

Barkly Regional Deal



Minutes Governance Table Meeting 24

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Barkly Regional Council Chambers, Elliott Community



Item	Description	Actions arising	Decisions
1.1	Formalities (Introduction, Apologies, Quorum)	<p>Apologies received and noted: Georgina Bracken (BCN); Pat Brahim (ACLG), Tony Miles (ACLG); Kelly McCarthy (CDU, BTEN); Ross McHutcheon (NT DoE), Karan Haywood (RSC), Ebony H Satchell (MAC); Byron Mathews (NIAA); Kym Brahim (Patta), Joey Carter (NLC)</p> <p>Present: Sean Gordon (Independent Chair BRD GT), Deb Hartman (BBT E.O.) Claire Keen (BCN), Harry Abrahams, (NIAA), Lachlan Wilkins (DCMC), Jeff McLeod (BRC), Stewart Willey, Wakeem Kelly (Youth Sector), Jadranka Matijas (Infrastructure), Soana Vaihu (TFHC), Gordon Noonan (BRD RSG); Mervyn Franey, Laura Jackson, Allen Dempsey, Joy Priest (BAA)</p> <p>Online: Shalee James (Patta), Fiona Yule, Lisa Rauter (Infrastructure) present until 12.30; Ella Lewis (DSS)(TBC),</p> <p>Other BAA members: Joy and Maxie Priest, Priscilla Mick, Graeme Calma, Dawn Swan, Dianne Curtis, Valerie Curtis.</p> <p>Support people/guests: Peter Burnheim (NT DCMC); Brodie Moore, Rachael (BRC); Stuart Clark, Tim Candler (AG Dept Infrastructure); Pano Geou, (DSS); Lucy McGarry, Omar Khoyam (BBT), Cyril Franey (BAAC), Marnie Wetherill, Rebecca Williams, (DSS), Kelly TFHC, Frances Spehr (NIAA), Jessica Guthrie (NIAA- online)</p>	Apologies and attendance recorded for minutes
1.2	Welcome to Country Affirmation of vision and ways of working (code of conduct)	<p>10:15am start. Sean noted members attending for the first time. Members agreed to have head shot photos taken by Telita Braun and to answer profile questions for website with Lucy McGarry.</p> <p>Sean confirmed vision and noted GT and all BRD conversations must be open, honest and respectful.</p>	
1.3	Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting		Minutes accepted

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1.4	Action Items (5 minutes)	<p>All actions from last meeting are completed or in progress. Updates are included in today’s agenda. This is evidence that decisions are being actioned and are on track.</p> <p>Chair referred specifically to the action regarding the BRD review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BRD Review committee have been appointed, met and will go through the ToRs for the Review. • Timely to review BRD at mid-point and support progress and direction for next 5 years. Current interest from the community in the BRD is good. Understanding why we haven’t met targets is important so we can improve processes and understand challenges. 	Action Items noted
1.5	Conflict of Interest Disclosures*		Any or Nil noted
1.6	Correspondence tabled	Nil	
	Papers and discussions:		
2.1 2.2 2.3	<p>Specific community questions of 3 tiers and discussion of funding possibilities</p> <p>Opportunities from 3000 Jobs and \$4b housing BRD Governance Review Steering Committee recommendations</p>	<p>2.1 Only one Elliott community member was present and no local issues were raised.</p> <p>Community Projects Fund (CPF): Two tractors have been delivered but two communities are still waiting. Issues are not with payment but with delivery by T&J. Discussion about issues causing this two-year delay in two cases including problems with auspicing of the community grants, tendering and contractors (including CoI for T&J and full funds being paid up front), oversight of the processes and lack of communication. Issues are reflective of the complexity of multiple partners sharing responsibility within the BRD as well as capacity issues of contractors.</p> <p>DCMC provided a summary of their processes to acquit funding from past projects and more efficient use the remaining funds.</p> <p>Canteen Creek Donkey fence CPF application was discussed as an approved project that will be processed under the new grant arrangements.</p> <p>Pukalki water project has not been completed as Julalikari was the contractor.</p> <p>Ali Curung has to reapply as they need more money for their community bus (previously approved by GT).</p> <p>Suggestion from DCMC that they have a seat on the assessment panel for the CPF.</p>	

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BBT provided update on the review of the CPF processes in response to Aboriginal panel members' concerns.
\$2 mil in spent funds and some successful CPF projects to date should be celebrated.
Joy Priest from Corella Creek (who has recently joined the BAAC) talked about the challenges of living in a remote Barkly homeland and the lack of services responding to their needs including youth justice, housing and health.

