



KOWANYAMA ABORIGINAL SHIRE  
COUNCIL

**Council Meeting Minutes**

19 February 2020 09:20am –1:27pm

Kowanyama Chambers Room and  
Cairns Board Room

**Present:**

**Councillors**

- Mayor Michael Yam (Chair) – Cairns Boardroom
- Cr Territa Dick (Deputy Mayor) – Cairns Boardroom
- Cr Aaron Teddy (Councillor) – Cairns Boardroom
- Cr John Fry (Councillor) – Cairns Boardroom
- Cr Wendy Wust (Councillor) – Cairns Boardroom

**Executive**

- Gary Uhlmann, Chief Executive Officer
- Andrew Hay, Executive Manager Finance (EMF)
- Jacqui Cresswell, A/Executive Manager Infrastructure Works Projects, (A/EMIWP)
- Kevin Bell, Executive Manager Community Services (EMCS)

**Apologies**

- Katherine Wiggins, Executive Manager Governance and Operations (EMGO)
- Caroline Smith, A/Executive Manager Human Resources (A/EMHR)

**Other**

Stuart Dechan (COO) and Naomi Shiels (GM) from Skytrans attended the Cairns Boardroom to discuss some concerns and issues raised by community. Maintenance was a big issue for them in the past and they have now outsourced their maintenance requirements, scheduling and better communications is foremost. Naomi has put a proposal forward for a tender for catering on board the flights which has been raised by members of the public. A checkbox for Drug and Alcohol has been added to the dangerous goods section of the booking requirement. We have their assurance that the fares weren't going to jump up. Their explanation of how it works was appreciated by Council.

<p><b><u>Action Item</u></b> EA – Clarify what email address's changes to schedules and flights are going to.</p>
---

**1) Welcome & Apologies**

The Mayor welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

**3) Minutes from Previous Council Meetings**

<p><b>RESOLUTION – Minutes</b> Minutes from Council Meeting 29<sup>h</sup> January 2020</p> <p><b>Minutes</b> That the above minutes be adopted as true and accurate.</p>	<p><b>Moved Cr Fry</b> <b>Seconded Cr Teddy</b></p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> <b>All</b></p>
---	--

#### **4) Action Items from Council Meeting**

a) Mr Uhlmann presented the actions from the January Council meeting.

##### **Action Item**

EMCS – To ensure that the residents from Aurukun understand they have been provided with temporary accommodation for 12 weeks only. If they wish to become permanent residents of Kowanyama they need to be aware that they will be added to the bottom of the waiting list for public housing.

##### **Action Item**

EMCS – liaise with the Cairns Council regarding procedures for our pool.

b) Mr Uhlmann presented the “All Current Action Items”.

Councillors went through action items from previous meetings. No questions or comments were made on the outstanding items on the Register. Executive Team will continue working on the outstanding items to make sure that they are actioned in a timely manner.

#### **5) Departmental Updates**

##### **CEO Update**

Mr Uhlmann thanked the Mayor and Councillors for the support they had given him since he arrived and made the observation that they were a committed, capable and honest Council who at all times had focussed on the needs and requirements of community.

As a result they have numerous achievements they can be proud of and a forward program of initiatives that they can also be proud of.

Two separate airlines have signalled that they are interested in putting together a proposal to serve the needs of the Kowanyama community in the future.

We have requested a joint review with DATSIP, QPS, and Justice of the current justice operating model within community to ensure that the Justice system is meeting the broader needs of community.

##### Visits

We have the Government Director General Champion Mr Damien Walker visiting Community on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> of February.

The Minister for Police and the Police Commissioner are scheduled to visit Community on either the 6, 7 or 8<sup>th</sup> of April while visiting the Cape.

We are seeking to invite the Premier to community to officially open the new Airport Terminal, our new sporting complex and the Men’s Centre.

A meeting is scheduled with the Sport and Recreation Committee, Councillors and Debbie Dixon-Searle (Justice Department) regarding the Alcohol Management Plan on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2020.

*Cr Dick left room at 12.08 returned at 12.14pm*

## **Finance**

Mr Hay provided a monthly update for Finance.

Key points from the January 2020 YTD report are as follows:

- net operating result is a \$4,065k deficit
- actual net operating income is \$11,994k
- actual operating expenditure is \$16,059k
- untied Cash Funds balance is \$3,245k

*Mr Mayor left the room at 12.30pm – 12.37pm*

*Cr Teddy left the room at 12.31pm – 12.36pm*

## **Governance and Operations**

Ms Wiggins provided apologies to the meeting. CEO provided an update.

