:**

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

## **9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Requests to present at Local Authority Meetings</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council's permission is being sought for representatives of the NT Trachoma Program, Healthy Community Homes Program the National Indigenous Australian Agency to attend Local Authority meetings.

**OCM2025-007 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council:**

- approves the request by representatives from the NT Trachoma Program to attend the Local Authority meetings to be held in Haasts Bluff, Kintore, Santa Teresa, Titjikala, Hermannsburg, Papunya and Areyonga;
- approves the request by representatives from the Healthy Homes Program to attend the July Hermannsburg Local Authority meeting; and
- denies the request by representatives of the National Indigenous Australian Agency to attend Local Authority meetings in MRC's communities;
- issues an invitation to representatives of the National Indigenous Australian Agency to attend the April meeting of Council.
- approves the request by the Regional Director, Delivery and Regional Priorities for the R&M/Remote tenancy team to have an ongoing deputation at the start of future Local Authority meetings to advise members on the latest updates to Housing programs and repairs.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Presentation by Dept Social Services – Digital Connectivity Project.</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Representatives from the Department of Social Services are in attendance to provide an update regarding the Digital Connectivity Project Timeframe.

**OCM2025-008 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Abraham Poulson)**

**That Council:**

- a) notes the presentation provided by representatives of the Department of Social Services; and
- b) provides feedback in relation to the matters raised as follows:
  - the representatives were asked to consider expending this project to include large outstations.

**10 NOTICES OF MOTION**

*Nil*

**11 RESCISSION MOTIONS**

*Nil*

**12 LOCAL AUTHORITY**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Draft Minutes of Local Authority Meetings</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Governance Coordinator</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council considers the minutes of each Local Authority Ordinary Meeting or Provisional Meeting at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

Attached are the draft (unconfirmed) minutes of the Local Authority meetings that have occurred since or could not be prepared prior to the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Local Authority meetings covered in this report include:

- Finke – 4 December 2024
- Kintore – 29 January 2025
- Hermannsburg – 30 January 2025

**OCM2025-009 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Tommy Conway)**

**That Council:**

1. approves the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Finke, Kintore and Hermannsburg; and
2. notes that no new projects were established.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Local Authority Resignations and Nominations</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Governance Coordinator</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

As recorded in the minutes of the Authority meetings, the recommendations put forth to Council are to accept and endorse the nominations submitted for membership on the Local Authorities and accept any resignations received.

**OCM2025-010 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)**

**That Council approves the nominations on the Authorities as follows:**

- **Jarrold Anderson for the Papunya Local Authority;**
- **Bridget Doolan, Susan Doolan and Thomas Stewart for the Finke Local Authority; and**
- **Lorraine Scobie, Molly Marlene Nambajimba and Rex Eddie for the Kintore Local Authority.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Terminations of Local Authority Membership</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Governance Coordinator</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In accordance with para.4.15.1 of Council's Local Authority Meeting Procedures (MC02-P2) which reads:

*"It is important that Local Authority members attend meetings wherever possible. Appointment of a local authority member may be revoked or otherwise cease if the person:*

*c. Is absent for 2 consecutive meetings without the permission of the Local Authority."*

Council is being asked to endorse the recommendations of the Local Authority and revoke the membership of members who were absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings and no longer live in community.

**OCM2025-011 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Lisa Sharman)**

**That Council accepts the recommendation of the Kintore Local Authority and endorses the revocation of the memberships as follows:**

- **Rochelle Robinson, Julie Dempsey and Joseph Zimran from the Kintore Local Authority as they no longer live in community.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Revised Council Meeting Planner 2025</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>June Crabb, Governance Coordinator</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

As a result of the 2025 Northern Territory Elections being held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, this report proposes revised dates to the Council Meeting Planner.

In accordance with s90(3) of the LG Act the first ordinary meeting of the new council “*must be held within 21 days after the conclusion of the election*”. The word “**conclusion**” is defined in the Act and means “*the declaration of a poll, or if there is no poll, on declaration that the candidates for election are elected*”.

#### **OCM2025-012 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council:**

- a) notes the Ordinary Council Meeting being moved from the 29<sup>th</sup> August to the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and held as the First Meeting of the New Council;
- b) accepts to move the Ordinary Council meeting from the 12<sup>th</sup> December to the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025;
- c) determines that the October Ordinary Council Meeting will be held in Alice Springs pending any decision of the newly elected Council; and
- d) notes the revised dates for the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meetings.

### **13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	13.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Action Register
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council reviews the attached actions that have been raised at previous Ordinary Council meetings and provides the status and/or updates of each action.

#### **OCM2025-013 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That Council notes the progress on the actions in the register as follows:**

- OCM2024-170 part 1 – is to remain open with the CEO to continue to negotiate with the AFLNT – talks to include a possible different location additionally MRC is to reach out to CDRC; and
- OCM2024-170 part 2 – Council wishes to invite the CEO of the CLC to attend a Council meeting to discuss leasing matters, how things can be speeded up so that projects can advance more quickly, explain the requirements of S19 leases, site clearances, etc.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	13.2
<b>TITLE:</b>	Correspondence Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides Council with an update on correspondence received and sent by the Council President and CEO in the period since the December 2024 Council meeting

#### **OCM2025-014 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That Council:**

- a) notes the correspondence received and sent; and
- b) agrees to the recommendations proposed by ALGA as follows:
  - supports the national federal election funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA);

- supports and participates in the Put Our Communities First federal election campaign; and
- writes to the local federal member of Parliament, all known election candidates in the local federal electorates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association expressing support for ALGA's federal election funding priorities.

## **14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	14.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Council President's Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Anya Riley, Executive Assistant to CEO & President

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report details the meetings attended by President Roxanne Kenny since the December meeting of Council.

### **OCM2025-015 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council receives the President's report for the period 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	14.2
<b>TITLE:</b>	CEO Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Governance Manager

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report details the events and meetings attended by CEO Belinda Urquhart during the reporting period.

### **OCM2025-016 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council receives the CEO report for the months of January and February 2025.

## **15 OFFICERS' REPORTS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.1
<b>TITLE:</b>	Council Services Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Ken Satour, Acting Director Council Services

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report outlines the activities of the Council Services Directorate in the areas of Local Government Service Delivery as well as the performance of contractual Commercial Services

### **OCM2025-017 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Tommy Conway)**

That Council notes and accepts the attached Council Services report.

**MINUTE NOTE:** Councillor Sharman raised several issues relating to Council Services including rubbish bins, street lights, community safety, etc. Mr Satour made note of these matters for follow up.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.2</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Roads, Fleet and Waste Management</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Jake Potter, Manager Fleet and Infrastructure</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is to provide Council with a summary of works undertaken in the Roads, Fleet and Waste Management space within MRC.

**OCM2025-018 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Andrew Davis)**

**That Council notes and accepts the Roads, Fleet and Waste Management Report.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.3</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Community Roads Infrastructure Plans</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Jake Potter, Manager Fleet and Infrastructure</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an executive summary of MRC Community Infrastructure Plans that have been designed to assist with liveability improvements within the MRC region.

**OCM2025-019 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council notes and accepts the Community Infrastructure Plans report.**

**MINUTE NOTE:** There was a break for morning tea at 10.52am. The meeting resumed at 11.09am.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.4</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Community Services Report</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Keith Hassett, Acting Chief Executive Officer</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on the delivery of Community Services programs from December 2024 – January 2025, throughout the MRC region.

**OCM2025-020 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council notes and accepts the attached Community Services Reports.**

**MINUTE NOTE:** Cr Sharman raised several matters including support for young people to obtain driver's licences and more emphasis being placed on the mentoring of local indigenous people to become future Team Leaders. Keith committed to take these matters on board and discuss them with the Youth Team.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.5
<b>TITLE:</b>	People and Capabilities Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Katie Fuller, People and Capabilities Operations Manager

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report highlights current and completed HR initiatives or activities affecting Council and our number one resource – the people!

**OCM2025-021 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

**That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.6
<b>TITLE:</b>	Finance Report January 2025
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025.

**OCM2025-022 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)**

**That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 31 January 2025.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.7
<b>TITLE:</b>	Finance and Risk Committee Minutes
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 Section 19 if a Council does not schedule an ordinary meeting at least once in each month, the Council must delegate to a Council Committee the necessary powers to carry out, on behalf of the Council, financial functions of the council in the months the council does not schedule an ordinary meeting.

