



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2023 AT 10:30AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared open at 11.17AM

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chairperson Ruby James

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

3.1 Attendance

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Ruby James, Member Rosina Kunia and Member Winsome Newberry

Councillors:

President Roxanne Kenny (via Teams)

Council Employees:

Aaron Blacker – Director Technical Services, Jake Potter – Manager Infrastructure and Fleet, Stephen Trindle – Council Services Coordinator, Iryna Mustiats – Manager Children's Services, Kaisa Suumann – Project and Engagement Coordinator and June Crabb – Governance Officer

Guests:

Jeff Humphreys – Representative from Department Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

3.2 Apologies/Absentees

Apologies:

Kathleen Abbott – MRC Area Manager

Absentees:

Councillor Marlene Abbott and Councillor Abraham Poulson

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

DRLA2023-051 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Ruby James)

That Docker River Local Authority:

- a) noted and accepted the attendance to the meeting; and
- b) noted the absence without notice of Councillors Marlene Abbott and Abraham Poulson to the meeting.

3.3 Resignations

NIL

3.4 Terminations

NIL

3.5 Nominations

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).

Two vacancies were created on the Local Authority as a result of their membership being revoked at the 15 October 2020 meeting. In and the 12 October 2022 meeting as these members were absent without permission from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

Additionally, Priscilla Abbott and Meryvyn De Rose had their membership dismissed at the 13 April 2023 meeting for their absence without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

DRLA2023-052 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That the Docker River Local Authority:

- a) noted the four vacancies available on the Local Authority;
- b) called for community nominations to remain open for a further 28 days to fill these vacancies; and
- c) encouraged members to seek suitable applicants to nominate.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

DRLA2023-053 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

DRLA2023-054 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That members of the Authority adopt the unconfirmed minutes of the Local Authority meeting held on the 19 July 2023 as a resolution of the Docker River Local authority

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

DRLA2023-055 RESOLVED(Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-056 RESOLVED(Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That members did not raise any matters for discussion in General Council Business.

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

DRLA2023-057 RESOLVED(Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That members raised the following matters for discussion at General Non-Council Business:

- a) School attendance / Police attendance
- b) Sewerage

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

DRLA2023-058 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

DRLA2023-059 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority did not declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

Nil

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

DOCKER RIVER YOUTH BOARD REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) has set itself a goal to support youth leadership development in all our 13 communities. In order to develop and support our young leaders, the MRC is in the process of developing Youth Boards across the MacDonnell region. MRC is currently working on developing a Youth Board in Docker River.

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback from the Docker River Local Authority on Docker River Youth Board's recommendations to the LA.

DRLA2023-060 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Received and noted the Docker River Youth Board's meeting minutes from the 5th of October 2023.
- b) Moved to the Projects wishlist, the Youth Board's recommendations to get a water tap, a toilet and a changing room near the football oval and softball ground, noting that a water tap was too costly and a water trailer would be more suitable;
- c) Moved to the Projects wishlist, the Youth Board's recommendation to get benches at the basketball court for community events;
- d) Discusses and agreed on the Youth Board's recommendation to purchase new softball equipment for community sports carnivals - one bag of softball equipment.

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 to spend on the community projects.

DRLA2023-061 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority:

- a) noted that the 2023/2024 Project funds from NTG are yet to be released;
- b) noted the progress of their projects and kept open:
 - 2122 – Score Board, noting that the scoreboard had been collected from Amoonguna;
 - 2125 – Shade Shelter for parks, noting that contractors had yet to submit their quotes;
 - 2128 – Fencing around playground and Lasseter park, noting the uneven ground and for Technical Services to investigate drainage issues and the CSC take measurements to get quotes for fencing similar to around swimming pools.
 - 2129 – Solar lights to post and entry into Docker River, noting that the lights had been ordered and will be installed once they arrive in community.

- c) **agreed to add items to the wishlist as follows:**
 - o **Changing room and toilet near the football oval and softball ground.**
 - o **Bench seating at Basketball Court.**
- d) **removed from the wishlist – Eastside Playground as approval was not granted.**

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.

DRLA2023-062 RESOLVED (Ruby James/Winsome Newberry)

That the Docker River Local Authority:

- a) **noted the expenditure of \$1,363.64 allocated to the football uniforms;**
- b) **approved the quote of \$1,600.00 for the purchase of a complete softball kit; and**
- c) **allocated the balance of funds towards a community Christmas party.**

10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS

SCD - DOCKER RIVER LA REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is an update of Council Delivered Services in Docker River across the area of Local Government Service Delivery.

DRLA2023-063 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted and accepted the Service Delivery report.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

DRLA2023-064 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted and accepted the Community Services report.

DTS REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A summary of Technical Services completed in Docker River since the last Local Authority Meeting

DRLA2023-065 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted and accepted the Technical Services report

11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS

EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

DRLA2023-066 RESOLVED(Ruby James/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted and accepted the expenditure report as at 31 August 2023.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2

GENERAL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this paper is to give members the opportunity to discuss with Council the General Business matters raised at item 6.2.

DRLA2023-067 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)

That the Docker River Local Authority noted Council Business matters for discussion was not raised at item 6.2.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3

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.

DRLA2023-068 RESOLVED(Rosina Kunia/Ruby James)

That the Docker River Local Authority:

- a) noted a Representative from Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet did not attend the Authority meeting.**
- b) discussed the matters raised at item 6.3 as follows:**
 - School attendance**
Members advised that school kids were breaking into buildings due to the college being closed. Police would be notified, but fail to attend.
 - Sewerage and septic issues**
Members advised that sewage and septic issues mainly affecting houses on Eastside were not being fixed. Contractors would attend, however blockages would still occur.
Members were advised to report the issues to Housing and not to the contractor directly.
- c) noted the information shared by the Representative from Housing.**

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2024

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:25 pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 11 October 2023 and were confirmed Wednesday, 31 January 2024.