

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 59

Tuesday 13 May 2014

1. MEETING

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

2. PRAYERS

3. REORDER OF THE ROUTINE OF BUSINESS

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business), by leave, reordered the Routine of Business of the Assembly, Government Business, Notices and Orders of the Day, be rearranged or suspended if a question or debate is before the chair so as to permit the Treasurer to deliver the Budget at 11am this day.

Mr Elferink, by leave, reordered the Routine of Business of the Assembly, Government Business, Notices and Orders of the Day, be rearranged or suspended if a question or debate is before the chair so as to permit a response to Budget 2014—15 by the Leader of the Opposition at 11 am on Wednesday 14 May 2014.

4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE – MOTION AGREED TO

Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay) moved – That a leave of absence for today, tomorrow and Thursday be granted to the Member for Nightcliff on account of personal matters.

Motion agreed to.

5. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of two year 6 classes from Wanguri Primary School.

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

6. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker advised Members of receipt of the following Message from Her Honour the Administrator (Paper 825):

Message No 16 – Appropriation (2014-2015) Bill 2014

I, SALLY THOMAS AC, the Administrator for the Northern Territory of Australia, under section 11 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* (Cth), recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill for an Act that authorises an amount to be paid from the Central Holding Authority to the Purposes of the Agencies specified in the Bill for the financial year ending 30 June 2015.

SALLY THOMAS AC

Administrator

7. STATEMENT BY SPEAKER – FILMING IN THE CHAMBER

The Speaker advised Members that pursuant to Sessional Order, her permission had been granted to Sky News, Channel 9 and the ABC to film, with sound, during the Budget address and response.

8. QUESTIONS

10.01 Mr Vowles to Chief Minister

10.08 Ms Finocchiaro to Chief Minister

Visitor: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Mr Syd Stirling, a former Deputy Chief Minister in the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory.

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

- 10.12 Mr Vowles to Chief Minister
- 10.17 Mr Barrett to Treasurer
- 10.21 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister (referred to Attorney-General)

Paper Tabled: Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay), by leave, laid upon the Table –

1. ASIC & Business Names, Personal Name Search, Peter John Maley, dated 6 May 2014 (Paper 826).
2. ASIC & Business Names, Organisational Search on Foundation 51 Pty Ltd, dated 6 May 2014 (Paper 827).

- 10.25 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister
- 10.28 Mr Wood to Chief Minister
- 10.34 Ms Finocchiaro to Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries
- 10.36 Ms Lawrie to Treasurer
- 10.40 Mr Higgins to Minister for Community Services
- 10.43 Ms Anderson to Minister for Education
- 10.46 Mr Higgins to Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing
- 10.49 Mr McCarthy to Deputy Chief Minister
- 10.50 Mr Wood to Minister for Transport
- 10.53 Mr Barrett to Minister for Mines and Energy
- 10.57 Mr McCarthy to Minister for Education

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

9. APPROPRIATION (2014-2015) BILL 2014 (SERIAL 79)

Mr Tollner (Treasurer), pursuant to the recommendation of Her Honour the Administrator, presented a Bill for an Act to authorise an amount to be paid from the Central Holding Authority for the financial year ending 30 June 2015.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tollner moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Tollner laid upon the Table:

1. Budget 2014-15, Budget Paper No. 1, Budget Speech (Paper 828).
2. Budget 2014-15, Budget Paper No. 2, Budget Strategy and Outlook (Paper 829).
3. Budget 2014-15, Budget Paper No. 3, Agency Budget Statements (Paper 830).
4. Budget 2014-15, Budget Paper No. 4, The Infrastructure Program (Paper 831).
5. Budget 2014-15, Budget Overview (Paper 832).
6. Budget 2014-15, Regional Highlights (Paper 833).
7. Budget 2014-15, Northern Territory Economy (Paper 834).
8. Budget 2014-2015 Overview Northern Territory Economy (Paper 835).

On the motion of Ms Lawrie (Leader of the Opposition) debate was adjourned.

Suspension of sittings: The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.30pm.

10. NOTICES:

The following notices were given:

1. Ms Walker (Member for Nhulunbuy) to move on the next General Business Day – That this Assembly:
 - Recognises that the sustainable use of water resources is fundamental to the economic, social and cultural development of the Northern Territory;
 - Acknowledges that potential impact of water allocations on the Territory's unique environment, bio-diversity and cultural values;
 - Re-affirms that water allocations under the *Water Act* should be based on sound scientific analysis following proper consultation with all water users and stakeholders;
 - Supports indigenous economic development and understands the importance of Strategic Indigenous Reserves; and
 - Resolves that the *Water Act* be amended to incorporate provision for Strategic Indigenous Reserves.

2. Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) to move on the next General Business Day – That the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly establishes an inquiry under Section 4A of the Inquiries Act to investigate all aspects of political donations in the NT in the interests of public transparency and accountability with particular reference to:
 1. all existing NT legislation and any other relevant legislation relating to political donations;
 2. all donations to political parties and independents in the NT over the last 20 years;
 3. the role of politically allied companies such as the Harold Nelson Holdings and Foundation 51 and other third parties to see if they are being used as fronts to avoid the disclosure of political donations;
 4. the transparency and accountability of the existing funding regimes;
 5. other jurisdictions and their practices in relation to political donations;
 6. other matters that the Board of Inquiry may wish to pursue that would assist in improving the confidence of the public in relation to the transparency and full disclosure of political donations and possible effects on Government policies and approvals; andthat the Inquiry report back to the Administrator within 6 months or any other extended period it reasonably considers necessary with any recommendations it considers appropriate that would improve the transparency and accountability of any matters relating to political donations.

3. Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay) to present on the next General Business day a bill entitled – Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Fire-Fighters) Bill 2014 (Serial 87).

11. TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 80)

Mr Tollner (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation administered by the Treasurer.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tollner moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Tollner laid upon the Table the Explanatory Statement (Paper 836).

On the motion of Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly) debate was adjourned.

12. APPROPRIATION (2014-2015) BILL 2014 (SERIAL 79)

Resumption of debate, suspended earlier this day, on the question - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Styles (Member for Sanderson), Mr Chandler (Member for Brennan) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Elferink (Member for Port Darwin), Mrs Price (Member for Stuart) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Wood (Member for Nelson), by leave, laid upon the Table – Eulogy, Deacon Peter Brogan Kunhdhawulung RAK – Papangala (Paper 837).

Debate continued.

And the Assembly adjourned at 6.17pm until Wednesday 14 May 2014 at 10.00am.

PAPERS

The following paper was deemed to have been Tabled on 13 May 2014 -

Coroners Act:

Report to the Legislative Assembly, In the matter of the Coroner's Findings and recommendations regarding the death of Ms Gwynnyth Cassiopeia-Roennfeldt (also known as Jasmine Roennfeldt), pursuant to Section 46B, dated 27 February 2014 (Paper 824)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the sittings, except Ms Fyles on leave.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly