



MINUTES OF THE AMOONGUNA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
AMOONGUNA COUNCIL OFFICE ON  
WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 10:AM

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**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:28AM

**2 WELCOME**

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chairperson Caroline Peters

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

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Caroline Peters, Member Henry Oliver, Member Lawrence Webb, Member Samantha Stuart and Member Sharon Alice

Councillors:

Councillor Andrew Davis, Councillor Lisa Sharman, Councillor Patrick Allen, Councillor Aloyiscois Hayes and President Roxanne Kenny

Council Employees:

Aaron Blacker – Director Technical Services, Kitty Comerford – Manager Property and Tenancy, Jessica Kragh – Manager Youth Services, Liz Scott – Manager Community Safety (arrived at 10:50am) and June Crabb – Governance Officer

Guests:

Thomas King – Project Officer, Department Chief Minister and Cabinet, Manoj Bhatta and Gloria Baliva – Menzies Research Representatives, Shane Franey – Liaison Officer, Member for Namatjira Office, Brendan Boyce and Cheryl Russell – Territory Families Representatives and Cianne McConville – Power and Water Representative (called into the meeting)

**3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

Member Audrey Miller

Absentees:

NIL

### **3.3 Resignations**

NIL

### **3.4 Terminations**

NIL

### **3.5 Nominations**

#### **3.5.1 NOMINATIONS TO AMOONGUNA LOCAL AUTHORITY**

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

The purpose of this paper is to highlight the membership of the Amoonguna Local Authority and to note any vacancies available to community residents.

*One vacancy remains on the Local Authority and it is recommended that Community nominations remain open to fill the vacancy.*

*As per Council policy MC01-CP, ref: 8.1:1(b) – Council will appoint any suitable nominations.*

*It is noted that the nominations received from Audrey Miller and Sharon Alice were endorsed by Council at the June 2023 OCM.*

**AML2023-041 RESOLVED (Henry Oliver/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) welcomed Sharon Alice and Audrey Miller to the Authority;**
- b) noted that there is one vacancy remaining on the Local Authority; and**
- c) called for community nominations to remain open for 28 days to fill the vacancy.**

## **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**AML2023-042 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Aloyiscois Hayes)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority noted the Council Code of Conduct.**

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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

**AML2023-043 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Patrick Allen)**

**That the minutes of the Amoonguna Local Authority ordinary meeting held on 7 June 2023 be adopted as a resolution of the Amoonguna Local Authority.**

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

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

**AML2023-044 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Henry Oliver)**

**That the Amoonguna 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**

**AMLA2023-045 RESOLVED (Caroline Peters/Lisa Sharman)**

That members provided notification of matters to be raised in General Council Business as follows:

- a) Amoonguna Store

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

**AMLA2023-046 RESOLVED (Caroline Peters/Lisa Sharman)**

That members provided notification of matters to be raised in General Non-Council Business as follows:

- a) Housing

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**AMLA2023-047 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)**

That the Amoonguna Local Authority noted the Conflict of Interest policy.

### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

**AMLA2023-048 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)**

That the Amoonguna Local Authority declared no conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

The impromptu deputation from Brenden Boyce, Executive Director of Remote Housing for Territory Families was approved by the Chair and discussed at this point.

## **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **8.4 REMOTE HOUSING**

Representatives were in attendance to the meeting to discuss the needs and concerns from the community around NT Housing.

**AMLA2023-049 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Caroline Peters)**

The Amoonguna Local Authority:

- a) noted the information shared by the Remote Housing Representatives;
- b) provided the following feedback:
  - more houses needed.
  - streamline the reporting process on repairs.
  - regular HRG meetings.
  - improve communication.

## **8.1 MENZIES SCHOOL OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The purpose of this presentation is to consult with remote Aboriginal communities to obtain endorsement to conduct research on a project titled 'Examining the impact of extreme temperature on Public Health Care services utilisation in remote Central Australia to inform adaptation strategies'.

**AML2023-050 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted the presentation; and**
- b) signed their acceptance to support Menzies School of Health in conducting research on how extreme temperatures affects the clinic use for community residents.**

## **8.2 GUIDE TO THE 2023 REFERENDUM**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Representatives from the Member for Namatjira's Office is presenting information on the 2023 Referendum, to ensure that members are aware and can make an informed decision about the choice they make when they cast their vote on the 2023 referendum.

**AML2023-051 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority noted and accepted the information shared by the Representatives.**

## **8.3 REMOTE PREPAYMENT POWER METERS**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Power and Water has recently started to replace prepayment meters in remote communities with 4G mobile network cover.

