



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10:30AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared as provisional meeting due to Quorum not being met and open at 10.41AM

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Members present were welcomed at the meeting.

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Ruby James and Winsome Newberry

Councillors:

Councillor Marlene Abbott

Council Employees:

Jeff MacLeod, CEO MRC, Chris Kendrick, Director Corporate Services, Kathleen Abbott, Area Manager Service Delivery and Gaurab Ghimire, Governance Admin Officer

Guests:

Raymond Walters, DCM&C and Maryanne Walley, Engagement Officer IEPP

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Cr Abraham Poulson

Absentees:

Members Meryvyn De Rose, Rosina Kunia and Priscilla Abbott

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND ABSENTEES

DRLA2023-035 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted attendance, apologies and absentees at the meeting.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

3.5.1 NOMINATIONS TO DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This purpose of this paper is to highlight the vacancies on the Local Authority (*the Authority*) and to apprise the Local Authority of any legislative changes to appointments introduced in the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act).

A vacancy exists on the Local Authority as a result of a membership being revoked at the 15 October 2020 and a second vacancy aroused on 12 October 2022 meeting due to a member being absent without permission from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

DRLA2023-036 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and:

- a) noted that two vacancy are available on the Local Authority; and
- b) called for community nominations to remain open for a further 21 days to fill the vacancy.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

DRLA2023-037 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Docker River Local Authority of 12 October 2022 be adopted as a resolution of the Docker River Local authority.

Minutes note: Provisional meeting cannot confirm the minutes of the meeting held with a full Quorum.

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

DRLA2023-038 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-039 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted that the members have provided notification of matters to be raised in General Council Business as follows:

- a) School attendance

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-040 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted that the members have not provided notification of matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

DRLA2023-041 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

DRLA2023-042 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and 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)

DRLA2023-043 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted and accepted the presentation from the Australia Electoral Commission.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Local Authority is granted \$4,000.00 from the Council every new financial year to spend on enhancing the community and decisions about how to spend this money to benefit everybody.

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

DRLA2023-044 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and:

- a) noted and accepted the release of their discretionary fund for the year 2022/2023;**
- b) noted and discussed the spending of their funds in the community: and**
- c) noted and discussed to spend the fund with further consultation for the celebration of opening new lights at the softball and football oval.**

9.2 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 discuss what they would like to see included in a meeting agenda and provide examples of good practices.

DRLA2023-045 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and:

- a) reviewed and discussed the contents of a meeting agenda in brief;
- b) did not identify any additions or deletions that members would like to make to the current agenda;
- c) noted that the local authority will discuss this at the full quorum meeting.

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. 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 current balance of \$29,213.55 uncommitted funds available to spend on the community project.

It is noted that Docker River has received their full allocation of Project funds that has since been allocated to current projects.

DRLA2023-046 RESOLVED(Marlene Abbott/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and:

- a) noted and accepted the progress of their projects as follows and kept project open;
 - project 2121, BBQ Trailer and trees for Eagle Park – Area manager is going to source quotes for decent size trees
 - project 2122, Score Board – Score board has been destroyed while transportation and Area manager is following up and will provide update at the next meeting
 - Project 2125, Shade Shelter for Parks – Kept project open and update will be provided at the next meeting
 - Project 2126, Fencing around playground and Lasseter park – Quote will be sourced for this with a similar fence at the child care center
 - Project 2127, Solar Light post at the entry into Docker River – altogether 5 large size lights will be put on and one of them will be installed at the sign to ‘Welcome to Docker River’ and committed all remaining funds (\$26,718.55) to this project after deduction from project 2122.
- b) committed funds of \$2,495.00 to cover the overspend to Project 2122 – Scoreboard.

9.4 COMMUNITY SERVICE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

DRLA2023-047 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted and accepted the Community services report.

10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICES COORDINATOR REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is an update on Council delivered services in Docker River across the area of Local Government Service Delivery

DRLA2023-048 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and noted and accepted the attached 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

DRLA2023-049 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and 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.

DRLA2023-050 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Marlene Abbott)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation and :

- a) noted that no General Business items is raised at Item 6.2;**
- b) discusses and provides feedback on the Development of the 2023/2024**

Regional Plan to focus on the following:

- More involvement of youth & children in the community
 - Increase consultation with NPY around youth services
 - Shade & seating near football oval & eastside of the community and shop and review by CLC
- c) accepted to hold meetings in an outdoor space and requested if BBQ can be arranged for visitors, guests & members;
- d) noted the meetings can be recorded for minute taking purposes; and
- e) discussed how to assist MRC in achieving quorum and ideas as follows:
- Providing poster for LA meeting for the whole of the year
 - Text message to be sent to the LA members prior to the meeting.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3

13.1 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Representatives from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet attends the Local Authority meetings to present any necessary updates in regards to Northern Territory Government services.

The members noted that the DCM&C were unavailable at the last meeting to provide update on the non-council business. The action register will be updated when response are received from the DCMC.

At the beginning of the meeting, under item 6.3, members of the Local Authority have an opportunity to provide notification of matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business.

DRLA2023-051 RESOLVED(Marlene Abbott/Ruby James)

That the provisional meeting of the Docker River Local Authority by majority vote, made a recommendation to council and:

- a) noted and discussed the Non-Council Business items raised at Item 6.3;
- School attendance, families and children have been away from the communities and it was discussed that they should be back to community and children be sent to school
- b) noted and accepted the updates and progress on actions from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet as follows:
- Option for domestic violence services - Minister Paech received from Robin as requested by community, Bruce Fyfe mentioned we will follow up again with the Minister for an update response re DV service enquiry.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY 13 APRIL, 2023

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 12:53pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 1 February 2023 and were confirmed Wednesday, 19 July 2023.

