



Ordinary Council Meeting

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 95-101 Alfred St, Charleville

Wednesday, 16 April 2025

9.00AM



**MINUTES OF MURWEH SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 95-101 ALFRED ST, CHARLEVILLE
ON WEDNESDAY, 16 APRIL 2025 AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr S Radnedge (Mayor), Cr R Eckel, Cr P Alexander, Cr T Sommerfield, Cr M Ebsworth

IN ATTENDANCE: B Scott (Chief Executive Officer), J Kronk (Director of Corporate Services), K Crosby (Manager of Regulatory Services), R Cuffe (Acting Director of Engineering Services), R Richen (Tourism Marketing and Events Manager)

1 OPENING PRAYER

Fr Peter Doohan delivered the prayer for the guidance of Council.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies

Nil

Leave of Absence

Nil

Applications for Leave of Absence

Nil

3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 UPDATE/CHANGE TO COUNCILLOR REGISTER OF INTEREST

Nil

Acknowledgements

The Mayor acknowledged the Charleville Girl Guides and Scouts who will be holding an all-night ANZAC Youth Vigil and guard of honour at the Charleville Cenotaph Memorial on ANZAC Day Eve and until the ANZAC Day Dawn Service.

The Mayor acknowledged the efforts of all volunteers in our Shire area and neighbouring Shires who provided support during the recent Western Queensland flooding event.

Chief Executive Officer Contract

That Council exercises the 6 month extension provision of the Chief Executive Officer Contract of Employment until December 2025.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 083/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr P Alexander

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 19 March 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Item 10.6 - Progress of the Qantas Monument.

The CEO advised that the Qantas Monument has been ordered by Mr Fergus Fysh, and it is proposed to be located at the Charleville Airport.

Council suggested that the Corones and Espie Families be advised of the dedication of this monument to Mr Harry Corones and Mr George Espie.

Item 10.4 - The CEO advised that grant application to the Australian Government Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) has been lodged.

The Tourism Events and Marketing Manager entered the meeting via Microsoft Teams at 9:15am.

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - QLD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & OPERA QLD

RESOLUTION 084/25

Moved: Cr S Radnedge

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council includes in the budget for 2025-2026, Qld Symphony Orchestra \$20,000.00 plus GST and Opera Qld \$5,500 plus GST.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 085/25

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

Resolution

That Council suspends Standing Orders to allow the Tourism Events and Marketing Manager to address Council, and that Item 10.8 be brought forward for consideration at the same time.

CARRIED

10.8 TOURISM REPORT FOR APRIL 2025**RESOLUTION 086/25**

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council receives and notes the Tourism Report for the April 2025 Council Meeting.

CARRIED**RESOLUTION 087/25**

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council resumes Standing Orders as per the Agenda.

CARRIED

The Tourism Events and Marketing Manager exited the meeting at 9.43am.

8 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

8.1 REPEAL AWARD OF TENDER - PACKAGE MUSC-5 RED WARD AREA**RESOLUTION 088/25**

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr P Alexander

That Council repeal Resolution 299/24, delegating authority to the CEO to enter into a Contract with Russell's Grader Hire Pty Ltd for April 2024 Flood Restoration Delivery (flood damage works) for Package MuSC-5 on Red Ward, Middle Creek, Black Ward, Balmacarra, Creswell Access and Burrandilla Roads, due to the contractor advising they no longer have capacity to deliver the contract.

CARRIED**8.2 AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION 034/25 MADE AT THE 19 FEBRUARY 2025 COUNCIL MEETING****RESOLUTION 089/25**

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council resolve to amend the minutes of the 19 February Council Meeting being Resolution 034/25 to reflect the meeting Actions recorded in minutes of the 12 February 2025 Tourism Marketing & Events Committee Meeting:

That Council set standard discount rates to be applied to tourism facility tour prices at the discretion of facility managers being: a 10% promotional discount, a 15% school rate, a 20% local resident's discount, and free admission for Murweh Shire based schools.

CARRIED

9 CORRESPONDENCE FOR MEMBERS' INFORMATION

9.1 CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCILLORS

Correspondence for information of Councillors was noted.

10 OFFICE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

10.1 MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH 2025

RESOLUTION 090/25

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council approves the Mayor's travel as presented and notes the Mayor's Monthly Meeting Schedule Report and Official Correspondence.

CARRIED

10.2 WESTERN QUEENSLAND ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS ASSEMBLY 2025

RESOLUTION 091/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor, Councillor Shaun Radnedge, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Peter Alexander, and Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Scott at the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Assembly to be held in St George, Queensland on 19 – 20 August 2025; and

That Council move the date of the August 2025 Council Meeting to Friday 22 August 2025 to enable Councillors and Executives to attend the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Assembly 2025.

CARRIED

10.3 LIFELINE DARLING DOWNS & SOUTH WEST QLD P/L - REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ASSISTANCE FOR DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE MONTH OF MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 092/25

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council approves the request from Lifeline Darling Downs & South West Queensland for the placement of a display on the corner of Alfred and Wills Streets Charleville at the Australia Post

Office for a display drawing the public's attention to Domestic and Family Violence Month for 2025, and;

Council provides a donation of \$200.00 to Lifeline Darling Downs & South West Queensland for the purchase of materials to promote Domestic and Family Violence Month 2025.

CARRIED

10.4 NRMA NATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING NETWORK PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

RESOLUTION 093/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council support the establishment of an NRMA Electric Vehicle Charging Network station at Augathella, but are opposed to the siting options provided by NRMA and encourage the facility to be established at a commercial location.

CARRIED

10.5 REPORT FROM THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICER

RESOLUTION 094/25

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council acknowledges and receives the report presented by the Disaster Management Officer relating to the Murweh Shire Council recent counter disaster activities and response to the 2025 Western Queensland Surface Trough natural disaster event.