2.2 Jess Guthrie from NIAA gave overview of 3000 Jobs within the Remote Jobs and Economic Dvpt Program (\$707 – holistic/flexible, new funding) sufficient for Community orgs to employ people eligible for CDP in community-based programs. Still defining what new employment services (CDP providers) will look like. NIAA doing local consultations for details of program design to allow place-based flexibility.
Potential to link this to the BRD Economic Growth and Workforce Development Strategies.
BAAC noted that documentation seemed focused on larger communities where employers are based and does not address jobs in homelands and small communities

Action: NIAA to send out invites to EG/RW Working Group and other stakeholders to a 3000 jobs consultation session in Tennant Creek.

2.3 BRD Governance Review Steering Committee. Mervyn gave overview of progress and provided GT with draft ToRs and recommendations for endorsement:
Gordon Noonan (co-chair), Karan Haywood, Mervyn Franey (co-chair) and Richard James are the members appointed by the community.
Lisa Rauter stated that Infrastructure supports the review based on these ToRs. She raised potential tensions in trying to align with several different priorities (systems change, CTG, BRD projects, community outcomes) and the need to be clear about what the priorities for the future of the BRD are and how they will be measured (points 5-7 in ToRs).

Discussion included:

- BRD needs to be better aligned with regional Barkly governance (not just TC)
- Needs to ensure there is a regional structure beyond the life of the BRD to focus on social outcomes
- What will future roles of range of government partners be? E.g. increase in

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		<p>DSS role and Infrastructure only for specific projects?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are community priorities, what was the original purpose of the BRD? Need clarity around point 13. Infrastructure would support changing remaining initiatives to better meet community priorities if possible. <p>Discussion about the responsibilities of the GT to respond and manage community expectations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCPF discussion noting 2 tractors delivered and 3 yet to be delivered for SE Barkly. • Noted good news that the majority of LCPF grants have been successfully delivered. • NTG working with BRC to finalise outstanding grants and acquittals (terminate existing grants contract), with new process to then commence for the remaining \$1m – suggested that NTG is an observer on the assessment panel. <p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The GT will formally write to the communities who are still waiting for projects to acknowledge and apologise for delays. 2. Celebrate the positive CPF stories and get media out about them. <p>Govt partners edited the ToRs during the day and presented the document back to the members at 3:20pm for their review and endorsement.</p> <p>Action: GT to write to three govt partners seeking their formal support for a review with the endorsed TOR and requesting funding for the review</p>	<p>GT endorsed the revised ToR for the Governance Review of the BRD</p>
2.4	<p>Learning Report: Review and changes to Working Group Approach</p>	<p>Lucy gave a brief verbal summary of changes to the Working Group approach outlined in the paper, all of which have been implemented since early 2023. GT noted the ongoing conversation and need for future adaptive work to reduce the current number of working groups and better structure them around community priorities and existing sector groups.</p>	<p>GT endorsed the changes to the WG approach</p>
3.1	<p>TiC initiatives approved</p>	<p>3.1 DCMC provided a summary of the two individual proposals and the proposal to develop a collaborative TiC framework for the Barkly. PHN has an ongoing role in the work and has funding opportunities.</p>	<p>GT endorsed recommendations of Project Team and supported contracts to be completed and</p>
3.2			

