



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING

Tuesday 17th February – Wednesday 18th February 2015

Please find attached Minutes of the above meeting held on Tuesday 17th 9.30am – 6.00pm and Wednesday 18th February 2015 9.10am - 5.10pm, via Video Conference

Tuesday 17th February 2015

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor (Chair)
Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuia Island
Cr Joel Gaidan, Division 2 – Dauan Island
Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island
Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island
Cr Toshie Kris, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island
Cr Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma Island
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island
Cr Jimmy Gela, Division 14 – Erub Island
Cr William Akee, Division 15 – Mer Island
Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Mr Chris McLaughlin, A/Executive Manager Corporate Services (A/EMCS)
Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)
Ms Melissa Barmettler, A/Chief Financial Officer (A/CFO)
Ms Natasha Monaghan (Admin Officer – Legal Services)

Apologies

Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu Island
Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island
Cr Willie Lui, Division 10 – Warraber Island
Mr Matthew Brodbeck, A/Executive Manager Engineering Services (EMES)
Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)
Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)
Ms Jessica Cox, Travel and Administration Officer (TAO)

Item 1. 9:30am Opening Prayer and Welcome

Meeting opened in prayer by Cr Fell.

One Minute Silence

There was a minute silence to pay respect to families who have lost their loved ones recently.

Mayor's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Mayor welcomed the Councillors to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the Land. The Mayor also advised that due to bad weather the teleconference communication lines between Cairns and the Torres Strait Islands would not always be clear and would temporarily go on and offline.

Item 2. 9:35am Apologies Noted

Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu Island

Reason: Work commitments. It was noted that Cr Toby applied for leave at the January meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr J Gela, that Council accept the apology from Cr Toby for his absence at this meeting.

Motion Carried

Cr Willie Lui, Division 10 – Warraber Island

Reason: Work commitments. It was noted that Cr Lui applied for leave at the January meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Fell, that Council accept the apology from Cr W Lui for his absence at this meeting.

Motion Carried

Mayor advised that Cr Sabatino would be joining the meeting later in the day.

9.40am Cr Kris joined the meeting

Item 3. 9:40am Minutes of Previous Meetings – December and January

Item 3.1 9:40am Confirmation of December Minutes

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Gaidan, that the minutes of Council meeting held December 2014 – be adopted as true and accurate.

Motion Carried

Item 3.2 9:45am Confirmation of January Minutes

In the Poruma Island Seawalls Tender resolution (Page 5), take out the words “it is recommended” repeated throughout the resolution.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr J Gela, that the minutes of Council meeting held January 2015 – be adopted as true and accurate.

Motion Carried

Item 3.3 9.55am Action Item Summary December

Action Item 7 – December 2014

A/EMCS to discuss local mechanics with MyPathway

Action Item 18 – December 2014

A further discussion is to be held for the March meeting.

A second project manager is to be engaged.

There is a need to increase project manager capabilities within that space.

Action Item 16 – December 2014

Preparation for sporting grounds at Badu to be prioritised for Cultural Festival

Action Item 30,33 – December 2014

A discussion to be held with TSRA Board regarding deliverables and timeframes. To be discussed with the Local Government Minister prior to the next local government election.

Action Item 30, 33 – December 2014

Invitation to next Councillors meeting to be organised for Billy Gordon, Katter Party and Leanne Enoch

Item 3.4 10.05am Action Item Summary January

Action Item 1 – January 2015

CEO to issue to all Councillors the detailed project plan for Seawalls projects for all 6 divisions over next 4 years

Action Item 2 – January 2015

CEO to assess all options for indigenous employment, noting pros and cons for each option

CEO to draft letter under Mayor's signature for Minister Scullion that TSIRC be considered a key stakeholder in Remote Jobs and Communities Package (RJCP) review.

Mayor's presentation to TSRA Board to include presentation on better options for local employment.

Item 3.5 10.15am Budget Review

Budget Review Report presented by Mayor Gela.

Action Item

CEO and A/EMCS to discuss and draft letter entailing the maximum charges for seaport charges – issue letter out to carriers endorsing maximum rate for non-reporting

Action Item

A/EMCS to speak with Manager Assets regarding reviewing the sustainability of current depreciation rates

Action Item

CEO to ensure depreciation refresher at March Councillor training workshop using a new car purchase as the example

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Bosun, Seconded Cr Akee, that Council adopts in accordance with s169 and s170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 an amended budget for 2014/2015 Financial Year as presented incorporating:

- (i) Statement of Financial Position;
- (ii) Statement of Cash flow;
- (iii) Statement of Income and Expenditure;
- (iv) Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) Long Term Financial Forecast;
- (vi) Capital Budget.

