



MCKINLAY SHIRE COUNCIL

***CONFIRMED MINUTES***

**OF THE**

***ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL***

HELD AT THE

BOARDROOM, CIVIC CENTRE  
JULIA CREEK

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1..Opening
2. Attendance
- 2.1 Appointment
- 3.Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- 4.Confirmation of Minutes
- 4.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### **5. ENGINEERING REPORT**

- 5.1 Engineering Services Monthly Report

### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL & REGULATORY SERVICES REPORT**

- 6.1 Environmental and Regulatory Services Monthly Report

### **7. COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT**

- 7.1 Community Services Monthly Report
- 7.2 Community Sponsorship Request – Julia Creek Turf Club

### **8. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

- 8.1 Corporate Services Report
- 8.2 Local Government Remuneration Commission Report 2025
- 8.2.1 LG Remuneration Commission Annual Report 2025
- 8.3 CORP Amended Budget Adoption 2025-26
- 8.3.1 Amended Operational Budget 2025-26
- 8.3.2 Capital Works 2025-2026 V2
- 8.3.3 Operational Plan 2025-26 V2

### **9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT**

- 9.1 Chief Executive Officer Monthly Report
- 9.2 Local Recovery and Resilience Plan - Version 1 - February 2026
- 9.2.1 Local Recovery and Resilience Plan - Version 1.0 LRRG Endorsed 4 Feb 2026

### **10. WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 10.1 WHS Monthly Report

### **11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **12. CLOSE**

## 1. OPENING BUSINESS

All Councillors having signed the Attendance Book, Mayor Janene Fegan declared the meeting open at 8:30am.

## 2. ATTENDANCE

**Mayor:** Cr. J Fegan

**Members:** Cr. L Spreadborough (via Teams), Cr. F Malone, Cr. J Lynch, Cr. S Royes

**Staff:**

Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Trevor Williams

Director of Corporate & Community Services, Ms. Tenneil Cody

Acting Director of Engineering, Environment and Regulatory Services, Lui Gottani

Executive Administration Officer, Miss Mollie Buxton

**Apologies:**

Director of Engineering, Environment and Regulatory Services, Mr. Cameron Scott

**Others in attendance:**

## 3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

"I Cr. Janene Fegan, declare that I have a conflict of interest with respect to the following agenda items:  
7.2 Community Sponsorship Request – Julia Creek Turf Club

In the February 2026 Ordinary Meeting (as defined in the Local Government Act 2009, section 150EN) as follows:

- (1) I am part of the committee for Julia Creek Turf Club

I will be dealing with this declared conflict of interest by leaving the meeting while the matter is discussed and voted on."

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 4.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be confirmed.

### RECOMMENDATION

*That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be confirmed.*

### Resolution No. 138/2526

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 be confirmed.

Moved Cr. J Lynch

Seconded Cr. F Malone

CARRIED 5/0

#### 4.3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL.

#### 5. ENGINEERING SERVICES

##### 5.1 Engineering Works Report

This report outlines the general activities, revenue, expenditure for the Engineering Services Department for the period January 2026

##### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council receives the January 2026 Engineering Services Department Report.*

##### **Resolution 139/2526**

Council receives the January 2026 Engineering Services Department Report.

Moved Cr. L Spreadborough

Seconded Cr. S Royes

CARRIED 5/0

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES

##### 6.1 Environmental and Regulatory Services Report

This report outlines the general activities, revenue and expenditure for the Environmental and Regulatory Services Department for the period January 2026.

##### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council receives the January 2026 Environmental and Regulatory Services Department Report.*

##### **Resolution No. 140/2526**

Council receives the January 2026 Environmental and Regulatory Services Department Report.

Moved Cr. F Malone

Seconded Cr. J Lynch

CARRIED 5/0

## 7. COMMUNITY SERVICES

### 7.1 Community Services Monthly Report

Council is presented with the monthly Community Services report, which provides an overview of the operations for the month of January 2026.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council receives the Community Services monthly report for January 2026.*

#### **Resolution No. 141/2526**

Council receives the Community Services monthly report for January 2026.

Moved Cr. F Malone

Seconded Cr. S Royes

CARRIED 5/0

Having declared a conflict of interest in item 7.2, Cr. Janene Fegan left the meeting room at 9:13am.

Deputy Mayor, Cr. S Royes assumes Chair of the meeting at 9:15am.

### 7.2 Community Sponsorship Request – Julia Creek Turf Club

Council has received a Community Sponsorship Request from the Julia Creek Turf Club for \$5,000 cash to support the running of the Artesian Express Raceday which is ran in conjunction with the Dirt & Dust Festival.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council resolves to approve the Community Sponsorship Request for the Julia Creek Turf Club for \$5,000 cash to support the running of the Artesian Express Raceday.*

#### **Resolution No. 142/2526**

Council resolves to approve the Community Sponsorship Request for the Julia Creek Turf Club for \$5,000 cash to support the running of the Artesian Express Raceday.

