



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council an Ordinary Meeting  
Wednesday, 14 December 2022 at 09:04  
Council Chambers, Jabiru

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**Chairperson Mayor Ryan declared the meeting open at 09:04, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	Matthew Ryan (Mayor)
Councillor	Ralph Blyth
Councillor	Otto Dann
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	James Marrawal
Councillor	James Woods
Councillor	Henry Guwiyul

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chief Executive Officer	Paul Hockings
Chief Operating Officer	Jesse Evans (Acting)
Chief Corporate Officer	David Glover
Director of Organizational Growth	Kim Sutton
Executive Assistant to the CEO and Mayor	Charlotte Meneer
General Manager Technical Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Senior Project Manager	Hilal Ahmad
Project Manager Technical Services	Clem Beard

**VISITORS**

Department of the Chief Minister & Cabinet	Colvin Crowe
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**APOLOGIES**

**3.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

The Council considered a report on Apologies and Leave of Absence.

**Council received and noted apologies from Deputy Mayor Williams, Councillor Ralph, Councillor Kernan, Councillor Nadjamerrek for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 December 2022.**

## **ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE**

### **4.1 ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE**

The Council considered a report on Absent without Notice.

**Council noted that no Elected Member was absent without notice for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 December 2022.**

## **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

### **5.1 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**OCM107/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Henry Guwiyul  
Seconded Councillor Jacqueline Phillips**

**The agenda papers for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 December 2022 as circulated are received and accepted.**

**CARRIED**

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF**

### **6.1 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF**

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.

**The Council did not receive any declarations of interest for the meeting held on 14 December 2022.**

## **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **7.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2022**

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Previous Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting held on 9 November 2022.

**OCM108/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Ralph Blyth  
Seconded Councillor Henry Guwiyul**

**The minutes of 9 November 2022 Ordinary Council meeting, with the insertion of Cr Woods apology, are confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS**

### **8.1 REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS LIST**

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items List.

**OCM109/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Ralph Blyth  
Seconded Councillor Henry Guwiyul**

Council reviewed the outstanding resolutions, and gave approval for completed items to be removed from the list.

CARRIED

## 8.2 MEETINGS ATTENDED BY THE MAYOR

The Council considered a report on Meetings Attended by the Mayor.

**OCM110/2022 RESOLVED:**  
On the motion of Councillor Henry Guwiyul  
Seconded Councillor Jacqueline Phillips

Council noted the list of meetings attended by the Mayor and approves the associated costs of travel for these meetings.

CARRIED

## 8.3 BY-ELECTION GUNBALANYA WARD

The Council considered a report on By-Election Gunbalanya Ward.

**OCM111/2022 RESOLVED:**  
On the motion of Councillor Otto Dann  
Seconded Councillor James Marrawal

Council appointed the NT Electoral Commissioner to be the returning officer for the upcoming Gunbalanya Ward By-election in accordance with Section 136(7) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

CARRIED

## S8.1 CEO LEAVE

The Council considered a report on CEO Leave.

Council noted the report and the CEO leave and absence over the end of year period from 15 December 2022 to 2 January 2023.

## S8.2 SEEKING NOMINATIONS - LGANT STRATEGIC PRIORITY WORKING GROUPS

The Council considered a report on Seeking Nominations - LGANT Strategic Priority Working Groups.

**OCM112/2022 RESOLVED:**  
On the motion of Councillor Ralph Blyth  
Seconded Mayor Matthew Ryan

The Council received the report and nominate the following representatives to join the LGANT Strategic Priority Working Groups:

- SP1 Aboriginal Outcomes – Cr Marrawal
- SP2 Finance, Governance and Workforce – Cr Philips
- SP3 Infrastructure – No nomination
- SP4 Climate, Waste and Environment – Cr Blyth
- SP5 Economic Development – Cr Woods
- SP6 Profile and Reputation – No nomination
- SP7 Social and Community Services– No nomination

CARRIED

## CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

**9.1 ORGANISATIONAL GROWTH UNIT REPORT**

The Council considered a report on Organisational Growth Unit Report.

**Council received and noted the report on the activity and progress made by the Organisational Growth unit in pursuit of the strategic goals.**

**9.2 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022**

The Council considered a Finance Report for the period ended 31 October 2022.

**OCM113/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Jacqueline Phillips  
Seconded Councillor James Woods**

**The Council approved the Financial Management Report for the period ended 31 October 2022.**

**CARRIED**

**Minute note:** Council broke for morning tea at 10:34 and resumed at 10:53.

**9.3 WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL REVISED OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2022-23**

The Council considered a report on West Arnhem Regional Council Revised Operational and Capital Budget 2022-23.

**OCM114/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Ralph Blyth  
Seconded Councillor James Woods**

**Council adopted:**

- 1. the Revised Operating and Capital Budget for 2022-23 as per Section 203(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, and**
- 2. a minimum threshold of \$150,000 as the basis for including budgeted major capital works projects in Table 3.1.**

**CARRIED**

**TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORTS**

**10.1 SCOPE AND BUDGET REPORT ON GRADING AND REPAIRING GUNBALANYA ACCESS BACK ROAD**

The Council considered a report on scope and budget report on grading and repairing Gunbalanya access Back Road.

**OCM115/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor James Woods  
Seconded Councillor Otto Dann**

**The Council:**

- Noted the report;**
- Reviewed the high level estimate for;**
  - Raising and constructing the Gunbalanya Back Road;**
  - Fill, grade, roll and compact followed by a periodic grade, roll and compact**

- Directs the administration to allocate funding in the annual budget of \$155,264 for fill, grade, roll and water truck.

**CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORTS**

### **11.1 REPORT FOR THE WARRUWI LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2022**

The Council considered a report for the Warruwi Local Authority Meeting held on 20 October 2022.

**OCM116/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor James Marrawal  
Seconded Councillor James Woods**

**The Council noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Warruwi Local Authority meeting held on 20 October 2022.**

**CARRIED**

### **11.2 REPORT FOR THE MINJILANG LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2022**

The Council considered a report for the Minjilang Local Authority Meeting held on 13 October 2022.

**OCM117/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Mayor Matthew Ryan  
Seconded Councillor Henry Guwiyul**

**The Council:**

- Noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 13 October 2022;
- Directs the administration scope and budget for an engineer to assess works for the proposal of an outdoor movie theatre at the WARC office; and
- Directs the administration to scope and budget for 5 speedbumps and 2 solar lights utilising unspent LA funding.

**CARRIED**

### **11.3 REPORT FOR THE GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2022**

The Council considered a report for the Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting held on 27 October 2022.

**OCM118/2022 RESOLVED:  
On the motion of Councillor Otto Dann  
Seconded Councillor Henry Guwiyul**

**The Council:**

- Noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 27 October 2022; and
- Directs the administration to seek funding for a flushing prefabrication ablution facility, at Gunbalanya Airport at an estimated cost \$304,000.

**CARRIED**

### **11.4 REPORT FOR THE MANINGRIDA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2022**

The Council considered a report for the Maningrida Local Authority Meeting held on 3 November 2022.

**OCM119/2022 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Matthew Ryan  
Seconded Councillor James Woods**

**The Council:**

- **Noted the unconfirmed minutes of the Maningrida Local Authority meeting held on 3 November 2022;**
- **Approved the allocation of \$27,554.58 from Maningrida Local Authority funding towards the installation of solar lights at the Take-away Store in Maningrida; and approved the allocation of an additional \$2,445.15 to fund 1 further light overlooking the carpark.**
- **Directs the administration extend the existing concrete slab by 1.5 metres with raised rounded kerb and spoon drain around 2 sides at the half basketball court on Coconut Road.**
- **Directs the administration to scope and budget for bollards and existing community plaque to be installed at the half basketball court on Coconut Road.**
- **Approved the locations selected by Maningrida Local Authority for the installation of the remaining bus stop Shelters (2 along the new subdivision road and 1 to the back of the new subdivision).**
- **Directs the administration to budget and scope further bus stop options.**
- **In line with the letter received from Maningrida Progress Association Inc. regarding the request for financial support to the security programme and Council contributes to this project together with Bawaninga Aboriginal Corporation, Mala'la Health Services Aboriginal Corporation, 168 Corporation, NTG Agencies (Territory Families, CMC, DoE) and Dhukurrdji Lodge if 50% Northern Territory Government funding is secured for the 12 month pilot programme.**

**CARRIED**

**GENERAL ITEMS**

**12.1 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION**

The Council considered a report on Call for Nominations – Northern Territory Grants Commission.

**Council noted the report and does not nominate an Elected Member to represent LGANT on the Northern Territory Grants Commission.**

**12.2 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NT**

The Council considered a report on Call for Nominations – Neighbourhood Watch NT.

**Council noted the report and does not nominate an Elected Member to LGANT on Neighbourhood Watch NT.**

**Minute note:** Staff member Yanja Thompson joined the meeting at 12:38 to present the Reconciliation Action Plan Update report.

**12.3 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – LOCAL AUTHORITY IMPLEMENTATION REFERENCE GROUP**

The Council considered a report on Call for Nominations – Local Authority Implementation Reference Group.

**OCM120/2022 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Councillor Jacqueline Phillips  
Seconded Councillor James Woods**

**The Council nominate Councillor Blyth as an Elected Member to the Local Authority Implementation Reference Group and direct the Administration to advise the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet accordingly.**

**CARRIED**

**12.4 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – NT ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY (EPA)**

The Council considered a report on Expression of Interest – NT Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

**The Council noted the report and does not nominate an Elected Members to the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority.**

**12.5 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2023**

The Council considered a report on Council Meeting Schedule and Proposed Meeting Dates for 2023.

**OCM121/2022 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Matthew Ryan  
Seconded Councillor Ralph Blyth**

**That Council:**

- **Receive and note the report; and**
- **Approve the attached 2023 West Arnhem Regional Council meetings calendar for face to face Ordinary Council Meetings, Workshops and video conference Ordinary Council Meetings with the following amendment; November 2023 becomes a face to face workshop and Ordinary Council Meeting and December 2023 becomes a video conference meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**Meeting note:** Council broke for lunch at 13:00 and resumed at 13:31.

**12.6 APPROVAL OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE - CONFLICT OF INTEREST (CEO)**

The Council considered a report on Approval of Council Procedure - Conflict of interest (CEO).

**OCM122/2022 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Councillor Jacqueline Phillips  
Seconded Councillor Ralph Blyth**

**The Council noted and approved the West Arnhem Regional Council Conflict of Interest Procedure (CEO) as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**12.7 OPERATIONS REPORT - OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2022**

The Council considered a report on Operations Report - October & November 2022.

**The Council received and noted the Operations Unit report for October and November 2022.**

**12.8 RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

The Council considered a report on Reconciliation Action Plan Update.

**The Council received and noted the Reconciliation Action Plan Update report.**

**Minute note:** Staff member Yanja Thompson left the meeting at 13:59.

## GENERAL ITEMS

### S12.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY REVIEW REPORT - COUNCILLOR FEEDBACK AND SUBMISSION

The Council considered a report on Local Authority Review Report - Councillor Feedback and Submission.

**OCM123/2022 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Matthew Ryan  
Seconded Councillor Ralph Blyth**

**That Council provide feedback to the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet by 20 January 2023 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the Local Authority Review Report after engaging with the Local Authorities at Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi.**

**CARRIED**

## ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

### 13.1 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

The Council considered a report on Elected Member Questions With or Without Notice.

**The Chairperson received the following questions without notice from Elected Members; Cr Dann – Noted concerns over water security and storage capacity in Gunbalanya due to the additional houses being constructed in the new subdivision. The CEO agreed to liaise with DIPL who had approved the planning application.**

**Cr Phillips – Enquired as to the possibility of WARC engaging / assisting family members and traditional owners in moving deceased being exposed due to cliff erosion at the Bottom Camp cemetery in Maningrida.**

## PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

### 14.1 CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The Council considered a report on Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.

**The Council approved the closure of the meeting to the public as confidential items are about to be discussed.**

**The meeting is closed in accordance with regulation 51(c) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* as the matters to be discussed include information that, if publicly disclosed, would be likely to:**

- (i) cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person; or**
- (ii) prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law; or**
- (iii) prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff; or**
- (iv) subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.**

## NEXT MEETING



The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 18 January 2023.

**MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson **Mayor Ryan** declared the meeting closed at 14:43.

This page and the preceding 8 pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14 December 2022.

Ea Williams  
Chairperson

08/02/2023  
Date Confirmed