CARRIED

10.6 EXTENSION OF DRFA ASSISTANCE

RESOLUTION 095/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council acknowledges the Extension of DRFA Assistance from Queensland Reconstruction Authority to include the below assistance to Murweh Shire Council:

DRFA assistance measures (activated by the Queensland Government)

- Counter Disaster Operations
- Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets
- Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme
- Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme
- Disaster Assistance (Primary Producer) Loans
- Disaster Assistance (Essential Working Capital) Loans Scheme for Primary Producer
- Freight Subsidies for Primary Producer
- Disaster Assistance (Small Business) Loans
- Disaster Assistance (Essential Working Capital) Loans Scheme for Small Business
- Disaster Assistance (Not-For-Profit Organisation) Loans

- Disaster Assistance (Essential Working Capital) Loans Scheme for Not-For-Profit Organisation

CARRIED**10.7 MURWEH LDMG FIRE MITIGATION PLAN****RESOLUTION 096/25**

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council adopts the Murweh LDMG Fire Mitigation Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Sub-Plan as presented.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for a morning tea break at 11:10 AM.

The meeting resumed normal proceedings at 11:30 AM.

The Director of Corporate Services was present when the meeting resumed.

11 CORPORATE & REGULATORY**11.1 FINANCIAL REPORT ENDING 31 MARCH 2025****RESOLUTION 097/25**

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr P Alexander

That Council receives and notes the Finance Report for the period ending 31 March 2025, including;

1. Cash Position
2. Monthly Cash Flow Estimate
3. Comparative Data
4. Capital Funding – budget vs actual
5. Road Works – budget vs actual
6. Capital Funding Detail
7. Rates Summary
8. Income Statement March 2025
9. Balance Sheet March 2025
10. Financial Statements Actual March 2025

CARRIED

11.2 2024-2025 DRAFT EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**RESOLUTION 098/25**

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council resolve to accept the Draft External Audit Plan and support the Chief Executive Officer to sign and accept the final plan when received.

CARRIED

11.3 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**RESOLUTION 099/25**

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives and notes the April Human Resources Report.

CARRIED

11.4 WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT**RESOLUTION 100/25**

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives and notes the Workplace Health and Safety Report.

CARRIED

11.5 PLANNING MONTHLY REPORT**RESOLUTION 101/25**

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council receives and notes the Planning Report for the April 2025 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

11.6 AUGATHELLA RSL MEMORIAL BOWLS CLUB - FINANCIAL HARDSHIP REQUEST**RESOLUTION 102/25**

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council consider the request from the Augathella RSL Memorial Bowls Club for financial hardship relief on its property rates, and offer relief by;

1. Not imposing interest charges for a period of 12 months from the date of this resolution.

2. Honouring the discount on rates levied in September 2024 & March 2025 if paid within 12 months from this resolution, and;
3. Provide a relief of 50% of general rates levied in September 2024 and March 2025 to the value of \$373.00.

CARRIED

Action Item: In Council's response letter, inform the Bowl's Club that they can approach the Augathella Progress Association for assistance.

The Chief Executive Officer B Scott declared a perceived conflict of interest in relation to Agenda Item 11.7. This conflict of interest arises because Mr Scott's wife works at the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Charleville.

The Chief Executive Officer exited the meeting at 12:32pm.

11.7 LAND OWNER CONSENT DELEGATION

RESOLUTION 103/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

1. That Council delegate authority to the Director of Corporates Services to further negotiate with the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) for access to land at the Charleville Airport for the purpose of developing accommodation units for their aeromedical staff and;
2. That Council delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Services to complete the land owner consent application for the proposed portion of land at the Charleville Airport for the progression of a Development Application for the purpose of developing accommodation units.

CARRIED

The Chief Executive Officer entered the meeting at 12:41pm.

The Manager of Regulatory Services entered the meeting at 12:42pm.

11.8 REGULATORY SERVICES REPORT - MARCH

RESOLUTION 104/25

Moved: Cr R Eckel

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council receives and notes the Regulatory Services Report for March 2025.

CARRIED

The Manager of Regulatory Services exited the meeting at 1:11pm.

The Acting Director of Engineering Services entered the meeting at 1:12pm.

The Director of Corporate Services exited the meeting at 1:12pm.

12 ENGINEERING SERVICES

12.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT

RESOLUTION 105/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives and notes the Engineering Services Report for April 2025.

CARRIED

12.2 PROCUREMENT OF CONTRACTOR - PACKAGE MUSC-10 BARNGO ROAD AREA

RESOLUTION 106/25

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council delegates authority to the CEO to enter into a Contract with Suffcon Pty Ltd for April 2024 Flood Restoration Delivery (flood damage works) for Package MuSC-10 on Barngo, Bogarella, Caldervale, Caroline Crossing, Cunno, Khyber and Orange Tree Crossing Roads.

CARRIED

The Acting Director of Engineering Services exited the meeting at 1:50pm.

13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Nil

14 COMMUNITY & HEALTH SERVICES

14.1 COMMUNITY & HEALTH SERVICES REPORT

RESOLUTION 107/25

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council receives and notes the Community and Health Services Report for the April 2025 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

14.2 MURWEH SHIRE LIBRARIES REPORT FOR APRIL 2025

RESOLUTION 108/25

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives the Murweh Shire Libraries Report for April 2025.

CARRIED

14.3 COMMUNITY SERVICE COORDINATOR REPORT MARCH/APRIL**RESOLUTION 109/25**

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives and notes the Community Service Coordinator Report for March/April.

CARRIED

15 CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil

16 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

17 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 2:12pm.