



MINUTES OF THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD  
IN THE WALLACE ROCKHOLE COUNCIL OFFICE ON  
WEDNESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2023 AT 10:30AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:38AM

**2 WELCOME**

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chairperson Billy Porter

**3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS /  
NOMINATIONS**

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Billy Porter, Member Pamela Abbott, Member Terry Abbott, Member Colin Craig, Member Amanda Abbott, and Member Howard Abbott (arr. 10:44am)

Councillors:

President Roxanne Kenny, Councillor Bobby Abbott and Councillor Mark Inkamala

Council Employees:

Jeff McLeod – MRC’s Chief Executive Officer, Michael Tomlinson – Manager Governance and Compliance, James Walsh – Acting Area Manager Service Delivery and June Crabb – Governance Officer

Guests:

Eric Turner – Regional Project Officer, Department Chief Minister and Cabinet

**3.1 ATTENDANCE**

**WLA2023-001 RESOLVED (Bobby Abbott/Amanda Abbott)**

**That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted and accepted the attendance to the meeting.**

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

**Apologies**

**NIL**

**Absentees**

**NIL**

**3.3 Resignations**

**NIL**

**3.4 Terminations**

**NIL**

**3.5 Nominations**

**NIL**

#### **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

##### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**WLA2023-002 RESOLVED (Bobby Abbott/Amanda Abbott)**

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

#### **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

##### **5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**WLA2023-003 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Billy Porter)**

**That the Minutes of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority held 13 April 2022, 8 September 2022 and 19 October 2022, be adopted as a resolution of Wallace Rockhole Local Authority.**

#### **6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND NOTIFICATIONS OF GENERAL BUSINESS AND NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS**

##### **6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED**

**WLA2023-004 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Bobby Abbott)**

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

##### **6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**WLA2023-005 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Bobby Abbott)**

**That the members chose to raise matters for discussion in General Council Business during the meeting.**

##### **6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**WLA2023-006 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Bobby Abbott)**

**That the members chose to raise matters for discussion in General Non-Council Business during the meeting.**

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**WLA2023-007 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Amanda Abbott)**

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

### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

**WLA2023-008 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Bobby Abbott)**

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

## **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **8.1 AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is an independent Federal Agency that operates under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* and the reason for this paper is to provide information on the work they are doing in various remote communities on the Indigenous Electoral Participation Program (IEPP)

**WLA2023-009 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Billy Porter)**

**That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted that Representatives from the Australia Electoral Commission did not attend the meeting.**

## **9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY REVIEW**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback from the Local Authority on the structure and assembly of the Local Authority meeting Agenda to best meet the needs of the community and to ensure that their regional councils' planning, prioritising, funding and delivery of services and infrastructure is being met.

The intention is that LA's should be able to set their own agendas and conduct their own meetings, while recognising the role of Councils in managing administration and building capacity.

Following this report is an attachment of a meeting Agendas' Table of Contents and the subjects highlighted are a prerequisite for an Agenda.

*The Local Authority is asked to discuss what they would like to see included in a meeting agenda and provide examples of good practices.*

**WLA2023-010 RESOLVED (Bobby Abbott/Terry Abbott)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) reviewed and discussed the contents of a meeting agenda; and**
- b) advised that the current agenda covered the Authority's needs.**

## 9.2 ACTION REGISTER

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

#### **WLA2023-011 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Terry Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority:

- a) noted the progress reports on actions from the minutes of previous meetings as received; and
- b) kept open action – Community Development Consultant.

## 9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Funding for Local Authority projects is part of a grant received from The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet (DCM&C) and invested in projects to benefit and improve the community.

Examples of *acceptable* purposes for expenditure include:

- Repairs and maintenance of community assets controlled or owned by the council. For example - office upgrades, fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. For example - trailers, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures /stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community sporting facilities. For example upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation.
- Festivals or other events – but must only be conducted within a council's own Local Authority area.

**There is currently \$400.00 of unallocated funds from the 2021/2022 project funds grant that must be expended (*with goods received*) by 30 June 2023.**

*Project funds from 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 were fully allocated to Infrastructure projects within the Community.*

#### **WLA2023-012 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Pamela Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted and accepted the progress of their projects and kept open Projects;

- a) 2221 – Boundary Fence, noting that the Grader will be in community once it had finished with the roads damaged by the recent rain;
- b) 2223 – Upgrade to Gordon Ida Park, noting the request that the fence be made a priority and a quote for the irrigation be presented at the next Authority meeting;
- c) 2224 – Community Hall requesting that quotes be sought. One quote for a new power line connection, a second quote for reconnecting on the current system and a third quote for the prepaid meter box.  
The Authority agreed that, should the store approve to having the power reconnected in their name, the ongoing cost would be paid from the Discretionary funds.

On inspection of the current power box, the CEO noted that the hall had its own power line and that Power and Water may just need to install a prepaid meter box;

- d) 2225 – Grade fire breaks, noting that the Grader will attend to the fire breaks.

**WLA2023-013 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Bobby Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority approved to close Project 2222 – BBQ Trailer and return the underspend of \$1,522.80 to unallocated funds.

#### **9.4 DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Each financial year, MRC grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority.

The Local Authority decides how best to commit these funds that will benefit the Community and to improve Community development.

Discretionary Funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

**WLA2023-014 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Terry Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority:

- a) noted that the gift cards purchased as prizes for best Christmas Lights had not been allocated due to rain affecting the competition;
- b) discussed alternative competitions for the community to participate in; and
- c) elected to discuss spending the remainder of their 2022/2023 Discretionary Funds at a later date.

## **10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 CSC REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is an update of Council delivered services in Wallace Rockhole across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

**WLA2023-015 RESOLVED (Howard Abbott/Terry Abbott)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Council Service Delivery report.

## **11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 December 2022 in the Local Authority community.

**WLA2023-016 RESOLVED (Terry Abbott/Amanda Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority noted and accepted the expenditure report as at 31 December 2022.

## **12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2**

### **12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Under item 6.2, members have the opportunity to raise matters of General Business that are discussed at this report.

Additionally, the members are asked to discuss and give feedback on the following matters:

- a) Consultation on the Redevelopment of MRC's 2022/2023 Regional Plan.
- b) LA meetings to be held in an outdoor space starting April 2023.
- c) LA meetings to be recorded for minute taking purposes.
- d) How can MRC assist the Local Authority members to achieve Quorum?
- e) Is there any suggestions from the Local Authority to encourage members to attend and participate in the meetings?

#### **WLA2023-017 RESOLVED (Amanda Abbott/Bobby Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority;

- a) noted that no General Business matters was raised at Item 6.2;
- b) accepted to hold meetings in an outdoor space;
- d) noted and agreed that meetings can be recorded for minute taking purposes;
- e) suggested sending a list of the Local Authority meeting dates to the CSC to print off and distribute to all members.

#### **WLA2023-018 RESOLVED (Amanda Abbott/Terry Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority discussed the Development of the 2023/2024 Regional Plan and suggested that the highlights of Community Projects be put up on a Community noticeboard.

## **13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3**

### **13.1 OTHER NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this paper is to note and discuss the matters raised at item 6.3 and to be informed of any updates to the actions relating to services provided by the Northern Territory Government.

#### **WLA2023-019 RESOLVED (Billy Porter/Bobby Abbott)**

That the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority:

- a) noted that no Non-Council Business items was raised at item 6.3;
- b) noted and accepted the information on Local Decision Making; and
- c) noted that the Representative will follow up with NT Health on maintaining the yard and fence around the clinic.

## **14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL, 2023**

## **15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:08 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Wallace Rockhole Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 25 January 2023 and were confirmed Wednesday, 18 October 2023

