



**Torres Strait Island**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Minutes

## ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm  
Venue: Video Conference

**PRESENT:**

Cr Rocky Stephen – Chair - Ugar (Stephen)  
Cr Jimmy Gela – Committee Member - Erub (Darnley)  
Cr Conwell Tabuai – Committee Member - Saibai  
Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director Financial Services  
Ms May Mosby, Secretariat Officer

**APOLOGIES:**

Mr Peter Krebs – Manager Legal Services

## 1. Welcome (Chair)

Cr Rocky Stephen, welcomed Councillors and Staff to the meeting for making themselves available. Cr Rocky Stephen acknowledged and paid respects to:

- Papa God for his awesome blessings and guidance especially in this time of COVID-19 in community;
- Traditional Owners of ples and where Cr Conwell Tabuai and Cr Jimmy Gela resides and also Cairns;
- Elders, past, present and emerging;
- Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services;

## 2. Opening Prayer

Cr Rocky Stephen invited Cr Conwell Tabuai to open the meeting in prayer open at 10:14am.

One minute's silence was observed for sorry business of an Elder on Erub. The Committee passes on their condolences to the family and community of Erub.

## 3. Apologies

- Mr Peter Krebs – Manager Legal Services

## 4. Conflict of Interest (COI) / Declarable / Prescribed

No declarations made. Cr Rocky Stephen, Chair, encouraged Councillors to make a declaration at any time.

## 5. Noting of previous Ratified Minutes – Economic Growth

- 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 – VC – Ratified at January 2022 Ordinary Meeting

### **RESOLUTION:**

*Move: Cr Conwell Tabuai; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela*

**That the Committee notes the Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021 as true and accurate account of that meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 6. Action Items List

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services provided the Committee with an update from December 2021 committee meeting.

## 7. **Enterprise Development Strategy – Verbal**

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services provided an update on behalf of Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services.

Discussions took place on consultations in the communities given the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> June and to consider other options due to COVID-19 and restrictions with travel.

Cr Conwell Tabuai suggested that a fact sheet be distributed to households.

Cr Rocky Stephen suggested a special meeting be scheduled around consultations and seek an extension on the funding agreement.

Matter to lay on the table pending a Special Meeting in March and take the paper to April SARG meeting before going to full Council Ordinary Meeting in June.

Cr Rocky Stephen to work with Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services and Ms Nicola Daniels, Executive Director, Financial Services on a consultation process and around putting a fact sheet together.

**ACTION:** Cr Rocky Stephen, Chair of the Economic Growth Committee and acting Executive Director, Financial Services to meet offline and plan a consultation process and development of a fact sheet in relation to the Enterprise Development Strategy.

**ACTION:** Cr Rocky Stephen, Chair of the Economic Growth Committee Chair, the Committee Members and divisional staff distribute the fact sheet once approved to all household in each community.

**ACTION:** Secretariat Officer to liaise with Cr Rocky Stephen, Chair of the Economic Growth Committee and acting Executive Director, Financial Services to call a special meeting in March 2022.

## 8. **Indigenous Procurement Policy – Late**

Ms Nicola Daniels, acting Executive Director, Financial Services advised Mr David Lennie, Manager Strategic Sourcing Manager will present this report.

11:08am – Mr David Lennie, Strategic Sourcing Manager joined the meeting and spoke to the report.

In depth discussions were had with regards to the procurement framework and how it would benefit local indigenous businesses having equitable access to procurement opportunities.

This topic will be a verbal update at SARG due to limited time and Executives need to review the report. It was proposed the Indigenous Procurement Policy be added as an Agenda items to the March SARG and be presented at the March Ordinary Council Meeting.

**ACTION:** The acting Executive Director, Financial Services to present the Indigenous Procurement Policy to the March SARG Meeting and then to full Council Meeting for endorsement.

11:50am – Mr David Lennie, Strategic Sourcing Manager, left the meeting.

**RESOLUTION:**

*Move: Cr Jimmy Gela; Second: Cr Conwell Tabuai*

**That the Committee accept the final draft version of the Indigenous Procurement Policy and tabled at next the SARG Meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**9. Ugar and Dauan Sea and Air Access Business Plan – Verbal**

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services provided an update on this agenda topic.

Ms Nicola Daniels advised that this matter sits under Ms Megan Barrett, Executive Director, Corporate Services and that a business plan has not yet commenced.

**ACTION:** Acting Executive Director, Financial Services to request an update on the Ugar and Dauan Sea and Air Access Business Plan from the Executive Director, Corporate Services and provide this update via email to the Committee Members.

**10. Enterprise Risk Management – Verbal**

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services advised that Mr Warren Jenkins, Manager Information Technology Services will join the meeting to present to the Committee a power point presentation on insufficient IT/Data capability to maintain required bandwidth in the TS region by Telstra.

12:01pm – Mr Warren Jenkins, Manager Information Technology Services joined the meeting.

Mr Warren Jenkins, Manager Information Technology Services explained TSIRC's Network and Internet Connectivity. He stated that there will very limited bandwidth for connectivity due to the infrastructure in place by Telstra which will affect services in the region and that TSIRC will need to move forward quickly to improve the networks and that Satellite network upgrade is the option to move forward.

Cr Rocky Stephen thanked Mr Warren Jenkins for bringing this to the Committee's attention and the importance and urgency around this.

This topic will be a verbal update at February's SARG meeting with further action items out of the meeting.

**ACTION:** Secretariat Officer to add IT/Data capability to the February SARG meeting agenda.

**ACTION:** Acting Executive Director, Financial Services to provide a verbal update on the IT/Data capability to the February SARG meeting.

**RESOLUTION:**

*Move: Cr Conwell Tabuai; Second: Cr Jimmy Gela*

**That the option of Satellite will be less cost effective and to be discussed at the next SARG Meeting.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

12:57pm – Mr Warren Jenkins, Manager Information Technology Services left the meeting.

**11. Outboard Motor Mechanical Service – Verbal**

Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services gave a verbal update on behalf of Mr Adeah Kabai, Manager Capital Works.

The Matter to lay on the table pending further information from TSRA.

Cr Rocky Stephen asked that the matter be left as an agenda item for the Committee to look into further for a business case to secure funding from TSRA.

**ACTION ITEM:** Executive Director, Financial Services to seek information from TSRA for funding for a Business Case on Outboard Motor Mechanic services within the Torres Strait Region.

**12. General/ Other Business (on notice)**

**National Economic Forum – Travel**

**ACTION:** Acting Executive Director, Financial Services to seek further information on the Forum and confirm if it's still going ahead in March and whether attendance in person is required or could it be via VC due to COVID. Acting Executive Director, Financial Services to liaise with Travel Officer regarding travel bookings if travel is proceeding.

**13. Next meeting date – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 | 10am – 12pm**

Committee confirmed the next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022| 10am – 12pm.

**14. Closing Prayer**

Cr Rocky Stephen thanked the two committee members and staff for their time and contributions. Special mention to Ms Nicola Daniels, Acting Executive Director, Financial Services in her acting capacity whilst Ms Hollie Faithfull is Acting Chief Executive Officer in that the Committee will provide support to her as well.

Cr Rocky Stephen closed the meeting in prayer.

**MEETING CLOSED – 1:06PM**



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Ms Hollie Faithful  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022



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Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Mayor  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022