**OCM2025-023 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Jason Minor)**

**That Council notes and accepts the minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee meeting of 31 January 2025.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.8
<b>TITLE:</b>	Use of the Common Seal
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Section 38(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 (LGA) states that “the affixing of the Common Seal to a document must be authorised or ratified [endorsed] by resolution of the Council”. This report requests Council to ratify [endorse] the use of the Common Seal on the listed documents.

**OCM2025-024 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Tommy Conway)**

That Council ratifies the use of the Common Seal on the following documents:

- NIAA Project Agreement Variation 4;
- NIAA School Nutrition Variation;
- DOHA Aged Care Services Variation;
- DHLG&CD HMES Budget Adjustment; and
- NTG Active Remote Communities 2024-2029.

**MINUTE NOTE:** The meeting broke for lunch at 12.15pm and resumed at 12.49pm.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.9
<b>TITLE:</b>	Governance Team Report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this paper is to update Council on the activities of the Governance and Strategy Team.

**OCM2025-025 RESOLVED (Jason Minor/Andrew Davis)**

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for February 2025.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.10
<b>TITLE:</b>	Draft RS05-CP WHS Emergency Response Policy
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's permission to adopt the draft of the revised RS05-CP Emergency Response Policy.

**OCM2025-026 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council adopts RS05-CP Emergency Response Policy as a policy of Council.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	15.11
<b>TITLE:</b>	Determination of Remuneration Tribunal
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2025 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils was tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly Sittings on 13 February 2024 (Tabled Paper Number 195). It is presented for the information of Members.

**OCM2025-027 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Tommy Conway)**

That Council notes the Remuneration Tribunal's Report and Determination No. 1 of 2025 – Allowances for Members of Local Councils.

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.12</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Review of 2024-2025 Key Performance Indicators</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report presents the progress on the 2024-25 Regional Plan to ensure that Council is aware of the organisation’s progress in relation to the Objectives, Strategies and Key Performance Indicators established by Council.

**OCM2025-028 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council notes and accepts the report on progress against the 2024-25 Regional Plan.**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>15.13</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Review of 2024-2025 Key Performance Indicators</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

A workshop was conducted on Wednesday, 26 February 2025 to facilitate discussion regarding the development of the 2025-2026 Regional Plan. Council is being asked to provide feedback regarding the matters discussed.

**OCM2025-029 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Jason Minor)**

**That Council:**

- **notes the PowerPoint presentation “Discussion Paper: 2025-2026 Regional Plan”;**
- **provides its feedback in relation to this presentation; and**
- **agrees to the review of the Regional Plan as indicated in the presentation.**

**16 GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Nil*

**17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>17.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and clauses 51 and 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, the meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential matters.

**OCM2025-030 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)**

**That Council approves the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are about to be discussed.**

**Minute Note:** The Open Section of the meeting was closed at 1.30pm.

## **18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

## **19 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

<b>ITEM NUMBER:</b>	<b>19.1</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-Admittance of the Public</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the Local Government Act 2019 and regulations 51 and 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, the is to be opened to the public following the consideration of confidential matters. Resolutions will be transferred to the open meeting upon the determination of Council.

### **OCM2025-034 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)**

**That Council discloses motions from the confidential section of this meeting in the open section of the meeting and opens the meeting to the public. Motions to be disclosed are:**

#### ***OCM2025-031 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Tommy Conway)***

***That Council confirms the Minutes of the previous Confidential Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.***

#### ***OCM2025-032 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)***

#### ***OCM2025-032 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)***

***That Council approves a variation of up to \$205,768 for connection of water mains.***

#### ***OCM2025-033 RESOLVED (Tommy Conway/Andrew Davis)***

#### ***That Council:***

- a) accepts and notes the report;***
- b) approves the acceptance of the tender provided by MG Electrical to the value of \$1,178,131 ex GST;***
- c) moves the resolution into Open Council; and***
- d) adds the confidential report on the tender submission onto the confidential matters register with a review date set for 30 years.***

**Minute Note:** The Confidential Section of the meeting was closed at 1.43pm with the meeting re-opened to the public.

## **20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 11 April 2025.**

**21 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 1.43pm.

This page and the preceding 12 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 28 February 2025 and are unconfirmed.

---

President

UNCONFIRMED