NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 49
Wednesday 18 May 2022

1. **CLERK'S STATEMENT**
The Clerk made a statement that pursuant to Standing Order 216 the Speaker was physically absent from the Meeting of the Assembly and that the Deputy Speaker would take the Chair.

2. **MEETING**
The Assembly met at 10.00. The Deputy Speaker, Mr Joel Bowden, presided.

3. **PRAYERS**

4. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
Mrs Finocchiaro delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

5. **VISITORS**
The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of students from Palmerston College, Special Education Centre, accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

6. **MINISTERIAL REPORT: MIDDLE ARM SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRECINCT NOTED**
Ms Lawler (Minister for Territory Development) delivered a report regarding the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct.

Ms Lawler moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Mrs Finocchiaro.

Visitors: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 10 Students from Darwin High School, accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Ms Fyles, Mr Maley, Mrs Manison, Ms Boothby, Mr Kirby, Mr Monaghan.

Question put and passed.

7. BURIAL AND CREMATION BILL 2022 (SERIAL 55)

Mr Paech (Minister for Local Government), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the burial and disposal of human remains and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Paech moved that the Bill be read a second time, delivered a second reading speech and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 554).

Mr Edgington moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.57 and 14.00.

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8. NOTICE

The following notice was given:

Mr Paech (Acting Leader of Government Business) will move on the next Meeting Day that the Assembly resolves that:

1. There be appointed an Estimates Committee of the Legislative Assembly (the Committee) for the purposes of examining and reporting on the:
    1. estimates of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation (2022-2023) Bill (the Appropriation Bill) and related budget documents, and
    2. Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022, and
    3. activities, performance, practices and financial management of the Power and Water Corporation, Jacana Energy and Territory Generation, with reference to those corporations' Statements of Corporate Intent 2022-23.
2. The membership of the Committee will be three Government Members, one Opposition Member and one non-party aligned Member to be nominated in writing to the Speaker by the relevant Whip or non-party aligned Member. Nominations to the Speaker should occur no later than Monday 23 May 2022.
3. The Committee may hold hearings on the following days:

    Tuesday, 14 June 2022
    Wednesday, 15 June 2022
    Thursday, 16 June 2022
    Monday, 20 June 2022
    Tuesday, 21 June 2022
    Wednesday, 22 June 2022
    Thursday, 23 June 2022

4. The total time for hearings of the Committee may not exceed 60 hours.
5. The maximum time of the appearance of the Chief Minister and the Treasurer shall not exceed 8 hours. However, where the Chief Minister is also the Treasurer the maximum time of the appearance of the Chief Minister shall not exceed 9 hours. For each other Minister and the Speaker the maximum time of their appearance shall not exceed 7 hours.
6. The Committee will publish a schedule of the days and times of hearings, and

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the times allotted for hearing from Ministers, the Speaker and Board Chairs by 27 May 2022. The Committee may only amend the published schedule with the consent of the Leader of Government Business.

7. The Committee shall examine the proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill by portfolios in accordance with an agenda published by the Committee and the proposed expenditure shall be considered on an output by output basis for each portfolio unit.

8. All hearings will be available to the public via live stream to be COVID safe, and the Committee will implement a COVID safety plan.

9. All questions should conform to Standing Order 109 and answers will be concise and directly relevant to the question asked.

10. Answers to questions taken on notice during the hearings, or additional information about an answer given by or on behalf of a Minister, the Speaker or Board Chair, are to be written and given to the First Clerk Assistant by 18 July 2022. Answers or additional information so received are authorised for publication.

11. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is authorised to publish a transcript of the Committee proceedings, whether or not it has been edited, as soon as practicable.

12. Evidence taken in public by the Committee and documents presented to the Committee are deemed to be authorised for publication by the Committee, unless the Committee orders otherwise.

13. At a hearing of the Committee, the Chair may, after a warning, order any Member of the Assembly whose conduct, in the opinion of the Chair, continues to be disorderly or disruptive to immediately withdraw from the Committee for a period of 1 hour.

14. Following their second reading, the Appropriation Bill and the Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022 stand referred to the Committee for report by 23 June 2022.

15. The Assembly's Routine of Business for Thursday, 23 June 2022 is:

    1. 2.30pm
       Prayers and Acknowledgement of Country

    2. Report from Estimates Committee and consideration of Appropriation Bill and the Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022.

