

LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 55 631 460 952



Minutes of the Budget and Audit Meeting of the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council at the Council Chambers, Maathuuy St Lockhart River.

Date: Friday 29st July 2022

MINUTES

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

Visitors: nil

Opening and Venue: Mayor Cr Wayne Butcher opened the meeting at 10:50 am at Lockhart Council Chambers

Conflict of Interest:

Mayor called for any conflicts of interest to be declared.

The Mayor reminded the elected members the need to update their registers of interests and related party disclosures every financial year.

Issue: Visitor – Education Qld. Sally

Sally provided commentary on the Education forum in Cairns and the stakeholders meeting. Mayor Butcher thanked her and her team for their contribution.

Issue: Workplace Health and Safety Review

Work place Health and safety Audit quotes need to be sourced. Council's systems are due for testing and review.

Issue: Interim Audit Reports for Council and the Aerodrome Company

Interim Audit Reports from the Queensland Audit Office contractors were tabled and discussed in detail with input from Corporate Services Director, Stanley Mugwiria on tele-link.

In short, Council general financial management was found to be of a consistent high quality with no significant matters to report. The weaknesses identified in Council's management were identified as Information Technology matters noting there had been no integrity testing of the system against cyber-attack, and that password protocols needed to keep up with contemporary security trends. Council's systems restoration and business continuity capacity is not tested often enough. Council will review its IT policies and procedures accordingly and commission integrity testing by independent third parties.

The Aerodrome Company also has the same IT issues and a continuation of the problem of separating decision making from financial operations with limited staff. The IT issues will be addressed in line with

Council's review, however the separation of powers matter can only be resolved by an expansion of staff numbers which is subject to budget affordability. Overall, an improved operational and financial performance from the Aerodrome Company was noted. Final Report pending Auditor General sanction.

Resolution 1: That the Interim Audit Reports for the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council and the Lockhart River Aerodrome Company are received and noted.

Moved: Cr. K. Koko **Seconded:** Cr. A. Bowie
All in favor motion passed

Issue: **Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council Operational Plan 2022 - 2023**

The Draft Council Operational Plan for the 2022 – 2023 financial year was tabled and discussed at length.

Resolution 2: That the Draft Operational Plan for the 2022 – 2023 financial year be adopted as tabled.

Moved: Cr. D. Hobson **Seconded:** Cr. N. Bally
All in favour Motion passed

Issue: **Budget for the Lockhart River Aboriginal shire Council 2022 – 2023 Financial Year**

Budget preparation papers for the 2022 – 2023 Financial Year were tabled and discussed in detail including capital Expenditure. Council noted there are some assumptions and variables that will need to be tested as the fiscal year evolves. A mid-year review may be required to reassess the budget position after the construction season has concluded.

Resolution 3: That the draft budget for the Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council 2022 – 2023 financial year is adopted as tabled.

Moved: Cr W. Butcher **Seconded:** Cr A. Bowie
All in favour Motion passed

Issue: **The Risk Register was tabled and discussed**

Issue: **The Business Continuity Plan was tabled and discussed**

Issue: Lockhart River Aerodrome Company Budget 2022 – 2023 financial year

The budget papers for the Lockhart River Aerodrome Company were tabled and discussed in detail noting a modest profit was projected after depreciation for the first time in some years. The assumptions used include only planned maintenance and not unplanned and includes increased Cabins income from bringing the new accommodation stock on to the market. Market acceptance is yet to be tested.

Resolution 4: That the Budget for the Lockhart River Aerodrome Company for the 2022 – 2023 financial year is adopted.

Moved: Cr. K. Koko Seconded: Cr. N. Bally
All in favour Motion passed

Issue: Policy Consideration and Review

The policies for Financial Delegation, Schedule of Fees and Charges, Revenue Statement Policy, and the Register of Policies were tabled, discussed, and amended. Amendments were in line with Audit recommendations and annual review cycles in the matter of charges.

Resolution 5: That the amendments to the above Council policies are endorsed and brought into practice.

Moved: Cr. W. Butcher Seconded: Cr. D. Hobson
All in favour Motion passed

There being no further matters to discuss the Mayor closed the meeting at 2:10pm.