



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Meeting Number 1
Tuesday 18 October 2016**

1. NOTICE CALLING TOGETHER THE THIRTEENTH ASSEMBLY

The Clerk read the Notice calling together the Thirteenth Assembly as follows:

Northern Territory of Australia

Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978 of the Commonwealth

Notice appointing the time for holding first session of the Thirteenth Legislative Assembly.

I, John Laurence Hardy, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, under section 22(1) of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, appoint 10am on Tuesday, 18 October 2016 as the time for holding the first session of the Thirteenth Legislative Assembly.

Dated 23 September 2016.

Sgd. JOHN HARDY
Administrator (Paper 2).

2. ATTENDANCE OF HIS HONOUR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO DECLARE OPEN THE THIRTEENTH ASSEMBLY

His Honour, The Honourable John Hardy OAM, Administrator of the Northern Territory attended the Assembly and addressed Members as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to section 22 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, I appointed 10am on Tuesday, 18 October 2016, as the day for the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia to assemble for the despatch of business and required all members of the Legislative Assembly to give their attendance in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

His Honour declared open the First Session of the 13th Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

3. RETURN TO WRIT

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly laid on the Table the Writ for the election of Members of the Legislative Assembly elected on 27 August 2016, dated 12 September 2016 (Paper 3) and returned to his Honour the Administrator on 12 September 2016.

4. OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS ADMINISTERED TO MEMBERS

The Administrator called upon the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly to administer the oaths or affirmations to those Members of the Legislative Assembly who are present. Members named in the return were called and accordingly made and subscribed the oaths or affirmations required by law, as follows:

Lawrence Costa	Arafura
Robyn Jane Lambley	Araluen
Selena Jane Malijarri Uibo	Arnhem
Gerald Francis McCarthy	Barkly
Terence Kennedy Mills	Blain
Dale Suzanne Wakefield	Braitling
Anthony John Sievers	Brennan
Lauren Jane Moss	Casuarina
Gary John Higgins	Daly
Eva Dina Lawler	Drysdale
Michael Patrick Francis Gunner	Fannie Bay
Jeffrey David Collins	Fong Lim
Kezia Dorcas Tibusay Purick	Goyder
Kenneth Edward Vowles	Johnston
Ngaree Jane Ah Kit	Karama
Sandra Joao Nelson	Katherine
Chanston James Paech	Namatjira
Gerard Vincent Wood	Nelson
Yingiya Mark Guyula	Nhulunbuy
Natasha Kate Fyles	Nightcliff
Paul Andrew Kirby	Port Darwin
Kathryn Jane Worden	Sanderson
Lia Emele Finocchiaro	Spillett
Scott Lindsley McConnell	Stuart
Nicole Susan Manison	Wanguri

5. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

His Honour advised Members as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly it is now necessary that a Speaker be chosen. You, Members of the Legislative Assembly will now proceed to choose some proper person to be your Speaker.

Following the presentation of your Speaker to me this day I shall address the Assembly declaring the causes for calling the Assembly together.

His Honour the Administrator, the Honourable John Hardy OAM withdrew from the Chamber preceded by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister) proposed to the Assembly for its Speaker Ms Purick (Member for Goyder), and moved that Ms Purick take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

The motion was seconded by Mr Higgins (Leader of the Opposition) and Ms Purick accepted the nomination.

The Clerk declared Ms Purick elected as Speaker in accordance with Standing Orders.

The Speaker was conducted to the Chair by her sponsors, Mr Gunner and Mr Higgins.

The Speaker thanked the Assembly for the high honour conferred, and took the Chair.

6. PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER TO ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker informed Members that it was the intention of His Honour the Administrator to attend at the Office of the Speaker and invited Honourable Members to the Office of the Speaker where she would present herself to His Honour as the choice of the Assembly as Speaker.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting was suspended until the ringing of the Bells.

The Speaker reported that, accompanied by Honourable Members, she had presented herself to His Honour the Administrator as the choice of the Assembly as its Speaker and the Administrator was pleased to congratulate her.

7. SPEAKERS COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS

The Speaker announced the receipt from His Honour the Administrator a Commission to administer to Members oaths or affirmations of allegiance and of office, which was laid upon the Table and read by the Clerk:

NORTHERN TERRITORY (SELF-GOVERNMENT) ACT 1978 (Cth)

Authorisation to Administer Oaths and Affirmations

I, John Hardy, Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, pursuant to section 13(7) of the Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978 (Cth), authorise Kezia Dorcas Tibisay Purick, to administer oaths or affirmations under section 13(6) of the Act.

Dated 17 October 2016.

Sgd. John Hardy, Administrator (Paper 4).

8. HIS HONOUR THE ADMINISTRATORS ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY

His Honour the Administrator entered the Chamber. The Speaker left the Chair and His Honour, having taken the Chair delivered an Address declaring the causes of calling the Assembly together

(Text of Speech appears in Hansard)

His Honour presented the Speaker with a copy of the Address (Paper 6).

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

9. PRAYERS

10. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS ORDER

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister) tabled a copy of the Administrative Arrangements Order published in *Gazette S100* dated 12 September 2016 (Paper 7).

11. SHADOW MINISTRY

Mr Higgins (Opposition Leader) tabled a copy of the Shadow Portfolios, 16 September 2016 (Paper 8).

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.00 and 14.00.

12. ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister) proposed to the Assembly for its Deputy Speaker Mr Chanston Paech (Member for Namatjira), and moved that Mr Paech be appointed Deputy Speaker of this Assembly.

The motion was seconded by Ms Manison (Deputy Chief Minister) and Mr Paech accepted the nomination.

The Speaker declared Mr Paech elected as Deputy Speaker of the Assembly.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker advised Members of receipt of the following Message from His Honour the Administrator (Paper 9):

Message Number 1 - Assent to Proposed Laws

I, JOHN HARDY OAM, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, advise the Legislative Assembly of, pursuant to section 7 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government Act) 1978* of the Commonwealth, the assent to the following proposed laws:

28 June 2016

Appropriation (2016-2017) Act 2016 (Act No 24 of 2016)

29 June 2016

Training and Skills Development Act 2016 (Act No 25 of 2016)

Terrorism (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act 2016 Act 2016 (Act No 26 of 2016)

13 July 2016

Firearms and Weapons Control Legislation Amendment Act 2016 (Act No 27 of 2016)

Parole Amendment Act 2016 (Act No 28 of 2016)

Planning Legislation Amendment Act 2016 (Act No 29 of 2016)

Police Administration Amendment Act 2016 (Act No 30 of 2016)

Stamp Duty Amendment (First Home Owners Discount) Act 2016 (Act No 31 of 2016)

Dated 4th August 2016

JOHN HARDY OAM

Administrator

14. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) will move on the next meeting day:

1. That a Select Committee on the subject of Opening Parliament to the People be appointed comprising the Members for Fong Lim, Stuart, Sanderson, Karama, Daly, Nelson and Araluen.
2. The Committee is to inquire into options for parliamentary reform, particularly increased participation in the legislative process and policy debates and improving the effectiveness of Question Time, having regard to, among other things, the Parliamentary Reform - Opening Parliament to the People (Labor Policy Discussion Paper) and Restoring Integrity to Government – Trust and Integrity Reform Discussion Papers published by the then Opposition ahead

of the Northern Territory Election and the Discussion Paper on Assembly Committee Reform tabled by the Speaker on 25 August 2015 and other proposals which the 12th Assembly Standing Orders Committee deferred for consideration of the 13th Assembly.

3. The Committee is to report to the Assembly by 31 March 2017.
2. Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) will move on the next meeting day that this Assembly adopts the Committee of Members' Interests Report recommendation to the 12th Assembly, so that an annual return of the Register of Members' Interests is placed on the Legislative Assembly website after tabling during the second sitting period each year and that this practice commences in 2017.
3. Mr Wood will move on the next meeting day that the Government reverses the agreement that restricts the keeping of animals in the Darwin Correctional Centre.
4. Mr Higgins (Leader of the Opposition) will move on the next meeting day that this Assembly calls on the Territory Government to be transparent on its forward Infrastructure plan and to demonstrate to Territorians how a change of plans to meet their election commitments is to be funded.
5. Mr Higgins (Leader of the Opposition) will move on the next meeting day:

That this Assembly:

- supports the development and implementation of management plans, regulations, and Laws for the extraction of groundwater for Stock and Domestic use in the Northern Territory.
- recognises that Stock and Domestic Groundwater uses have made significant investments in their water infrastructure.

and calls on the Northern Territory Government to:

- make the necessary amendments to legislation to allow as a priority, people who extract water for Stock and Domestic use to be able to continue to do so.
- identify a period of time where all groundwater reliant non income generating users may be exempt from the requirement to obtain an extraction licence, and
- plan for the delivery of reticulated water to users of groundwater in the Rural Area.

15. MOTION: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), pursuant to Chapter 16 of Standing Order, moved that the following committees of the Assembly be appointed:

Pursuant to Standing Order 173, a Standing Orders Committee Comprising the Member for Nightcliff as Chair, the Speaker and the Members for Port Darwin, Karama, Daly and Araluen.

Pursuant to Standing Order 174 a Committee of Privileges with the Member for Nightcliff as Chair and the Members for Fong Lim, Wanguri, Spillett and Nelson.

Pursuant to Standing Order 175, a House Committee comprising Speaker as the Chair and the Members for Namatjira, Katherine, Daly and Brennan.

