



MINUTES
of the 116th Board Meeting of the
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2016
Mareeba & Memorial Bowls Club, 41 B Anzac Avenue, Mareeba

PRESENT:	Cr Bill Shannon, Mayor (Chair) Mr Terry Brennan, CEO Cr Peter Scott, Mayor (Deputy Chair) Tim Cronin, CEO Cr Rosa Lee Long, Mayor Mr Ian Church, CEO Cr Bob Manning, Mayor Mr Jeff Jenkins, CEO Cr Tom Gilmore, Mayor Mr Peter Franks, CEO Cr Julia Leu, Mayor Ms Linda Cardew, CEO Cr Trevor Pickering, Mayor Ms Joanne Jacobson, CEO Mr Pat Lynch, Deputy Mayor Mr James Stewart Ms Darlene Irvine Ms Teresa Schmidt Mr Steven Cosatto Ms Amanda Hancock Mr Travis Sydes	Cassowary Coast Regional Council Cassowary Coast Regional Council Cook Shire Council Cook Shire Council Tablelands Regional Council Tablelands Regional Council Cairns Regional Council Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council Mareeba Shire Council Mareeba Shire Council Douglas Shire Council Douglas Shire Council Croydon Shire Council Croydon Shire Council Hinchinbrook Shire Council Hinchinbrook Shire Council FNQROC FNQROC FNQROC FNQROC FNQROC
OBSERVERS:	Cr Penny Johnson (Deputy Mayor) Ms Sandra Burke Mr Sanjay Ram Ms Carol Sweatman	Cook Shire Council Department of Transport and Main Roads Department of Transport and Main Roads CEO Terrain NRM
APOLOGIES:	Mr Peter Tabulo, CEO Cr Clifford Harrigan, Mayor Cr Errol Neal, Mayor Ms Janelle Menzies Ms Jo Stephenson	Cairns Regional Council Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

2129	CHAIR'S WELCOME
-------------	------------------------

The meeting commenced at 10.06am. Chair, Cr Bill Shannon, Mayor of Cassowary Coast Regional Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mareeba Shire Council for hosting the meeting.

Cr Shannon provided an overview of the recent delegation of ROC Chairs with Hon. Coralee O'Rourke's to Canberra on 2-3 February 2016.

Key issues raised at the meeting:

- Water and Roads infrastructure key discussion items
- Northern Australia has the attention of Federal, State and Local Governments
- Council's need to develop business cases for funding proposals

Ms Burke and Mr Ram arrived at 10.13am.

Ms Sweatman left at 10.23am

Cr Shannon acknowledged everyone's contribution to the FNROC Board and wished everyone well in the upcoming Local Government election.

2130	10.35am - PRESENTATION BY MS SANDRA BURKE (FN DISTRICT DIRECTOR) AND MR SANJAY RAM (REGIONAL DIRECTOR) TMR
-------------	---

Cr Shannon introduced Ms Burke and Mr Ram to the meeting.

Ms Burke spoke about the relationship with TMR and Local Governments and the customer service approach of TMR to build the relationship with Local Government. Ms Burke offered congratulations to the RRTG for the cohesive nature of the group.

Mr Ram briefly discussed the major projects he is working on and the partnership with Local Government.

Ms Burke and Mr Ram raised the following projects:

- Scenic lookout program
- Beef Roads
- TIDS program ahead of schedule
- Cape York Infrastructure package, significant program for TMR with employment and economic benefits
- Strategic Roads update
- Safer Roads sooner
- Bruce Highway upgrade program and masterplan
- Bruce Highway duplication
- Kuranda Range, proposed early response & advance warning notification systems.

Cr Lynch congratulated TMR on the work they have been doing and asked about the reallocation of funding for the Gairloch washaway. Mr Ram advised he will follow up.

Cr Lynch raised the ongoing issue regarding installation and maintenance of tourism directional signage.

ACTION: Mr Ram to follow up with Cr Lynch on the reallocation of funding for the Gairloch washaway and the installation and maintenance of tourism directional signage.

Cr Scott enquired about the Cape York Infrastructure package and the design and location of the Jardine River Bridge.

Cr Gilmore enquired about the RMPC budget. Ms Burke confirmed that an increase in funding has not been finalised.

Ms Burke and Mr Ram left the meeting at 10.54am

2131	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS
------	--

Cr Shannon acknowledged the traditional owners, past and present, on whose land we met.

2132	APOLOGIES
------	------------------

As noted above.

