



Ordinary Council Meeting

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 95-101 Alfred St, Charleville

Tuesday, 19 May 2026

9:00 AM



Photo Credits: Charleville & South West Queensland Show Society

IT'S SHOWTIME! Congratulations to the Show Society on a successful show.

**MINUTES OF MURWEH SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 95-101 ALFRED ST, CHARLEVILLE
ON TUESDAY, 19 MAY 2026 AT 9:00 AM**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: B Scott (Chief Executive Officer), J Kronk (Director of Corporate Services), J Barton (Director of Engineering Services), T Martin (Director Community, Community Services, and Community Infrastructure), R Cuffe (Engineering Services Manager), R Richen (Tourism, Marketing & 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

Cr Eckel declared a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in agenda item 14.6, as he is the President of the Charleville Runners and Bikers (CRABS) committee.

4 UPDATE/CHANGE TO COUNCILLOR REGISTER OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION 160/26

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 21 April 2026 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 161/26

Moved: Cr R Eckel
 Seconded: Cr P Alexander

That the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held 7 May 2026 be taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

General Discussion

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

8 NOTICE OF MOTION

The Mayor acknowledged the passing of Olga Sommerfield, aged 101, a long-term resident of Murweh Shire and the wife of a former Murweh Shire Councillor.

The Mayor commended the Charleville Show committee for delivering a successful event.

The Mayor recognised the Queensland Country Women’s Association for the valuable work and ongoing contributions they make to the community.

9 CORRESPONDENCE FOR MEMBERS’ INFORMATION

9.1 CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCILLORS

RESOLUTION 162/26

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield
 Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives notes the correspondence received post the 17 April 2026 Council Meeting that will be of interest to Councillors.

CARRIED

10 OFFICE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

10.1 MAYOR’S MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2026

RESOLUTION 163/26

Moved: Cr P Alexander
 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 for the May 2026 Council Meeting.

CARRIED

The Director of Corporate Services entered the meeting at 9:55am.

11 CORPORATE & REGULATORY

11.1 FINANCE REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 APRIL 2026
<p>RESOLUTION 164/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr M Ebsworth Seconded: Cr R Eckel</p> <p>That Council receives and notes the Finance Report for the period ending 30 April 2026, including;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 April 2026 9. Balance Sheet April 2026 10. Financial Statement Actual April 2026 <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

11.2 PLANNING MONTHLY REPORT
<p>RESOLUTION 165/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr P Alexander Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield</p> <p>That Council receives and notes the Planning Report for the May 2026 Council Meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

10.2A DEPUTATIONS TO THE MEETING
<p>On behalf of the QCWA Charleville Branch executive I would like to present to the Murweh Shire Council the book titled 100 years of Presidents along with the research that contributed to this publication.</p> <p>The project began during the centenary celebration for the Charleville Branch in 2024. The branch has served the community continuously for over 100 years. While there have been advancements and changes within QCWA the executive and members have continued to serve and provide ongoing support to the community over the time.</p> <p>This project names and Honors the presidents for 100 years from the branch formation in 1924 until 2024. The research data in the archive box is from minutes, newspapers clippings and booklets. The booklet is a monograph outlining some of the events in each decade during the past 100 years. If someone does wish to conduct further research into the social history of the branch we thank you for fielding any queries and directing them to historic house.</p>

Therefore, today we proudly provide 2 copies of the limited publication and research box to archives. Thank you for storing this research in the vault at historic house and for fielding and directing any inquiry that should come from this project.
 QCWA – Book Presented by:
 Mrs Su Ranson - Chair
 Mrs Judy Connolly – Vice-President
 Mrs Madonna Maris – Branch Secretary
 Mrs Ros Smith – Branch Treasurer

The meeting adjourned for a morning tea break at 10:34am.

The meeting resumed normal proceedings at 11:02am.

11.3 WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT
<p>RESOLUTION 166/26 Moved: Cr R Eckel Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth That Council receives and notes the Workplace Health and Safety Report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

11.4 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT
<p>RESOLUTION 167/26 Moved: Cr T Sommerfield Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth That Council receives and notes the May 2026 Human Resources Report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

11.5 REGULATORY SERVICES REPORT - MAY 2026
<p>RESOLUTION 168/26 Moved: Cr R Eckel Seconded: Cr P Alexander That Council receives and notes the Regulatory Services Report for May 2026.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

The Director of Corporate Services exited the meeting at 11:42am.