Moved Cr. J Lynch

Seconded Cr. S Royes

CARRIED 4/0

Cr. Janene Fegan returned to the meeting room at 9:21am.

Cr. Janene Fegan resumed Chair of the meeting at 9:21am.

## 8. CORPORATE SERVICES

### 8.1 Corporate Services Report

The Corporate Services Report as of 31 January 2026 which summarises the financial performance and position is presented to Council.

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council receives the monthly Corporate Services Report for the period ending 31 January 2026.*

#### **Resolution No. 143/2526**

Council receives the monthly Corporate Services Report for the period ending 31 January 2026.

Moved Cr. S Royes

Seconded Cr. L Spreadborough

CARRIED 5/0

### 8.2 Local Government Remuneration Commission Annual Report 2025

Each year the Local Government Remuneration Commission is required to undertake a review of the categories of Councils, and determine the maximum amount of remuneration for mayors, deputy mayors and Councillors as required by the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

The Commission concluded its review on 28th November 2025, with the following determinations:

- Increase of 4.5% from 1 July 2025 to the maximum remuneration levels for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors of Council Categories A1, A2, A3 and B1.

Section 247 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* provides that a council must make a resolution under subsection (2) for the remuneration payable from 1 July of a particular year, before 1 July of that year.

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That Council adopt the Local Government Remuneration Commission recommendation to increase by 4.5% the maximum remuneration levels for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors from 1 July 2026, and the annual remuneration be set as follows:*

*Mayor \$128,509*

*Deputy Mayor \$74,139*

*Councillor \$64,253*

#### **Resolution No. 144/2526**

Council adopt the Local Government Remuneration Commission recommendation to increase by 4.5% the maximum remuneration levels for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors from 1 July 2026, and the annual remuneration be set as follows:

Mayor \$128,509

Deputy Mayor \$74,139

Councillor \$64,253

Moved Cr. J Fegan

Seconded Cr. L Spreadborough

CARRIED 5/0

### 8.3 2025-2026 Amended Budget Adoption

In accordance with *section 170 (3) and (4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Regs)*, Council may by resolution, amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year. The budget must continue to comply with *section 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012* in order for the amendment to take effect.

In accordance with the above sections an amended 2025-2026 Budget is presented for Council's consideration.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council's Amended Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year, incorporating:*

- i The statements of Comprehensive Income;*
- ii The Statement of Financial Position;*
- iii The Statement of Cash Flow;*
- iv The Statements of Changes in Equity;*
- v The long-term financial forecast;*
- vi The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and*
- vii Capital Works Program for 2025/2026 financial year.*
- viii 2025-2026 Operational Plan Version 2*

*as tabled, be adopted.*

#### **Resolution No. 145/2526**

Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council's Amended Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year, incorporating:

- i The statements of Comprehensive Income;
- ii The Statement of Financial Position;
- iii The Statement of Cash Flow;
- iv The Statements of Changes in Equity;
- v The long-term financial forecast;
- vi The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and
- vii Capital Works Program for 2025/2026 financial year.
- viii 2025-2026 Operational Plan Version 2

as tabled, be adopted.

Moved Cr. J Lynch

Seconded Cr. L Spreadborough

CARRIED 5/0

**9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER****9.1 Chief Executive Officer's Report**

In addition to the information provided below, a verbal update will be given on current matters headlined in the body of the report which have arisen from the Office of the Chief Executive Officer.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council receive and note the report from the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 except where amended or varied by separate resolution of Council.*

**Resolution No. 146/2526**

Council receive and note the report from the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 4th December 2025 except where amended or varied by separate resolution of Council.