2133	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
------	--------------------------------

MOVED: Cr Bob Manning
SECOND: Cr Julia Leu

“That the minutes of the 115th FNQROC Board Meeting held on 14 December 2015, be confirmed.”

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

2134	MINUTE 2110 – RESPONSE TO TASTE PARADISE REGARDING REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT
------	---

Noted.

2135	MINUTE 2112 & 2088 – FINALISATION OF FNQROC EXECUTIVE OFFICER CONTRACT
------	---

Cr Shannon confirmed that contract has been finalised.

2136	MINUTE 2116 – WET TROPICS HEALTHY WATERWAY PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL
------	--

Refer minute no. 2143.

2137	MINUTE 2118 – RESPONSE TO TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL
------	---

Noted.

2138	MINUTE 2120 – DISCUSSIONS WITH MS SANDRA BURKE, DISTRICT DIRECTOR FROM FN DTMR REGARDING ATSI FUNDS
------	--

No response from TMR has been received. Ms Irvine to discuss with Ms Sandra Burke, TMR.

ACTION: Ms Irvine to discuss ATSI funds with Ms Sandra Burke, District Director from FN DTRM.

2139	DISCUSSION TOPIC NO. 14 – CO-LOCATION WITH ADVANCE CAIRNS, RDA AND CAIRNS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
------	--

A general discussion was held regarding the role of FNQROC and the retention of independence and autonomy.

RESOLVED:

“That collaboration with Advance Cairns, RDA FNQ&TS and Cairns Chamber of Commerce should continue, however relocation is not supported”.

Cr Gilmore left at 11.04am

2140	DISCUSSION TOPIC NO. 15 – FNQROC LETTERS OF SUPPORT
-------------	--

General discussion reading the process for FNQROC letters of support.

RESOLVED:

“That the following process be adopted”

Context	Process
FNQROC Endorsed Strategies	Letter of Support Given
FNQ RRTG Priorities	Letter of Support Given
Regional Strategies/priorities endorsed/supported by FNQROC i.e. TNQREP, 8+8	Letter of Support Given
Regional Strategies not presented for endorsement by FNQROC but developed by State/Federal agencies or Peak Regional Organisations i.e. FNQ2031 or Regional Investment Strategy, Principal Cycle Network	Letter of Support Given unless the Board or councils in the area has expressed they do not support the Regional Strategy
Concepts/Projects presented to FNQROC and supported	Letter of Support Given
All Other	Seek approval from member councils via email giving 3 working days to respond

MOVED: Cr Rosa Lee Long
SECOND: Cr Julia Leu

CARRIED

2141	FNQROC REPORT B61 – FNQROC OPERATONAL PLAN AND BUDGET 2016/2017
-------------	--

Mr Brennan requested that the additional information detailing actual expenditure be provided in financial reports.

MOVED: Cr Julia Leu
SECOND: Cr Peter Scott

“That the FNQROC Operational Plan and Budget 2016/2017 be accepted.”

CARRIED

Cr Shannon left at 11.15am

Cr Gilmore returned at 11.16am

2142	INWARD AND OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE
------	--

Inward and Outward correspondence was noted.

MOVED: Cr Rosa Lee Long
SECOND: Cr Pat Lynch

“That the inward and outward correspondence be received.”

CARRIED

2143	10.16am - PRESENTATION BY MR TRAVIS SYDES REGARDING THE WET TROPICS PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL
------	---

Travis offered an apology for Ms Carole Sweatman who was unable to present because the introduction to the meeting went over time. She was unable to return to the meeting.

Travis provided an update on the Wet Tropics Partnership Proposal, providing additional information sought by the Board.

Key points :

- Another meeting has been held by the steering group
- Confirmed State funding of \$250,000 and Federal of \$100,00 a year – cash contributions - for the next four years
- The partnership is seeking contributions from individual council's or FNQROC collectively (collective contribution of \$80,000 – \$100,000). Travis commented that this figure was perhaps a bit optimistic for a collective contribution from GBR councils and had recommended a figure of \$50,000 collectively in communications with DEHP
- Council's should be individually involved as well as FNQROC involvement
- A Technical Officer and Communications Officer have been engaged for the pilot project
- Nominations have been sought for technical committee and management committee to oversee partnership
- Partnership will be launched after the LG elections

Key questions to the Board:

- Gauge level of support for the partnership
- Nature of the participation (host organisation, individual contributors or collective (FNQROC) contributors

A general discussion was held.

