

Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 9:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 9:09 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

**2 PERSONS PRESENT
ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor) (via video)
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams (via video)
Councillor	Mickitja Onus (via video)
Councillor	Otto Dann (via video)
Councillor	Monica Wilton (via video)
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki (via video)
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips (via video)
Councillor	Donna Nadjamerrek (via video)

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh (via video)
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth (via video)
Director Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (via video)
General Manager Technical Services (Acting)	Clem Beard (via video)
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao (via video)
Communications and Public	Heidi Walton (via video)
Governance Advisor	Jasmine Mortimore (via video)

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice.

OCM1/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Onus
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the absence of Cr James Marrawal, Cr Ralph F. Blyth, Cr Donna Nadjamerrek and Cr Otto Dann;
2. Notes the apology received from James Marrawal, Ralph F. Blyth and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek;
3. Determines James Marrawal, Ralph F. Blyth and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek are absent with permission of the Council; and
4. Determines Otto Dann is absent without permission of the Council.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

OCM2/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

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

OCM3/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Namanurki
Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL receive no additional declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
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Title:	Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM4/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Wilton
Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 18 December 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM5/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 3 January 2025 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

7 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	7.0
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann joined the meeting at 9:25am

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

OCM6/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams
Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Action Items*;
2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register, excluding item 14 which will be discussed at the next meeting with a tour of Jabiru Council facilities; and
3. Amend item 5 to now request Council partner with MVR to assist with certifying documents for identification services.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding
Author:	Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Council considered a report on Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding.

OCM7/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Onus

Seconded Cr Phillips

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding*; and
2. Approve the expenditure of up to \$148,800 from WaRM Grant Funding as follows:
 - Power upgrades for Maningrida and Gunbalanya Landfill;
 - Sewage system repairs for Maningrida Landfill;
 - CCTV System Upgrades;
 - Community Education; and
 - Recycling activities and equipment.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting.

OCM8/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting*; and
2. Approve to move the June Ordinary Council meeting to 30 June – 01 July 2025.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	LGANT Delegate Membership
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on LGANT Delegate Membership.

OCM9/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *LGANT Delegate Membership*;
2. Accept the resignation of Cr Blyth as LGANT Delegate, including LGANT Member for the NT Place Names Committee; and
3. Appoint two Elected Members as delegates before each meeting to attend Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) meetings.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.

OCM10/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly*;
2. Nominate Cr Phillips, Mayor Woods and the CEO to attend;
3. Nominate Cr Onus as a proxy member if an Elected Member is unable to attend; and
4. Request report be tabled at the next Council meeting to consider submitting a motion for the National General Assembly.

CARRIED

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

OCM11/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams
Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence; and
2. Refer item on verifying job qualifications or mandatory requirements within the recruitment process to the Risk Management and Audit Committee.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor
Author:	Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor.

OCM12/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the CEO
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

OCM13/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Cr Onus
Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the CEO*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.4
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Title:	Technical Services Projects Report
Author:	Garth Borgelt, Manager Technical Services

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Projects Report.

OCM14/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Projects Report*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity
Author:	Leanne Johansson, Business Development Manager

The Council considered a report on Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity.

OCM15/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update
Author:	Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Council considered a report on Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update.

OCM16/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Onus
Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update*.

CARRIED

9 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Nadjamerrek joined the meeting at 11:05am

The Council considered a report on Elected Member Questions with or without Notice.

OCM17/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Wilton
Seconded Cr Dann

That the Chairperson invites questions with or without notice from Elected Members.

1. Kakadu Councillors raised the public's concerns with Red Lily services in Jabiru and requested they attend the Council meeting in February.
2. Request Information to be shared to residence of Jabiru for responsibility of dogs in line with the Jabiru Town By-laws.
3. Cr Onus raised concerns with cats in the Jabiru Township.

4. Mayor Woods raised concerns with lack of firebreaks in West Arnhem communities.
5. Cr Dann raised concerns with lack of water in Gunbalanya; and
6. Cr Phillips requested administration reach out to NT Health to provide updates relevant to our area.

CARRIED

10 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Meeting broke at 11:29am and recommenced at 11:45am

Cr Dann and Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 11:29am

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

OCM18/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

12 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Agenda Reference:	12.1
Title:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public.

OCM30/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approve to disclose all resolutions excluding item 11.9 from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes; and
2. Open the meeting to the public after the discussion of confidential items.

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Nadjamerrek joined the meeting at 11:47am

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM19/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams

Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 18 December 2024 Confidential Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.2
Title: Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes
Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann joined the meeting at 11:49am

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM20/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 3 January 2025 Confidential Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.3
Title: Filling a Casual Vacancy - Gunbalanya Ward
Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann declared a conflict of interest as a family member has nominated and left the meeting at 11:57am.

The Council considered a report on Filling a Casual Vacancy - Gunbalanya Ward.

Council staff left the meeting at 12:00pm for the discussion of item and rejoined at 12:08pm.

OCM21/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus

Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Filling a Casual Vacancy - Gunbalanya Ward*.
2. Notes the nominations received by Daniel Siebert, Glen McCoy, Lesley Phillips and Tamar Nawirridj;
3. Approve nomination be sent to Governance Advisor; and
4. Appoints Tamar Nawirridj to fill the Gunbalanya Ward Casual Vacancy.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.4
Title: Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader
Author: Garth Borgelt, Manager Technical Services

Cr Dann rejoined the meeting at 12:15pm

The Council considered a report on Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader.

OCM22/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader Tender; and
2. Approve the awarding of the Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader Tender to Airpower (NT) Pty Ltd for the purchase of a Hyundai HL757TM-9 machine at a price of \$350,290.35.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.5

Title:	Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council
Author:	Clem Beard, Projects Manager Technical Services

Cr Phillips and Cr Dann declared a conflict as members of the Northern Land Council Board and left the meeting at 12:30pm.

Cr Wilton left the meeting at 12:32pm and rejoined at 12:41pm

The Council considered a report on Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council.

OCM23/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council;
2. Note the status of outstanding Land Use Agreements; and
3. Notes the frustration with delays with obtaining \$19 lease approvals.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.6
Title:	Write off of Debt
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 12:50pm and rejoined at 12:52pm

Cr Dann rejoined the meeting at 12:50pm

Cr Phillips rejoined the meeting at 12:55pm

The Council considered a report on Write off of Debt.

OCM24/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Write off of Debt*;
2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Write-Off of Debt Certification; and
3. Approve the write-off of debts identified in the report to the total value of \$1,803.91.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.7
Title:	Write off of Money
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council considered a report on Write off of Money.

OCM25/2025 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Write off of Money*;
2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Certification that \$300 from Council's Maningrida Licensed Post Office (LPO) in October 2024 is missing and cannot be recouped; and
3. Approve the write-off of the \$300 Maningrida LPO money from the accounts of the Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.8
Title:	Write off of Fuel
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council considered a report on Write off of Fuel.

OCM26/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Write off of Fuel*;
2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Write Off of Fuel Certification; and
3. Approve the write-off of 600 litres of tainted diesel, at an estimated cost of \$1,038, from the accounts of the Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.9
Title:	Special Rate - Public Lighting
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(e). It contains information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

Meeting broke for lunch at 1:09pm and recommenced at 1:54pm

Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 1:09pm

Cr Onus rejoined the meeting at 1:55pm

Agenda Reference:	11.10
Title:	Interim Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Council staff left the meeting at 2:36pm for Council to discuss item and rejoined at 2:42pm.

OCM28/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Interim Chief Executive Officer*; and
2. Appoint Mr. Ben Waugh as Interim Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.11
Title:	CEO Recruitment - Independent Panel Member Appointment
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on CEO Recruitment - Independent Panel Member Appointment.

OCM29/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *CEO Recruitment - Independent Panel Member Appointment*; and
2. Appoint Mark Blackburn as the independent member for the CEO Employment and Remuneration Advisory panel.

CARRIED

13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 18 February 2025.

14 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 3:01 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29 January 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 January 2025.