



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 20 JUNE 2025 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED at 10.23am

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 – By the President Roxanne Kenny

3 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance and Apologies

Councillors:

President Roxanne Kenny, Deputy President Dalton McDonald, Councillor Marlene Abbott, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Lisa Sharman, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Maryanne Malbunka and Councillor Patrick Allen.

Staff:

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Keith Hassett – Director Community Services, Ken Satour – Acting Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow, Acting Director Community Services, Sheree Sherry – Chief Financial and Information Officer, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, James Walsh – Manager, Project Management Office, Ruth Tahere – Project Officer, Project Management Office and Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy.

Guests:

Nil

Apologies:

Nil

OCM2025-081 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) notes the Elected Members in attendance at this meeting;
- b) notes that Cr Conway was unable to attend the meeting via Teams due to technical issues;
- c) notes there were no apologies table at this meeting; and
- d) records the Elected Members' absence, without notice, for this meeting as follows:
 - o Councillor Andrew Davis
 - o Councillor Jason Minor

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

OCM2025-082 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Abraham Poulson)

That Council:

- a) notes that there were no Requests for Future Leave of Absence received from the Elected Members; and
- b) notes that Keith Hassett, Director Community Services, will be on leave for four weeks commencing 1 August 2025. Ms Ainsley Roscrow will be acting in the position during this period and Ken Satour, Acting Director Council Services will be on leave for three weeks during August. A decision is yet to be made regarding his replacement.

Minute note: The date for the proposed Special Meeting will be determined following consultation with Mr Chansey Paech, MLA, who wishes to attend subject to confirmation.

Minute note: Cr Poulson arrived at 10.26am.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

OCM2025-083 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Mark Inkamala)

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

Minute note: The CEO spoke about a very simple Code of Conduct which is on display in the Kintore office. She will arrange for signs showing this CoC to be made and placed in all community offices. This simple CoC will also be included in future agendas. The CEO will bring one of the signs to the next available meeting of Council.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

OCM2025-084 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Special Council meeting held on 28 May 2025 as a true record and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

OCM2025-085 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Patrick Allen)

That the agenda papers for this meeting as presented be received for consideration at this meeting.

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

OCM2025-086 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council's permission is being sought for representatives of Penangke Cultural Consultants to attend Local Authority meetings.

OCM2025-087 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) agrees to the request by Penangke Cultural Consultants to attend the Local Authority meetings in all MRC communities to carry out Community Alcohol Planning; and
- b) asks that Penangke commences its consultation after the Local Government elections.

Minute note: A presentation was provided by Peta-lee Cole-Manolis and Raymond Walters Penangke – handouts were provided.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.2
TITLE:	Presentation on behalf of Exact Contracting
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Mr Terri Jones, Project Manager with Exact Contracting, is seeking Council's support for the naming of a rest stop at the intersection of the Stuart Highway and Tanami Road in commemoration of Greg Rhodes.

OCM2025-088 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)

That Council:

- a) notes the presentation and supporting documents provided by Exact Contracting; and
- b) provides its support for the proposed construction of a memorial rest area at the Stuart Highway and Tanami Road intersection in commemoration of Gregory John Rhodes.

10 NOTICES OF MOTION – Nil

11 RESCISSION MOTIONS – Nil

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

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

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 for the period between 1 April and 15 June 2025 include:

- Hermannsburg – 2 April
- Papunya – 3 April
- Amoonguna – 23 April
- Mt Liebig – 30 April
- Areyonga – 15 May
- Wallace Rockhole – 20 May
- Finke – 21 May
- Docker River – 22 May
- Haasts Bluff – 3 June
- Santa Teresa – 4 June
- Kintore – 11 June

OCM2025-089 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Dalton McDonald)

That Council:

- a) approves the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Hermannsburg, Papunya, Amoonguna, Mt Liebig, Areyonga, Finke, Docker River and Santa Teresa.
- b) approves the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Provisional meetings held in Wallace Rockhole, Haasts Bluff and Kintore.
- c) endorses the new projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:
 - o Hermannsburg - allocates \$5,000.00 to Repairing the lights at the Oval; and \$73,060.78 towards Works undertaken to the site of the Change room.
 - o Amoonguna – allocates \$7,000.00 to a Community Sporting event for young people.
 - o Finke – allocates \$6,797.18 towards purchasing 2 x 3m Bench seats, Concrete mix and Sporting equipment.
 - o Haasts Bluff – allocates \$23,000.00 to a Playground near the Basketball Court.
 - o Santa Teresa – allocates \$101,848.40 to creating a Mural with a historical timeline.
 - o Kintore – allocates \$35,000.00 to 2 x Bin Trailers.
- d) supports the Authorities recommendations to carry over their 2024/2025 Discretionary funds to the 2025/2026 financial year as follows:
 - o Haasts Bluff – \$183.64
 - o Areyonga - \$1,438.25
 - o Papunya - \$33.54
 - o Mt Liebig - \$2,081.12
- e) notes the following amendments required to the minutes:
 - o Hermannsburg LA meeting – Cr Malbunka was not in attendance and provided an apology
 - o Finke LA meeting – the President attended via Teams
 - o Kintore LA meeting – President Kenny was an apology as she was on leave.

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

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.

OCM2025-090 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council approves the nominations received for membership on the Local Authorities as follows:

- Henry Oliver to the Amoonguna Local Authority;
- Marie Mulladad to the Santa Teresa Local Authority; and
- Darryl Doolan to the Finke Local Authority.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	13.1
TITLE:	Correspondence Report
AUTHOR:	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 April 2025 Council meeting.

OCM2025-091 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Marlene Abbott)

That Council:

- a) notes the correspondence received and sent; and
- b) notes that Mr Yan MLA advised that he was unable to attend this meeting as he is currently attending estimates hearings in Darwin.

14 PRESIDENT, COUNCILLORS' AND CEO'S REPORT

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report details the meetings attended by President Roxanne Kenny since the April 2025 meeting of Council.

OCM2025-092 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Marlene Abbott)

That Council receives the President's report for the period 3rd April to 4th June 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.2
TITLE:	CEO Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Governance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report details the events and meetings attended by CEO Belinda Urquhart during the reporting period and to advise of a senior management appointment.

OCM2025-093 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) receives the CEO report for the months of March, April and May 2025; and
- b) notes the appointment of Ms Katie Fuller to the position of Executive Manager, People and Capabilities.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	15.1
TITLE:	Council Services Report
AUTHOR:	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, Housing and Facilities management, Contractual Commercial Services and Projects.

OCM2025-094 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)

That Council notes and accepts the attached Council Services report.

Minute note: James Walsh, Manager Project Management Office, delivered the PMO and Housing and Facilities reports. James is leaving MRC and Council thanked him for his contribution to MRC and his hard work especially in relation to the LA projects.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.2
TITLE:	Community Services Report
AUTHOR:	Ainsley Roscrow, Acting Director Community Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the delivery of Community Services programs from April 2025 – May 2025, throughout the MRC region

OCM2025-095 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the attached Community Services report.

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 11.50am and the meeting resumed at 12.09pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.3
TITLE:	People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	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!

OCM2025-096 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.4
TITLE:	Finance Report as at 31 May 2025
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

OCM2025-097 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Marlene Abbott)

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

ITEM NUMBER:	15.5
TITLE:	Use of the Common Seal
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Governance Manager

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.

OCM2025-098 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)

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

- NTG – Capital Funding Agreement MJ25R200025 – On-country children’s playgrounds for stronger families.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.6
TITLE:	Governance Team Report
AUTHOR:	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.

OCM2025-099 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Patrick Allen)

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for June 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.7
TITLE:	Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to provide feedback to Council from the meetings of MacDonnell Regional Council’s Youth Boards, including matters discussed and to request the support of Council for the recommendations made.

OCM2025-100 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Dalton McDonald)

That Council:

- a) notes the Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback report; and
- b) provides its support for bush trips to be undertaken, including to Yulara, during the second half of the year.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.8
TITLE:	2025 Proposed Amendments to the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> - Discussion Paper
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development has commenced consultation on Tranche 2 Local Government Legislation Amendments 2025. The purpose of this Paper is to inform Council of amendments currently being considered.

OCM2025-101 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council notes the 2025 Amendments to the *Local Government Act 2019* Discussion Paper.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.9
TITLE:	Commencement of Tranche 1 reforms to the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to update Council on progress relating to the first tranche of amendments made to the Local Government Act.

OCM2025-102 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council notes the amendments to the Local Government Act.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.10
TITLE:	Review of Emergency Response Policy v3
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy and Records

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the revision of Emergency Response Policy v3.

OCM2025-103 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Dalton McDonald)

That Council adopts Emergency Response Policy v3 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.11
TITLE:	Rehabilitation and Return to Work Policy v1
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy and Records

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the new Rehabilitation and Return to Work Policy v1.

OCM2025-104 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Dalton McDonald)

That Council adopts the Rehabilitation and Return to Work Policy v1 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.12
TITLE:	Allowances (Council Members) Policy v5
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy and Records

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the revised Allowances (Council Members) Policy v5.

OCM2025-105 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Lisa Sharman)

That Council adopts the Allowances (Council Members) Policy v5 as a policy of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.13
TITLE:	Review of Delegations Register
AUTHOR:	Clare Newland, Coordinator Policy and Records

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Under section 40 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (Act), the Council can delegate its powers and functions to a Local Authority, a Council Committee or the CEO. Furthermore, some regulations within the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (Regulations) allow for delegations to be made in some cases to staff.

