



General Council Meeting

Meeting of the Central Highlands Regional Council held in the **Council Chambers, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald** on

Wednesday, 10 March 2021
Commenced at 9.00am

COUNCIL MINUTES

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2021

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**MINUTES – GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 9.00AM WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2021 IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, EMERALD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Councillors

Councillor (Crs) Kerry Hayes (Mayor), Christine Rolfe (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors (Crs) Charles Brimblecombe, Joseph Burns, Anne Carpenter, Natalie Curtis (arrived at 9.02am), Megan Daniels, Janice Moriarty and Gai Sypher

Officers

Chief Executive Officer Scott Mason, General Manager Communities John McDougall, General Manager Corporate Services Margaret Gatt, General Manager Customer and Commercial Services Michelle Webster, Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Utilities Jason Hoolihan and Minute Secretary Marnie Wills

APOLOGIES

Nil

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

It was noted that the leave of absence granted for Cr Curtis for 24 March 2021 is no longer required.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor Hayes acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today and he paid our respects to the elders, past, present and emerging.

Attendance

Cr Curtis attended the meeting at 9.02am

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Rod McLennan from the Emerald Presbyterian Church delivered the opening prayer.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

General Council Meeting: 24 February 2021

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Curtis “That the minutes of the previous General Council Meeting held on 24 February 2021 be confirmed.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 001

Carried (9-0)

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

Nil

OUTSTANDING MEETING ACTIONS

Councillors reviewed the resolution register (meeting actions) update.

REVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Discussions were held regarding upcoming agenda items.

Attendance

Manager Connected Communities S. Poulter and Arts and Cultural Officer N. Pickering attended the meeting at 9.11am

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

PETITIONS (IF ANY)

Nil

DECISION ACTION REPORTS

Communities

Minutes - Central Highlands Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (CHACAC) Planning Meeting - 22 January 2021

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to endorse the minutes of the Central Highlands Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee planning meeting held in Emerald on 22 January 2021.

Resolution:

Cr Moriarty moved and seconded by Cr Burns “That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the minutes of the Central Highlands Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee planning meeting held on 22 January 2021.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 002

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Connected Communities S. Poulter and Arts and Cultural Officer N. Pickering left the meeting at 9.21am

Customer and Commercial Services

Minutes - Emerald Airport Advisory Committee Meeting - 19 February 2021

Purpose:

The Emerald Airport Advisory Committee held their quarterly meeting on 19 February 2021. Items discussed during the committee meeting included workplace health and safety, financial update, strategic overview, 2021-2022 proposed capital projects, operational matters and capital works projects.

Resolution:

Cr Burns moved and seconded by Cr Moriarty “That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the minutes of the Emerald Airport Advisory Committee meeting held on 19 February 2021.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 003

Carried (9-0)

Minutes - Emerald Saleyards Coordination Committee Meeting - 22 February 2021

Purpose:

The Emerald Saleyards Coordination Committee held their quarterly meeting on 22 February 2021. Items discussed during the committee meeting included workplace health and safety, financial update, stakeholder engagement on 2020-2021 fees and charges, stakeholder engagement on 2020-2021 proposed capital projects, update on operational matters and capital works projects.

Resolution:

Cr Burns moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the minutes of the Emerald Saleyards Coordination Committee meeting held on 22 February 2021.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 004

Carried (9-0)

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Local Government Association - 2021 National General Assembly - Call for Motions

Purpose:

The Australian Local Government Association 2021 National General Assembly is being held in Canberra from 20 to 23 June 2021. ALGA is calling for motions under the theme “Working Together for our Communities”.

This report seeks council’s endorsement of the motions for the ALGA National General Assembly.

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That Central Highlands Regional Council endorse the following motions for inclusion on the agenda for the Australian Local Government Association 2021 National General Assembly:

1. Centralised funding of aviation security
2. Covid relief for community airports
3. Water Security (to include additional weirs/infrastructure)
4. Drought Management Funding
5. Encouragement of Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) to continue to take the lead in asset management
6. Additional funding for telecommunication blackspots
7. Availability and affordability of aged care (including several targeted motions to be developed for endorsement by Council)
8. A funded single and comprehensive assessment process for aged care support package eligibility (as per recommendation 28 from the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety)
9. Encouragement of additional regional investment.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 005

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Planning and Environment K. Byrne attended the meeting at 10.18am

LATE AGENDA ITEMS

Petition - Economically Sustainable Ratepayers Association Inc Regarding Emerald Saleyards

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update in relation to the petition tabled by the Economically Sustainable Ratepayers Association Inc at the General Council meeting on 24 February 2021.

