



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON THURSDAY, 13 APRIL 2023 AT 10:30AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 10:46AM as a provisional meeting given that the full Quorum wasn't achieved.

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – member present were welcomed to the meeting.

3 ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS / NOMINATIONS

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Ruby James and Member Winsome Newberry

Councillors:

Councillor Abraham Poulson joined via teams app from Alice Springs head office

Council Employees:

Aaron Blacker, Director Technical Services, Kathleen Abbott, Area Manager Service Delivery, Stephen Trindle, CSC and Gaurab Ghimire, Governance Administration Officer

Guests:

Chanston Paech, Hon Minister for Local Government, Katharine O'Donoghue, Ciaren Dunne and Jesse Tyssen from Office of Chansey Paech

Kenny Lechleitner, Regional Coordinator and Enock Menge, Regional Project Officer, both joined via teams app, DCM&C

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Member Rosina Kunia

Absentees: Members Meryvyn De Rose, Priscilla Abbott and Councillor Marlene Abbott

1, 3.1 & 3.2 MEETING OPENING, ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND ABSENTEES

DRLA2023-052 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

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

- a) noted that the meeting was held as a provisional meeting given that the Quorum wasn't achieved;
- b) noted attendance to the meeting;
- c) accepted apology received; and
- d) noted absentees to the meeting.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

3.4 TERMINATIONS

DRLA2023-053 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

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

- a) membership of members Meryvyn De Rose and Priscilla Abbott be dismissed as a result of their non-attendance and failure to provide apologies from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

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.

Additionally, three other members were absent noted in the table below, at the previous meeting held 1 Feb 2023 and their membership may be dismissed if members do not attend (without permission) the meeting held 13 April 2023.

DRLA2023-054 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

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

- a) noted that two vacancies were available on the Local Authority prior to the meeting;
- b) noted that the dismissal of two other members at the meeting have created additional two more vacancies, that's a total of four vacancies in the membership; and
- c) called for community nominations to remain open for a further 21 days to fill the vacancies.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

DRLA2023-055 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 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 and 1 Feb 2023 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 and minutes will be tabled at the next LA meeting with full Quorum.

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

DRLA2023-056 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 that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-057 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 that the members have provided and discussed matters raised in General Council Business as follows:

- a) member raised that the rubbish collection around community needs to be more frequent and CSC responded that the collection has been done as scheduled.
- b) member raised that the abandoned cars from the community be removed and Director Tech services responded that the process has begun with Finke community to remove abandoned cars and working their way through other communities. It will take time to get to distanced community and advised that the resident fill out form to request for removal of abandoned cars from their premises.

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-058 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 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

DRLA2023-059 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 the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

DRLA2023-060 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

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.

Minutes note: Meeting was paused from 11:00am to 11:04am due to internet connection being cut off and not making a provisional Quorum and resumed at 11:05 as the connection was back on and met provisional Quorum again.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

Nil

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.

DRLA2023-061 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Abraham Poulson)

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

- a) noted and discussed the spending of their funds in the community;
- b) agreed to spend on celebration of solar lights installation with community BBQ and potential musical band performance and its expenses; and
- c) requested that the Hon Minister Paech be present to celebrate with the community.

9.2 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.

Docker River Local Authority (The Authority) has allocated all of its Local Authority project funds available to spend on the community projects.

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

DRLA2023-062 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 and accepted the progress of their projects as follows:
 - project 2121, BBQ trailer and trees for Eagle park – trees have been purchased and waiting to be delivered at Docker River;
 - project 2122, Score Board – Damaged score board is at Alice Springs and DSCD Area Manager is investigating freight cost to Docker and insurance for damage;
 - project 2125, Shade Shelter for Parks – DSCD Area Manager is to engage contractors in the community for the installation and quotes are being sourced for the costs with the remaining fund available for this project;
 - project 2128, Fencing around playground and Lasseter park - CSC, is recently back from leave and getting measurements to the DSCD Area Manager to obtain quotes;
 - project 2129 – Solar light to post at entry into Docker River – MG Electrical are currently doing the street light works in the community and they are being approached to quote on the installation.
- b) approved the closure of their completed project 2121, BBQ trailer and trees for Eagle Park and returned the unspent \$240 to unallocated fund.
- c) wish list item, Eastside playground is now moved to action register to investigate its status by Aaron for the section 19 lease/license agreements of the playground

9.3 COMMUNITY SERVICE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

DRLA2023-063 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Abraham Poulson)

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

- a) noted and accepted the Community Services report; and
- b) noted the early learning program handouts tabled at the meeting will be taken into consideration with broader consultation on Monday the 17th April to engage the community members; and
- c) CSC will be informed of their decision on preferred early learning program.

10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COUNCIL SERVICE COORDINATORS REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2023-064 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 and accepted the attached report;
- b) noted the problems with the wild horses that doesn't belongs to community resident;
- c) noted that the Hon Minister Paech will liaise with Central Land Council to hold a meeting with the community and seek potential solutions for removal of wild horses and response will be provided back to MRC.

11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS

11.1 DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 March 2023 in the Local Authority Community.

DRLA2023-065 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 expenditure report as at 31 March 2023.

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.

DRLA2023-066 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Winsome Newberry)

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

- a) noted that the general business raised was already discussed at 6.2; and**
- b) be updated at the next meeting on the issues arising from this 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.

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.

DRLA2023-067 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) notes no business was raised at Item 6.3;**
- b) noted that the unsealed road for 27KM will be sealed and its tender is being currently sourced;**
- b) noted and accepted the updates and progress on actions regarding Option for Domestic Violence Service from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet as follows:**

Response by Hon Minister Paech is that, Hon Kate Worden will be invited to attend the celebration with the community and LA during the celebration of solar light installation where the matter for a Women Safe House will be discussed with the community.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 19 JULY, 2023

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 11:59am.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 13 April 2023 and were confirmed Wednesday, 19 July 2023.