

# MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 18

Thursday 21 February 2013

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1. **MEETING:**

The Assembly met at 10am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick took the Chair.

2. **PRAYERS.**

3. **VISITORS:**

The Speaker advised Members of the presence in the public gallery of staff from Elton Consulting and students from Rosebery Middle School accompanied by Alison Stringer.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitors.

4. **STATEMENT BY SPEAKER — STANDING ORDERS, QUESTION TIME:**

The Speaker advised Members that following concerns expressed on the conduct of Question Time she had had discussions with the Chief Minister and Opposition Leader and proposed that when Points of Order are raised in Question Time that Members should reference the specific Standing Order relating to the matter they wish to raise. The Speaker also indicated that if in her opinion, Questions or Points of Order were frivolous, after two or three occasions a warning would be issued to the Member.

Further, the Speaker indicated that during Question Time the speech timing clock would be stopped whenever a Member is given the call to raise a Point of Order.

5. **QUESTIONS:**

10.03 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister  
10.08 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister  
10.11 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister  
10.15 Mr Styles to Chief Minister

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Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) advised that questions for the Minister for Business, Mr Chandler, on leave, be directed to the Chief Minister.

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10.19 Ms Walker to Chief Minister, referred to Minister for Indigenous Advancement  
10.24 Mr Higgins to Treasurer  
10.28 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister  
10.32 Ms Finocchiaro to Minister for Housing  
10.35 Mr Wood to Minister for Housing  
10.38 Mr McCarthy to Chief Minister  
10.41 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister  
10.44 Mrs Price to Chief Minister  
10.47 Mr McCarthy to Chief Minister  
10.48 Mr Kurrupuwu to Minister for Children and Families  
10.52 Mr Vatskalis to Chief Minister  
10.56 Mr Wood to Minister for Health

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question paper.

6. **SUPREME COURT AMENDMENT BILL 2013 (SERIAL 20):**

Mr Elferink (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Supreme Court Act.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Elferink moved — That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Elferink laid upon the Table the Explanatory Statement (Paper 255).

On the motion of Ms Walker, debate was adjourned.

**7. ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved — That Assembly Business Order of the Day relating to the Disallowance of Plans of Management – Instruments of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act be called on forthwith.

Question — put and passed.

**8. PLANS OF MANAGEMENT — INSTRUMENTS UNDER THE TERRITORY PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT — DISALLOWANCE — MOTION AGREED TO:**

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the motion — That the Assembly, pursuant to section 19(2) of the Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, disallow the —

**Joint Management Plan**, Mary River National Park, January 2012 (Paper 1774) deemed to have been tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 23 October 2012; and

**Plan of Management**, Litchfield National Park, December 2011 (Paper 37) deemed to have been tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2012.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and passed.

**9. TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — NOTE STATEMENT:**

Mr Giles (Minister for Corporate and Information Services) made a statement relating to telecommunications and broadcasting in the Territory.

Mr Giles moved — That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

**Quorum:** Ms Lawrie drew the attention of the Speaker to the state of the Assembly.

Bells having been rung and a Quorum having been obtained —

Debate continued.

**Quorum:** Mr Vowles drew the attention of the Speaker to the state of the Assembly.

Bells having been rung and a Quorum having been obtained —

Debate continued.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Giles laid upon the Table a Northern Territory Telecommunications Map (Paper 261).

Debate continued.

Debate suspended.

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**Suspension of sittings:** The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.50am and 2pm.

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**10. CONDOLENCE MOTION — MRS SADIE MAY LUDWIG:**

The Speaker advised Members of the death on 7 January 2013 of Mrs Sadie May Ludwig, a passionate, loving and giving Territorian.

The Speaker acknowledged the presence in the Speaker's and Public Galleries of members of the Ludwig, McGuinness, Angeles, Fejo and Mills families together with a number of friends of the Ludwig family.

Ms Lawrie (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, moved —

That this Assembly express its condolences at the passing of Mrs Sadie May Ludwig, and extend deepest sympathy to her family and friends.

Ms Lawrie (Leader of the Opposition) thereupon addressed the Assembly.

Mr Mills (Chief Minister) addressed the Assembly.

Debate ensued.

Motion agreed to.

As a mark of respect Members stood in their places for one minute, in silence.

**11. TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — NOTE STATEMENT:**

Debate resumed.

Mr Giles sought leave to continue his remarks at a later hour (16 minutes remaining).

Leave granted.

**12. HOMELANDS AND OUTSTATIONS — A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — STATEMENT NOTED:**

Ms Anderson (Minister for Indigenous Advancement) made a statement relating to homelands and outstations in the Northern Territory.

Ms Anderson moved — That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr McCarthy, Ms Walker was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Ms Lee, Mr Wood was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question — put and passed.

**13. ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved — That Government Business, Order of the Day relating to the Ministerial Statement on the Government Response to the recommendations of the Board of Inquiry into Child Protection be called on forthwith.

Question — put and passed.

**14. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF INQUIRY INTO CHILD PROTECTION — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — STATEMENT NOTED:**

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question — That the Assembly take note of the Statement —

Debate resumed.

Question — put and passed.

**15. GAS TO GOVE — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — STATEMENT NOTED:**

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question — That the Assembly take note of the Statement —

Debate resumed.

Question — put and passed.

**16. POLICING IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — STATEMENT NOTED:**

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question — That the Assembly take note of the Statement —

Debate resumed.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr Wood, Mr McCarthy was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question — put and passed.

**17. WOMEN'S POLICY — MINISTERIAL STATEMENT — STATEMENT NOTED:**

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question — That the Assembly take note of the Statement —

Debate resumed.

Question — put and passed.

**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved — That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

**Paper Tabled:** Ms Finocchiaro, by leave, laid upon the Table a photocopy of *The Road to Bulman from Mainorou 1952* by Margot Cox (Paper 263).

Debate continued.

**Paper Tabled:** Ms Fyles, by leave, laid upon the Table the Nightcliff Sports Club Newsletter, July-August 2012 (Paper 264).

Debate continued.

**Paper Tabled:** Ms Lee, by leave, laid upon the Table a photocopy of the *Katherine Times* dated 20 February 2012 and *NT News* undated coverage of 'Major' James Taylor's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday (Paper 265).

Question — put and passed.

And the Assembly adjourned at 8.46pm until Tuesday 26 March at 10am.

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**PAPERS:**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 21 February 2013 –

**Auditor-General:**

Independent Auditor's Report to the Minister for Local Government, Jabiru Town Development Authority, year ended 30 June 2012, dated 4 December 2013 (Paper 266)

**Annual Report 2011-12:**

National Environment Protection Council 2011-12 (Paper 256)

Plumbers and Drainers Annual Licensing Board for the year ended 30 September 2012 (Paper 258)

The Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory of Australia 2011/12 (Paper 257)

**Environment Protection Authority:**

A Case Study: Berrimah Business Park Stormwater Management and Planning Issues (Paper 259)

**The Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW):**

The College of Investigative and Remedial Consulting Engineers Australia Professional Standards Scheme (Paper 260)

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended the sittings except Mr Chandler, on leave.

Ian McNeill  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly