

# LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 55 631 460 952

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## ORDINARY MEETING

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

9:40 AM

Held at the

**Council Chambers, Lockhart River. 14 Maathuy St Lockhart  
River**

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## MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Cr Wayne Butcher (Mayor)  
Cr Dorothy Hobson (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Karen Koko  
Cr Norman Bally  
Cr Alistair Bowie

Mayor Butcher opened the meeting at 9:50am

**Conflict of Interest:** Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared. No new declarations were made.

**Issue: Minutes of the meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of April, 2020.**

Minutes for the meeting of both the 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of April were tabled and discussed in detail.

**Resolution 1:** That the minutes for the meetings of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of April be adopted as tabled.

Moved: **Cr. W. Butcher**                      Seconded: **Cr. D. Hobson**  
All in favor                                      motion passed

**Issue: Reggie – Director Building Services**

Council received an update from Reggie on Building Services activities and highlighted two matters that were effecting production and delivery.

- Covid restrictions are affecting finalizing some projects with vital trade skills reluctant to do the necessary isolation prior to delivery. Vinyl laying and Tiling shortfalls are preventing the installation of kitchens and bathrooms which is pushing out delivery times on many projects and therefore affecting cash flow budgetary assumptions.
- Problems continue with reliability of our local trainees and some trade staff. Kyjuan and Miley still need to take the next step and become more reliable. If

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they take this step Council is happy to consider signing them up for apprenticeships but they need to show they are keen.

- The push is on to deliver some projects before the end of Financial Year. Playgrounds, car ports and sheds are high on the list along with the last of the new studio cabins at the airport. Fencer about to be recruited along with two assistants. Another Trade Assistant is also needed.
- Mayor thanked Reggie for his report and the work of his team delivering across our township.

**Issue: Kids fighting and young ones driving cars around**

Kids fighting and young ones driving cars around without anyone worrying about them. Mayor and CEO advised the matter has been raised with the OIC Lockhart Police who is looking for additional resources to help get on top of the issue. Councilor Koko asked that the Justice Group get on the front foot working with the Police and parents to remove the risk to the kids and those they put at risk by their actions.

**Issue: Basics Card / Cashless Card**

Cr Koko asked for an update on the Basics Card/Cashless Card as she had been observing parents spending money the wrong way. Options are available but they are whole of community or nothing. The state government has moved away from the Family Responsibilities Commission option.

**Issue: Finance Report April 2020**

Council discussed the Finance Report for the month of April 2020

**Resolution 2:** That the Finance Report for the month of April 2020 be accepted as tabled.

**Moved:** Cr K. Koko  
All in favour

**Seconded:** Cr N. Bally  
Motion carried

**Issue: Social Club working group**

Council discussed the on-going issue of formation of the new Social Club committee. The possibility of tapping citizens on the shoulder rather than wait for voluntary participation was discussed. A shortlist of people to target was developed to start community discussion. Justice Group Coordinator, Ross Norman, will help take the idea to the broader community.

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**Issue: Capital budget variations**

A review of Council's forward works program brought into focus the opportunity to purchase plant items which will be in high demand to fulfill that program. A water truck and small mobile bitumen truck stood out as target plant items that would pay for themselves quickly through program delivery. These strategic purchases will be financed from the self-generated allocation currently placed against the construction of the new Social Club.

**Resolution 3:** That the capital budget be amended to permit the purchase of a fit for purchase 2nd hand water truck and a bitumen truck and that the sum of \$140 000 but allocated from the current Social Club construction line item for the purpose.

**Moved:** Cr D. Hobson                      **Seconded:** Cr A. Bowie  
All in favor                                      motion passed

**Issue: Insurance Mutual Fund membership**

The last couple of years has seen a narrowing in the insurance provider market to the extent that some asset classes will become uninsurable going forward. This is a result of global trends out of Council's control. This environment has seen the emergence of an LGAQ brokered Mutual Fund as a solution. Council will look closely at this alternative to manage its risks in future.

**Resolution 4:** That council resolve to review the LGAQ Mutual Fund proposal and give consideration to membership if alternative traditional insurance products are not available.

**Moved:** Cr K. Koko                              **Seconded:** Cr D. Hobson  
All in favor                                      Motion passed

**Issue: Donation**

Donation in recognition of the excellent work of Dr Jaquie and Dr Maddy. Cr Koko put forward the proposal to contribute one third of the cost of two paintings being presented to Dr Jaquie and Dr Maddy in recognition of their service to our Community as they are leaving.

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**Resolution 5:** That Council contributes a sum of \$330.00 towards the recognition gifts for Dr Jaquie Hawker and Dr Maddy Phillip.

**Moved:** Cr. N. Bally  
All in favor

**Seconded:** Cr K. Koko  
motion passed

**Issue: Margie Barnes Community Development Director**

Council was provided a snapshot of current programs and over-all performance of the Com Dev team by Margie Barnes. Particular note was made of the following:

- Priority one should be securing funding to construct a fit for purpose After School Care Centre. Current arrangements are non-compliant and unsustainable and require the creation of a safe environment for program delivery;
- There is no succession plan for the Women's Shelter noting all staff there are about the same age and may all choose to retire together. Every effort should be made to recruit someone younger who can grow into a leadership role at the Shelter. It should also be the focus of positive Women's programs and not just a refuge at times of crisis.
- Police need to be more proactive in managing our young people too many of whom seem to be falling away from education with no plan B. Too many under age drivers and drinkers. Justice Group needs to be urgently refreshed.

Margie went on to confirm her retirement from work in the near future but committed to keep working with Council during the recruitment process for her replacement and subsequent hand-over of duties. She thanked Council for their support through the years and spoke about the value of good leadership which she believed she had received over her time with Council.

The Mayor and Council thanked Margie for her dedicated service to the people of Lockhart and wished her well in her retirement.

**Resolution 6:** That the retirement of Margie Barnes be noted and her work with our Community over many years be recognized through a gift to be selected by her from the Art Centre.

**Moved:** Cr. W. Butcher  
All in favour

**Seconded:** Cr K. Koko  
motion carried

There being no further matters to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 4:45pm