The Director of Engineering Services and Manager of Engineering Services enters the meeting at 11:43am.

12 ENGINEERING SERVICES**12.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT****RESOLUTION 169/26**

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council receives and notes the following Engineering Services Reports for May 2026;

- Operational Works Report
- Plant and Fleet Operations Report
- DRFA Restoration Works Report
- Capital Works Report

CARRIED

12.2 1 X MOTOR GRADER REPLACEMENT - TENDER MG2. 25-26**RESOLUTION 170/26**

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council approve the purchase of one (1) Caterpillar 150 Motor Grader from Hastings Deering for a total cost of \$614,000.00 (excl. GST).

CARRIED

12.3 HIRE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT PREFERRED SUPPLIER PANEL SUBMISSION**RESOLUTION 171/26**

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield

That Council under *section 233 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, includes the following submission onto the preferred supplier arrangement for the hire of plant and equipment (wet and dry hire) for Council works in 2025-26 at the rates submitted under this arrangement:

- Hamil Hire Pty Ltd T/A BEAR J Earthworks

CARRIED

The Director of Engineering Services and Manager of Engineering Services exited the meeting at 12:28pm.

The Director of Economic Development entered the meeting at 12:31pm.

13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

13.1 MURWEH BUSINESS ASSIST EXPO. MAY 2026
<p>RESOLUTION 172/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr M Ebsworth Seconded: Cr R Eckel</p> <p>That Council endorses a contribution of \$1,500 towards the Murweh Business Assist Expo to be held in Charleville on the 21st May 2026.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

The Director of Economic Development exited the meeting at 12:39pm.

The Director of Communities, Community Services & Community Infrastructure entered the meeting at 12:40pm.

14 COMMUNITY, COMMUNITY SERVICES & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

14.1 RURAL BUSINESS AND PROPERTIES FOLLOW-UP SURVEY RESULTS AND 2026 FEDERAL BUDGET IMPLICATIONS
<p>RESOLUTION 173/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr R Eckel Seconded: Cr P Alexander</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives and notes the results of the Murweh Shire Council Rural Business and Properties Follow-Up Economic Survey conducted on 11 May 2026, as presented in Attachments A and B. 2. Notes the key findings that fuel and freight costs, declining visitor numbers, and drought conditions represent the principal economic pressures on Murweh Shire businesses and primary producers in the current period. 3. Notes the implications of the 2026 Federal Budget for Murweh Shire Council and the communities it serves, as outlined in this report. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

14.2 CHARLEVILLE TOWN POOL REPORT - MAY 2026
<p>RESOLUTION 174/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr P Alexander Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield</p> <p>That Council receives and notes the Charleville Town Pool Report for May 2026, as presented in this report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

14.3 MAY 2026 MONTHLY LIBRARY REPORTS - AUGATHELLA, MORVEN AND CHARLEVILLE

RESOLUTION 175/26

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council receives and notes the May 2026 Monthly Library Reports for Charleville, Augathella and Morven as presented in Attachment A. and subsequent State Library Reports.

CARRIED

14.4 SUPPORT OF NAIDOC WEEK 2026 - CLOSING CEREMONY AND STREET MARCH

RESOLUTION 176/26

Moved: Cr P Alexander

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council:

1. Affirm its continued support of NAIDOC Week 2026 in Charleville, in recognition of the national theme 50 Years Deadly and Council's longstanding commitment to celebrating and preserving the traditions and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
2. Authorise the Director of Community, Community Services & Community Infrastructure to allocate funding of up to \$1,000.00 (exclusive of GST), funded from the Community Assistance budget, to procure catering supplies for the barbeque at the NAIDOC Week Closing Ceremony on 25 July 2026.

Approve the temporary closure of Alfred Street and Wills Street, Charleville, from 8:30 am on Friday 24 July 2026 for the NAIDOC Street March, with the march expected to conclude by approximately 9:30 am, subject to appropriate traffic management arrangements being coordinated by the Director of Engineering Services in consultation with Queensland Police Service.

