MacDonnell Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON THURSDAY 25 AND FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED – AT 10.04AM

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

Councillors
Councillor Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Garrard Anderson, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye, Councillor Lynn Ward, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Peter Wilson and Councillor Maryanne Malbunka.

Staff
Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Ainsley Roscrow – Executive Manager Aged and Children's Services, Libby Taylor – Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety, Katie Fuller – Executive Manager People and Capabilities, Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy, June Crabb and Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinators.

Guests
Mr Chansery Paech MLA and Ms Katherine O'Donohue, EO to Mr Paech.
Jeff MacLeod – Independent Scrutineer

Apologies
Nil.

ITEM NUMBER:	3.1
TITLE:	Attendance and Apologies

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2025-140 RESOLVED **(Patrick Allen/Roxanne Kenny)**

That Council:

a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;
b) received no apologies for this meeting; and
c) records that there were no Elected Members absences, without notice, for this meeting.

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council's record, requests for leave of absence received from Elected Members for this Ordinary Council meeting.

OCM2025-141 RESOLVED **(Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council:

a) notes that Cr Wilson will be on leave for two weeks from the 28th September which does not impact on Council; and
b) notes that the CEO will be on leave for one week during October and the Director Council Services will be acting in her absence.

5 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

ITEM NUMBER:	5.1
TITLE:	MacDonnell Council Code of Conduct

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

OCM2025-142 RESOLVED **(Abraham Poulson/Andrew Davis)**

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

6 FIRST MEETING OF COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.1**
TITLE:	**NTEC - MacDonnell Regional Council Election Results 2025**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to formally present to Council the advice received from the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) regarding the result of the general election for the MacDonnell Regional Council held on 23 August 2025.

OCM2025-143 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council:
- a) **notes and accepts the notification by NTEC as to the results of the 2025 Local Government general election for MRC; and**
- b) **requests that the results are posted on the Council website.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.2**
TITLE:	**Rodinga Ward - By-election required**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this paper is to advise Council of the result of the Local Government election in the Rodinga Ward.

OCM2025-144 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

That Council
- a) **notes and accepts the notification by NTEC as to the results of the 2025 Local Government general election in the Rodinga Ward of MRC;**
- b) **requests that the results are posted on the Council website; and**
- c) **notes that a by-election will be held in the Rodinga Ward to fill the vacancy that currently exists.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.3**
TITLE:	**Declaration by Elected Members**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This Business Paper outlines the procedure for the signing of declarations by the newly elected members.

OCM2025-145 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

That each Elected Member cites their declaration and signs their individual Declaration Certificate.

Minute note: Mr Jeff MacLeod joined the CEO in the conduct of the ballots as the Independent Scrutineer.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.4
TITLE:	Ballot for Principal Member
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
To undertake a secret ballot to determine the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-146 RESOLVED **(Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)**

That Council:
1. **confirms that the Principal Member shall have the title of President;**
2. **unanimously resolves, by a show of hands, to vote on the appointment of the Principal Member by secret ballot;**
3. **agrees to the rules established for the appointment of the Principal Member;**
4. **appoints Roxanne Kenny as the Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council;**
5. **informs the following organisations of the result of the ballot for the Principal Member:**
   - **The Northern Territory Electoral Commission;**
   - **The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development;**
   - **MacDonnell Regional Council staff; and**
   - **The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.**
6. **asks that the outcome of the ballot be uploaded to Council's website along with the Principal Member's photograph; and**
7. **directs that, at the conclusion of the declaration of the ballot, all ballot papers will be destroyed.**

Minute note: Cr Abraham Poulson nominated Cr Maryanne Malbunka for the position of President but Cr Malbunka declined the nomination. Cr Malbunka nominated Cr Roxanne Kenny for the position of President. This nomination was seconded by Cr Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye and accepted by Cr Kenny. There being no other nominations Cr Kenny was therefore appointed to the position unopposed.