16. When the Committee's report on the Appropriation Bill and the Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022 is presented, the Assembly shall immediately consider the question:

    that the expenditure proposed in the Appropriation (2022-2023) Bill stand as part of that Bill and the clauses of the Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022 stand as part of that Bill, and the report of the Estimates Committee be noted.

17. The following time limits shall apply to the debate on this question:
    - Ministers, Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Ministers: 20 minutes;

- Any other Member: 10 minutes;
- The maximum period for consideration shall be 5 hours.

18. When the question on the expenditure proposed in the Appropriation Bill and the clauses of the Revenue Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2022 is agreed to, the following question is proposed and put immediately:
that the remainder of the Bills stand as part of the Bills.

19. When the Bills have been agreed to by the Assembly, their third reading may be taken into consideration immediately.

20. This resolution shall have effect notwithstanding anything contained in Standing and Sessional Orders.

9. MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Paech (Acting Leader of Government Business) informed the Assembly that all matters standing in the name of Ms Lawler will be dealt with in the Assembly during her absence in Question Time by the Deputy Chief Minister.

10. QUESTIONS

14.06 Mrs Finocchiaro to Ms Fyles

Visitors: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Member for Daly's family.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

14.08 Mr Monaghan to Ms Fyles
14.11 Mr Maley to Ms Fyles
14.15 Mr Costa to Mrs Manison

Visitor: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Member for Sanderson's partner.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitor.

14.19 Mr Burgoyne to Ms Fyles
14.19 Mr Monaghan to Mr Paech
14.23 Ms Boothby to Ms Fyles
14.27 Mr Young to Ms Moss
14.30 Mr Yan to Ms Fyles
14.34 Mr Costa to Ms Uibo
14.37 Mr Guyula to Ms Uibo
14.42 Mrs Hersey to Ms Fyles
14.47 Mr Young to Mr Kirby
14.51 Mr Edgington to Ms Fyles
14.53 Mr Young to Mrs Worden
14.57 Mrs Hersey to My Fyles

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

11. SENTENCING AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (SERIAL 39): BILL NOT AGREED TO

Resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be read a second time.

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mrs Mansion, Mrs Hersey, Mr Turner, Mr Guyula, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Maley.

Paper Tabled: Mr Maley, by leave, tabled: Corrected Explanatory Statement, Sentencing Amendment Bill 2022 (Serial 39) (Paper 555).

Ms Purick, Ms Uibo.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 8	**Noes 16**
Ms Boothby	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Bowden
Mr Edgington	Mr Costa
Mrs Finocchiaro	Ms Fyles
Mrs Hersey	Mr Gunner
Mr Maley	Mr Guyula
Ms Purick	Mr Kirby
Mr Yan	Ms Lawler
	Mrs Manison
	Mr Monaghan
	Ms Moss
	Mr Paech
	Mr Turner
	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden
	Mr Young

Motion not agreed to.

Bill defeated.

12. PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (EMERGENCY REPORTING) BILL 2022 (SERIAL 44): BILL NOT AGREED TO

Resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be read a second time.

Mr Yan.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 8	**Noes 16**
Ms Boothby	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Bowden
Mr Edgington	Mr Costa
Mrs Finocchiaro	Ms Fyles
Mrs Hersey	Mr Gunner
Mr Maley	Mr Guyula
Ms Purick	Mr Kirby
Mr Yan	Ms Lawler
	Mrs Manison
	Mr Monaghan
	Ms Moss
	Mr Paech
	Mr Turner
	Ms Uibo

Mrs Worden
Mr Young

Motion not agreed to.

Bill defeated.

13. MOTION: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AS AMENDED AGREED TO

Resumption of debate on the question that the amendment to the motion be agreed to.

Mrs Finocchiaro.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 15	**Noes 8**
Ms Ah Kit	Ms Boothby
Mr Bowden	Mr Burgoyne
Mr Costa	Mr Edgington
Ms Fyles	Mrs Finocchiaro
Mr Gunner	Mrs Hersey
Mr Kirby	Ms Purick
Ms Lawler	Mr Maley
Mrs Manison	Mr Yan
Mr Monaghan	
Ms Moss	
Mr Paech	
Mr Turner	
Ms Uibo	
Mrs Worden	
Mr Young	

Amendment agreed to.

On the question that the motion as amended be agreed to.

Question put and passed.

Motion as amended agreed to.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Paech (Acting Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mrs Hersey, Mr Maley, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Turner, Mr Paech.

The Assembly adjourned at 19.48 until Thursday 18 May 2022 at 10.00.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MARIANNE CONATY
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly