



*Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council*

# January Council Meeting Minutes

25 January 2024, 10:10 AM – 12:29 PM

Kowanyama Chambers and Cairns Boardroom

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## *Present*

### **Councillors**

#### **Kowanyama Boardroom**

Robbie Sands, Mayor  
Cameron Josiah, Deputy Mayor  
Teddy Bernard, Councillor  
David Jack, Councillor  
Jacob Elroy Josiah, Councillor

### **Executive**

#### **Cairns Boardroom**

Chris McLaughlin, Acting Manager Governance  
Danae Maltby, Governance Officer

### **Teleconference**

Joe Cristaldi, Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services  
Ani Seruvatu, Executive Manager Community Services & Cultural Heritage

## *Condolences*

NIL

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## **1. Opening/Welcome**

Meeting commenced at 10:10 AM.

Mayor Robbie Sands and A/CEO Territa Dick welcomed the Councillors and Executive Team to the January Council Meeting.

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## **2. Declarable Conflicts of Interest**

Councillors advise that there is no Conflict of Interest to be declared.

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## **3. Previous Minutes**

### **RESOLUTION: Minutes (November Ordinary Council Meeting)**

Minutes from the November Ordinary Council Meeting 22 November 2023 to be adopted as true and accurate.

Moved: Cr. Teddy Bernard  
Seconded: Cr. Jacob Elroy Josiah

**CARRIED**

## 4. Action Items

Action Items register was noted and tabled.

## 5. Reports

### 5.1. Chief Executive Officer

#### 5.1.1. Information Report

Territa Dick (A/CEO) presented the CEO information report to Council. Information report was noted and tabled by Council.

### 5.2. Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services

#### 5.2.1. a. Information Report – Governance Report

Chris McLaughlin, Acting Governance Manager presented the Governance report to Council.

Information report was noted and tabled by Council.

- Mayor Sands queried if there were any variations to the Subdivision since the start of contract, if there was any extension of time and any extra cost?  
Chris McLaughlin advised that there was only 1 variation and no extra costs.

#### b. Information Report – Finance Report

Joe Cristaldi, Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services presented Finance Report to Council.

Information report was noted and tabled by Council.

**Mayor Robbie Sands left meeting room at 10:40am and returned 10:43am**

#### c. Information Report – HR report

Joe Cristaldi, Executive Manager Corporate and Financial Services presented HR Report to Council.

Information report was noted and tabled by Council.

- Mayor Sands advised ABF and NAIDOC events – Community would like these events to keep happening every year.
- Mayor Sands asked if the Airport Manager position is temporary or permanent?
- Joe Cristaldi advised it is a 3-month temporary position.
- Mayor Sands asked if the Post Office is increasing their hours as Sheree Corbett mentioned.
- This is to be discussed with the Post Office Manager.
- Cr. Teddy Bernard asked that Hinterland Aviation bank their cash in community as they should not be flying cash out of the community.

**Action item: EMCSF to speak with Hinterland regarding cash deposits in community**

**Cr Jacob Elroy Josiah left meeting room at 10:49am and returned 10:50am**

- Cr. David Jack advised there have been multiple complaints of missing parcels at the Post Office.
- There is a note on the window advising no change. Post Office should be able to assist in giving change to community members. Also, are regular money checks being done as cash should be counted regularly?
- Mail security issues, community members entering back of office to collect mail, this should not be allowed.
- Joe Cristaldi advised that cash balances are done every day. Operational meeting to be organised for after Council Meeting.

**5.2.2. Agenda Reports****a. Agenda Report – Policy and Procedures**

Danae Maltby presented Policy and Procedures Agenda Report to Council:

RESOLUTION: Policy and Procedures

That Council adopts the following policies:

**1. Complaints Management and Investigation Policy**

Moved: Cr. Robbie Sands

Seconded: Cr. Teddy Bernard

**CARRIED**

RESOLUTION: Policy and Procedures

That Council adopts the following policies:

**2. Model Meeting Procedures (Nov 2023)**

Moved: Cr. Jacob Elroy Josiah

Seconded: Cr. David Jack

**CARRIED**

**b. Agenda Report – Capital Investment Strategy Plan 2023-2032**

Chris McLaughlin presented Capital Investment Strategy Plan 2023-2032 Agenda Report to Council:

RESOLUTION: Capital Investment Strategy Plan 2023-2032

That Council resolve to adopt the 10-Year Social Housing Capital Investment Strategy Plan 2024-2033.

Moved: Cr. Robbie Sands

Seconded: Cr. Jacob Elroy Josiah

**CARRIED**

- Mayor Robbie Sands advised that community want masonry block houses not modular housing. This has been an ongoing argument with the government for many years.

c. **Agenda Report – Tender: Savanna Fire Management Project – Fire Operations 2024-2025**

Chris McLaughlin presented Tender: Savanna Fire Management Project – Fire Operations 2024-2025 Agenda Report to Council

**RESOLUTION: Capital Investment Strategy Plan 2023-2032**

That Council approve the award of the Oriners-Sefton Savanna Fire Management Project – Fire Operation 2024 – 2025 Tender to Tropical Forest Tree Pty Ltd t/a Tropical Fire Technologies for a price up to \$600,000 (GST Excl) over two (2) years 2024 and 2025 and give delegation to the CEO to sign all contractual documentation as required and to pay all invoices as and when due under this arrangement.

Moved: Cr. Jacob Elroy Josiah

Seconded: Cr. Cameron Josiah

**CARRIED**

**5.3. Executive Manager Roads, Infrastructure and Essential Services**

**5.3.1. Information Report**

Territa Dick, A/CEO presented EMRIES Information Report to Council.

Information report was noted and tabled by Council.

**Action Item: EMRIES to advised when and where diesel/petrol was syphoned from council vehicles.**

- Cr. David Jack asked about security at the airport as passengers are walking through the open gates to the tarmac. Another passenger was seen walking onto the tarmac to get luggage which is a federal offence.
- Mayor Robbie Sands contacted Brad Pinches regarding the length of hose for refuelling and also that parking of aeroplanes may be a problem.
- Kowanyama town streets – the town streets should be repaired first. Kowanyama Street should be closed until fully repaired.
- Upgrades of housing – upgrades are taking a long time and residents have been using temporary bathroom/toilets for over 6 months. Housing upgrades should be completed in a timely manner.
- Cr David Jack advised that there was oil dumped at the back of the dump by the mechanics. Also, concerns of excessive pricing at the workshop.

**5.3.2. Agenda Report – Purchase of new General Construction Excavator**

Ani Seruvatu, EMCSCF presented the Agenda Report to Council:

**RESOLUTION: Purchase of new General Construction Excavator**

The Council resolves to approve the purchase of the new Excavator Caterpillar 320GC to the value of \$473,971.60 including GST in accordance with section 173 (2) of the local Government Regulation 2012.

Moved: Cr. Teddy Bernard

Seconded: Cr. Cameron Josiah

**CARRIED**

- Mayor Robbie Sands advised that a float would be a good addition to the excavator.

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#### 5.4. Executive Manager Community Services and Cultural Heritage

Ani Seruvatu, EMCSCH presented EMCS Information Report to Council.

Information Report was noted and tabled by Council.

- Mayor Robbie Sands asked re: Alcohol Management Plan (AMP) – comparison between wet and dry season at the Women’s Shelter.

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### 6. Other Business

#### 6.1. Agenda Report – Social Housing Management

Chris McLaughlin revisited the Social Housing Management agenda report with Council at Mayor’s request. Matter left laying on the table.

**Meeting Closed: 12:29 PM**