



MINUTES OF THE DOCKER RIVER LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE  
DOCKER RIVER COUNCIL OFFICE ON  
THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 2024 AT 10:30 AM

---

**1 MEETING OPENING**

The meeting was declared open at 10:37am

**1.1 NOMINATION FOR ACTING CHAIR**

***DRLA2024-059 RESOLVED(Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)***

**That members nominated Councillor Marlene Abbott as Acting Chair for this meeting.**

**2 WELCOME**

2.1 Welcome to Country – Councillor Marlene Abbott

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

**3.1 Attendance**

Local Authority Members:

Member Rosina Kunia, Member Winsome Newberry and Member Priscilla Abbott

Councillors:

Councillor Marlene Abbott and Councillor Abraham Poulson

Council Employees:

Keith Hassett – Director Council Services, Jake Potter – Manager Fleet and Infrastructure, Damien Ryan – Manager Council Services, Sarah Murnik – Coordinator Facilities and Projects, Kaisa Suumann – Coordinator Youth Boards, Shae Thompson - Human Resources and June Crabb – Coordinator Governance

Guests:

David Kerrin and Mardi Haselton – Representatives NIAA, and Thomas Quayle – Dept of Social Services

Via Teams - Katharine O'Donoghue – Representative Member for Gwoja, Zyeallah Fenton Woods – Representative Chief Minister & Cabinet, Mel Forbes – CEO Outback Highway Development, Trish Cave and Mark Elliott – Representatives for the Outback Highway Development project.

### **3.2 Apologies/Absentees**

Apologies:

Chair Ruby James

Absentees:

Member Denise Brady and Member Ann-Marie Burke

### **3.3 Resignations**

**NIL**

### **3.4 Terminations**

Anne Marie Burke

### **3.1, 3.2 & 3.3 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/ABSENCES/TERMINATIONS**

***DRLA2024-060 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)***

**That members:**

- a) noted the attendance;
- b) accepted the apology received from Chairperson Ruby James,
- c) recorded Member Denise Brady's first absence without notice given; and
- d) agreed that the membership of Ann-Marie Burke be terminated due to her second consecutive absence without notice from the Authority meeting.

### **3.5 Nominations**

#### **3.5.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY NOMINATIONS**

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

This paper highlights the changes to the Local Authority Membership and notes that a nomination has been received to cover the one vacancy currently available on the Authority.

***DRLA2024-061 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Priscilla Abbott)***

**That the Docker River Local Authority:**

- a) noted and accepted the nomination received from Selinda Lily De Rose;
- b) recommends that Council endorse the nomination; and
- c) notes a vacancy has arisen due to a membership being terminated.

## **4 COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **4.1 CODE OF CONDUCT**

***DRLA2024-062 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Winsome Newberry)***

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

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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

***DRLA2024-063 RESOLVED (Winsome Newberry/Rosina Kunia)***

That the Docker River Local Authority accepts the unconfirmed Minutes of the meeting held Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

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

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

***DRLA2024-064 RESOLVED (Priscilla Abbott/Marlene Abbott)***

That the Docker River 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**

***DRLA2024-065 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Priscilla Abbott)***

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

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

***DRLA2024-066 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)***

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

## **7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### **7.1 CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

***DRLA2024-067 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Winsome Newberry)***

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

### **7.2 MEMBERS DECLARATION**

***DRLA2024-068 RESOLVED (Marlene Abbott/Winsome Newberry)***

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

## **8 DEPUTATIONS / GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **8.1 OUTBACK WAY PROJECT OVERVIEW**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Outback Highway Development Council is attending to present an update on the Outback Way Project. The Outback Way is an important national infrastructure project, connecting Queensland to Western Australia, through the Northern Territory, providing sealed road access for remote communities.

#### ***DRLA2024-069 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Priscilla Abbott)***

**That the Local Authority noted and accepted the information on the Outback Way Project.**

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

### **9.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY ACTION REGISTER**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This purpose of this report is to detail any actions that may arise over the course of a meeting and to note the responses in relation to that action.

#### ***DRLA2024-070 RESOLVED (Abraham Poulson/Marlene Abbott)***

**That the Local Authority noted the update to the current action as received and closed action DRLA2024-20.**

### **9.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT REGISTER**

#### **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.

It is important to note that 'at risk funds' are funds that may include unallocated funds and funds allocated to projects, however, remains unspent.

#### ***DRLA2024-071 RESOLVED (Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)***

**That the Docker River Local Authority:**

- a) noted that \$31,233.15 are funds at risk of being returned to NTG;**

- b) noted and accepted the progress on their projects and kept open:
  - 2121 – Movie equipment for Youth Board
  - 2122 – New Park location and infrastructure
  - 2127 – Shade Shelter at Tjungu Park, noting that the Area Manager and CSC will investigate the condition of the shade shelter
  - 2129 – Solar light at the entry post into Docker River, noting that Infrastructure and Projects have been assigned to source contractors
  - Mobile Water Trailer, noting that Manager Fleet will take this project on board
- c) discussed the items on the wishlist, noting that the Area Manager will coordinate with the CSC to measure the area for the fence around the oval; and
- d) approved to close the completed projects as follows:
  - 2126 – Bench Seating, returning \$2,098.00 to unallocated funds; and
  - 2128 – Fencing around the playground and Lasseter Park.

### **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.

#### **DRLA2024-072 RESOLVED(Priscilla Abbott/Marlene Abbott)**

That the Local Authority:

- a) accepted the 2024/2025 funding allocation;
- b) discussed the spending of its Discretionary funds, agreeing that the Tidy Yards Competition close by the end of November and judging commencing the first week December
- c) acknowledged that these funds must be spent with goods received by 30 June 2025.

### **9.4 PEOPLE & CAPABILITIES 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.

#### **DRLA2024-073 RESOLVED(Priscilla Abbott/Winsome Newberry)**

That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Peoples and Capabilities report for the Community of Docker River.

## **10 COUNCIL MANAGED SERVICES REPORTS**

### **10.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### ***DRLA2024-074 RESOLVED(Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)***

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted and accepted the Community Services report; and**
- b) noted that MRC no longer operates Youth Services with NPY at this time**

### **10.2 FLEET, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ROADS REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update on the management of the Waste facility, Roads and Fleet for MacDonnell Regional Council within the community of Docker River.

#### ***DRLA2024-075 RESOLVED(Rosina Kunia/Winsome Newberry)***

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted that the Mechanics have carried out Fleet Servicing in Docker River;**
- b) discussed the maintenance of the roads;**
- c) noted that there is no remediation on the Docker River Waste Management Facility.**

### **10.3 COUNCIL SERVICES LA REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### ***DRLA2024-076 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Marlene Abbott)***

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

## **11 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

### **11.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY FINANCE REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

#### ***DRLA2024-077 RESOLVED(Marlene Abbott/Rosina Kunia)***

**That the Local Authority noted and accepted the Expenditure report as at 31 August 2024.**

## **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.

#### ***DRLA2024-078 RESOLVED(Priscilla Abbott/Rosina Kunia)***

**That the Local Authority noted no matters were raised 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.

#### ***DRLA2024-079 RESOLVED(Winsome Newberry/Priscilla Abbott)***

**That the Local Authority:**

- a) noted that no matters were raised at Item 6.3; and
- b) noted the update to the action items arising relating to NT Government Services from previous meetings as follows:
  - Invite DIPL  
Members noted that the Member for Gwoja's office are still following up on their request to Housing and will provide a response at the next LA meeting.
  - Members requested that Community be advised on when the next HRG meeting is
  - Noted their preference for brick housing, and members advised to discuss this at the HRG meeting.

## **14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2025**

## **15 MEETING CLOSED**

The meeting terminated at 12:13pm.

This page and the preceding 6 pages are the minutes of the Docker River Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday 3 October 2024 and are UNCONFIRMED.