Key discussion points:

- Cr Scott advised that the business case needs to be sold to Council's; what is the return on investment
- Mr Franks queried what is their point of difference, what is the spin offs and what is the long term funding requirement and longevity of the project.
- The annual budget target of \$500,000-\$600,00 was queried given there is \$350,000 from the Federal and State Governments
- Cr Leu emphasised this is an important opportunity for the FNQROC to be involved in managing the GBR given its economic significance to the region

ACTION: “That additional information is provided and presentations are made to individual Council’s as well a further presentation to the FNQROC Board”

1. That Terrain NRM and DEHP bring together a discussion paper with a clear outline of the funding structure, deliverables, benefits to the region and partnership arrangements and;
2. Travis and Carole Sweatman use this paper to consult with incoming councils individually prior to re-tabling at the next FNQROC Board (prior to launch of partnership) for final deliberation

2144	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
------	-----------------------------

MOVED: Cr Julia Leu
SECOND: Cr Peter Scott

“That the Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for the current financial year to date be accepted.”

CARRIED

The bank account and credit card transaction lists were received and noted.

2145	MINUTES OF MEETINGS
------	----------------------------

Noted.

2146	BOARD’S STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS
------	-------------------------------------

Noted.

2147	COUNCILS’ REGIONAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
------	--

NQ LGA meeting

Cr Scott advised of date claimer for the NQ LGA – 27-28 July in Cloncurry

Wandering cattle on roads

Cr Scott mentioned a petition circulating regarding responsibilities of owners of wandering cattle on roads.

A general discussion was held.

ACTION: Cr Scott to bring forward as a discussion item at next FNQROC meeting.

NDRRA funding

Mr Ian Church queried NDRRA funding. Ms Irvine advised that upfront funding was one of the recommendations from the productivity Commission. QRA was preparing for this but it is still status quo at this stage. Ms Irvine also advised that obtaining the Federal governments response to the productivity commission is a regional priority and has been included in the reviewed 8+8.

Flying Foxes and Yellow Crazy Ants

Cr Manning raised the issue of flying foxes and crazy ants.

Cr Manning raised concern regarding recent movement of flying foxes in the city.

Mr Travis Sydes advised that the Federal Government is waiting for the State Government to commit to funding for Yellow Crazy Ants.

ACTION: Mr Sydes to confirm current position of the Federal Government regarding YCA funding has been provided in writing.

Note: a communique is attached to the minutes providing an up-to-date summary on YCA.

ACTION: Reinvigorate debate over responsibility for Flying Foxes

Cr Manning raised that management of flying foxes has been based on luck and there is a need to pushback responsibility to the State.

2148	LGAQ POLICY EXECUTIVE REPORT
-------------	-------------------------------------

Received and noted.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2149	PROPOSED ANNUAL LEAVE FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
-------------	--

Noted this was just after the local government elections and there were no concerns.

2150	NEXT MEETING
-------------	---------------------

The next board meeting will be held at Cairns Regional Council on Monday 18 April 2016.

2151	CONCLUSION
-------------	-------------------

There being no further business the Chair, Cr Shannon thanked Cr Gilmore for hosting the meeting.

Cr Scott expressed gratitude from the group to Cr Shannon for commitment to FNQROC and presented Cr Shannon with a gift.

Cr Manning left at 12.06pm

Cr Shannon thanked everyone.

Cr Shannon declared the meeting closed at 12.12.pm.

.....
Cr Bill Shannon
Chair

ACTION ITEMS

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)
2130	Mr Ram to follow up with Cr Lynch on the reallocation of funding for the Gairloch washaway and the installation and maintenance of tourism directional signage.	DTMR
2138 & 2120	Ms Irvine to discuss ATSI funds with Ms Sandra Burke, District Director from FN DTRM.	FNQROC
2143	That additional information on the Wet Tropics Partnership Proposal is provided and presentations are made to individual Council's as well a further presentation to the FNQROC Board.	FNQROC
2147	Cr Scott to present a discussion paper to next FNQROC Board meeting regarding responsibilities of owners of cattle wandering on roads	Cr Peter Scott

2147	Mr Sydes to confirm current position of the Federal Government regarding funding for Yellow Crazy Ants has been provided in writing.	FNQROC
2147	Reinvigorate debate over responsibility for Flying Foxes (pull up and amend original paper on Flying Foxes and wallabies).	FNQROC