



clarence  
VALLEY COUNCIL

2020

# Extraordinary Council Meeting



**Minutes**

**Maclean Chambers**

Tuesday, 10 March 2020

1.00 pm

## Agenda

- 01 OPENING OF ORDINARY MEETING
  - Acknowledgement of Country
  - Recording of Meeting Announcement
- 02 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- 03 DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
- 05 MAYORAL MINUTES
  - 05.20.002 Northern NSW Local Health District Consolidation of Maclean District Hospital's Two Wards into One Ward 1
- 06 GENERAL MANAGER REPORT
  - 6a.20.003 2020 Local Public Holiday Change 3

**MINUTES of the EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the CLARENCE VALLEY COUNCIL held in the Council Chambers, Maclean, 10 March 2020, commencing at 1.00 pm.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND**

I acknowledge the Yaegl peoples, traditional custodians of these lands on which this meeting is taking place and pay tribute and respect to the Elders both past and present of the Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr and Yaegl nations which lie within the Council boundaries.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

All present are advised that this meeting is being broadcast and audio recorded. The recordings of the non-confidential parts of the meeting will be made available on Council's website once the Minutes have been finalised. Speakers are asked not to make insulting or defamatory statements and to take care when discussing other people's personal information. No other persons are permitted to record the meeting unless specifically authorised by Council to do so.

**PRESENT**

Cr Jim Simmons (Mayor), Cr Andrew Baker, Cr Arthur Lysaught, Cr Peter Ellem, Cr Karen Toms, Cr Debrah Novak, Cr Richie Williamson, Cr Greg Clancy, General Manager (Ashley Lindsay), Director Environment, Planning & Community (Des Schroder), Director Works & Civil (Peter Birch), Director Corporate & Governance (Laura Black) and Minutes Secretary (Lesley McBay).

**APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION – 02.20.002**

**Ellem/Toms**

**That leave for unavoidable absence be granted for Councillor Kingsley.**

**Voting recorded as follows:**

**For: Simmons, Baker, Clancy, Ellem, Novak, Williamson, Lysaught, Toms**

**Against: Nil**

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**DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Nil**

## 5. MAYORAL MINUTES

ITEM	05.20.002	NORTHERN NSW LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD'S CONSOLIDATION OF MACLEAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL'S TWO WARDS INTO ONE WARD
Meeting	Council	10 March 2020
Directorate	Mayoral Minute	
Submitted by	Cr Jim Simmons	
Attachment	Nil	

## SUMMARY

This report and proposed motion summarises opposition by particularly the Lower Clarence Community to the Northern NSW Local Health District Board's consolidation of patients and staff of Maclean District Hospital into one hospital ward.

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Council notifies the Premier of NSW the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, Member for Clarence the Hon. Chris Gulaptis, the Northern NSW Local Health District Board of Directors and the NSW Local Health District Chief Executive, Wayne Jones, the NSW State Government opposition leader the Hon. Jodi McKay and opposition duty officer for Clarence the Hon. Adam Searle, of this Council's strong opposition to the District Health Board's consolidation of patients and staff into one ward at Maclean District Hospital.

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION – 05.20.002

**Simmons/Novak**

## That Council

1. Notifies the Premier of NSW the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard, Member for Clarence the Hon. Chris Gulaptis, the Northern NSW Local Health District Board of Directors and the NSW Local Health District Chief Executive, Wayne Jones, the NSW State Government Opposition Leader the Hon. Jodi McKay, NSW Shadow Minister for Rural Health, the Hon. Kate Washington, and NSW Opposition Duty Officer for Clarence the Hon. Adam Searle, of its absolute disapproval and strong objection to the consolidation of patients and staff into one ward at Maclean District Hospital and to any other downgrade of the hospital and that Council calls on the board to withdraw its ward closure proposal.
2. Express an interest to the Northern NSW Local Health District that the Mayor and General Manager be invited to join the community working advisory group.

## Voting recorded as follows:

For: Simmons, Baker, Clancy, Ellem, Novak, Williamson, Lysaught, Toms  
 Against: Nil

## LINKAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

Theme 5 Leadership  
 Objective 5.1 We will have a strong, accountable and representative Government  
 Strategy 5.1.5 Represent our community at Regional, State and Federal levels

**BACKGROUND**

The community became aware of this issue when the Northern NSW Local Health District Board's release of a one page *Community Information* A4 size sheet of 30 lines in seven questions and answers format dated 13 February 2020, to hospital employees. The NSW Nurses and Midwives Association and the NSW Health Services Union arranged a public meeting for Thursday, 27 February 2020, which filled to overflowing the Jim Thompson Pavilion at Maclean Showground. Northern NSW Local Health District seemingly belatedly also hosted a meeting for hospital staff and the community on Wednesday 26 February.

Council had received no information or had any contact from the Northern NSW Local Health Board, nor anyone else regarding the consolidation of the hospital wards. In effect closure of Ward 2 albeit the Northern NSW Local Health District Board maintains it is a hospital ward reconfiguration and consolidation of patients and staff into one ward while the other ward will remain available for surge capacity.

**KEY ISSUES**

The *Community Information* sheet includes a question *Are beds closing at Maclean District Hospital* and the answer *No. We are consolidating patients and staff into one ward, while the other ward will remain available for surge capacity in times of peak activity.* Fact is the number of beds is now substantially below that at points in time in previous years.

Population of the Lower Clarence continues to increase, there are substantial developments under construction and also pending approval, holiday parks have heavy bookings during holiday periods and weekends. Off ramps from the new motorway are at Maclean's entrances.

There have been significant improvements to Maclean District Hospital wards in recent years such as additional bathrooms to the second ward plus the construction of a new larger helipad at the hospital. The "reconfiguration" has a lot of opposition in the Lower Clarence Community.

The Hospital Auxiliary has raised a lot of money for equipment at the hospital and I understand currently has fundraised \$140,000 to date for purchase of another item of equipment for the hospital.

**COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS****Budget/Financial**

There is minimal cost with office time which can be covered in Council's normal operational budget.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>6a.20.003</b>	<b>2020 LOCAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY CHANGE</b>
<b>Meeting</b>	Council	10 March 2020
<b>Directorate</b>	General Manager	
<b>Reviewed by</b>	Director - Corporate & Governance (Laura Black)	
<b>Attachment</b>	Yes	

## SUMMARY

This report seeks to request a change to the current gazetted date of the local part-day public holiday for the 2020 Maclean Show.

## OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council make application to the NSW Treasury (Industrial Relations) for a change to the current gazetted date of 20 May 2020 for the Maclean Show part-day local public holiday to 29 April 2020.

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION – 6a.20.003

**Williamson/Novak**

**That Council make application to the NSW Treasury (Industrial Relations) for a change to the current gazetted date of 20 May 2020 for the Maclean Show part-day local public holiday to 29 April 2020.**

**Voting recorded as follows:**

**For: Simmons, Baker, Ellem, Clancy, Novak, Williamson, Lysaught, Toms**

**Against: Nil**

## LINKAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY PLAN

Theme 3 Economy

Objective 3.1 We will have an attractive and diverse environment for business, tourism and industry

Strategy 3.1.5 Attract and grow events which contribute to the economy with a focus on high participatory events

## BACKGROUND

The date for the 2020 Maclean show was advised in 2018 by the Maclean Show Society as 20 May 2020. Council resolution 15.182/18 of 16 October 2018 resolved that Council apply to the NSW Treasury (Industrial Relations) for approval for a part-day local public holiday for this date. Subsequently, approval was granted and Public Holidays Amendment Order 2018 gazetted 21 December 2018.

## KEY ISSUES

The date applied for in late 2018 is no longer consistent with the current 2020 Maclean Show scheduled to be conducted 28-29 April 2020.

**COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS****Budget/Financial**

There are no financial implications in adoption of the recommendation of this report.

**Asset Management**

N/A

**Policy or Regulation**

N/A

**Consultation**

N/A

**Legal and Risk Management**

N/A

**Climate Change**

N/A

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Prepared by	Monique Ryan, Governance Officer
Attachment	Local Part-Day Public Holidays for the Clarence Valley in 2019 and 2020

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**10. CLOSE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

There being no further business the Extraordinary Council Meeting closed at 1.30 pm