



MINUTES

Statutory Council Meeting

22 April 2020

**MINUTES OF COOK SHIRE COUNCIL
STATUTORY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 10 FURNEAUX STREET, COOKTOWN
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 APRIL 2020 AT 9.00AM**

1 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Erica Deeral, Elder of the Waymburr Warra Bama and Traditional Custodian of this land where we are meeting upon today, welcomed all on behalf of the Traditional Custodians of this land. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

2 DECLARATION OF OFFICE

In accordance with the provision of Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, each person elected to the Office of Mayor or Councillor must make a Declaration of Office before acting as Mayor or Councillor, and the Chief Executive Officer is authorised to take the Declaration of Office. Section 254 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* prescribes the content of the Declaration of Office.

The Chief Executive Officer received the Declaration of Office from:

Councillor Peter Hugh Scott (Mayor), at Council Chambers on Thursday 16 April 2020 at 9.30am.

Councillor Peter Francis Burns, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.06am.

Councillor John Erwin Dessmann, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.07am.

Councillor Larissa Kristen Louise Hale, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.08am.

Councillor Robyn Elizabeth Holmes, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.09am.

Councillor Ross Whitmore Logan, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.10am.

Councillor Marilyn Joyce Morris, at Council Chambers on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at 9.11am.

3 ATTENDANCE

Cr Peter Scott (Mayor), Cr Peter Burns, Cr John Dessmann, Cr Larissa Hale, Cr Robyn Holmes, Cr Ross Logan, Cr Marilyn Morris

Linda Cardew (Chief Executive Officer), Lawrence Booth (Director Community, Economy and Innovation), Heather Kelly (Director Organisational Business Services), David Klye (Director Infrastructure)

4 MEETING OPENED

The meeting opened at 10.30am.

5 APOLOGIES

Nil.

6 MAYORAL ADDRESS

Congratulations Councillors.

On behalf of our Shire Community, thank you for your commitment for the next 4 years for what will essentially be a role as a member of a board of directors that will strategise, plan and guide our Council and our region through a very challenging and exciting period.

Our new Council is a great team including returning members who have the experience and knowledge to give a strong foundation for our next term and three new Councillors who bring new ideas, energy and proven community commitment to Council.

We have all been elected by our peers to hold a privileged and responsible position in our society – locally, regionally and nationally. Local Government is the third tier of the Australian democratic system after Federal and State. We are the level of government and administration that is closest to the people and their families and it is up to us to make sure our community is safe, healthy and progressive.

You are about to become politicians and your role will be two-fold :

- 1: to represent your people to the Government, and
- 2: to represent the Government to your people. You will need to lobby to get better facilities and services and will share in those success, but you will also have to make and support decisions that are unpopular with some of your friends and even your family. Winston Churchill said: "Politics is more dangerous than war – in war you only get killed once".

We have the largest Shire in Queensland by landmass at 106,000 km² and if you include our outer boundary, the Great Barrier Reef, we are almost as big as the State of Victoria. We take up 80% of Cape York but we only have a small population of about 4,500, and in political voting numbers we are insignificant. We make up for this by having essential partnerships such as Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC), Torres Cape Indigenous Council Alliance Inc (TCICA), Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), State and Federal Government agencies and departments.

But the most important partnership for us is with our Council staff – the people that make Council works. We are lucky to have 155 very well qualified, experienced and dedicated operational and administrative specialists who will work with you and work for you to achieve our common goals and standards. These people are also key members of our community and their own goal is to make Cook Shire a better place to live for themselves and their families.

Councillors, the present challenge of Covid-19 will pass and we will come out of it as strong and responsible leaders in the Cape York Region.

Past Councils have given us a strong foundation to build on and with our Shire's unique position and makeup, we have the opportunity to flourish in the areas of economic development, cultural integration and lifestyle amenity.

We live in the best place in the works and it's up to us not just to maintain it, but to make it better.

Councillors of Cook Shire, I congratulate you on behalf of our Shire community and wish you and your supporting partners and families good luck and good health.

7 EXECUTIVE SERVICES - REPORTS**7.1 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

Two (2) nominations were received for the position of Deputy Mayor:

- Cr Robyn Holmes
- Cr Marilyn Morris

A secret ballot was held and the Chief Executive Officer, Linda Cardew, was appointed as Returning Officer.

Cr Holmes received an absolute majority of votes.

RESOLUTION 2020/85

Moved: Cr John Dessmann

Seconded: Cr Ross Logan

That Council appoints Cr Robyn Holmes as the Deputy Mayor.

CARRIED

7.2 2020 COUNCIL MEETING DATES**RESOLUTION 2020/86**

Moved: Cr Marilyn Morris

Seconded: Cr Peter Burns

That Council adopts the following meeting dates for its Ordinary Meetings and its Planning and Environment Committee Meetings from April to December 2020:

Ordinary Council Meetings

1. 9.00am, Tuesday, 28 April 2020
2. 9.00am, Tuesday, 19 May 2020
3. 9.00am, Tuesday, 9 June 2020
4. 9.00am, Tuesday, 14 July 2020
5. 9.00am, Tuesday, 11 August 2020
6. 9.00am, Tuesday, 8 September 2020
7. 9.00am, Tuesday, 13 October 2020
8. 9.00am, Tuesday, 10 November 2020
9. 9.00am, Tuesday, 8 December 2020

Planning and Environment Standing Committee Meetings

1. 9.00am, Tuesday, 26 May 2020
2. 9.00am, Tuesday, 23 June 2020
3. 9.00am, Tuesday, 28 July 2020
4. 9.00am, Tuesday, 25 August 2020
5. 9.00am, Tuesday, 22 September 2020
6. 9.00am, Tuesday, 27 October 2020
7. 9.00am, Tuesday, 24 November 2020

CARRIED

7.3 LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP APPOINTMENT

RESOLUTION 2020/87

Moved: Cr Robyn Holmes

Seconded: Cr Larissa Hale

That Council appoints Cr Peter Scott to the role of Chairperson of the Cook Shire Local Disaster Management Group.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 10.45am.

The minutes of this meeting will be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 28 April 2020.

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CHAIRPERSON