



Mission

East Arnhem Regional Council is dedicated to promoting the power of people, protection of community and respect for cultural diversity in the East Arnhem Regional Council. It does this by forming partnerships, building community capacity, advocating for regional and local issues, maximising service effectiveness and linking people with information.

Core Values

Respect
Professionalism
Human Dignity
Organisational Growth
Equity
Community

MINUTES FOR THE MILYAKBURRA LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

23 May 2022

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE MILYAKBURRA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON MONDAY, 23 MAY 2022 AT 10:00AM

ATTENDANCE

In the Chair Janice Wurramarra, Local Authority Members Eric Wurramarra, Vail Wurramarra, Lucinda Bara, Terrance Wurramarra, Lucille Wurramara, Victor Wurramarra, and Cr Gordon Walsh.

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Dale Keehne – CEO
Shane Marshall – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services
Andrew Walsh – Director Community Development
Ulaiasi Nawaqa – Community Development Coordinator

Minute Taker – Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning and Policy Officer

MEETING OPENING

Chair opened the meeting at 10:08AM and welcomed all members and guests.

PRAYER

The meeting started with a prayer by President Lapulung Dhamarrandji.

Apologies

2.1 APOLOGIES AND ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE

SUMMARY:

This report is to table, for the Council's record, any absences, apologies and requests for leave of absence received from the Local Authority Members and what absences that the Local Authority gives permission for.

219/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Vail Wurramara)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes the absence of Councillor Constantine Mamarika.**
- b) Notes no apologies received from Councillor Constantine Mamarika.**
- c) Determines Councillor Constantine Mamarika is absent without permission of the Local Authority.**
- d) Requests that both Elected Members attend the Local Authority meetings in person.**

2.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

SUMMARY:

This report lists the community and Council appointed members and the resignation and vacancies of the Local Authority.

220/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Lucinda Bara)

The Local Authority:

- a) Notes the member list and calls for new members to fill up existing vacancies.**
- b) Notes the nominations received from,**
 - i. Elvis Bara**
 - ii. Steven Lalara**
 - iii. Tasma Lalara**
 - iv. Conroy Mamarika**
 - v. Ainsley Wurramara**
 - vi. Lucille Wurramara**
 - vii. Nathaniel Murrungun**
 - viii. Elliot Bara**
- c) Consider the nominations of the following in the next Local Authority meeting,**
 - i. Tasma Lalara**
 - ii. Conroy Mamarika**
 - iii. Ainsley Wurramara**
- d) Recommends the following nominations to be presented to the Council for approval,**
 - i. Nathaniel Murrungun**
 - ii. Elliot Bara**
- e) Notes the resignations received from,**
 - i. Lawrence Yantarranga**
 - ii. Violet Huddleston**

BREAKS FOR MORNING TEA AT 10:46AM

221/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Lucinda Bara)

RESUMES AT 11:17AM

222/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Vail Wurramara)

Conflict of Interest

3.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled for members to declare any conflicts they have within the agenda.

223/2022 RESOLVED (Lucinda Bara/Eric Wurramara)

That the Local Authority notes no conflicts of interest declared at today's meeting.

Previous Minutes

4.1 PREVIOUS MINUTES FOR RATIFICATION

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority is asked to confirm the unconfirmed minutes from the previous meeting.

224/2022 RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Janice Wurramarra)

That the Local Authority notes the minutes from the meeting of 22 November 2021 to be a true record of the meeting.

7.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report is provided by the Community Development Coordinator at every Local Authority meeting to provide information and or updates to members.

225/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramarra/Janice Wurramarra)

That Council notes the Community Development Coordinator report.

7.3 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 30 April 2022 within the Local Authority area.

226/2022 RESOLVED (Janice Wurramarra/Lucinda Bara)

That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 30 April 2022.

Local Authorities

5.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY ACTION REGISTER

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority is asked to review the range of actions and progress to complete them.

227/2022 RESOLVED (Janice Wurramarra/Vail Wurramarra)

That the Local Authority note the progress of actions from the previous meetings and request that completed items be removed from the Action Register for the Council to endorse.

BREAKS FOR LUNCH AT 12:57PM

228/2022 RESOLVED (Janice Wurramarra/Vail Wurramara)

RESUMES AT 1:47PM

229/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Vail Wurramara)

Janice Wurramarra left the meeting, the time being 01:47 PM

Eric Wurramara to chair the rest of the meeting.

7.4 DRAFT REGIONAL PLAN

SUMMARY:

This report is to progress the Regional Plan.

230/2022 RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Vail Wurramara)

The Local Authority:

- a) Notes the proposed draft Annual Plan.
- b) Requests a 1000 litre water trailer for firefighting and dust suppression for Milyakburra.

MOVE TO CONFIDENTIAL AT 2:21PM

231/2022 RESOLVED (Gordon Walsh/Terrance Wurramarra)

RETURNS TO OPEN AGENDA AT 2:49PM

232/2022 RESOLVED (Vail Wurramara/Victor Wurramara)

7.5 CEO REPORT

SUMMARY:

This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

233/2022 RESOLVED (Eric Wurramara/Lucinda Bara)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes the CEO report.
- b) Does not support the pathway forward for Local Decision Making planned by the ARDS Aboriginal Corporation as advised on 29 April 2022.

c) Supports the:

Call for Recognition – Local & Regional Indigenous Voice and Decision Making

We the Yolngu and Anindilyakwa people of East Arnhem Land call on the two Balanda (non-Indigenous) levels of Government of the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth of Australia, to recognise the authority of our First Nations peoples which we have had for millennia and was never extinguished.

Our community and homelands people are intertwined and deeply connected through the two pillars (moieties) of Dhuwa and Yirritja, our Bapurru (Clans), our Ringitj (Clan Alliances), our Land, our Song Lines, which extend and connect to Anindilyakwa.

We need a real heart to heart connection and partnership, and know we are stronger when we are united together – Yolngu to Yolngu and Yolngu to Balanda.

We recognise the role and authority of the two Balanda controlled governments, and you need to recognise the role and authority of our governance.

Our East Arnhem Regional Local Government Council is governed by up to 126 Members across 9 Local Authorities, which include 14 Councillors elected from 6 cultural based electoral wards, that are all connected through our clans, song lines, bloodlines, ceremony and family, to represent over 10,000 people, with an Aboriginal population over 90 per cent.

Our East Arnhem Regional (Land) Council, part of the broader Northern Land Council, is governed in North East Arnhem Land by 15 elected Members from 8 areas of across the Yolngu lands. Our Anindilyakwa Land Council has 23 elected Board Members from 14 Clans and 3 communities across the Anindilyakwa lands of the Groote Archipelago.

We also have many Aboriginal Corporations governed by Directors from across the Yolngu communities and areas outside of East Arnhem Land, like the Arnhem Land Progress Association, to Corporations with Directors across the whole East Arnhem Region like Miwatj Health, to Aboriginal Corporations with Directors based on areas within the region, like the Laynhapuy, Marthakal and Milingimbi Homelands to Clan based corporations like Gumatj, and Rirratjingu, and the Yothu Yindi Foundation, or linked to communities like Yalu in Galiwinku, Gongdal in Gapuwiyak or Aminjarrindja at Umbakumba. Each of our organisations (listed below) has its own special purpose and role and should be listened to.

Our Aboriginal Controlled Local Authorities and Regional Government Council, offers a bridge of commonality between our Yolngu and Anindilyakwa people and the Balanda (non-Indigenous) governments. A bridge to make sure the voices of our Land Councils and other Aboriginal organisations – our Traditional Owners, our Bapurru (Clan) Leaders, our young, and all our community and homeland members - are heard, and acted on.

We look forward to thorough and genuine engagement with the Australian Government's Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice process across East Arnhem Land, and the accompanying opportunities of Closing the Gap. We also look forward to the review and updating of the Northern Territory Government's Local

Decision Making policy and processes – to be properly aligned, and to allow for coordinated and practical engagement with both Balanda levels of government across East Arnhem Land.

We support a genuine partnership of Balanda government with our Aboriginal Community Controlled Government in unity with the Land Councils and all other Aboriginal organisations, with our shared sacred bond to respect and protect our Land, Traditional Owners, Clan Leaders and Culture.

Our strength of culture, capacity and unity will ensure different government plans and processes like the Federal Government’s Indigenous Voice and Closing the Gap and NT Government’s Local Decision Making – lead to real outcomes, led by the people, in the many different communities and homelands across East Arnhem Land.

The Makarrata ceremony comes from the traditional Yolngu Rom (law) of East Arnhem Land and we invite the Balanda (non-Indigenous) Federal and Northern Territory Governments to join us on country together, to overcome the divisions between us through real reconciliation, and start genuine truth telling, dialogue and understanding, to build a better future and nation for us all.

East Arnhem Regional Alliance

Government	East Arnhem Regional Council
Land	East Arnhem Regional Council - Northern Land Council Anindikyakwa Land Council
Aboriginal Corporations	Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation Arnhem Land Progress Association North East Arnhem Land Aboriginal Corporation Layhnapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation Marthakal Homelands Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation Milingimbi and Outstations Progress and Resource Aboriginal Corporation Gumatj Aboriginal Corporation Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation Yothu Yindi Foundation Aboriginal Corporation Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation Lirrwi Yolngu Tourism Aboriginal Corporation Gong-Dal Aboriginal Corporation Yalu Aboriginal Corporation Aboriginal and Resource Development Services Groote Eylandt Aboriginal Trust Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island Indigenous Enterprises Aminjarringa Aboriginal Corporation Lagulalya Aboriginal Corporation

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25 July 2022

MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 3:30PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Meeting held on 23 May 2022.