

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (RWMF) COMMITTEE HELD WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2020, HELD AT THE ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL – ARUNTA MEETING ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE 93 TODD STREET ALICE SPRINGS

PRESENT

Mayor Damien Ryan (Acting Chair)
Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson
Councillor Glen Auricht
Councillor Jimmy Cocking

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Manager Technical Services
Mr James Sanders - Acting Manager RWMF
Ms Charlotte Klempin - Environment Officer
Ms Stephanie Dominguez - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

The meeting opened at 12:00pm with a quorum.

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Regional Waste Management Facility Meeting - Attendance List 2019/2020					
	15 Aug 19	17 Oct 19	30 Jan 20	26 Feb 20	28 May 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Glen Auricht	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Matt Paterson	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Eli Melky		✓	✓	A	

✓

Attended

✓ Proxy

Proxy attended in place of committee member

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Apology received

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No attendance and no apology recorded



Not a member of the Committee at this time

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor Eli Melky
Mr Robert Jennings - Chief Executive Officer
Ms Sabine Taylor - Director Corporate Services
Mr Oliver Eclipse - Manager RWMF

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Minutes - Regional Waste Management Facility Committee - 17 October 2019

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Regional Waste Management Facility Committee meeting held 17 October 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings

Moved: Deputy Mayor Paterson

Seconded: Councillor Auricht

CARRIED

3.2 Minutes - Special Meeting - Regional Waste Management Facility Committee - 30 January 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Regional Waste Management Facility Committee special meeting held 30 January 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings

Moved: Councillor Auricht

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Paterson

CARRIED

Councillor Cocking entered the room at 12:02pm

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Action from the previous meeting - Cardboard Recycling

The Committee received and noted the cardboard recycling income vs expenditure information. No further discussion occurred.

4.2 Action from the previous meeting - Illegal Dumping

The Committee received and noted the following documents that were provided in response to an action from the previous meeting:

- [Alice Springs \(Management Public Places\) By-Law 2009](#)
- [NT Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998](#), and
- [NT EPA Factsheet](#)

Discussion ensued in regard to illegal dumping on crown land, process of collection and disposal by the Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics (DIPL), and costs associated with disposal of this waste. Councillor Auricht suggested the costs associated with disposal should be an incentive for DIPL to forward information in regard to illegal dumping to the relevant authorities for investigation and prosecution.

The Committee discussed the infringements associated with offences under the *Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-Law 2009* and *NT Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*.

Sections of the *Alice Springs (Management Public Places) By-Law 2009* relevant to discussion:

Alice Springs (Management Public Places) By-Law 2009

<i>Part 3</i>	<i>Prohibited Activities and Conduct</i>
<i>Part 3.1</i>	<i>Offences relating to the environment</i>
<i>(43)</i>	<i>Dumping of goods and materials</i>
<i>Part 5.4</i>	<i>Contravention and penalties</i>
<i>(81)</i>	<i>Penalties</i>

Penalties relevant to this section are:

<i>43 (2)</i>	<i>5 penalty units (individual)</i>
<i>43 (3)</i>	<i>500 penalty units (commercial)</i>

Additional penalty units apply, per day that the dumped goods are not collected:

<i>43 (4)</i>	<i>5 penalty units per day (individual)</i>
<i>43 (5)</i>	<i>500 penalty units per day (commercial)</i>

1 penalty unit equals \$157 (current at time of meeting).

Councillor Cocking suggested the current fines are inadequate as a disincentive for illegal dumping and suggested the Director Technical Services meet with a representative of DIPL and the NT Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) to discuss ways of addressing the issue of illegal dumping in the Community.

Councillor Cocking suggested it would be worth initiating a review of the *Management of Public Places By-Law* now to allow Council's access to a more strengthened By-Law in the future, and suggested that Council instigate a program for the community to report illegal dumping with potential rewards for convictions. Mayor Ryan requested a report from the Director Technical Services on a potential program for reporting illegal dumping.

Discussion ensued in regard to a similar program Council currently supports in regard to reporting graffiti or vandalism:

[Graffiti or vandalism](#)

Alice Springs Town Council, NT Government and Power and Water offer \$500 each towards a total \$1500 reward to those who can assist police in the conviction of a person who has committed an offense of vandalism or graffiti.