Pursuant to Standing Order 176 a Subordinate Legislation and Publication Committee and pursuant to Standing Order 178 a Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee be established with both Committees comprising the Member for Fong Lim as Chair and the Members for Brennan, Arnhem, Spillett and Blain.

Pursuant to Standing Order 177 a Public Accounts Committee comprising the Member for Sanderson as Chair and the Members for Stuart, Port Darwin, Spillett, Nhulunbuy and Blain.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

16. MOTION: ROUTINE OF BUSINESS OF THE ASSEMBLY AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), pursuant to Standing Order 59 and 60 moved that the 13th Assembly conducts its Business on each meeting day according to the following Sessional Order:

(a) Tuesday and Thursday:

1. 10.00am
Prayers
2. Government Business – Notices and Orders of the Day
3. 14.00pm
Notices
Petitions
Questions
4. Government Business
5. Ministerial Statements
6. Papers
7. Consideration of Committee Reports and Government Responses and Auditor-General's Reports
8. Discussion pursuant to Standing Order 66 (Matter of Public Importance)

(b) Wednesday

1. 10.00am
Prayers
2. Government Business – Notices and Orders of the Day
3. 14.00pm
Notices
Petitions
4. Questions
5. General Business – Notices and Orders of the Day
6. 19.00pm
Government Business
7. Papers

And that for 19 October 2016, that General Business be deferred to permit the debate on the Address in Reply to conclude to adjournment or finalisation.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

17. MOTION: ADDRESS IN REPLY

Mr Gunner (Chief Minister) moved that the following Address in Reply be agreed to:

To His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR

We, the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, in Parliament assembled, express our loyalty to the Sovereign and thank your Honour for the Speech you have been pleased to address to the Assembly.

Ms Manison (Deputy Chief Minister) seconded the motion.

Mr Gunner thereupon addressed the Assembly.

Debate ensued

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Mayor of Katherine and former Member for Katherine, Fay Miller, Toni Coutts and other guests.

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

Debate continued.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a former minister of the Northern Territory parliament Mr Karl Hampton.

The Speaker further advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of students from Ntaria School visiting Darwin as part of the Michael Long Leadership and Learning Centre.

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

Debate continued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Guyula, by leave, tabled Yolngu Nations Letterstick and Declaration to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly (Paper 30).

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned

18. PAPER TABLED: REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL REPORT AND DETERMINATION NO. 2 OF 2016 ON THE ENTITLEMENTS OF ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) tabled the Remuneration Tribunal Report and Determination No. 2 of 2016 on the Entitlements of Assembly Members (Paper 32) and sought leave to continue her remarks at a later time.

19. WARRANT - APPOINTMENT OF ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKERS

The Speaker made a statement regarding the appointment of Acting Deputy Speakers.

Paper Tabled: The Speaker tabled a Warrant Appointing Mr Gerry Wood, Mrs Robyn Lambley, Mrs Kate Worden, Mr Jeff Collins, and Ms Selena Uibo as Acting Deputy Speakers (Paper 31).

20. ADJOURNMENT

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 18.43 until Wednesday 19 October 2016 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS

Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following papers were deemed to have been tabled:

Annual Report 2015-2016

Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Registration) Act, pursuant to section 93(2)-(3) (Paper 10)

Terrorism (Emergency Powers) Act, 2015-2016, pursuant to section 21ZS, 27Z (Paper 11)

Misuse of Drugs Act, 2015-2016, pursuant to section 19ZA (Paper 12)

Liquor Act, 2015-2016, pursuant to section 120Z (Paper 13)

Remuneration Tribunal 2016

Remuneration Tribunal, Report and Determination No. 1 of 2016 on the Entitlements of Local Court Judges (Paper 14)

Subordinate Legislation 2016

No. 26 of 2016, Return to Work Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 15)

No. 27 of 2016, Penalty Units Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 16)

No. 28 of 2016, Local Court Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 17)

No. 29 of 2016, Administration and Probate Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 18)

No. 30 of 2016, Building Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 19)

No. 31 of 2016, Education Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 20)

No. 32 of 2016, Petroleum (Environment) Regulations (Paper 21)

No. 33 of 2016, Commercial Passenger Vehicle Legislation Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 22)

No. 34 of 2016, Fisheries Amendment (Transfer of Licences) Regulations 2016 (Paper 23)

No. 35 of 2016, Supreme Court Amendment Rules 2016 (Paper 24)

No. 36 of 2016, Guardianship of Adults Regulations (Paper 25)

No. 37 of 2016, Agents Licensing Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 26)

No. 38 of 2016, Commercial and Private Agents Licensing Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 27)

No. 39 of 2016, Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 28)

No. 40 of 2016, Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation By-Laws 2016 (Paper 29)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly