MacDonnell Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ALICE SPRINGS ON FRIDAY 29 MAY 2026 AT 10:00 AM

1 MEETING OPENED AT 11.02am

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

Councillors

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Dalton McDonald, Councillor Mark Inkamala, Councillor Abraham Poulson, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Veronica Lynch Kngwarraye, Councillor Andrew Davis, Deputy President Maryanne Malbunka, Councillor Lynn Ward.

Staff

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer and Barbara Newland – Manager Governance and Strategy and Shae Thompson – Governance Coordinator.

Guests

George B. Amegavi, PhD, Senior Learning and Development Officer, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development – delivery of mandatory elected member training which took place on Thursday, 28 May 2026.

Rebecca Johnson and Margot Holliman, representatives from the Office of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (NT) – delivery of training prior to the commencement of the Special Council meeting Friday, 29 May 2026.

Cherisse Buzzacott and Ciaran Dunne, representatives from the office of the Federal member for Lingiari, Marion Scrymgour.

Apologies

Councillor Matthew Palmer and Councillor Tommy Conway.

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.

OCM2026-70 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Lynn Ward)**

That Council:

- **a) notes the Elected Members attendance at this meeting;**
- **b) tables apologies received from Councillors Matthew Palmer and Tommy Conway for this meeting;**
- **c) noted the advice provided by the CEO that Mr Wilson has resigned as an elected member of MRC; and**
- **d) 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.

OCM2026-71 **RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Patrick Allen)**

That Council:

- **a) notes that there were no requests for future leave of absence received for this Council meeting; and**
- **b) notes that no executive staff are going on leave in the near future.**

Minute note: Council thanked Mr Amagavi and the ICAC representatives for their presentation of their training sessions.

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.

OCM2026-72 RESOLVED **(Abraham Poulson/Veronica Lynch)**

That Council notes the Council Code of Conduct.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER:	6.1
TITLE:	Confirmation of Previous Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report provides the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 April 2026 to be approved by Council.

OCM2026-73 RESOLVED **(Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council confirms the unconfirmed minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held 17 April as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

ITEM NUMBER:	7.1
TITLE:	Acceptance of Agenda

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

OCM2026-74 RESOLVED **(Veronica Lynch/Dalton McDonald)**

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

Minute note: Ms Nicole Battle, Acting CEO of Alice Springs Town Council attended the meeting from 11.10am – 11.25am at which time a range of matters of mutual interest were discussed. These matters will be actioned by the MRC CEO.

8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER:	8.1
TITLE:	Conflict of Interest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report outlines the minimum standard of behaviour expected of the Local Authority in relation to declaring personal or family financial interests that may impact on the performance of their roles and ability to make objective decisions.

OCM2026-75 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lynn Ward)**

That Council:

a) **notes the Conflict of Interest Policy; and**
b) **notes that no elected Members declared any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.**

12 LOCAL AUTHORITY

ITEM NUMBER:	12.1
TITLE:	Draft Minutes of the Local Authorities
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

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 are for the period since the 1st April and include:

- Papunya – 1 April
- Haasts Bluff – 9 April
- Amoonguna – 13 April
- Mt Liebig – 15 April
- Docker River – 29 April
- Wallace Rockhole – 6 May

OCM2026-76 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Dalton McDonald)**

That Council:

a) **confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Local Authority meetings held in Papunya, Haasts Bluff, Amoonguna and Docker River;**

b) **approves the minutes of the Provisional Local Authority meetings held in Mt Liebig and Wallace Rockhole;**

c) **accepts the Authorities allocations towards new project proposals as**

follows:

- **$5,000.00 to Electrical work on the water dispenser for Haasts Bluff**
- **$20,000.00 to Solar streetlights and $3,000.00 to an Air Hockey and Pool table for Amoonguna**
- **$15,000.00 to upgrades at the Basketball Court in Mt Liebig**
- **$35,000.00 towards upgrades to the Cemetery and $5,000.00 towards sports uniforms for Docker River.**

ITEM NUMBER:	12.2
TITLE:	Local Authority Resignations and Terminations
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
As recorded in the minutes of the Local Authority meetings, the recommendations being put to Council are to accept the resignations received and to note the members dismissed from the Local Authorities.

OCM2026-77 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council notes that the following memberships have been revoked as the Members had verbally advised the Governance Team and Local Authority Members that they are no longer living in community and are unable to attend future meetings:

- **Colin Craig and Ruth Katakarinja from the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.**

ITEM NUMBER:	12.3
TITLE:	Local Authority Nominations
AUTHOR:	Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Under section 77 of the *Local Government Act 2019,* Council is required to consider the nominations submitted for Local Authority membership and confirm appointments by resolution.

OCM2026-78 **RESOLVED (Lynn Ward/Patrick Allen)**

That Council:

a) notes that the nominations received from Lynda Lechleitner and Shannon Palmer were not accepted by the Haasts Bluff Local Authority;
b) considers the nominations received and appoints Kathleen Dixon and Daphne Kantawarra to the Haasts Bluff Local Authority; and
c) considers the nomination received and appoints Lisa Sharman to the Titjikala 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 April 2026 Council meeting.

***OCM2026-79* RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Maryanne Malbunka)**

That Council notes the correspondence received and sent.

Minute note: The meeting adjourned at 11.51am for lunch and resumed at 1.01pm.

15 OFFICERS' REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER:	**15.1**
TITLE:	**Declaration by Cr Conway**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the result of the By-Election held in the Luritja Pintubi Ward and the subsequent election of Cr Conway to the vacancy.

***OCM2026-80* RESOLVED (Dalton McDonald/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council:

a) notes and accepts the notification by NTEC as to the result of the supplementary election held in the Luritja Pintubi Ward;

b) notes the election of Mr Tommy Conway as an elected member of MacDonnell Regional Council; and

c) notes that due to Cr Conway's absence from the meeting he will be asked to cite, accept and sign his Declaration Certificate at the June meeting of Council.

ITEM NUMBER:	**15.2**
TITLE:	**Finance Report period ending 30 April 2026**
AUTHOR:	**Osman Kassem, Finance Manager**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This report is tabled to provide Council with the Finance Report for the period ended 30 April 2026.

OCM2026-81 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)**

That Council notes and accepts the Finance Report as at 30 April 2026.

ITEM NUMBER:	**15.3**
TITLE:	**Draft Regional Plan 2026-27**
AUTHOR:	**Barbara Newland, Manager Governance & Strategy**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Further to section 35(3) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), Council needs to approve a Draft Regional Plan for the 2026-27 year, prior to the plan being released to the public for comment. After the plan is made publicly available for a period of at least 21 days, Council will need to review any comments, finalise and adopt the 2026-27 Regional Plan.

OCM2026-82 **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Patrick Allen)**

That Council:
a) reviews and approves the proposed Draft 2026-27 Regional Plan; and
b) places the Draft 2026-27 Regional Plan on display for public comment for a period of at least 21 days.

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:	**June Crabb, Coordinator Governance**

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.

OCM2026-83 **RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Mark Inkamala)**

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 closed at 1.53pm.

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

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

ITEM NUMBER:	**19.1**
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.

OCM2026-86 **RESOLVED (Mark Inkamala/Lynn Ward)**

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:

> ***OCM2026-85*** **RESOLVED (Veronica Lynch/Mark Inkamala)**
>
> **That Council approves the remission of accrued interest in the amount of $8,347.36.**

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 19 June 2026 - 10:00 AM

21 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 2.11pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Friday 29 May 2026 which were confirmed on Friday 19 June 2026.

President