Action:

1. Director Technical Services to meet with an appropriate representative of DIPL and the NT EPA to discuss ways of how the issue of illegal dumping can be addressed and report back to this Committee.
2. Director Technical Services to prepare a report investigating a potential Council program for reporting illegal dumping and present to a future Technical Services Committee.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- 6.1 Financial Statement for the period ending October 2019**
- 6.2 Financial Statement for the period ending November 2019**
- 6.3 Financial Statement for the period ending December 2019**
- 6.4 Financial Statement for the period ending January 2020**

The Committee received and noted the Financial Statements October 2019 - January 2020.

Moved: Councillor Cocking **Seconded:** Councillor Auricht **CARRIED**

6.4.1 Town Council Expenditure - Councillor Cocking

Councillor Cocking enquired about the *Town Camp Revenue and Town Camp Expenditure* in the Regional Waste Management Facility Financial Performance Report for the period ending 31 January 2020, noting 18.97% expenditure against budget with concerns it is very underspent for this time of year. The Director Technical Services advised the timing of invoice receipt in regard to this work could have an impact on the expenditure to date, and would follow up with the Director Corporate Services.

Action:

Director Corporate Services to investigate *Town Camp Expenditure* and provide an update.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Regional Waste Management Facility Report - Manager Technical Services

The Committee received and noted the RWMF Reports October 2019 - January 2020.

Moved: Councillor Cocking **Seconded:** Councillor Auricht **CARRIED**

7.2 Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) Trial - Environment Officer

The Environment Officer gave an update on the FOGO Trial to date:

- One tonne of waste had been received from internal trial participants
- One windrow had been created with work expected to begin on a second windrow in the next few weeks
- Regular temperature monitoring was occurring throughout the week, and over the weekend with a temperature probe
- Preparations for stage two of the trial are underway

The Environment Officer reported that MRA Consultants were making a presentation to the [Waste 2020 Conference](#) in May on Council's FOGO Trial.

Mayor Ryan enquired in regard to participation for the internal trial and the amount of contamination that was being found in the FOGO waste. The Environment Officer advised 68 households were actively participating out of the targeted 200 and at this stage contamination removal was occurring manually during this small-scale controlled trial. The Director Technical Services advised that stage two of the trial would give a better insight into contamination issues that may be faced on a larger scale.

Mayor Ryan enquired how stage two would work. The Director advised:

- Expressions of interest would be sought and participants selected,
- A contractor will be engaged to specifically collect the FOGO waste,
- Collection frequency may be adjusted throughout the trial based on conditions, and
- Visual inspections will occur for contamination throughout the trial.

Mayor Ryan enquired if all costs associated with the trial were financed through the Climate Action Plan (CAP) budget. The Director Technical Services advised that currently staff resources at the RWMF for this internal part of the trial were borne by the RWMF and noted when a casual employee is engaged for the second stage of the trial it would be funded through the CAP budget in addition to costs associated with the contractor for FOGO waste collection.

Mayor Ryan requested estimates on Council's spend to date and forecast spend for the FOGO trial and if a quote from the contractor had been obtained for stage two of the trial. The Director Technical Services advised a quote had been requested.

Action:

Environment Officer to prepare a report on FOGO project financials including spend to date and forecasted spend.

7.3 RWMF Master Plan - Manager Technical Services

The Manager Technical Services advised that Council has engaged *EcOz Environmental Consultants* to complete a comprehensive 10-year Master Plan for the RWMF which was expected to be completed by July/August 2020.

In preparation for the Master Plan, a range of inspections and investigations would include:

- Review of historical financial and waste data,
- Review of environmental monitoring reports,
- Infrastructure audits with lifecycle and replacement costs determined, and
- Survey of volumes and airspace measurements

The Manager Technical Services advised that the chosen consultant has extensive experience in cell design.

7.4 RWMF Staff - Mayor Ryan

Mayor Ryan enquired how many staff were currently employed at the RWMF. The Acting Manager RWMF advised staff numbers were in the mid 20's with a few positions in the process of recruitment.

7.5 Rediscovery Centre - Mayor Ryan

Mayor Ryan requested a report on the financials of the Rediscovery Centre to compare the last 12 months with the preceding 12 months, to determine if any impact has occurred as a result of the change of hours.

7.6 Clean Up Australia Day - Mayor Ryan

Mayor Ryan reminded the Committee that the Clean Up Australia Day event would be held on Sunday 1 March 2020, 7:30am in the Todd River.

8. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28 May 2020.

Mayor Ryan requested that the next meeting be held onsite at the RWMF.

The meeting closed at 12:34pm.