Within the MacDonnell Regional Council area, Power and Water expect that this will affect 11 of the 13 communities with a few locations to be assessed for the strength of the mobile network.

The Power and Water engagement team will be onsite during the roll out to explain the changes to customers.

**AML2023-052 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Caroline Peters)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted and accepted the information received from the Representatives of Power and Water Corporation; and**
- b) requested that Power and Water present to the community before the changeover to the new power meters occurs.**

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

### **9.1 ACTION REGISTER - AMOONGUNA LA**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### **AML2023-053 RESOLVED (Henry Oliver/Andrew Davis)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority noted and accepted the progress reports on the actions from the minutes of the previous meeting and closed action – Invite Youth Board Members.**

### **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.

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.

**Amoonguna has allocated all their available funds to spend on Community projects.**

#### **AML2023-054 RESOLVED (Henry Oliver/Lisa Sharman)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) **noted the progress to keep open projects as follows:**
  - **2107 – Solar lights, noting that the lights had been collected from Haasts Bluff and were now in community.**
  - **2230 – Fence for Footy Oval, requesting that \$4,000.00 of this projects commitment be returned to unallocated funds.**
  - **2231 – agreed to rename the Project to Shade Shelters for the Sorry Camp, noting the request for separate male and female shade shelters, and to prioritise a quote to supply and install one 6 x 6m shelter first.**
  - **2232 – Softball Oval, noting the Area Manager to follow up with the location of the cracker dust.**
  - **2106 – Install a Water Bubbler near ablution block, requesting quotes be sourced for vandal-proof bubbler.**

- c) discussed the possibility of a BMX track and Skate Park, noting that this item will be moved to the wish list.
- d) approved to close Project 2105 – Youth Board, returning \$168.54 to unallocated funds.

### 9.3 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.

#### **AMLA2023-055 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lawrence Webb)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted and discussed the spending of its 2022/2023 Discretionary Funds;
- b) noted the 2023/2024 Discretionary funds allocation of \$3,228.80; and
- c) allocated \$1,700.00 to the Youth Board for the School Holiday Program during September, December and January holidays.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:30pm

Meeting resumed at 1:04pm

## **10 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 CSC LA RPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### **AMLA2023-056 RESOLVED (Aloyiscois Hayes/Caroline Peters)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority noted and accepted the attachment report.**

### **10.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE AMOONGUNA LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on Community Services program delivery.

#### **AMLA2023-057 RESOLVED (Lawrence Webb/Samantha Stuart)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted and accepted the Community Services report; and
- b) noted in particular, the statistics provided by MacYouth, Aged Care and Disability were inconclusive, requesting additional information on how many clients utilise the service and how often in all future reports.

## **11 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **11.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTS AS AT 31/08/2023**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**AMLA2023-058 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted the expenditure report as at 31 August 2023; and**
- b) noted in particular, the overspend for the repairs and maintenance to Council's Buildings.**

Item 13 – Non Council Business was discussed at this point.

## **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.

**AMLA2023-059 RESOLVED (Sharon Alice/Patrick Allen)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted that the Non-Council Business matter raised at Item 6.3 had been discussed with Territory Families, Housing and Communities Representatives.**
- b) provided feedback to the Representative from Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet as follows:**
  - Regular Police presence in community.**
  - Stolen vehicles driven into community and dumped.**
  - Firebreak around community.**
  - Street light installed at the Ross Highway turnoff.**

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

### **12.1 GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this paper is to give members the opportunity to discuss any General Council Business matters.

**AMLA2023-060 RESOLVED (Henry Oliver/Caroline Peters)**

**That the Amoonguna Local Authority:**

- a) noted the matter raised at item 6.2 was not discussed at this point.**
- b) Raised the possibility for a new Aged Care facility and a new Storage shed, requesting that the Director Community Services investigate how this can be achieved.**
- c) Requested that a review of the streetlights be conducted.**

Note: At the point the meeting was closed to discuss a confidential matter.

### **13 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

#### **13.1 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR DISCUSSION OF A CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

**AML2023-061 RESOLVED (Andrew Davis/Lisa Sharman)**

That the Amoonguna Local Authority approves the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are discussed. The meeting is closed in accordance with clause 51 (1)(c)(iv) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 as the matters to be discussed include information that, if publicly disclosed, would be likely to prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

### **14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS.**

Tabled in Confidential session

#### **14.2 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING**

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

Pursuant to section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and clauses 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 Local Authority.

**AML2023-062 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Aloyiscois Hayes)**

The Amoonguna Local Authority resolved to reopen the meeting to the public.

### **15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER, 2023**

### **16 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting concluded at 2:30 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Amoonguna Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 20 September 2023 which were confirmed on 6 December 2023.