## **Community Services**

Mr Bell thanked the Mayor and Councillors for their support since commencing in his role. He then provided a monthly update for Community Services.

January has been an exciting month for the Community Service business unit. Programs continue to be delivered to a high standard and we have seen a number of key positions advertised with recruitment well underway.

Aged Care – currently have 42 clients and due to the wet and sorry business the outings and activities were restricted for this month.

Women's Shelter - Kowanyama Women's Shelter staff worked extremely hard throughout January putting final touches on stage 2 accreditation.

Women's Meeting Place - Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council had no programs delivered over January due to the departure of the Coordinator. Council has since advertised the role and will begin to review applicants.

Family Engagement Officer - together with Sports and Recreation Officer's co facilitated "back to school" day for all Kowanyama boarding school children. Special thanks to the Rangers and local 51<sup>st</sup> Battalion for support of the day.

Centrelink - our Centrelink agents continue to assist community with all Centrelink services.

Sport Recreation and Youth Engagement/Playgroup - the team lead the "Back to School Day" event run from the new airport.

Post Office - looking to train more staff relief positions.

NDIS – The current coordinator is on leave, we have employed a temporary coordinator to work closely with EMCS to ensure operations remain smooth and consistent and to review the current operating model.

RIBS Radio - EMCS and Radio announcer are working closely to lock in timeslots for live radio and pre-recorded messages to go to air to promote what's happening in Kowanyama.

Community Police - Community Police continued to support community through January.

Cr Teddy left the room at 1.04pm – 1.10pm

Cr Fry left the room at 1.17pm – 1.19pm

It was noted that the grant funding for RIBS is due to cease on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 2020. We need to be aware that Pama Futures have been contracted by the Federal Government to facilitate a conversation with community on the best way to utilise all expiring grants funds in the future.

**Action Item**

Cr Teddy - speak with General Manager of Blackstar Radio regarding how they might help our community radio service

**Action Item**

All executives – Ensure Council is notified of decisions and actions within the various portfolios.

**Infrastructure Works & Projects**

Ms Cresswell provided a monthly update for Infrastructure Works and Projects.

Works – Roads/Rangers/Parks & Gardens - the rangers, road crew and parks and gardens teams are working tidying and cleaning throughout community due to the wet and are in the process of maintaining the cattle grid. They are also assisting with maintenance works at the airport which should decrease wage costs there.

Works - Building Services - building works are progressing well, however with the wet season road closures no new major building upgrades can be started due to lack of materials.

Airport - there are a few minor defects with the new terminal which are still to be addressed. Waiting on a proposal from other airlines in regards to a second airline service to community.

Essential Services - new chlorinators are not working as efficiently as expected. A variation to ICCIP funding has been requested to cover these costs.

Workshop – the Manager is working hard to repair and maintain the fleet, which is old and in need of replacement, however, due to budget constraints this can't happen in the short term.

**Human Resources (EMHR)**

Mr Uhlmann presented the report.

Staff numbers: 128

Current advertised Vacancies: 3

Current Workers Compensation Claims: nil

**Training:**

First Aid Training arranged for March 2020

Rangers to complete remaining units of Cert III Agriculture in March

Snake Handling Training – Rangers, Parks and Gardens, Roads Crew and Airport Staff  
(awaiting *confirmation of dates*)

<p><b>RESOLUTION</b> – The Council moves into Closed Business.</p>	<p><b>Moved Cr Wust</b> <b>Seconded Cr Dick</b></p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> <b>All in Favour</b></p>
--	--

<p><b>RESOLUTION</b> – The Council moves out of Closed Business.</p>	<p><b>Moved Cr Teddy</b> <b>Seconded Cr Yam</b></p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> <b>All in Favour</b></p>
--	--

<p><b>RESOLUTION</b> – That council endorse the following authorised signatories to manage the financial accounts with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Chief Executive Officer – Gary Uhlmann</li> <li>b) Executive Manager Finance – Andrew Hay</li> <li>c) Management Accountant – Nicola Strutt</li> </ul>	<p><b>Moved: Cr Yam</b> <b>Seconded: Cr Dick</b></p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> <b>All in favour</b></p>
--	---

<p><b>RESOLUTION</b> – That Council endorse: Bus 4x4 as a sole supplier for the purchase of a Four Wheel Drive Bus for the Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council.</p>	<p><b>Moved: Cr Yam</b> <b>Seconded: Cr Wust</b></p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> <b>All in favour</b></p>
--	---

*Cr Dick left the room at 1.22pm*

**Council meeting closed at 1.27pm**