Motion Carried

11:12am to 11:30am Morning Break

Mayor Gela requested A/CFO to take Councillors through the Financial Statement for year-ending 2014/15 and its position (Page 41).

A/CFO read various Statements comprising the Budget with the main highlights being:

- Statement of Financial Position – key change is cash balances due to funding of approved capital activities
- Statement of Cash Flow – again major change in cash due to funding of approved capital activities
- Statement of Changes in Equity – movements are reflective of Council's challenge to maintain its current asset levels.
- Balance Sheet – total decrease in overall totals over time show council will not be able to maintain its assets at their current levels based on current funding levels

Cr Kris reiterated that revenue must be collected.

It was noted that Cr Nai left the meeting at 12.05pm.

Cr Nai rejoined the meeting at 12.12pm

Mayor Gela recommended that Councillors focus on the following areas for improvement:

- Concentrate on the operating revenue for the month

- Look at appropriate timeframes, fees, charges, increasing goals, increase/decrease of charges and revenue, airport fees and charges and increasing land fees.

Mayor Gela suggested a strategic approach without an impact on the community. Where greater revenue is received, there should be a concerted effort by Council to funnel those monies into existing sustainability, rather than buying new things.

Action Item

Mayor to present to TSRA Board on need to review MIP funding to cover all communities now covered by the program.

It was noted that Cr Fell went offline at 1.11pm.

Cr Fell re-joined the meeting at 1.17pm.

It was noted that Cr Mosby went offline at 1.25pm

It was noted that Cr Fell went offline at 1.25pm.

Cr Fell re-joined the meeting at 1.30pm.

It was noted that Cr J Gela went offline at 1.29pm.

Cr J Gela re-joined the meeting at 1.30pm.

1.39pm – 2.49pm Lunch Break

It was noted that Cr Nai was absent from the meeting due to Health Board commitments.

It was noted that Cr Baira was absent from the meeting due to Health Board commitments.

Item 4 2.50pm Regional Community Grant Application

Option One:

That Council resolve to provide Regional Community Grants support to the maximum application amount of \$2,500 available in accordance with the Community Grants policy, to Goemulgau Kwod Association for the “Revisiting Our Culture Project” held between February 2015 and September 2015.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, *Seconded* Cr J Gela that Council resolve to provide Regional Community Grants support to the maximum application amount of \$2,500 available in accordance with the Community Grants policy, to Goemulgau Kwod Association for the “Revisiting Our Culture Project” held between February 2015 and September 2015.

Motion Carried

Cr Fell noted that he would also support the program up to the value of \$2,000 from his Councillor discretionary funding, subject to available budget

Cr G Lui requested clarification of applications for Regional Grants. CEO advised that the maximum amount to receive is \$10,000 for an organisation per annum. For individuals, the maximum amount that can be received is \$2,000 per annum.

Item 5. 3:04pm TSRA MOA

A/EMCS advised that a change to the MOA is to be made to allow it to have some non-legally binding terms. He noted it is currently a non-legally binding agreement.

In reference to the Page 79 attachment – the A/EMCS elaborated on the MOA regarding the Council's responsibilities, aim, guidelines and TSRA responsibilities in order to help strengthen the relationship based on a collaborative agreement.

Cr G Lui suggested that if an amicable agreement between TSIRC and TSRA can be reached, it shall be attempted in good faith and monitored to ensure this. Cr Fell supported this suggestion.

Cr F Gela advised that if Councillors are to endorse the MOA, that endorsement may be subject to reasonable amendments by the TSRA Board. Cr Fell supported that Councillors endorse the MOA and put it forward to TSRA, that this is the way Council should head towards.

Action Item

Mayor Gela to include TSRA/TSIRC MOA in presentation to TSRA Board.

It was noted that Cr Baira re-joined the meeting at 3.37pm.

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Kris, *Seconded* Cr Fell, that Council endorse the TSRA/TSIRC Memorandum of Agreement 2015-2018 as presented, subject to reasonable revision by the TSRA Board.

