



MINUTES OF THE FINKE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE FINKE
COUNCIL OFFICE ON TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2024 AT 10:30 AM

1 MEETING OPENING

The meeting was declared a provisional and opened at 11.11AM

2 WELCOME

2.1 Welcome to Country – Chair Michael Ferguson

Minute Note: The CEO presented four awards to the Finke Civil Team that included:

- Best Sports Ground
- Best Waste Management Facility
- Best Medium Community
- Best Practice in keeping the Waste Management Facility Sustainability – Presented to Chairperson Michael Ferguson

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

3.1 ATTENDANCE

Local Authority Members:

Chairperson Michael Ferguson and Member Rosemary Matasia

Councillors:

Councillor Lisa Sharman and Councillor Patrick Allen

Council Employees:

Belinda Urquhart – Chief Executive Officer, Damien Ryan – Area Manager, John Fleming – Council, Kaisa Suumann – Coordinator Youth Boards, Anya Riley – EA to the CEO and President, Joe Rawson – Essential Services Officer, MRC's Civil Team - Kenneth Hayes (Team Leader), Lincoln Douglas and Phillip Doolan

Via Teams – Kitty Comerford – Manager Housing

Guests:

Shane Franey – Representative Office of Namatjira

Via Teams - Jessica Scrutton – Representative Department Chief Minister & Cabinet
Mr Glendle Schrader and Dr David Scrimgeour – Tin truck Consulting

Apologies:

President Roxanne Kenny

Absentees:

Member Charmaine Stuart, Member Jill Doolan, Member Michelle Allen, Member Richard Doolan, Councillor Andrew Davis and Councillor Aloyischois Hayes

3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

3.1 & 3.2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENTEES

FLA2024-033 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote, made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) accepted the apology received from President Roxanne Kenny; and
- c) agreed that the memberships of Richard Doolan, Jill Doolan, Charmaine Stuart and Michelle Allen be terminated for being absent without notice from two consecutive Local Authority meetings.

3.3 RESIGNATIONS

3.3.1 RESIGNATION FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is to document the resignations received from Members who can no longer commit to attending a Local Authority meeting.

FLA2024-034 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and accepted the resignation received from Geoffrey Stuart.

3.4 TERMINATIONS

3.4 MEMBERSHIP TERMINATIONS

FLA2024-035 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council to approve the memberships being terminated of:

- Richard Doolan
- Jill Doolan
- Michelle Allen
- Charmaine Stuart

3.5 NOMINATIONS

3.5.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY NOMINATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This paper highlights the changes to the Local Authority Membership and notes that due to a resignation being received from Mr Geoffrey Stuart, a vacancy is currently available on the Authority.

FLA2024-036 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Rosemary Matasia)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council to:

- a) note the current membership on the Authority;
- b) note that five vacancies are currently available; and
- c) call for community nominations to open.

4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT

FLA2024-037 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Lisa Sharman)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Council Code of Conduct was noted.

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

FLA2024-038 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and

- a) accepted the unconfirmed minutes of the provisional meeting held 9th September 2024 as true and correct records of the proceedings; and
- b) noted that the Ordinary meeting held 5 March 2024 will be presented at the next meeting.

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

6.1 PAPERS CIRCULATED AND RECEIVED

FLA2024-039 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the papers circulated were received for consideration at the meeting.

6.2 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS RECOMMENDATION

Members did not provide notification of matters to be raised in General Council Business

6.3 NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS RAISED IN GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS RECOMMENDATION

Members did not provide notification of matters to be raised in General Council Business.

7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

FLA2024-040 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Conflict of Interest policy was noted.

7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION

FLA2024-041 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and did not declare any conflict of interest with the meeting agenda.

8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS

8.1 TIN TRUCK AND ASSOCIATES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Tin Truck and Associates wish to present to Council information regarding the project "Communities wanting to transition Health Clinics to Aboriginal Community Control".

FLA2024-042 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council:

- a) that the presentation by Tin Truck and Associates was noted;**
- b) noted that members would give serious consideration to what this project may mean to them and their family and whether this project will fulfil the needs of the community; and**
- c) agreed to raise any questions at the next consultation in February or March 2025, when Tin Truck and Consultants return.**

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 YOUTH BOARD REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report outlines the recommendations put forward by the Finke Youth Board during their meeting on 16th of May 2024 and 12th of September 2024. It seeks feedback and discussion from the Finke Local Authority on these proposals.

FLA2024-043 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Rosemary Matasia)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that:

- a) the minutes from the Finke Youth Board meetings held on 16th of May 2024 and 12th of September 2024 were received;**
- b) the recommendations of the Youth Board were reviewed, noting the following**

in relation to New goal posts and new lights for the AFL Oval:

- Members requested that the CEO write to the Hon. William Yan to inquire if there is the possibility to fund these two items. It was noted that the two items will be moved to the Projects wishlist;
- c) members noted the additional Grandstand seating and Upgrading the Basketball Court and elected not to move forward with the Youth Boards recommendations on these items at this time;
- d) members agreed that the reorientation of the Softball field will be moved to the Projects wishlist, noting that a Scope of Works would have to be conducted by MRC's Projects and Infrastructure team in consultation with NPY Womens;
- e) advised the Youth Board Coordinator work with with NPY Womens Representative and investigate the building across from the store, as it was previously a facility for Youth Services and could potentially be a good place to store equipment;
- f) members gave notice to the Youth Board that until a program offering supervised boxing is offered, the members will not consider purchasing the boxing bag and gloves; and
- g) members agreed to purchase new Basketballs and AFL balls for youth activities.