Moved Cr. S Royes

Seconded Cr. F Malone

CARRIED 5/0

**1. Meetings with External Organizations in January**

The Mayor and CEO met with the senior management team from the NWHH service on February 2 to discuss hospital and medical services in McKinlay Shire. (The Mayor and CEO will meet with the senior management team again on February 13 to continue discussions on hospital and medical services in McKinlay Shire). The Mayor, Cr. Spreadborough and the CEO attended the NWQROC Meeting in Mount Isa on February 4 & 5. The Deputy Mayor, Cr. Royes, Cr. Malone, Cr. Spreadborough, the Recovery Coordinator Mrs. Georgia Crocker and the CEO met with Mrs. Sheree Finney from QRIDA on 6 February to discuss grants available to primary producers because of the monsoon flooding. The Mayor, Cr. Fiona Malone and the CEO met with the CEO of QRIDA Ms. Brooke Irwin and the Chief Engagement Officer of QRIDA Mr. Brendan Egan on February 10 to discuss the impact of the North Queensland Monsoonal Trough flooding and the grants available to primary producers. The Mayor and the CEO met with Mr. Andrew Napier from Multicom on February 10 for the monthly catch up. The CEO and Director of Corporate and Community, Ms. Tenneil Cody will meet with staff from the NWHH and Enkindle on 18 February to workshop the Community Nurse MOU. The CEO will meet with staff from SLR Consulting and staff from the Critical Minerals Office Queensland on February 20, to discuss the commencement of the Western Suburbs Master Planning Project. The Mayor, Councilors and CEO will meet with the CEO of the QRA Jake Elwood and Mr. Chris McMurray from QRA on February 23 to discuss priorities for McKinlay Shire recovery following the flooding event. The Mayor and the CEO will meet with Ms. Fiona Hill from the Australian Bureau of Statistics on February 24 to discuss the 2026 Census. The Mayor and the CEO will meet with the new District Director NW Queensland (TMR), Mr. Henry Mascarenhas on February 25. The Mayor and the CEO will attend a virtual meeting of the Energy and Resources Advisory Group Meeting on February 27.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*For Council Information*

## 2. Attendance of Mayor at Civic Leaders Forum

The Civic Leaders Forum is being held in Brisbane from 24th to 26th March. The Mayor and CEO attended the Forum in 2025 and found the content educational and informative. It is recommended that the Mayor and CEO attend the 2026 Civic Leaders Forum in Brisbane from 24th to 26th March. Costs will be charged to Councilor and Staff Conference Expenses, which have sufficient budgets.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*Council approves the attendance of the Mayor, Cr. Fegan and the CEO, Mr. Trevor Williams to the Civic Leaders Forum in Brisbane from 24th to 26th March 2026.*

#### **Resolution No. 147/2526**

Council approves the attendance of the Mayor, Cr. Fegan and the CEO, Mr. Trevor Williams to the Civic Leaders Forum in Brisbane from 24th to 26th March 2026.

Moved Cr. S Royes

Seconded Cr. J Lynch

CARRIED 5/0

## 9.2 Local Recovery and Resilience Plan

In late December 2025 and early January 2026, ex-Tropical Cyclone Koji and an active North Queensland Monsoon Trough generated prolonged, heavy rainfall across McKinlay Shire, resulting in widespread flooding. Julia Creek recorded 551.4mm of rainfall in December, making December 2025 the wettest month since 2009. Further rainfall into January 2026 compounded the impact. Flooding inundated grazing land, damaged critical road and community infrastructure, and isolated townships, with major access routes closed for up to 26 days.

In response, the McKinlay Shire Recovery and Resilience Group was established on 28 January 2026. The Group developed and endorsed a Local Recovery and Resilience Plan on 4 February 2026 to guide recovery efforts and strengthen the Shire's long-term resilience to future disaster events. The Plan outlines the damage impacts and details recovery efforts under four key pillars of: Human and Social; Economic; Environment and Infrastructure.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*Council adopt and publish the Local Recovery and Resilience Plan – Version 1 Endorsed 4 Feb 2026.*

#### **Resolution No. 148/2526**

Council adopt and publish the Local Recovery and Resilience Plan – Version 1 Endorsed 4 Feb 2026.

Moved Cr. J Fegan

Seconded Cr. F Malone

CARRIED 5/0

### **10.1 Workplace Health and Safety Report**

This report has been further developed and outlines Work Health and Safety performance results and actions for the period of January 2026.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council receives the January 2026 WHS Report.*

#### **Resolution No. 149/2526**

Council receives the January 2026 WHS Report.

Moved Cr. J Lynch

Seconded Cr. J Fegan

CARRIED 5/0

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

### Cr. Luke Spreadborough –

- Received a number of positive remarks to Council following the recent disaster event.

### Cr. Janene Fegan –

- Received a letter from the Copperstring Community Legacy Investment Project, approving funding for housing and street beautification.
- Decision was made to postpone the Flood Relief Luncheon, the decision was made due to further flooding impacting the region, which has impacted access to Julia Creek.
- Congratulations to our Executive Assistant on her Citizenship Approval, we will be conducting a Citizenship Ceremony in due time.
- Skate park time capsule, date appears to be 26 February 2026 to be opened, Kalan to investigate.
- We have received an offer of funding from South 32.
- South 32 have made a donation to support McKinlay Shire Recovery following the 2056/26 flooding event.
- Congratulations to Chris Rae on 21 years of service.
- Outback Futures meeting upcoming.
- Met with Walkabout Creek owners regarding their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Cr. Luke Spreadborough left the meeting at 10:16am.

Mayor Janene Fegan adjourned the meeting at 10:16am for a morning tea to acknowledge Chris Rae (Librarian) 21 years of service.

Meeting recommenced at 11:48am.

## 12. CLOSE

The Chair of the meeting, Mayor Janene Fegan declared the meeting closed at 11:52am.