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	<p>Economic Growth and Workforce Development and BTEN progress</p>	<p>DCMC is working to reduce reporting for both organisations. Monitoring and Evaluation needs to be built in from the start.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCMC to organise contracts for Anyinginyi and BRADAAG asap • Next steps will continue with the TiC Project Team. <p>3.2 DCMC provided a summary of progress (slow due to capacity and quantity and complexity of work)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of actions to stakeholders from the EGS and RWD strategies • DIT research with CDU on job needs and barriers due soon • Strategic and ground level work needed simultaneously eg. Cert II in community services and Cert IV in Literacy will be delivered later this year by CDU <p>Broader discussion included system changes and barriers to employment for Aboriginal people which GT and Working Group can advocate for. DCMC gave example of recent positive change for Aboriginal Interpreter Service now having permanent NTG roles for the first time.</p>	<p>projects to commence asap.</p>
<p>3.3 and 3.4</p>	<p>Youth Justice and Housing Projects</p>	<p>Soana provided YJF update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site being prepared • Tender for operations will be advertised shortly <p>Action: TFHC will hold stakeholder briefings about the YJF operations tender</p> <p>Housing builds on Noble street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public housing stock will be returned when these apartments are finished <p>VP update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations have ben finished about plants and trees for the VP: • Name has been suggested by Rosemary Plummer and is being spell checked <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backbone and TFHC to get more community feedback on the name (including from PAK) and welcome messaging and then get endorsement from the admin group • TFHC and Backbone to organise a VP meeting for late June/early July <p>CYS update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No money has been spent • Previous options have not been viable 	<p>GT endorsed the decisions made from community consultation about the plants for the Visitor Park</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility in how \$3 million in funding is used (but not for infrastructure) <p>Action: TFHC and BBT to convene working group/workshop to identify current service delivery and design options for how to collaborate more effectively and use \$3 million CYS funding to plug any gaps in service delivery.</p> <p>\$4 billion housing funding: Partnership between NTG, Cwth and Aboriginal Housing NT. Steering committee will be NLC, CLC... Alliance members want to be more involved in processes for this funding</p>	GT endorsed TFHC to work with BBT and youth sector to design options for the \$3 million CYS funding. These options will be presented to the GT for endorsement
3.5	Student Boarding Facility Update	50% plans to be presented to WG mid-June	
4.2	Barkly Alliance Aboriginal Corporation (10 mins)	Update from Mervyn Franey: Recently became the Barkly Alliance Aboriginal Corporation with a commitment to action now and collaboration with Govt in the delivery of services to homelands. BAAC is here for the long term and working on developing a homelands service delivery company and supporting community based decision making.	Progress noted and commended
4.3	28 initiatives Traffic Light Report including Aboriginal jobs created (15 mins)	Ali Curung Youth Centre- Legal proceedings are underway between BRC and the contractor. Funding is still there for the initiative.	Progress noted
4.4	Upcoming Events (10 mins) Canteen Creek 40th Anniversary Weekend 28th June - 1st July 2024 Barkly Futures Forum Mon 28 Tues 29 October		
4.1	Backbone EO's update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Code of Conduct was shared with members to help create a safe and supportive working environment for the BBT and BRD governance structures BBT does not receive sufficient funding to do the work they are charged with <p>Action: BBT and GT will review and confirm the code of conduct</p>	Draft Code of Conduct to be provided to Admin Group. Budget scenarios to be prepared by BBT for meeting of 3 tiers of government to finalise 24-25 funding.

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5.1	Review of agreed actions and decisions including communications and correspondence arising	ToRs for Governance Review of BRD endorsed LCPF successes TiC proposals endorsed 3000 jobs an opportunity for the Barkly and to collaborate/align with EGS/RWS actions GT to write to three tiers re review.	Communique topics endorsed
5.2	Next meetings: Thursday 5 September 2024 (decision on location)	Suggestion made for Sept meeting to be held in Ampilitwatja or Arlparra, Barkly Homestead. Action: GT to investigate and decide if Barkly Homestead will be location for next meeting	Next meeting location – probably Barkly Homestead
5.3	Meeting Close	3.30pm	

Morning Tea – 9.45 - on arrival before meeting commences

Lunch – 12:45pm to 13:15pm

14.15 – 14.30 short stretch break

15.30 Meeting Close – opportunity for conversations before return to accommodation for dinner at 6.30 pm or return to TC

Conflicts of interest

The Governance Table is made up of representatives from communities across the Barkly region. Members have many roles and positions as professional, community and family leaders. It is therefore important to manage real and perceived conflicts of interests.

Real conflict of interest is where a person uses their authority to make decisions that provide a material personal or family benefit.

Perceived conflict of interest is a public perception that a person may be improperly benefiting from their role because of a competing interest.

The Governance Table will manage conflicts of interest by:

- A standing agenda item at the beginning of each meeting for members to declare any 'real or perceived conflict' to the other members.
- A register will be maintained for all members on appointment and updated when a conflict-of-interest declaration is made as part of the standing agenda item.

Disclosing a conflict of interest does not mean a member cannot be part of a Governance Table meeting. It may just mean that:

- for a certain part of the meeting (while the matter is discussed) that member steps out; or
- the member may be invited to stay if they have 'the fully informed consent of the other members to be present and vote'.

There is nothing wrong with having a conflict of interest so long as you disclose all of the information about the conflict of interest to the Governance Table and abide by their decision how it is managed.