9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT

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. e.g. park fencing, solar lighting, road repairs and ablution facilities.
- Acquisition of plant and equipment directly related to local government service delivery. e.g. trailers, graders, garden maintenance equipment such as brush cutters, lawn mowers and pressure cleaners, rubbish bin enclosures/stands.
- Upgrade/enhancement of community facilities, e.g. sporting venues, upgrade of community ovals, basketball courts and playgrounds, shade structures, picnic areas, seating and park furniture, tree planting and irrigation; upgrade of women's or men's sheds /shelters.
- Festivals or other events – to be conducted only within the Local Authority area LAPF has been provided for.
- Community based programs – including music, art or dance; uniforms for sporting events; or preservation of culture or traditions.

FLA2024-044 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council and:

- a) noted the 2023/2024 funding allocation of \$26,900.00 had been discussed at the previous meeting;
- b) noted and accepted the progress on their projects and kept open;
 - 2132 – Stealth Solar lights, still to be ordered;
 - 2133 – Wash down bay, CSC to mark out the area for the slab;

- c) noted completion and closed the following projects:
 - 2135 – Woodfire BBQ – returning \$768.40 to unallocated funds;
 - 2136 – Fence around the Cemetery, returning \$5,128.78 to unallocated funds; and
- d) Created a new projects:
 - Shade cover over the playground at front of Council office, allocating \$5,000.00 to the project.

9.3 LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Each financial year, MacDonnell Regional Council grants a discretionary fund allocation of \$4,000.00 to the Local Authority. These funds cannot be carried over from year to year and must be spent (with goods received) between 1 July and 30 June.

FLA2024-045 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Michael Ferguson)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that:

- a) the 2024/2025 funding allocation was noted,
- b) members acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2025;
- c) members agreed to allocate 465.00 towards a range of Sporting balls for the Youth Board; and
- d) members made the following decisions regarding their Tidy yards competition:
 - requested that Governance create the Tidiest Yard poster;
 - Competition closes Friday, 22nd November;
 - Judging to take place Monday, 25th November;
 - Winners announced during the Community Christmas BBQ on Friday, 29th November and will have a choice of vouchers from the local store or Milner Meats; and
 - that the CEO on behalf of the Authority invite the Hon William Yan to judge the competition on the 25th November or attend the community bbq on the 29th November as the guest of honour and announce the winners of the Tidiest Yard competition.

9.4 HR DEMOGRAPHIC REPORT & POSITION VACANCY REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Authority members insight into MacDonnell Regional Council staffing diversity and employee distribution among communities. Attached is the latest HR Demographic report which will represent the current staff details of MRC including number of employees based in Alice Springs and MRC Communities and monthly staff turnover.

The attached list of vacancies are opportunities for community members to contribute to the community needs, and the People and Capabilities team asks those present at the Local Authority meeting to encourage community members to apply.

FLA2024-046 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Peoples and Capabilities report for the Community of Finke was noted.

10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the delivery of services for Aged and Disability, Community Safety, Children's and Youth Services.

FLA2024-047 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Lisa Sharman)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Community Services Report was noted

10.2 COUNCIL SERVICES LA REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

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

FLA2024-048 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Rosemary Matasia)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Council Services report was noted.

11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

11.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY FINANCE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The expenditure report shows spending until 31 August 2024 in the Finke Local Authority community.

FLA2024-049 RESOLVED (Patrick Allen/Rosemary Matasia)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that the Expenditure report as at 31 August 2024 was noted.

12 GENERAL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.2

12.1 GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Under item 6.2, Members of the Authority have an opportunity to table items that they wish to discuss at General Council Business.

FLA2024-050 RESOLVED (Michael Ferguson/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made recommendation to Council that members did not raise any matters at item 6.2.

13 NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS AS RAISED AT ITEM 6.3

13.1 GENERAL NON-COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet provides any necessary updates in regard to Northern Territory Government Services.

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

FLA2024-051 RESOLVED (Lisa Sharman/Patrick Allen)

That the provisional meeting of the Finke Local Authority, by majority vote made a recommendation to Council that:

- a) members did not raise any matters for discussion at item 6.3;**
- b) members closed the action item Policing, noting that the community had noticed an increase in Police attendance; and**
- c) the NTG Representative will follow up on a schedule for regular grading of the Kulgera to Finke road.**

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2025

15 MEETING CLOSED

The meeting terminated at 1:16 pm.

This page and the preceding 7 pages are the minutes of the Finke Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday 22 October 2024 and are UNCONFIRMED.