Motion Carried

Item 6. 3.38pm Development Application – DETE Erub DA

It was noted that Cr Mosby went offline at 3:40pm.

It was noted that Cr Nai re-joined the meeting at 3:41pm.

Action Item

A/EMCS to check if the lease is over the accommodation at the school at Erub

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr J Gela, *Seconded* Cr Fell that Council issue a Development Permit for 'Reconfiguration of a Lot' with the inclusion of the following conditions:

1. The proposed development is to be undertaken in accordance with the following approved drawings:

<i>Plan/Document Number</i>	<i>Plan/Document Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>SP151792</i>	<i>Plan of Lease S</i>	<i>19/08/2009</i>

2. This approval is valid for two (2) years. A plan of survey must be lodged with Council for endorsement within this time, otherwise the approval will lapse.
3. The applicant is responsible for the cost of providing any necessary services to the proposed lease area.

Motion Carried

3:42pm Meeting of Council as Trustee

Meeting of Council as Trustee of Community DOGIT

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Baira, *Seconded* Cr Enosa that in accordance with Section 83 of Local Government Act 2009 (QLD) Management of Community Development of Grant in Trust, the meeting of the Trustee of Community DOGIT be convened and conducted as separate meetings of the Indigenous Regional Council.

Motion carried

Moved Cr Mosby, Seconded Cr Fell that pursuant to section 85A(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld), the Trustee resolve to approve construction of improvements on part of Lot 6 on TS166, Poruma (Coconut Island) in substantial accordance with approved drawings: -

Plan/Document Number	Plan/Document Name	Date
Drawing No. 41-27379-K001, Revision D	Locality Plan and Drawing Index	01.09.14
Drawing No. 41-27379-K002, Revision C.	Seawall Alignment Plan	01.09.14
Drawing No. 41-2737-K003, Revision D	Typical Section	01.09.14
Drawing No. 41-27379-K004, Revision C	Longitudinal Section Seawall 1	01.09.14
Drawing No. 41-27379-K005, Revision B	Longitudinal Section Seawall 2	01.09.14
Drawing No. 41-27379-K006, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 1- Sheet 1 of 4	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K007, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 1- Sheet 2 of 4	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K008, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 1- Sheet 3 of 4	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K009, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 1- Sheet 4 of 4	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K010, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 2- Sheet 1 of 3	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K011, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 2- Sheet 2 of 3	01.09.14
Drawing No 41-27379-K012, Revision C	Cross Sections Seawall 2- Sheet 3 of 3	01.09.14

Motion Carried

3:51pm Re-convene as Local Government

Moved Cr Baira, Seconded Cr Nai.

Motion Carried

It was noted that Cr Nai left the meeting at 3.53pm.

It was noted that Cr Nai rejoined the meeting at 3:58pm.

It was noted that Cr Fell left the meeting at 3.58pm

Item 18. 4:05pm Presentation – Queensland Health. Dr Jill Newland, Chief Executive Officer, Andrew (Andy) Marshall, Executive General Manager – North, J’Belle Foster, Clinical Coordinator, Tuberculosis Health Protection Strategy

It was noted that Cr Bosun joined the meeting by telephone at 4:05pm.

It was noted that Cr Stephen re-joined the meeting by telephone at 4:05pm

It was noted that Cr Gaidan joined the meeting by telephone at 4:05pm.

It was noted that Cr Fell rejoined the meeting at 4.10pm.

The representatives each gave an update on the medical concerns for the various Torres Strait Islands.

Dr Jill Newland advised that improvements regarding dental and medical services for Thursday Island and Bamaga need to be put in place.

Action Item

MPA to coordinate email to Councillors from Health CEO on key deliverables and timeframes

MPA to coordinate regular update from Health CEO to Councillors including monthly updates from Health on TB

Mr Andy Marshall gave a medical update in regards to the community of Stephen Island. He advised the need for better dental services, particularly for children. He also advised that there is a need for better access services for persons on dialysis.

Action Item

Andy Marshall contact details to be distributed to all Councillors by MPA

Currently there is capacity for six (6) patients to be treated at one time.

J’Belle Foster gave a community medical update on the health concerns and threat of Tuberculosis.

Cr Stephen raised concerns with health service delivery at Ugar and extended an invitation to Health to attend a community meeting at Ugar to discuss further. Health CEO raised concerns with dogs for visiting RN's and attempted failed contacts to TSIRC Ugar Council Office to advise of changes in scheduled visits.

Action Item

Meeting to be arranged with Health and Council to further discuss Ugar health service delivery.

6:00pm Council Meeting closed in prayer by Cr Fell.

Wednesday 18th February 2015

Present

Cr Fred Gela, Mayor (Chair)
Cr Keith Fell, Deputy Mayor, Division 4 – Mabuia Island
Cr Joel Gaidan, Division 2 – Dauan Island
Cr Ron Enosa, Division 3 – Saibai Island
Cr Horace Baira, Division 5 – Badu Island
Cr David Bosun, Division 6 – Kubin Community at Moa Island
Cr Toshie Kris, Division 7 – St Pauls Community at Moa Island
Cr Getano Lui Jnr, Division 9 – Iama Island
Cr Phillemon Mosby, Division 11 – Poruma Island
Cr Ted Nai, Division 12 – Masig Island
Cr Rocky Stephen, Division 13 – Ugar Island
Cr Jimmy Gela, Division 14 – Erub Island
Cr William Akee, Division 15 – Mer Island
Ms Dania Ahwang, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Mr Chris McLaughlin, A/Executive Manager Corporate Services (A/EMCS)
Mr David Abednego, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCoS)
Ms Melissa Barmettler, A/Chief Financial Officer (A/CFO)
Ms Katherine Wiggins, Manager Performance and Advocacy (MPA)
Ms Natasha Monaghan (Admin Officer – Legal Services)

Apologies

Cr Dimas Toby, Division 1 – Boigu Island
Cr Willie Lui, Division 10 – Warraber Island
Cr Mario Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island
Mr Matthew Brodbeck, A/Executive Manager Engineering Services (EMES)
Ms Daisy Ketchell, Executive Officer (EO)
Ms Jessica Cox, Travel and Administration Officer (TAO)

Item 19. 9:10am Opening Prayer and Welcome

Meeting opened in prayer by Cr Nai.

Mayor's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Mayor welcomed everyone.

Apologies

Cr Sabatino, Division 8 – Hammond Island

Reason: Sad news

Moved Cr Baira, Seconded Cr Nai.

Motion Carried

9:15am - Closed Business

Moved Cr Baira, Seconded Cr Nai, that in accordance with s275 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 it is resolved for the meeting to go into closed sessions to discuss

- (a) the appointment, dismissal or discipline of employees; or
- (b) industrial matters affecting employees; or
- (c) the local government's budget; or
- (d) rating concessions; or
- (e) contracts proposed to be made by it; or
- (f) starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government; or
- (g) any action to be taken by the local government under the Planning Act, including deciding applications made to it under that Act; or
- (h) other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interest of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

Further the public in attendance are asked to leave.

Motion Carried

9:18am Closed Business Report

10:39am – 11:09am Morning Break

12:35pm – 1:43pm Lunch Break

2:15pm - All staff were asked to leave the room apart from CEO

3:06pm – Staff Return

3.07pm End of Closed Business

Action Item

Mayor and CEO to visit Dauan to assist Cr Gaidan to discuss Dauan Ferry with Community

Action Item

A/EMCS to facilitate a process and investigate the number of people needing troubleshooting services

Action Item

A/EMCS to review inclusion of Warraber accommodation and check if budget can cover installation at Community Halls as part of roll out program.

Action Item

A/EMCS to advise on status of abandoned dishes at Mabuiag

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr J Gela, Seconded Cr Enosa, that Council resolve that the TSIRC 2015-65 Digital Television Installation contract be awarded to Chris Evans Pty Ltd trading as Cairns Antennas, including variation for community buildings troubleshooting.

Motion Carried

Item 10. Critical Environmental Health Capital Infrastructure Project Prioritisation

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr J Gela, Seconded Cr Akee that Council confirm the priority listing of Environmental Health Capital Infrastructure projects for future funding consideration with any revisions to be addressed directly with the Divisional Councillor by the CEO prior to issue to TSRA.

Motion Carried

Item 11. Poruma Resort Loan

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Fell, Seconded Cr Bosun that Council resolve that the Mayor is to address the TSRA Board regarding the proposed settlement of the Poruma Resort Loan in the amount of \$0.

Motion Carried

Action Item

Mayor to address TSRA Board directly regarding proposed settlement of loan of zero dollars.

