



MINUTES  
of the  
UNSCHEDULED MEETING OF COUNCIL  
MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2020  
at  
Murrindindi Shire Council  
Council Chambers  
Alexandra  
Perkins Street  
6:00 PM

This meeting was closed to public pursuant to section 66 (2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020* due to COVID-19 restrictions.  
The meeting was livestreamed to the Public.

Audio recordings of all Council meetings are taken by Council's Governance Officers and published on Council's website (Resolution of Council 23 January 2019)

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## 1 PLEDGE AND RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The meeting was opened with the Acting Chief Executive Officer declaring the following Pledge on behalf of all Councillors:

“The Councillors, democratically elected to represent our community as the Murrindindi Shire Council, are committed to working together in the best interests of the people who live in our municipality, those who conduct business here and those who visit.

We would like to acknowledge the Taungurung Traditional owners and their ancestors as the traditional owners of the land on which we are gathered, and pay our respect to their Elders past and present.”

## 2 APOLOGIES AND REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence tendered.

### **Present:**

Councillors S McAulay, S Carpenter, D Gallagher, I Gerencser, K Haslam, E Lording, J Walsh.

### **In attendance:**

Acting Chief Executive Officer: Michael Chesworth

Manager Governance and Risk: Tara Carter

## 3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

## 4 OUR PROMISE

### 4.1 Confirmation of Swearing in of Councillors

The General Election was held on 24 October 2020 and the 7 Elected Representatives for Murrindindi Shire Council were officially declared by the Victorian Electoral Commission on 5 November 2020 in Yea.

In accordance with the Section 30 of the *Local Government Act 2020* the Elected Representatives were scheduled to take the Oath or Affirmation of Office in the presence of the Acting Chief Executive Officer on 16 November 2020 at 4pm.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer will confirm for the purposes of the minutes that the Elected Representatives did undertake the Oath or Affirmation of Office.

**Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Michael Chesworth confirmed that at 4pm on 16 November 2020, and in accordance with section 30 of the *Local Government Act 2020* the following Elected Representatives took an oath or affirmation to take on the office of Councillor:**

**Ilona Gerencser**

**John Walsh**

**Sue Carpenter**

**Damien Gallagher**

**Karine Haslam**

**Eric Lording**

**Sandice McAulay.**

## 4.2 Term of the Mayor

Section 26 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that the Council must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a one year or two year term.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer will call for a motion from the Council as to whether the Mayor will be elected for a one year or two year term.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That the term of the Mayor is to be for one year.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 4.3 Election of the Mayor

Section 25 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Part 5 of The Murrindindi Shire Council Governance Rules 2020 provide for the election of the Mayor within one month of the General Election. The General Election was held on 24 October 2020 and the Elected Representatives were sworn in as Councillors on 23 November 2020 by the Chief Executive Officer. The period for which the Mayor is appointed is as resolved in item 4.2.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer will conduct the election of the Mayor in accordance with Council's Governance Rules 2020. The Acting Chief Executive Officer will call for nominations for the office of Mayor, confirm acceptance with the nominee and then call for a seconder. A nomination for the office of Mayor must be seconded.

If only one Councillor is a nomination for Mayor, then the meeting must declare that Councillor to be duly elected as Mayor. If there is more than one Councillor nominated for Mayor, then the Acting Chief Executive Office will conduct an election and the Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority of Councillors.

The voting will be held via a show of hands. Once elected the Mayor will take the Chair to preside over the remainder of the Meeting.

### **Motion**

That Councillor ..... be elected as the Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council.

Cr E Lording nominated Cr S McAulay for the position of Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council.

Cr S McAulay accepted the nomination

Cr K Haslam seconded the nomination

There were no further nominations

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr E Lording / Cr K Haslam**

**That Cr Sandice McAulay be elected the Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4.4 Election of the Deputy Mayor**

The newly elected Mayor will conduct the election of the Deputy Mayor in accordance with section 27 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and part 5 of the Governance Rules 2020.

The Mayor will call for nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor, then confirm with the nominee and call for a seconder for the nomination. A nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor must be seconded.

If only one Councillor is nominated for Deputy Mayor, then the meeting must declare that Councillor to be duly elected as Deputy Mayor. If there is more than one Councillor nominated for Mayor, then the Mayor will conduct an election and the Deputy Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority.

The voting will be held via a show of hands.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That the position of Deputy Mayor of the Murrindindi Shire Council be established for the coming year.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Motion**

That Councillor ..... be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council.

Cr D Gallagher nominated Cr S Carpenter for the position of Deputy Mayor of the Murrindindi Shire Council.

Cr S Carpenter accepted the nomination

Cr E Lording seconded the nomination

There were no further nominations.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr E Lording**

**That Cr Sue Carpenter be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4.5 Council Representation Appointments**

Attachment(s):

1. Councillor Representative List 2020 21 [4.5.1 - 1 page]

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to enable Council to appoint Councillors as representatives to various internal committees and external bodies.

Appointment of Councillors to committees provides an opportunity for open and responsive communication between Councillors and local community groups and Local Government organisations.

**Officer Recommendation**

That Council:

1. appoints Councillors as Council’s representatives to the committees and organisations listed in Attachment 4.5.1 for the next 12 months
2. records the list of appointments in the minutes of this meeting.

**Background**

Councillors represent the interests of Council on a number of Committees. These include Council Committees that may perform a statutory or advisory function, and committees formed by other organisations for a variety of purposes. These range from state wide committees, through to regional or sub regional committees that support a particular program or activity.

Council needs to determine each year which Councillor(s) or senior officers it wishes to appoint as its formal representative(s) to the range of internal and external bodies.

**Discussion**

Attached to this agenda is the list of committees and organisations for which Council has current appointments (refer Attachment 4.5.1). The list has been divided into those which are Council committees and those external bodies with which Council has a relationship. It is recommended that Council appoint representatives to these committees and bodies for a twelve month period and that the appointments be recorded in the Minutes of this meeting.

**Council Plan/Strategies/Policies**

This report supports the *Council Plan 2017-2021 Our Promise* strategic objective to “we will all work in collaboration with our communities to deliver the best possible outcomes in all that we do”.

**Relevant Legislation**

Representing Council on committees within the sector and the community is consistent with the principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the role of a Councillor.

**Financial Implications and Risk**

There are no financial or budget implications associated with this report. However, Council pays a membership fee to Local Government peak bodies such as Municipal Association of Victoria and the Victorian Local Governance Association.

**Conflict of Interest**

There are no declared conflicts of interest by Council officers in relation to this report.

**Community and Stakeholder Consultation**

No external community or stakeholder consultation was required for this matter.

**RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr S Carpenter**

That Council:

1. appoints Councillors as Council’s representatives to the committees and organisations listed in Attachment 4.5.1 for the next 12 months
2. records the list of appointments in the minutes of this meeting.

<b>COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>		
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Number of required appointments</b>	<b>2020/21 Appointments</b>
Audit and Risk Committee	2 Councillors 1 Alternate Councillor (optional)	Cr D Gallagher Cr I Gerencser

Business and Tourism Advisory Committee	Mayor (Chair) 1 Councillor	Cr S McAulay Cr K Haslam
Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Sub-Committee	All Councillors	All Councillors
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee	1 Councillor	Cr I Gerencser
Yea Cemetery Trust	All Councillors	All Councillors
<b>EXTERNAL COMMITTEES – Crown Land Committees of Management</b>		
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Number of required appointments</b>	<b>2020/21 Appointments</b>
Alexandra Racecourse & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	1 Councillor	Cr D Gallagher
Alexandra Showgrounds & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management	1 Councillor	Cr D Gallagher
Flowerdale Community Hall Reserve Committee Inc.	1 Councillor	Cr E Lording
Murrindindi Scenic Reserve Committee of Management	1 Councillor	Cr J Walsh
Steavenson Falls Scenic Reserve Committee of Management	1 Councillor	Cr S McAulay
<b>EXTERNAL COMMITTEES – Other</b>		
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Number of required appointments</b>	<b>2020/21 Appointments</b>
Central Ranges Local Learning & Employment Network (CRLLEN)	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr E Lording
Flowerdale Community House Inc.	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr E Lording
Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr J Walsh
Goulburn Valley Waste & Resource Recovery Local Government Forum	1 Councillor 1 Alternate Councillor (optional)	Cr K Haslam
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Delegate	1 Councillor 1 Alternate Councillor (optional)	Cr S McAulay Cr S Carpenter
Rural Councils Victoria (RCV)	Mayor	Cr S McAulay

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was closed at 6:15pm.

**CONFIRMED THIS**

**CHAIRPERSON**

  
23 November 2020