Note that the act of delegation is one of giving another person (usually one less senior) the responsibility to act in relation to a particular authority. In delegating such powers, the Council should be aware that limitations are required in certain circumstances.

Under section 168 of the Act, the Chief Executive Officer is also able to delegate or sub-delegate a power or function given to him to a person or committee.

The Delegations Register keeps a record of who has the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council.

OCM2025-106 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council determines to defer consideration of the Delegations Register to a later date.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.14
TITLE:	Certification of the Assessment Record
AUTHOR:	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to accept and acknowledge the certification provided by the Chief Executive in relation to the Assessment Record for properties within the MacDonald Regional Council region.

OCM2025-107 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Marlene Abbott)

That Council acknowledges the certification of the Assessment Record for rateable property in the MacDonnell Regional Council provided by the Chief Executive Officer.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.15
TITLE:	Certification of the Assessment Record
AUTHOR:	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to declare the General Rates, Special Rates and Charges for the 2025-2026 financial year.

OCM2025-108 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council:

1. notes that at the time of preparation of this report no submissions relating to this matter had been received;
2. declares its Rates and Charges for the 2025-2026 financial year as per the attached document "MacDonnell Regional Council - Rates and Charges Declaration 2025-2026" in accordance with sections 237(1) and 237(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*; and
3. publishes a notice of the Rates and Charges Declaration 2025-2026 on the MRC website in accordance with section 241 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.16
TITLE:	Adoption of MRC Budget 2025-2026
AUTHOR:	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the final draft of the MacDonnell Regional Council Budget 2025-2026 as contained within its Financial Plan 2025-2026, following the consultation period, for adoption.

OCM2025-109 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Lisa Sharman)

That Council

1. sets the Elected Member's Allowances for the 2025-2026 financial year as per Maximum Council Member Allowances as per the Determination of the NT Remuneration Tribunal;
2. notes that at the time this report was prepared no submissions relating to this

- matter had been received; and
3. adopts the MacDonnell Regional Council Budget for 2025-2026 in accordance with Section 203(1) of the Local Government Act 2019.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.17
TITLE:	Adoption of the Draft Regional Plan 2025-2026
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the final draft of the MacDonnell Regional Council Regional Plan 2025-2026, following the consultation period, for adoption.

OCM2025-110 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council

1. notes that one submission was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development which resulted in one minor correction; and
2. adopts the MacDonnell Regional Council Regional Plan for 2025-26 (including the Financial Plan 2025-2026) in accordance with Section 35(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.18
TITLE:	Presentation of Grant Acquittals
AUTHOR:	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The attached grant acquittal reports for NT Grants are required to be laid before Council for acceptance.

OCM2025-111 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Lisa Sharman)

That Council notes and approves the following grant acquittals:

- Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2021-22;
- Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2022-23; and
- Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2023-24.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.19
TITLE:	Waste and Resources Management (WaRM) Grant 2024/25
AUTHOR:	Sheree Sherry, Chief Financial and Information Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The NTG has awarded the Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2024-25 to all regional Councils. MRC has been awarded \$252,100 and is required to report to Council on what MRC intends to use the funds for. Projects chosen must be in accordance with the grant guidelines.

OCM2025-112 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council notes and endorses the WaRM project recommended in this report.

ITEM NUMBER:	15.20
TITLE:	Nomination for appointment to the NT Councils Discretionary Advisory Committee
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to seek Council's approval for the nomination of Ms Sheree Sherry as a member of the NT Councils Discretionary Trust Advisory Committee.

OCM2025-113 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)

That Council:

- a) approves the nomination of Ms Sheree Sherry as a member of the NT Councils Discretionary Trust Advisory Committee; and
- b) authorises the CEO to sign the nomination form on behalf of Council.

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER:	16.1
TITLE:	General Business and Non-Council Business
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Members are asked to table items they wish to discuss as General and Non-Council Business.

OCM2025-114 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)

That Council notes that no General Business matters were raised.

17 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

OCM2025-115 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/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 12.55pm.

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, the meeting 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.

OCM2025-119 RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Mark Inkamala)

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. The motions to be disclosed are as follows:

OCM2025-116 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)

That Council confirms the Minutes of the previous Confidential Special Council Meeting held on the 28th May 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

OCM2025-117 RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Lisa Sharman)

That Council notes the report regarding changes being considered to MacDonnell Regional Council's Organisational Structure.

OCM2025-118 RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Maryanne Malbunka)

That Council approves the write off of a debt deemed to be irrecoverable.

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1.31pm.

This page and the preceding 13 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 20 June 2025 and are unconfirmed.

President