Resolution:

Cr Daniels moved and seconded by Cr Burns “That Central Highlands Regional Council receive this report.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 006

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Planning and Environment K. Byrne left the meeting at 10.19am

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10.19am

Meeting resumed at 11.10am

Attendance

Manager Connected Communities S. Poulter and Coordinator Libraries K. Nuss attended the meeting at 11.11am

INFORMATION REPORTS

Communities

Library Strategy and Action Plan Update

Purpose:

This report provides councillors an update on the Library Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2021 during the period between July and December 2020.

Resolution:

Cr Moriarty moved and seconded by Cr Brimblecombe “That Central Highlands Regional Council receives the Library Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2021 report for the period between July and December 2020.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 007

Carried (9-0)

Attendance

Manager Connected Communities S. Poulter and Coordinator Libraries K. Nuss left the meeting at 11.29am

DECISION ACTION – CLOSED SESSION

Into Closed Session

Resolution:

Cr Curtis moved and seconded by Cr Burns “That Council close its meeting to the public in accordance with Section 254 (J) (3) (g) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and that Council staff involved in the closed discussions remain in the room.”

- (g) *negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the council.*

2021 / 03 / 10 / 008

Carried (9-0)

The meeting was closed at 11.30am

Attendance

Coordinator Property Services A. Hewitt and Property and Leasing Officer M. Ellwood attended the meeting at 11.32am

Disposal of Lot 11 on DSN867 (Kingower)

Out of Closed Session

Resolution:

Cr Brimblecombe moved and seconded by Cr Burns “That the meeting now be re-opened to the public.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 009

Carried (9-0)

The meeting was opened at 11.52am

Attendance

Coordinator Property Services A. Hewitt and Property and Leasing Officer M. Ellwood left the meeting at 11.52am

Disposal of Lot 11 on DSN867 (Kingower)

Purpose:

This report provides the response from the Invitation for Tender which was issued to Northern Australian Agrifood Pty Ltd for the disposal of Lot 11 on DSN867 (property known as Kingower) and the two megalitre water allocation (reference no. 580 on CP AP6829).

Resolution:

Cr Sypher moved and seconded by Cr Burns “That Central Highlands Regional Council:

1. Not accept the tender from 148 East Property Trust.
2. Approve the disposal of a valuable non-current asset being land identified as Lot 11 DSN867 and a two megalitre water allocation identified as no. 580 on CP AP6829 by auction pursuant to section 227 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

3. Approve, if not sold after being offered for sale by auction, the application of the exception pursuant to section 236 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 where:
 - a. The Chief Executive Officer may sell a property comprising land and improvements without inviting further tenders or offering it at auction for a sum not less than the higher of:
 - i. Market value; and
 - ii. A sum exceeding the highest prices tendered or auctioned the property.
 - b. For each sale, subject to the minimum price requirements in subparagraph a, the Chief Executive Officer may:
 - i. Determine the sale conditions; and
 - ii. Negotiate amendments to the sale conditions that the Chief Executive Officer considers necessary or appropriate in conformity with the sound contracting principles.”

2021 / 03 / 10 / 011

Carried (8-1)

GENERAL BUSINESS

(Verbal matters raised by Councillors either as a question, acknowledgement and or additional follow-up by officers)

Cr Daniels

- Requested that Council advocate for funding to build a new hospital in Blackwater. Various health and hospital services who have confirmed that their plans have progressed and that they are ready to advocate for funding.
 - Existing facility is currently 50 years old and is not currently fit for purpose for the community.
 - Letter of support would be adequate.
 - Requested that we update our advocacy documents to includes this as a priority.
- Cr Moriarty advised that the Blackwater Community Reference Group would also be happy to provide a letter of support.

Cr Moriarty

- Requested an update from the Central Highlands Development Corporation regarding investment and attraction initiatives for the Central Highlands region.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 12.13pm.

CONFIRMED

MAYOR

DATE