It was noted that Cr J Gela left the meeting at 11:58am.

Item 12. Late Report War Memorial Funding

Councillors agree that funding will need to be reviewed in the next June meeting and for adoption in the 2016 budget.

Matter left laying on the table.

Motion Carried

Item 13. Regional Water and Sewerage (RWS) Project Management Report

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Enosa, Seconded Cr Akee, that Council award the contract for Project Management of the Regional Water and Sewerage Upgrades to AECOM.

Motion Carried

Item 14. SCADA Project Management Report

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Akee, Seconded Cr Bosun that Council award the contract for Project Management for Regional SCADA for Water and Sewerage Infrastructure to AECOM.

Motion Carried

Badu Cultural Festival

RESOLUTION

Moved Cr Baira, *Seconded* Cr Enosa that Badu Island be appointed the preferred venue for the 2015 TSIRC Cultural Festival.

Motion Carried

3.20pm General Business

It was noted that Cr F Gela left the meeting at 3.21pm.

Action Item

CEO to perform financial analysis of establishing a fuel bowser at Kubin.

Action Item

A/EMCS to provide advice to Cr G Lui and Cr Toby regarding the removal of abandoned machinery

Action Item

A/EMES to provide report to Cr G Lui on why drain at Council office recently flooded.

Action Item

EMCoS to advise on status of Stephen Island mail service

Action Item

CEO to confirm with Building Team on materials delivered to Ugar and when works will be done.

Action Item

A/EMCS to follow up recent mechanical visit and why not all vehicles were serviced.

Action Item

A/EMES to advise on repairs required to airport fence and line marking at lama and line marking at all airports

Action Item

CEO to relocate staff to old office on Dauan due to overcrowding at RTC

It was noted that Cr F Gela returned to the meeting at 3:31pm

Action Item

A/EMCS to follow-up regarding the hoses and seals in the backhoe at Mer

Action Item

CEO to prioritise basketball court on Poruma Island

Action Item

EMCoS to provide update to Cr Mosby regarding housing program and confirm timing of next round.

Action Item

CEO to follow up on SES Saibai being able to access vehicle for activities

Action Item

EMCoS to provide update to Cr Enosa regarding housing program

Action Item

CEO to follow up on feasibility study for deer farming

Action Item

CEO to progress discussions on Ugar Groin Feasibility Study at budget meeting in Cairns

Action Item

CEO to consider other options for helicopter subsidy

Action Item

CEO to follow up Stephen Island conference room and reception air conditioners to be looked at

Action Item

CEO to invite Paul Taylor to Cairns workshop to provide a TSIPSO update to Council

It was noted that Cr Enosa left the meeting at 4.20pm

Action Item

A/EMES to provide report to Council on solid waste workshop attended on TI on 17 February 2015

Action Item

A/EMCS to review process for adjusting fuel prices to ensure they rise and fall with the market

Action Item

EMCoS to begin enforcement of dog issues – a growing concern in all communities

Action Item

A/EMCS to provide update to Cr Fell regarding use of s24JAA for Mabuiag Island

Action Item

EMCoS to consider readopting IKC fees for internet usage.

Videoconferencing

Cr Fell noted the benefits to budget and cost management of meeting via videoconferencing facilities.

Action Item

CEO to consider roll-out of polo shirt uniforms to staff

Housing Update

EMCoS provided an update on NPARIH and Rural and Remote Housing Program deliverables:

Phase 1 – 73 houses (includes 6 already constructed at Kubin)

Phase 2 – 80 houses

IBIS Update

Cr Gela noted the shortages at various IBIS stores including Moa stores and outlined ordering systems replacements and expansion plans.

It was noted that MPA left the meeting at 4.55pm.

Action Item

A/EMCS to visit St Pauls to discuss DOGIT issues

Action Item

CEO to send budget for St Paul's Community Hall to Cr Kris

Action Item

A/EMES to provide an information report on St Paul's water supply issues during Christmas 2014 period.

It was noted there were no leave of absence applications for March Ordinary Meeting.

It was noted the November Council Meeting will be held on 17th and 18th November 2015. The Cultural Festival was also targeted to be held 16th – 18th November 2015.

It was noted the next Council Meeting will be held at Poruma Island.

5.10pm Council Meeting Closed in prayer by Cr Akee.