



**Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING
of the Boulia Shire Council
held on Thursday 12 December 2024
commencing at 9:00 am**

1 Meeting Opening with the Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Please note:

In some instances, due to unforeseen circumstances, the sequence of the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the meeting day may vary from the order of the agenda issued. The corresponding meeting minutes will follow the outline of the originally issued agenda, however the resolution numbers noted will be in accordance with the actual sequence of the meeting on the day.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9 am.

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional carers of the land on which Council meets, the 'Pitta Pitta' people, and paid Council's respects to the elders past and present.

The Mayor also acknowledged past and present service personnel.

It has been noted that the Mayor has reminded all Councillors in regards to registration of interests and declaration of contact with or engagement of lobbyists.

2 Present

Councillors: Councillor Eric (Rick) Britton
Councillor Sam Beauchamp
Councillor Jack Neilson
Councillor Jan Norton
Councillor Julie Woodhouse

Officers: Ms Lynn Moore (Chief Executive Officer)
Mrs Kaylene Sloman (Director of Corporate & Financial Services)
Mr Henry Mascarenhas (Director of Works and Operations)
Miss Lily Williams (Executive Assistant)

3 Apologies / Leave of Absence

There were no apologies or leaves of absence for this meeting.

4 Declaration of Interests

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

Councillor Jan Norton declared a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in the following item in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*:

- Discussion regarding awarding of 2025 Australia Day Awards

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, it was decided that Councillor Norton is to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.1

Carried

5 Mayoral Minutes

There were no Mayoral Minutes to be noted at this meeting.

6 Notice of Motion

There were no notices of motions to be noted at this meeting.

7 Request to Address Council in a Public Forum

There were no requests to address the Council.

8 Petitions

There were no petitions presented to Council.

9 Deputations

There were no deputations to Council.

10 Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Moved: *Cr Norton*

Seconded: *Cr Beauchamp*

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 29th November 2024 be accepted.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.2

Carried

11 Reports

11.1 Works and Operations

TITLE:	Director of Works and Operations November 2024 Report	DOC REF: 11.1.1
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Works and Operations Department in line with all works and operations being undertaken for November 2024.

Moved: *Cr Neilson*

Seconded: *Cr Woodhouse*

That Council receive the Director of Works and Operations November 2024 Report for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.3

Carried

TITLE:	Foreman Town Services and Utilities Report November 2024	DOC REF: 11.1.2
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Town Department during the month of November 2024.

Moved: *Cr Beauchamp*

Seconded: *Cr Neilson*

That Council receive the Foreman Town Services and Utilities November 2024 Report for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.4

Carried

TITLE:	Foreman Roads, Construction and Maintenance Report for November 2024	DOC REF: 11.1.3
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Works Department in line with the Council works program for November 2024.

Moved: Cr Norton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council receive the Foreman Roads, Construction and Maintenance November 2024 Report for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.5

Carried

Councillor Beauchamp left the meeting at 9.34 am.

TITLE:	QRA Flood Damage Works Department November 2024	DOC REF: 11.1.4
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Flood Damage Program for November 2024.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Norton

That the QRA Flood Damage Works Department November 2024 Report be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.6

Carried

Mrs Sloman left the meeting at 9.37 am.

TITLE:	Rural Lands Protection Officer November 2024 Report	DOC REF: 11.1.5
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of current activities relating to weed management, pest control, animal management and stock routes.

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Britton

That the Rural Lands Protection Officer November 2024 Report is received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.7

Carried

TITLE:	Works Manager - November 2024 Report	DOC REF: 11.1.6
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of the current utilisation and activities of the Works Department in line with the Council works program for November 2024.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Woodhouse

That Council receive the Works Manager - November 2024 Report for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.8

Carried

Councillor Beauchamp returned to the meeting at 9.43 am.
Mrs Sloman returned to the meeting at 9.45 am.

TITLE:	Community Engagement Committee - November 2024 Report	DOC REF: 11.1.7
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PURPOSE:

To present to Council an update on the activities of the Community Engagement Centre for November 2024.

Moved: Cr Norton

Seconded: Cr Britton

That the Community Engagement Committee – November 2024 Report be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.9

Carried

11.2 Office of the Chief Executive

TITLE:	Chief Executive Officers Report November 2024	DOC REF: 11.2.1
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of relevant activities undertaken through the office of the CEO.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

1. That the CEO Report for November 2024 be received for information and action.
2. That Council decide on the interview panel for the new CEO and that the Human Resources advise McArthur and arrange a suitable time to meet.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.10

Carried

TITLE:	Action List Update November 2024	DOC REF: 11.2.2
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PURPOSE:

To present to Council an updated Action List.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Woodhouse

That Council receive the Action List update for November 2024 for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.11

Carried

TITLE:	Adjustment to Employee Assistance Program Costs	DOC REF: 11.2.3
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of an update to the Employee Assistance Program costs.

Moved: **Cr Britton**

Seconded: **Cr Norton**

That Council endorse the continued support of the Employee Assistance Program for the Boulia Shire Council Staff.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.12

Carried

TITLE:	Minister Tony Perrett - Sales Permits	DOC REF: 11.2.4
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PURPOSE:

To seek Council's endorsement of the submission of a drafted letter to Minister Tony Perrett via the RAPAD group of Councils for the ongoing Sales Permit/ Gravel pit scenario faced by Councils affected by the state's new interpretation of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)* (NTA).

Moved: **Cr Beauchamp**

Seconded: **Cr Britton**

1. That Council endorse the letter to Minister Tony Perrett for the review of the new interpretation of the *Native Title Act 1993*.
2. That the letter be submitted to RAPAD for their review and submission to Minister Tony Perrett on behalf of the RAPAD group of Councils.
3. That RAPAD group of Councils calls on the new State Government to review the implementation of the policy position of the previous government requiring an Indigenous Land Use Agreement be negotiated prior to the renewal of quarry permits.

This request is made for the following reasons:

- A) The policy was not adopted in response to a determination of the Native Title Tribunal or the Federal Court.
- B) The excessive costs being borne by the State Government and time involved for all parties in undertaking the ILUA negotiations.
- C) The dislocation and increased costs being borne by Local Governments for road construction and maintenance works particularly associated with natural disaster recovery projects through the loss of access to gravel pits located across large areas of rural and remote Queensland.

And

D) That the support of LGAQ be sought to the request for this review.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.13

Carried

TITLE:	Councillors Remuneration Levels 2025-2026	DOC REF: 11.2.5
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PURPOSE:

Council to consider remuneration levels for 2025-2026 financial year. Review of remuneration is required by Chapter 8 - Administration, Part 1 - Councillors, Division 1 - Councillor remuneration, (s.247[1-7], s.248 [1-4]) of the *Local Government Regulation (LGR) 2012*.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

1. That the Council determine the Councillor remuneration payable to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors for the 2025-2026 budget to be:

full 100% rate	1st July 2025	1st July total monthly rate.	Annual Base meeting fee (75%)	Annual attendance at 16 meeting pa (25%)
Mayor	\$122,975	\$10,248	\$92,231	\$30,744
Dep Mayor	\$70,946	\$5,912	\$53,210	\$17,737
Councillor 1	\$61,486	\$5,124	\$46,115	\$15,372
Councillor 2	\$61,486	\$5,124	\$46,115	\$15,372
Councillor 3	\$61,486	\$5,124	\$46,115	\$15,372
Total Annual cost	\$378,379	\$31,532	\$283,784	\$94,595

2. That the CEO advise the Chair of the Tribunal of the new remuneration for 2025-26 (via mail to: LGRcenquiries@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au)
3. That the 2025-2026 remuneration budget allocation for Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors be set at \$ 378,379 (excluding superannuation, travel and accommodation costs).

Attendance at meetings by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or Councillors is taken to be part of the normal remuneration paid and will not be compensated further by Council. Payment of expenses as per the Councillor Remuneration and Expenses Re-imbursement policy (Policy 111) will still apply.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.14

Carried

TITLE:	Manager - People & Culture - November 2024	DOC REF: 11.2.6
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PURPOSE:

To provide Council with an update of the activities of the Manager – People & Culture for the month of November 2024.

Moved: ***Cr Beauchamp***

Seconded: ***Cr Norton***

That the Manager – People & Culture November 2024 report is received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.15

Carried

Meeting adjourned for morning tea at 11.09 am.

Meeting resumed at 11.36 am.

TITLE:	WHS Report November 2024	DOC REF: 11.2.7
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PURPOSE:

To inform Council of progressions and or issues of concerning regarding WH&S. Ongoing monitoring with projects to ensure correct and completed WHS paperwork is submitted and identify potential hazards and any documentation requirement shortfalls with evidentiary documents held in Magiq and Pulse. Adopt various alerts/updates into regular Toolbox talks and training.

Moved: ***Cr Britton***

Seconded: ***Cr Norton***

That the Workplace Health and Safety Report for November 2024 be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.16

Carried

Mr Paul Bawden joined the meeting at 11.48 am.

11.3 Corporate Services

TITLE:	Director of Corporate & Financial Services November 2024 Report	DOC REF: 11.3.1
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council of the activities of the Director of Corporate and Financial Services.

Moved: ***Cr Woodhouse***

Seconded: ***Cr Britton***

That the Director of Corporate & Financial Services November 2024 report be received for information purposes.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.17

Carried

TITLE:	Comparison of Interest Rates Term Deposits November 2024	DOC REF: 11.3.2
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PURPOSE:

To advise Council on the current Interest Rates available.

Moved: ***Cr Britton***

Seconded: ***Cr Neilson***

That Council receive the Comparison of Interest Rates Term Deposits November 2024 for information purposes only.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.18

Carried

TITLE:	Financial Report for November 2024	DOC REF: 11.3.3
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PURPOSE:

Financial Summary as at 30 November 2024.

Moved: ***Cr Britton***

Seconded: ***Cr Beauchamp***

That the Finance Report for November 2024 be received for information. It is to be noted that the 30-Nov-24 Total Liquidity amount of \$20,130,119 was a typographical error and the total amount should be \$21,230,119.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.19

Carried

11.4 Economic and Community Development

TITLE:	Economic & Community Development Report – November 2024	DOC REF: 11.4.1
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PURPOSE:

To provide Council with an update of the activities associated with Councils' Economic and Community development roles.

Moved: ***Cr Neilson***

Seconded: ***Cr Beauchamp***

That the Economic and Community Development Report for November 2024 be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.20

Carried

TITLE:	Min Min Encounter & Boulia Heritage Centre Report – November 2024	DOC REF: 11.4.2
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PURPOSE:

To report on the day-to-day operations of the Min Min Encounter (MME) and Boulia Heritage Complex (BHC) and to promote tourism in the Shire and surrounding region.

Moved: Cr Neilson

Seconded: Cr Britton

That the Min Min Encounter & Boulia Heritage Complex Report for November 2024 be received for information.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.21

Carried

Mr Bawden left the meeting at 12.34 pm.
Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.35 pm.
Meeting resumed at 1.00 pm.

12 Closed Session

CLOSED MEETING AT 1.22 PM

Council went into a Closed Session of Council to discuss the nominations received for the 2025 Australia Day Awards.

Councillor Norton has declared a prescribed conflict of interest in this discussion. The interest will be dealt with in accordance with resolution number 2024/12.1.

Councillor Norton left the meeting at 1.22 pm.

Moved: Cr Britton

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council move into Closed Session in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012* section 254J (3) on the following provision:

- (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 local government;

Resolution No.: 2024/12.22

Carried

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION AT 1.35 PM

Councillor Norton returned to the meeting at 1.35 pm.

Moved: Cr Woodhouse

Seconded: Cr Britton

It was resolved Council move out of the closed meeting, and adopt the recommendations discussed in closed committee.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.23

Carried

The following recommendations were resolved from the closed session:
2024/12.24.

Closed under Local Government Regulation 2012 (254J (3))(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 local government;

Moved: Cr Beauchamp

Seconded: Cr Neilson

That Council present a 2025 Australia Day Award to the selected nominees as discussed at the 12th December 2024 meeting.

Resolution No.: 2024/12.24

Carried

13 Late Reports

There were no late reports presented to Council.

14 General Business

Support of Staff Visa Applications - The CEO and DCS provided an update on the two staff members wishing to be supported by Council with their Visa Applications and the consensus was that the value of these two positions was worthy of Council support.

15 Meeting Closure

The Mayor closed the meeting at 1.53 pm.

16 Confirmed

Minutes confirmed 24th January 2025

