

# MINUTES Tennant Creek LA Meeting

Barkly Regional Council's Tennant Creek LA Meeting was held in the Council chambers on Wednesday 8 May 2024 at 4:30 pm.

#### Jeff MacLeod

**Acting Chief Executive Officer** 

#### **OUR VISION**

We strive to be a responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens to and empowers the people to be strong.

#### The Way We Will Work

We will make it happen!

We will be engaged and have regular opportunities to listen.

We will have strong policies and budgets to ensure our programs and services are progressive and sustainable.

Respect is shown in everything we do, and we have acceptance of all cultures in the Barkly Region and their practices through a culturally competent Council.

We are a responsible Council.

We will be a responsive Council.

We want to empower local decision making.

We want to ensure that our services are sustainable and that our region has a standard consistent level of services.

We want to be able to sustain our environment – our communities, our physical places, our people and our organisational culture.

We will aggressively pursue additional funding from both levels of government to improve the standard of living of people across the region.

We need to be realistic, transparent and accountable.



# BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Warumungu, Mudberra, Jingili, Wakaya, Wambaya, Waanyi, Walpiri, Warlmanpa, Alyawarr, Anmatyerre and Kaytetye Country on which Barkly Regional Council live and work, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to the ancestors and elders of these lands, past, present and emerging.

May we continue to work together to Deliver sustainable outcomes through a process Based on mutual respect and understanding.

# **COUNCIL PRAYER**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we trust you will guide and bless this meeting of the Barkly Regional Council. We pray that you will ensure that all discussions and decisions made today are just and fair as they will affect all people within. We also pray for your guidance to ensure that all our dealings are appropriate to all those whom we represent and will reflect an equitable and honest approach to the issues to be discussed today.

Amen



#### 1 OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

# 1.1 Authority Members Present

- Darrin Whatley (Chair)
- Len Holbrok
- Russell O'Donnell,
- Anthony Pickel
- Lorraine Gibson
- Greg Marlow

#### 1.2 Staff and Visitors Present

- Jeff MacLeod (CEO, BRC)
- Peter Holt (Official Manager, BRC)
- Brody Moore (Director of Operations and Remote Communities, BRC)
- Murray Davies (Director of Corporate Services)
- Barry Nattrass (WHS Manager)
- Lauren McDonnell (Senior Admin, BRC)
- Paul Hyde Kaduru (Local Authority Coordinator, BRC)
- Greg (NT Electoral Commission)

# 1.3 Apologies To Be Accepted

- Nathan Mills
- Heather Burton
- Penelope Cowin

# 1.4 Absent Without Apologies

Nil

1.5 Resignations

Nil

1.6 Disclosure of Interests

Nil



#### 1.7 Review of Disclosure of Interest

Nil

#### 2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

# **Confirmation of previous Minutes**

# 2.1 Confirmation of previous Minutes

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th March 2024 are true and accurate record.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Greg Marlow Seconded: LA Member Len Holbrok

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/72

# 3 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

# **Actions from previous Minutes**

# 3.1 Update on Pool Hoist

#### **SUMMARY**

The Local Authority was notified that the pool hoist was delivered and is scheduled for installation soon.

# **Actions from previous Minutes**

#### 3.2 Action Tracker

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and confirms the Action tracker for Tennant Creek LA.

# **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Anthony Pickel Seconded: LA Member Russell O'Donnell

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/74



#### **ACTION TRACKER ITEMS DISCUSSED**

- Request to be sent to DIPL, asking them to present at the next LA on the Streetscape project on PAterson St. The TCLA would like to know the scope of the project so that there is no overlap with the TCLA projects.
- Request that a presentation be provided to LA members on the changes to the Local Authority Guidelines.
- Dog Park Discussion:
  - Len Holbrok pointed out that the question about a dog walking park has been raised at the LA many years ago, he would like to know if this will be moving forward.
  - Darrin Whatley pointed out that he did a recent radio interview and spoke about a potential dog park.
  - The question had also been put on the BRC Facebook page and there were very few legitimate responses, most seemed to be trolling the Tennant Creek community and had nothing constructive to say.
  - Brody Moore said that the few responses that could be considered legitimate were for Hilda
     Street Park, Jubilee Park, and somewhere along the highway to attract tourists.
  - Jeff MacLeod mentioned that the Purkiss Park plan has been finalised and that dog will be allowed on the walking paths, on their leads.
  - · Len Holbrok said this was an old item that hadn't moved forward.
  - Darrin Whatley mentioned that this TCLA group wanted more involvement from the community. Wanted ideas and suggestions from the community for the TCLA to then consider. He mentioned that Karguru had been suggested but that it was dismissed as a location because it was used by many community members for other purposes.
  - Len Holbrok suggested that the TCLA decide and then let the community know, the community would then respond with either agreement or other suggestions.
  - Russell O'Donnell mentioned that there is an area near the Cemetery that Council had designated for special use, this could be a possible location for the dog park.
  - Jeff MacLeod pointed out that once the TCLA had decided it then had to go out for community consultation and be presented to Council.
  - Request from TCLA to BRC (to be provided at next TCLA meeting):
    - What plans are there for the southside of Hilda Street Park, can it be used as a Dog Park?
    - Could BRC please look at the east side of the Cemetery.
    - TCLA also request that BRC provide a report about vacant council land within the Tennant Creek town limits. One of these may serve as a location for the Dog Park.
    - What funding from the TCLA can be contributed to this Dog Park.
- Water Bubblers:
  - Brody Moore to provide a list of suggestion to Darrin Whatley that were received from the Facebook post.
  - Ryan Francis to provide an estimate of the costs, including installation.
- Pool upgrade:
  - Darrin Whatley had a question about the funding that was allocated to the pool at the last TCLA. He said that the TCLA money needed to be used to improve community access/enjoyment and not the existing operational equipment.
  - Darrin Whatley requested that the words be changed from Pool Upgrade to New Infrastructure for Pool. This was approved by all LA members.
  - BRC to provide quotes on new infrastructure to TCLA, items that will add value to the pool and attract patrons. (Such as another BBQ, shaded areas for seating, etc.)
  - The TCLA have also requested a copy of the pool report on upgrades, which will be



produced during the winter shut down for repairs and maintenance.

• Jeff MacLeod made the point that the pool will need a major overhaul.

#### • Vet:

- Darrin Whatley has spoken to the vet, and he will provide clarification for funding. The TCLA funding that has been allocated to the vet is for work in Tennant Creek and not the communities. The vet will provide a program report for Tennant Creek only.
- Len Holbrok said that we need a vet in Tennant Creek long term. He suggested that we support the vet to the upmost. He also mentioned that when there was not vet in Tennant Creek there were many problems with animals.
- Peter Holt said that they are reviewing the MOU that BRC has with the vet.

#### 4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORTS

# **Chief Executive Officers Reports**

# 4.1 Acting Chief Executive Officer's report - Jeff MacLeod

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the report from the Acting Chief Executive Officer.

#### **SUMMARY**

Jeff gave an overview of what his goals are and what he hopes to achieve during his time as Acting CEO. He also complimented the TC Municipal team on their efforts to clean up the vegetation around Tennant Creek after the heavy rain that we had. He said that Alice Springs still has clean up to do and that he is happy to see our Municipal staff are on top of it.

Advancement on the regional plan continues steadily, boosted by the invaluable feedback from our local communities. Presently, we're earnestly refining the draft in readiness for its presentation at the upcoming council meeting. With the aim of securing final approval by June, our dedication to encourage continuous community engagement remains resolute. We are committed to ensuring that the final plan is both thorough and inclusive, accurately representing the varied needs and aspirations of our region as we collectively strive for development. Additionally, we are addressing challenges related to funding expiration in certain communities, resulting from unused allocations. Discussions with the Department Chief Minister, Cabinet, and Local Government Unit are underway to secure extensions, ensuring that vital resources are not lost. Simultaneously, we are reaffirming all Local Authority (LA) projects with LA members during meetings, ensuring alignment and the impact of our initiatives on the ground.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Darrin Whatley Seconded: LA Member Len Holbrok

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/75



#### 5 FINANCE REPORTS

# **Finance Reports**

#### 5.1 LAPF statement

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and confirms the Tennant Creek LAPF statement.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Len Holbrok Seconded: LA Member Darrin Whatley

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/76

#### 6 AREA MANAGERS REPORTS

Nil

#### 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

# **General Business**

# 7.1 Official Manager's report - Peter Holt

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority notes and accepts the report from the Official Manager.

#### **SUMMARY**

- Completion of input to the Barkly Regional Plan 2024-25 was the main focus of Local Authority meetings in March and April, with the first draft to be presented at upcoming meetings.
- Recruitment for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) commenced following Ian Bodill's resignation. Mr. Jeff MacLeod, CEO of MacDonnell Regional Council, will act as interim CEO until the end of May 2024.
- The Barkly Regional Council Investigator's Report by Ms. Ruth Morley has been presented to the Minister for Local Government, with face-to-face briefings for councillors and referenced individuals scheduled before the Minister makes a determination.
- Regular meetings with Power and Water have begun to address various issues across the Barkly region, including streetlight replacement, emergency power, Smart Meter failures, drinking water quality, and a solar power project at Juno.
- Juno Farm accommodation will be used to house school-aged students referred by the courts until the completion of the Youth Justice facility funded under the Barkly Regional Deal.
- A meeting of the Local Government Association of the NT highlighted concerns about further deamalgamations and the return of community councils, with discussions about policies and plans for the local government sector with the Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition.



- The Governance Table announced a review of the governance of the Barkly Regional Deal, with the Barkly Regional Council expressing concerns about the lack of clarity in its role and the absence of a clear auspicing agreement. These issues will be raised as part of the review.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Anthony Pickel Seconded: LA Member Len Holbrok

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/77

# **General Business**

# 7.2 Proposal from Lorraine Gibson

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority requests Lorrain Gibson to set up a meeting by coordinating with BRC with some Ptta Elders and other relevant staje holders to discuss the proposal of a memorial within Tennant Creek boundaries. To be a seperate meeting form the next Local Authority meeting.

#### **SUMMARY**

Lorraine Gibson read a copy of a letter that she wrote to the LA, requesting a memorial be considered to represent and acknowledge the Stolen Generation. She would like to see this within Tennant Creek boundaries. Lorraine mentioned that she has had conversations with Patta Elders, and they are open to the idea. In her research Lorraine has found that there are some funding/grant opportunities for memorials such as this. Jeff MacLeod requested that Lorraine's letter be added to the correspondence in the next Council agenda.

#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Russell O'Donnell Seconded: LA Member Greg Marlow

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/81

#### 8 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil



#### 9 OTHER MATTERS FOR NOTING

# **Other Matters For Noting**

# 9.1 Street Sweeper issues

#### **SUMMARY**

Brody Moore informed the Local Authority that BRC offers apologies to the community and the dust from the recent use of the street sweeper was due to operator error. The issue has been brought to the attention of the appropriate staff, and reassured that it will be addressed promptly.

# 10 REPORTS FROM BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

# **Reports from Barkly Regional Council**

10.1 Report from the Director of Operations and Remote Communities
- Brody Moore

#### **MOTION**

That the Local Authority note and accept the Director of Operations and Remote Communities report on Tennant Creek Community Service Delivery.

#### **SUMMARY**

The Director of Operations has responsibility for the Tennant Creek; Youth Centre (TCYC), Fitness and Wellness Centre (Gym) and the Town Pool. Youth Centre

**Youth Centre:** Location: 17 Peko Road, Tennant Creek. Operational Hours: 12-8:00pm (School Holidays) 3:00pm-8:00pm (School Term). Services Offered: Supervised Youth Centre, activities and evening meal. Key Programs/Activities: Arts and crafts, Music, IT and Computer Lab, Sports and Ninja Obstacle. Staffing: Per BRC Youth Supervision Policy Challenges: Maintaining safety at the TCYC for staff and youth. Maintenance and Cleaning. Numbers – April Female under 15 (852), Female over 15 (85), Male under 15 (887), male over 15 (102).

**Gym:** Location: 82 Ambrose Street, Tennant Creek. Operational Hours: 6:00am – 10:00am and 3:00pm-8:00pm – 7 Days a week. Facilities Available: Free weights, Cardio equipment and Yoga Classes. Membership: \$45 per month or \$9 for casual visitors – 571 current gym members. Equipment Maintenance: Two remaining treadmills are not out of service. Issues: On-going member fob issues, maintenance due to broken windows and replacement of ageing / non-maintained equipment.

**Pool:** Location: 10 Peko Road, Tennant Creek. Operational Hours: 6:00am-8:00am (Morning Swimmers) 10:00am-4:00pm. Services Offered: Morning Swim Club, Youth Activities, Community Events. Lifeguarding: New Lifeguard course to commence August. Maintenance Schedule: To commence shortly with winter pool closure. Issues: Staffing and reliability. Due to the lack of trained staff, this has resulted in the pool being closed to the public on two occasions. Numbers – April Adults (96), children (332).



#### **RESOLVED**

Moved: LA Member Russell O'Donnell Seconded: LA Member Anthony Pickel

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Resolved TCLA-24/79

#### 11 VISITOR PRESENTATIONS

# **Visitor Presentations**

# 11.1 Presentation from NT Electoral Commission

#### **SUMMARY**

Greg presented to the TCLA about the upcoming Territory Election

-Based on their numbers; enrolments have increased but they want to work on increasing the percentage of people who vote. The team will be in Tennant Creek at the Civic Hall for two week, until just after election day. Ballot papers will be available for all electorates, not just Barkly, so that people can vote even if they are not enrolled in the Barkly Electorate.

For the 2024 Territory Election with key dates and information:

- Postal voting applications are open.
- Nominations open on August 1st.
- Electoral roll closes on August 2nd.
- Voting starts on August 12th.
- Election day is on August 24th.
- Check your enrolment status at www.aec.gov.au.
- Details about voting locations and services will be available on the website.
- Apply for a postal vote if needed at www.ntec.nt.gov.au/apply-postal.
- Learn how to vote by watching a video available in English and 14 Aboriginal languages at www.ntec.nt.gov.au/how-to-vote.

#### 12 OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

#### 13 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Tennant Creek LA next meeting date is 03/07/2024.

Meeting Closed at 06:33 PM

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE TENNANT CREEK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD on 08/05/2024 AND ARE UNCONFIRMED.