



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

# Scheduled Meeting of Council

## Minutes

Wednesday 15 November 2023  
Alexandra Council Chambers  
Perkins Street  
6:00 PM

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## **1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE**

### **1.1 Acknowledgement of Country**

The meeting was opened with the Chief Executive Officer reading the following on behalf of the Murrindindi Shire Council:

“Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.”

### **1.2 Councillors' Pledge**

The Chief Executive Officer invited Cr J Walsh to read the following on behalf of Council:

“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.”

## **2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

### **2.1 Privacy Note**

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and website. A recording of the meeting along with the official Minutes of the meeting will also be published on our website.

### **2.2 Apologies and Request for Planned Leave**

Cr I Gerenscer was an apology for the meeting.

### **2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest**

Nil

## **3 REFLECTION ON PAST YEAR**

### **3.1 Reflection on the Past Year**

The Chief Executive Officer invited Cr J Walsh to reflect on the year as Mayor.

The Chief Executive Officer presented both Cr J Walsh and Cr S Carpenter with a gift to acknowledge their contributions as Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

## 4 ELECTION OF MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR

### 4.1 Office of Deputy Mayor

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	L Bonazzi, Chief Executive Officer
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that Council may establish an office of Deputy Mayor. Council has previously elected a Deputy Mayor for the same term as the Mayor. As this is the fourth year of the Council's four-year term the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be for a one-year term.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr S McAulay**

**That the office of Deputy Mayor be established for a one-year term.**

**CARRIED**

### 4.2 Election of the Mayor

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	L Bonazzi, Chief Executive Officer
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

Section 25 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and Part 5 of the Murrindindi Shire Council Governance Rules provide that the election of the Mayor must be held on a day that is as close to the end of the previously appointed term as reasonably practicable. The Mayor was last appointed on 16 November 2022 for a one-year term.

As this is the final year of the four-year Council term, the term of the Mayor will be for one year, which is consistent with the previous Mayoral terms under this Council.

The Chief Executive Officer will conduct the election of the Mayor in accordance with Council's Governance Rules. The 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 nominated for Mayor, the meeting must declare that Councillor to be duly elected as Mayor. If there is more than one Councillor nominated for Mayor, then the 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.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr S Carpenter / Cr E Lording**

**That Cr D Gallagher be elected as the Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for a one-year term.**

**CARRIED**

Cr D Gallagher took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

### **4.3 Election of Deputy Mayor**

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	L Bonazzi, Chief Executive Officer
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

If Council establishes the role of Deputy Mayor as part of item 4.1 then 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.

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 S McAulay / Cr E Lording**

**That Cr S Carpenter be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Murrindindi Shire Council for a one-year term.**

**CARRIED**

## 5 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

### 5.1 Councillor Portfolios

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	Director People & Corporate Performance
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Councillor Portfolio Structure for 2024.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr E Lording / Cr S Carpenter**

**That Council:**

1. **Endorse the following portfolios and Councillor appointments:**
  - a. **Governance and Corporate Services – Cr. J Walsh**
  - b. **Sustainability, Assets and Emergency Management – Cr. K Haslam**
  - c. **Planning and Compliance – Cr. E Lording**
  - d. **Community Wellbeing and Economic Development – Cr. S McAulay**
  - e. **Operations and Maintenance – Cr. S Carpenter**
  - f. **Service Experience and Communications – Cr. I Gerencser**

**CARRIED**

### 5.2 Councillor Representative Appointments

Attachment(s)	1. Councillor Committee Representation 2024 [5.2.1 - 1 page]
Presenter	Director People & Corporate Performance
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

#### **Executive Summary**

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.

## RESOLUTION

**Cr K Haslam / Cr E Lording**

**That Council:**

- 1. appoint the following Councillors as Council’s representatives to the committees and organisations listed in Attachment 5.2.1 for the next 12 months (appointments to be read)**
- 2. record the list of appointments in the minutes of this meeting.**

COUNCIL COMMITTEES		
Committee Name	Number of required appointments	2024
Audit and Risk Committee	2 Councillors  1 Alternate Councillor (optional)	Cr. J Walsh Cr. S McAulay Cr. S Carpenter
Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee	Mayor 2 Councillors  1 Independent Advisor (appointed separately by Council)	Cr. D Gallagher Cr. S McAulay Cr. I Gerencser  Alternate: Cr. E Lording
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee	1 Councillor	Cr. S McAulay
Murrindindi Flood Recovery Committee	1 Councillor	Cr. I Gerencser Alternate: J Walsh
Council Roads Advisory Group (CRAG)	1 Councillor	Cr. S Carpenter
Reconciliation Action Plan Committee	1 Councillor	Cr. S McAulay
EXTERNAL COMMITTEES – Crown Land Committees of Management		
Committee Name	Number of required appointments	2024
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
EXTERNAL COMMITTEES – Other		

<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Number of required appointments</b>	<b>2024</b>
Central Ranges Local Learning & Employment Network (CRLLEN)	1 Councillor  1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr E Lording until end 2023 Cr S Carpenter commencing 2024
Flowerdale Community House Inc.	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr. E Lording
Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr. K Haslam
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Delegate	1 Councillor 1 Alternate Councillor (optional)	Cr. D Gallagher Alternate: Cr. J Walsh
Rubicon Outdoor School	1 Councillor	Cr. K Haslam
Rural Councils Victoria (RCV)	Mayor	Cr. D Gallagher Alternate: Cr. S McAulay
Murrindindi Tertiary Education Hub Board	1 Councillor 1 Council Officer (appointed by CEO)	Cr. J Walsh

**CARRIED**

## **6 COUNCIL MEETINGS**

### **6.1 Council Meeting Dates 2024**

Attachment(s)	Nil.
Presenter	Director People & Corporate Performance
Approved by	Director People & Corporate Performance
Purpose	For decision

#### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the monthly timetable of Council meetings for the 2024 calendar year.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr K Haslam**  
**That Council adopt the timetable of Scheduled Meetings for the 2024 calendar year as outlined in this report.**



The proposed schedule is outlined below:

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>
Wednesday 21 February 2024	Yea – Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 27 March 2024	Alexandra – Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 24 April 2024	Yea - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 22 May 2024	Alexandra - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 26 June 2024	Yea - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 24 July 2024	Alexandra - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 28 August 2024	Yea - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 18 September 2024	Alexandra - Council Chamber	6 pm
<b>Election Period (Caretaker) Commences Tuesday 24 September</b>		
Wednesday 23 October 2024	Yea - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 13 November 2024 DATE TO BE CONFIRMED <i>Swearing in of Councillors and Election of Mayor</i>	Alexandra - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 27 November 2024	Yea - Council Chamber	6 pm
Wednesday 11 December 2024	Alexandra - Council Chamber	6 pm

**CARRIED**