Minute note: President Kenny thanked the Council for her appointment.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.5
TITLE:	Ballot for Deputy Principal Member
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To undertake a secret ballot to determine the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-147 **RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Roxanne Kenny)**

That Council:

1. **determines the term of Deputy Principal Member, being 2 years.**
2. **unanimously resolves, by a show of hands, to vote on the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member by secret ballot;**
3. **confirms the title of the Deputy Principal Member shall be Deputy President as decided by the members prior to the Principal Member appointment.**
4. **appoints Maryanne Malbunka as the Deputy Principal Member of MacDonnell Regional Council;**
5. **agrees to the rules established for the appointment of the Deputy Principal Member; and**
6. **informs the following organisations of the result of the ballot for the Deputy Principal Member:**
   - **The Northern Territory Electoral Commission;**
   - **The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development;**
   - **MacDonnell Regional Council staff; and**
   - **The Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.**
7. **asks that the outcome of the ballot be uploaded to Council's website along with the Deputy Principal Member's photograph; and**
8. **directs that, at the conclusion of the declaration of the ballot, all ballot papers will be destroyed.**

Minute note: The outcome of the appointment of Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka was determined as a result of the following ballots:

NOMINEE	NOMINATED BY	SECONDED	VOTES
Cr Dalton McDonald	Cr Mark Inkamala	Cr Andrew Davis	5
Cr Maryanne Malbunka	Cr Garrard Anderson	Cr Lynn Ward	6

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 10.51am with the opportunity taken to take group photos. The meeting resumed at 11.17am.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.6
TITLE:	Schedule of Meetings
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is to discuss the schedule of meetings held and to confirm dates for Ordinary Council, Finance and Risk Committee, Audit Committee and Local Authority meetings for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year.

OCM2025-148 **RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

1. **confirms the scheduling of ordinary meetings to be at least once in each successive period of 2 months commencing in February each year; and**
2. **confirms the meeting dates established for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year.**

Minute note: Members were advised that the Mt Liebig LA meeting is to be rescheduled.

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.7**
TITLE:	**Attendance at Meetings**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the principles and procedures for elected members' attendance at MacDonnell Regional Council meetings; additionally, the report outlines the penalty for absenteeism without notice.

OCM2025-149 **RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Patrick Allen)**

That Council notes and accepts the report.

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.8**
TITLE:	**Voting at Meetings**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of their obligations regarding voting at meetings and the policy to be adopted in the event that the vote is tied.

OCM2025-150 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council:

1. **notes the report regarding Voting at Meetings: and**
2. **approves that the Chairperson exercises a casting vote in situations where a vote is tied.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.9**
TITLE:	**Allowances, Reimbursements and Payments**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an understanding of their entitlements for acting in their capacity as Elected Members of MacDonnell Regional Council.

OCM2025-151 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council notes and accepts the report regarding Allowances, Reimbursements and Payments.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.10
TITLE:	Appointment to Audit Committee
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Audit Committee.

OCM2025-152 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Garrard Anderson)**

That Council appoints elected member representation as per the Audit Committee's Terms of Reference as follows:
- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye**
- **Councillor Dalton McDonald**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.11
TITLE:	Appointment to Finance and Risk Committee
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Finance and Risk Committee.

OCM2025-153 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Garrard Anderson)**

That Council appoints elected member representation to the Finance and Risk Committee as follows:
- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Andrew Davis**
- **Councillor Patrick Allen**

ITEM NUMBER:	6.12
TITLE:	Appointment to Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Council is requested to appoint elected member representation to the Local Authorities established by Council.

OCM2025-154 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council considers the appointment of elected members to its 13 Local Authorities as follows:

Community	Ward	Representation		
Areyonga (Utju)	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Imanpa	IYARKKA	Peter Wilson	Abraham Poulson	
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	LJIRAPINTA	Roxanne Kenny	Mark Inkamala	Maryanne Malbunka
Wallace Rockhole	LJIRAPINTA	Roxanne Kenny	Mark Inkamala	Maryanne Malbunka
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Kintore (Walungurru)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Papunya (Warumpi)	LURITJA PINTUBI	Dalton McDonald	Garrard Anderson	Lynn Ward
Amoonguna	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen
Finke (Aputula)	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen
Titjikala	RODINGA	Andrew Davis	Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye	Patrick Allen

Minute note: The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.11pm and resumed at 1.34pm.

Minute note: Councillor McDonald left the meeting to attend a meeting of the Aboriginal Leadership Group.

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.13**
TITLE:	**Appointment of a Council Panel - Breach of Code of Conduct**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

If a complaint is lodged regarding a possible breach of Council's Code of Conduct the matter may need to be referred to a Council Panel to decide the complaint. The purpose of this paper is to appoint the Principal Member and 3 Councillors to the Council Panel in accordance with s122 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act). Should the complaint be related to one or more of the Panel Members, replacement members can be appointed by Council.

OCM2025-155 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council appoints the Principal Member plus three Councillors to form the Council Panel to deal with possible breaches of Council's Code of Conduct as follows:

- **President Roxanne Kenny**
- **Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka**
- **Councillor Andrew Davis**
- **Councillor Patrick Allen**
- **Councillor Lynn Ward (as a reserve member in the event that one of the other members is involved in the breach).**

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.14**
TITLE:	**Local Government Association of the Northern Territory**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report is to provide the newly elected Council with information about the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). LGANT is the peak representative body for local governments in the Northern Territory.

***OCM2025-156* RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Garrard Anderson)**

That Council:

- **notes the report titled the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory;**
- **appoints the President and Deputy President as its representatives at meetings of LGANT; and**
- **notes that there is to be a LGANT Special General Meeting on 10 October 2025 to discuss the filling of three casual vacancies.**

Minute note: Crs Davis and Lynch expressed an interest in deputising for MRC's LGANT representatives however this is not allowed within the rules of its Constitution.

ITEM NUMBER:	**6.15**
TITLE:	**Conflict of Interest**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report outlines the responsibilities of an elected member with regards to conflicts of interest that may arise.

***OCM2025-157* RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

a) notes and accepts the report; and
b) notes that no Elected Members declared any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.16
TITLE:	Annual Return of Interests
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
To ensure compliance with statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act 2019 (NT)* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, Councillors are required to lodge an **Annual Return of Interests** in the prescribed form to the CEO before 30 September each year. This process promotes transparency, integrity, and public confidence in council decision-making.

OCM2025-158 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council:

a) notes the report on the 'Annual Return of Interests'; and
b) requests that each Councillor completes the Annual Return of Interests form.

Minute note: Forms were distributed and completed by members.

ITEM NUMBER:	6.17
TITLE:	Related Parties Disclosure - Policy and Form
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this policy is to discuss Related Party transactions and what Council needs to do to be compliant with the Australian Accounting Standards – Standard AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures (AASB).

OCM2025-159 **RESOLVED (Maryanne Malbunka/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council:

a) notes and accepts the report on Related Parties Disclosure; and
b) requests Councillors to complete the Related Party Declaration form.

Minute note: Forms were distributed and completed by members.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2025 and Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 June 2025 to be approved by Council.

OCM2025-160 **RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Special Council Meeting held 15 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

8 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	**8.1**
TITLE:	**Acceptance of Agenda**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Agenda papers are submitted for acceptance by Council for this Council Meeting.

OCM2025-161 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

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

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ITEM NUMBER:	**9.1**
TITLE:	**Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Hoops 4 Health**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Hoops 4 Health is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on 2nd October 2025.

OCM2025-162 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)**

That Council approves the request by Hoops 4 Health to provide a presentation at the Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on 2nd October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	**9.2**
TITLE:	**Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Men's Advocacy Network**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The Men's Advocacy Network is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting to be held on 26th of November 2025.

OCM2025-163 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council:

- **a) approves the request by the Men's Advocacy Network to provide a presentation at the Santa Teresa Local Authority meeting to be held on 26th November 2025;**
- **b) provides this approval on the condition that the Network contacts Ms Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety before the meeting to ensure that there is no overlap or conflict with the services delivered by MRC; and**
- **c) notes that Ms Taylor will attend this LA meeting.**

ITEM NUMBER:	9.3
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meeting - Charles Darwin University
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Charles Darwin University is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Areyonga Local Authority meeting to be held on 15th of October 2025.

OCM2025-164 RESOLVED **(Mark Inkamala/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council approves the request by Charles Darwin University to provide a presentation at the Areyonga Authority meeting to be held on 15th October 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	9.4
TITLE:	Deputation Request to attend Local Authority Meetings - Menzies School of Health Research
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The Menzies School of Health Research is seeking Council's permission to attend and present at the Amoonguna, Hermannsburg and Areyonga Local Authority meetings to be held on the 2nd, 8th and 15th of October respectively.

OCM2025-165 RESOLVED **(Veronica Lynch/Andrew Davis)**

That Council approves the request by the Menzies School of Health Research to attend and present at the following meetings:
- **Amoonguna Local Authority meeting to be held on the 2nd of October;**
- **Hermannsburg Local Authority meeting to be held on the 8th of October; and**
- **Areyonga Local Authority meeting to be held on the 15th of October.**

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	June Crabb, Coordinator Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Council reviews the minutes of each Local Authority Meeting or Provisional Meetings at the subsequent Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The draft (unconfirmed) minutes attached to this report relate to 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 is from the period between 3 July to the 4 September 2025 and includes:

- Imanpa – 3 July 2025
- Hermannsburg – 9 July 2025
- Areyonga – 16 July 2025
- Mt Liebig – 23 July 2025
- Papunya – 24 July 2025
- Wallace Rockhole – 24 July 2025
- Docker River – 28 July 2025
- Finke – 13 August 2025
- Santa Teresa – 3 September 2025
- Titjikala – 4 September 2025

OCM2025-166 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

a) approves the minutes of the Local Authority ordinary meetings held in Imanpa, Hermannsburg, Areyonga, Mt Liebig, Papunya, Wallace Rockhole, Docker River, Finke, Santa Teresa and Titjikala.

b) endorses the allocations to the new projects established by the Local Authorities as follows:

- **Mt Liebig – allocates $5,000.00 towards Exclusion Zone signs for culturally significant areas.**
- **Docker River – allocates $10,000.00 to Bases for Solar lights; and $18,000.00 towards One x Bin Trailer.**
- **Finke – allocates $34,727.08 for the installation of four Solar lights and the purchase of batteries for two existing lights.**

d) supports the decision of the CEO to return $3,160.72 to the Titjikala Local Authority's 2025/2026 Discretionary funds.

Minute note: There was a break for afternoon tea at 3.00pm with the meeting resuming at 3.13pm.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As recorded in the minutes of the Authority meetings, the recommendations put forth to Council is to consider the nominations submitted for membership on the Local Authorities; to accept any resignations received and to note the memberships dismissed from the Authorities.

OCM2025-167 **RESOLVED (Garrard Anderson/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

a) accepts the resignation received from Denise Brady of the Docker River Local Authority;

b) notes that the memberships of Sammy Pearce and Terrence Abbott have been revoked from the Papunya Local Authority due to their absence from two consecutive Local Authority meetings; and

c) considers the nomination received from Alison Anderson for the Papunya Local Authority.

13 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

ITEM NUMBER:	**13.1**
TITLE:	**Correspondence Report**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & 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 June 2025 Council meeting.

OCM2025-168 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council:
- **a) notes the correspondence received and sent;**
- **b) notes that ICAC's invitation to partake in training has been accepted with training to be provided on the 4th November, 2025;**
- **c) notes that the letter sent by Mr Paech MLA was in support of MRC's efforts to have Housing representatives attend Local Authority meetings; and**
- **d) notes that the letters of support sent were in relation to grant applications.**

Minute note: The meeting adjourned at 3.21pm – to be resumed at 10.00am on Friday 26th September.

14 OFFICERS REPORT

Minute note: Day 2 of the Council meeting opened at 10.05am on Friday 26th September. Due to operational matters the order in which the Officers' Reports were considered was altered.

ITEM NUMBER:	**14.1**
TITLE:	**Community Services Report**
AUTHOR:	**Ainsley Roscrow, Executive Manager Aged and Children's Services and Libby Taylor, Executive Manager Youth and Community Safety**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides an update on the delivery of Community Services programs from June – August 2025, throughout the MRC region.

OCM2025-169 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council notes and accepts the attached Community Services report.

Minute note – Members suggested that photos of Key Personnel be placed in the offices of each community. Katie Fuller undertook to progress this matter.

Minute note: There was a break for morning tea at 11.09am. The meeting resumed at 11.31am.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.2
TITLE:	Youth Board Meetings - Council Feedback
AUTHOR:	Kaisa Suumann, Coordinator Youth Boards

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.

OCM2025-170 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

a) notes the Youth Board Meetings – Council Feedback report; and
b) considers the support Council will approve in relation to the recommendations made.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.3
TITLE:	People and Capabilities Report
AUTHOR:	Katie Fuller, Executive Manager People and Capabilities

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

OCM2025-171 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Patrick Allen)**

That Council notes and accepts the People & Capabilities Report.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.4
TITLE:	Governance Team Report
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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

OCM2025-172 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Peter Wilson)**

That Council notes the Governance Team Report for September 2025.

Minute note: Cr Lynch Kngwarraye queried whether proxy votes could be accepted for Local Authority meetings. Mrs Barbara Newland advised that in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019 proxies were not allowed. It was suggested that this matter be considered further.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.5
TITLE:	Finance Report as at 31 August 2025
AUTHOR:	Osman Kassem, Finance Manager

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

OCM2025-173 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)**

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

Minute note: There was a break for lunch at 12.45pm and the meeting resumed at 1.07pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.6
TITLE:	Council Services OCM Report
AUTHOR:	Keith Hassett, 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.

OCM2025-174 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Abraham Poulson)**

That Council notes and accepts the attached Council Services report.

Minute note: Members discussed the inappropriate location of the new waste management facility in Hermannsburg. Council was advised that the site has been determined by the Central Land Council. Members stressed the need for a community meeting and consultation. The CEO will contact CLC to provide Council's feedback and will report back at the next meeting of Council.

Minute note: Cr Garrard Anderson queried whether Council graded roads in homelands, in particular those managed by the Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation. Council is not responsible for grading these roads but Mr Hassett advised that he would contact the Corporation to see if a suitable arrangement could be resolved.

Minute note: the meeting broke for lunch at 12.45pm and resumed at 1.07pm.

ITEM NUMBER:	14.7
TITLE:	Finance and Risk Committee Minutes
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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.

OCM2025-175 **RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Andrew Davis)**

That Council notes and accepts the minutes of the Finance and Risk Committee meeting of 25 July 2025.

ITEM NUMBER:	**14.8**
TITLE:	**Presentation of Grant Acquittals**
AUTHOR:	**Osman Kassem, Finance Manager**

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

OCM2025-176 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Andrew Davis)**

That Council notes and approves the following grant acquittals:

- **Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) grant 2024-25;**
- **Amoonguna Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Areyonga Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Docker River Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Finke Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Haasts Bluff Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Hermannsburg Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Imanpa Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Kintore Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Mt Liebig Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Papunya Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Santa Teresa Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Titjikala Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Project Funding 2024-25;**
- **Community Places for People Grant Program 2023-24;**
- **One-off Infrastructure Grant 2021-22 (Shade Structures in Hermannsburg, Titjikala and Santa Teresa.**

ITEM NUMBER:	**14.9**
TITLE:	**Use of the Common Seal**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

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.

OCM2025-177 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Veronica Lynch)**

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

- **Deed of Variation No. 1 Community Child Care Fund;**
- **Deed of Variation No. 5 ABA Homelands Projects;**
- **HMES 2025-26 Funding Agreement;**
- **Lease Ntaria Lot 111; and**
- **Lease Ntaria New Waste Management Facility.**

15 GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	**15.1**
TITLE:	**Notification of General Business Items**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to give Elected Members the opportunity to table items they wish to be debated by Council.

OCM2025-178 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Andrew Davis)**

That the Chairperson invites Elected Members to raise items of concern they wish to be discussed in this meeting. Cr Wilson questioned the progress of the Mereenie Loop Road and was advised of the issues which were adversely impacting on the completion of this project.

16 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

ITEM NUMBER:	**16.1**
TITLE:	**Closure to the public for the discussion of Confidential items**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & 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.

OCM2025-179 **RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)**

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

Minute note: The open session of the meeting was closed at 2.05pm.

17 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

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

ITEM NUMBER:	18.1
TITLE:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and re-admittance of the public
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & 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 opened to the public following the consideration of confidential matters. Resolutions will be transferred to the open meeting upon the determination of Council.

OCM2025-183 RESOLVED **(Andrew Davis/Maryanne Malbunka)**

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:

> ***OCM2025-180*** RESOLVED **(Abraham Poulson/Patrick Allen)**
>
> **That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Confidential Special Council Meeting held 15 July 2025 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.**
>
> ***OCM2025-181*** RESOLVED **(Maryanne Malbunka/Andrew Davis)**
>
> **That Council:**
> **a) notes and accepts the minutes of the Confidential Finance and Risk Committee meeting of 25 July 2025; and**
> **b) approves the recommendations made regarding the outcome of the Annual Performance appraisal of the Chief Executive Officer.**
>
> ***OCM2025-182*** RESOLVED **(Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)**
>
> **That Council:**
> **a) expresses its concern regarding the implemented by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC) in the recent Local Government elections;**
> **b) notes that Local Government actively supported the process through community engagement, stakeholder meetings, and local publicity regarding voting days and times, within the constraints of the NTEC schedule; and**
> **c) calls on the Northern Territory Government to:**
> - **conduct a formal review into NTEC's service delivery in remote and Indigenous communities during the 2025 Local Government elections;**
> - **consider reforms that ensure greater collaboration between NTEC and Local Government to maximise participation and accessibility for all Central Australian residents; and**
> - **review the cost structures imposed on Local Government by NTEC to ensure they are reasonable, transparent and equitable.**

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 31 October 2025 - 10:00 AM

20 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2.16pm.

This page and the preceding 19 pages are the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th September 2025 and were confirmed Friday, 31st October 2025.

President