CARRIED

14.5 ANDRE MOORE "BIG FEAT" BASKETBALL, HEALTH AND WELBEING PROGRAMME - REQUEST FOR FUNDING

RESOLUTION 177/26

Moved: Cr M Ebsworth

Seconded: Cr R Eckel

That Council:

1. Note the request received from Andre Moore for funding of \$16,000 to deliver the 'Big Feat' Basketball, Health and Wellbeing school holiday programme in Charleville and surrounding communities from 29 June to 3 July 2026.
2. Not approve the funding request as submitted, on the basis that the proposal is a whole-of-region delivery spanning multiple local government areas and does not align with Council's Community Grants Policy (FIN-012) process.
3. Authorise the Director of Community, Community Services & Community Infrastructure to advise Mr Moore in writing that Council encourages him to: (a) resubmit a Charleville-specific component through the Community Grants Policy (FIN-012) process; and (b) approach Rainbow Gateway, Charleville schools, Paroo Shire Council, and Quilpie Shire Council as potential co-funding partners for the broader regional delivery.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for a lunch break at 12:58pm.

10.2B DEPUTATION OF THE MEETING

Representatives from the Charleville Cultural Association provided Council with an update on the Bilby Public Art Project and presented the artwork that will feature on the Bilby sculpture.

The meeting resumed normal proceedings at 01:25pm.

Cr Eckel declared a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in agenda item 14.6, as he is the President of the Charleville Runners and Bikes (CRABS) exited the meeting while this discussion took place at 1:25pm.

14.6 CRABS RUNNING FESTIVAL 2026 - APPROVAL OF ROAD USE AND AUTHORISATION OF LETTER OF SUPPORT

RESOLUTION 178/26

Moved: Cr T Sommerfield

Seconded: Cr M Ebsworth

That Council:

- 1) Approve the use of local roads within the Murweh Shire Council area for the Charleville Runners and Bikes (CRABS) Running Festival on Sunday, 19 July 2026, with the course commencing at the Charleville Showgrounds and proceeding along Wellwater Road, subject to:
 - a) the provision of an approved Murweh Shire Council Application for Holding an Event within the Murweh Shire,
 - b) locate appropriate public safety signage on the day of the event as directed by Murweh Shire Council; and
 - c) the provision of a current AusTriathlon Race Permit and Certificate of Currency being provided to Council prior to the event.
- 2) Authorise the Director of Community, Community Services & Community Infrastructure to issue a letter of support to Charleville Runners and Bikes confirming Council's approval of the road use for the 2026 CRABS Running Festival.
- 3) Note that a separate application by Charleville Runners and Bikes under Council's Community Grants Policy (FIN-012) is to be assessed in accordance with that policy.

CARRIED

Cr Eckel entered the meeting at 1:26pm

<p>14.7 HOPE PREVENTATIVE HEALTH SERVICE - REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF HALL HIRE FEE - DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AWARENESS EVENT</p>
<p>RESOLUTION 179/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr R Eckel Seconded: Cr P Alexander</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Waive the applicable hall hire fee for the use of a Council hall facility in Charleville for a free community self-defence session and Police information session to be held on Thursday, 21 May 2026, as requested by Jennifer Peacock, Health Promotion Officer, HOPE (Preventative Health Service), South West Hospital and Health Service. 2. Note that the event is being delivered in partnership with Charleville Police and the Far West Indigenous Family Violence Service (FWIFVS) in recognition of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month. 3. Note that approval of the fee waiver is subject to confirmation of the specific venue with the applicant and compliance with Council's standard conditions of hall hire, including leaving the facility in a clean and tidy condition. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

The Manager of Tourism & Events entered the meeting virtually at 1:28pm

The meeting adjourned for a break at 01:40pm.

The meeting resumed normal proceedings at 01:47pm.

<p>14.8 TOURISM AND EVENTS REPORT APRIL 2026</p>
<p>RESOLUTION 180/26</p> <p>Moved: Cr R Eckel Seconded: Cr T Sommerfield</p> <p>That Council receives and notes the Tourism, Marketing & Events Report for May 2026.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

The Director of Communities, Community Services & Community Infrastructure and Manager of Tourism & Events exited the meeting at 2:13pm.

15 CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil

16 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

17 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 2:13pm.