Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting
Tuesday, 22 September 2026 at 10:58am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Acknowledgement of Country

West Arnhem Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations Custodians, and the many Language and Family groups who are Managers and Caretakers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Region Wards.

West Arnhem Regional Council pays its respects and acknowledges Elders, past, present and rising.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	Ralph McCoy
Councillor	Henry Yates
Councillor	Daniel Siebert
Councillor	Steven Nabalmarda
Councillor	Ralph F Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Dwane Baker
Councillor	Geraldine Narul

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Clare Murray
Director Corporate Services	Ralph Reddy
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Peter Mickleson

Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Technical Services Manager	Kylie Gregson
Finance Manager	Imran Shajib
Acting Governance Advisor	Joy Mickleson
Executive Assistant	Ashlee Denyer

GUESTS

Local Government Association NT - CEO (via Teams)	Mary Watson
Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development NT (via Teams)	Kirsten Kelly
Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development NT (via Teams)	Robert Sarib

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference:	**3.1**
Title:	**Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM285/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Dwane Baker
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the apology received from Cr Joseph Diddo (ceremony business); Cr Daniel Siebert (family business); Cr Henry Yates (attending another meeting) and the late arrival of Cr Mikitja Onus due to travel arrangements; and the apology from Cr Jermaine Namanurki (family business) on Wednesday.
2. Determines Cr Joseph Diddo, Cr Daniel Siebert and Cr Henry Yates are an apology; that Cr Mickitja Onus is a late arrival; that Cr Jermaine Namanurki is an apology on Wednesday with permission of the Council.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	**4.1**
Title:	**Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM286/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL acknowledges the declarations of interest disclosed in relation to the items listed for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 September 2026.

CARRIED

5 STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

5.1 Local Authority Appointments - Council Members

Agenda Reference:	**5.1**
Title:	**Local Authority Appointments – Council Members**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Local Authority Appointments - Council Members.

OCM287/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled Local Authority Appointments – Council Members; and
2. Appoint the Elected Member to the Warruwi Local Authority.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	**6.1**
Title:	**Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM288/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Dwane Baker
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT COUNCIL confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 July 2026 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	**7.1**
Title:	**2026 Local Government Representation Review**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on 2026 Local Government Representation Review.

OCM289/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL notes the presentation from the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development on the 2026 Local Government Representation Review.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	**8.1**
Title:	**Review of Action Items**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

OCM290/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Jermaine Namanurki
Seconded Cr Dwane Baker

THAT COUNCIL:
1. Receives and notes the report titled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviews the outstanding action items and gives approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.2**
Title:	**LGANT - Call for nominations - Board Directors**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on LGANT - Call for nominations - Board Directors.

OCM291/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:
1. Accepts, receives and notes the report titled *LGANT - Call for nominations - Board Directors*; and
2. Nominates Mayor James Woods for the following positions (in preferred order):
   - President;
   - Vice-President- Regional;
   - Board Director – Regional and Shire, of the Local Government Association NT Board of Directors.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.3**
Title:	**Urgent Funding Request – Special Olympics National Games 2026**
Author:	**Peter Mickleson, Interim Director Council and Community Services**

The Council considered a report on Urgent Funding Request – Special Olympics National Games 2026.

OCM292/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Urgent Funding Request – Special Olympics National Games 2026*; and
2. Approve allocation of $5,200 from the Sponsorship budget to the applicant for the purpose of sending two Indigenous Territorians (Karly and Ketura Cameron) to the 2026 Special Olympics National Games; and
3. Note that this funding is outside of the usual annual Sponsorship funding round.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.4**
Title:	**Annual Return of Interests - Elected Members**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Annual Return of Interests - Elected Members.

OCM293/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Annual Return of Interests - Elected Members*; and
2. Instruct each Council member to complete the Annual Return of Interest form.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.5**
Title:	**Mandatory Local Government Training for Elected Members - New Code of Conduct**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Mandatory Local Government Training for Elected Members - New Code of Conduct.

OCM294/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Dwane Baker
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Mandatory Local Government Training for Elected Members - New Code of Conduct*; and

2. Instruct each Council member to complete the new Code of Conduct training scheduled for Tuesday 22 September 2 – 5pm in the Council Chamber, Jabiru.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.6**
Title:	**Active Transport Fund**
Author:	**Grant McKenzie, Director Technical Services**

The Council considered a report on Active Transport Fund.

OCM295/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Active Transport Fund*; and
2. Investigate and scope a path to run alongside the airport with proper lighting to apply for a grant in 2027.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36pm to allow Members to attend Mandatory Local Government Training until 9am Wednesday 23 September 2026.

OCM296/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Defers the Ordinary Council meeting at 1:36pm on Tuesday 22 September 2026 until 9:00 am Wednesday 23 September 2026 for the purposes of Local Government Mandatory Training.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.7**
Title:	**Dog Impound Facility**
Author:	**Peter Mickleson, Interim Director Council and Community Services**

The Council considered a report on Dog Impound Facility.

OCM297/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Dwane Baker

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Dog Impound Facility*; and

2. Notes that until a suitable alternative location is found for a Dog Impounding Facility Council will not apply those parts of the Jabiru Town By-Laws 2024 that apply to the impounding of dogs and other animals, and
3. That the Mayor and CEO meet with the GACJT Chair and CEO to discuss possible reasons and solutions.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**8.8**
Title:	**Waste and Resource Management Grant Amended Spending**
Author:	**Grant McKenzie, Director Technical Services**

The Council considered a report on Waste and Resource Management Grant Amended Spending.

OCM298/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Waste and Resource Management Grant Amended Spending*; and
2. Approve the amendment of the 2025/2026 WaRM grant expenditure.

CARRIED

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	**9.1**
Title:	**Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

OCM299/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.2**
Title:	**Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM300/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Dwane Baker

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.3**
Title:	**Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer.

OCM301/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.4**
Title:	**Human Resource Report**
Author:	**Luisa Arango, Human Resources Manager**

The Council considered a report on Human Resource Report.

OCM302/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Dwane Baker

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Human Resource Report*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.5**
Title:	**Financial report for period ending 31 August 2026**
Author:	**Imran Shajib, Finance Manager**

The Council considered a report on Financial Report for period ending 31 August 2026.

OCM303/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Financial report for period ending 31 August 2026; and*
2. Approves the Acquittal of *Community Places for People 2022-23 - Warruwi Community Hall.*

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.6**
Title:	**Local Authority Meeting Minutes**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Local Authority Meeting Minutes.

OCM304/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT COUNCIL notes the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings and reviews decisions made by the Local Authority:

Community	Date Held	Quorum	Date of next meeting
Maningrida	24 August 2026	5	5 October 2026

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.7**
Title:	**Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes.

OCM305/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Dwane Baker
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT COUNCIL notes the minutes of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 28 July 2026 and reviewed decisions made by the Committee.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.8**
Title:	**Finance Committee Minutes**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Council considered a report on Finance Committee Minutes.

OCM306/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT COUNCIL notes the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 25 August 2026 and reviewed decisions made by the Committee.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.9**
Title:	**Technical Services Report**
Author:	**Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services**

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Report.

OCM307/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.10**
Title:	**Landfill Facility Assessment**
Author:	**Grant McKenzie, Director Technical Services**

The Council considered a report on Landfill Facility Assessment.

OCM308/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Geraldine Narul

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Landfill Facility Assessment*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	**9.11**
Title:	**Community and Council Services Report**
Author:	**Peter Mickleson, Interim Director Council and Community Services**

The Council considered a report on Community and Council Services Report.

OCM309/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled Community and Council Services Report.

CARRIED

10 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference:	**10.1**
Title:	**Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM310/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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 at {time} to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference:	**11.1**
Title:	**Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Agenda Reference:	**11.2**
Title:	**Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Agenda Reference:	**11.3**
Title:	**Review of Confidential Action Items**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The report will be dealt with 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.

Agenda Reference:	**11.4**
Title:	**Chief Executive Officer's Report**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The report will be dealt with 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.

Agenda Reference:	**11.5**
Title:	**Cultural Heritage Clearance and Process for Ground Disturbing Works in Jabiru**
Author:	**Peter Mickleson, Interim Director Council and Community Services**

The report will be dealt with 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.

Agenda Reference:	**11.6**
Title:	**Bank Authorisations and Council Issued Credit Card**
Author:	**Imran Shajib, Finance Manager**

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(d). It contains information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

Agenda Reference:	**11.7**
Title:	**2026 Interim Audit Report Update**
Author:	**Imran Shajib, Finance Manager**

The report will be dealt with 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.

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

Agenda Reference:	**12.2**
Title:	**Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.
The public was re-admitted at 2:08 pm.

13 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	**13.1**
Title:	**Elected Member Questions with or without Notice**
Author:	**Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer**

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

OCM321/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

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

- Jabiru Streetlights - Audit priority list to next meeting
- CSM Warruwi recruitment
- Maningrida - clarification of roles/responsibilities relating to road maintenance
- Community ID's - WARC involvement in national program
- Community Cultural Liaison Officers - funding

CARRIED

14 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 26 October 2026 commencing at 9:00am. This meeting will be held in Maningrida.

15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting closed at 2:30 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22 September & Wednesday 23 September 2026.

Click here to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22 September & Wednesday 23 September 2026.