NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 13
Thursday 25 February 2021

1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10.00. The Speaker, the Honourable Ngaree Ah Kit, presided.

2. PRAYERS

Mr Bowden read the prayer.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mr Monaghan delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

4. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 11 Legal Studies students from Darwin High School accompanied by their teacher Ms Alice Leppitt.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

5. MINISTERIAL REPORT: HOMELANDS

Mr Paech (Minister for Remote Housing and Town Camps) delivered a report regarding Homelands.

Mr Paech moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 11 Legal Studies students from Darwin High School accompanied by their teacher Ms Alice Leppit.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Mr Yan, Ms Uibo, Mr Guyula, Mr Costa, Ms Moss, Mr Edgington, Ms Fyles, Mr Maley, Mr Bowden.

Question put and passed.

Report noted.

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

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6. MOTION: REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

Mrs Lambley, pursuant to Standing Order 229, moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly refers the following matter to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report as soon as possible:

1. That the Chief Minister by refusing to allow the NT Independent to cover Government press conferences and events, and instructing public servants not to respond to media requests from the NT Independent, is in breach of the *Legislative Assembly (Members' Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards) Act 2008*. Specifically the Chief Minister and his Government are in breach of clauses 10 to 11 of the Code of Conduct by:
    a. Not having respect for the Rule of Law
    b. Not showing fairness and integrity in official decision-making
    c. Not allowing freedom of reporting by the media
    d. Not fostering the independence of the NT Public Service
    e. Not ensuring his decision and actions are based in an honest, reasonable and properly informed judgement about what will best advance the common good of the people of the NT.
2. That the Chief Minister by refusing to allow the NT Independent to cover Government press conferences and events, and instructing public servants not respond to media requests from the NT Independent, is not consistent with the democratic principles enshrined in the NT Legislative Assembly.
3. The restrictions placed unfairly and unethically on the NT Independent has disadvantaged this locally owned and operated NT media business. This is inconsistent with fair trade practices and principles of the NT Government.
4. That a breach of privilege and or contempt of the Legislative Assembly has occurred.
5. Propose to the Assembly any appropriate penalty relevant to the findings and recommendations of the committee.

Ms Fyles moved that the question now be put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 12	**Noes 10**
Mr Bowden	Ms Boothby
Mr Costa	Mr Burgoyne
Ms Fyles	Mr Edgington
Mr Gunner	Mrs Finocchiaro
Mr Kirby	Mr Guyula
Ms Lawler	Mrs Hersey
Mrs Manison	Mrs Lambley
Mr Monaghan	Mr Maley
Ms Moss	Mr Sloan
Mr Paech	Mr Yan
Ms Uibo	
Mrs Worden	

Motion agreed to.

On the question that the motion be agreed to.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 10	**Noes 12**
Ms Boothby	Mr Bowden
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Costa
Mr Edgington	Ms Fyles
Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Gunner
Mr Guyula	Mr Kirby
Mrs Hersey	Ms Lawler
Mrs Lambley	Mrs Manison
Mr Maley	Mr Monaghan
Mr Sloan	Ms Moss
Mr Yan	Mr Paech
	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden

Motion not agreed to.

7. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker made a statement regarding International Women's Day.

8. NOTICE

The following notice was given:

Mr Sloan (Member for Daly) will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly calls on the Gunner Government to immediately review and reassess the need for additional emergency shelters in rural and regional areas of the Territory, in light of recent flooding and threatening weather events, so that Territorians can be comforted in the fact that they can shelter close to home in the event of a natural disaster.

9. PETITION

Mr Sloan presented Petition Number 4 from 845 petitioners praying that the Legislative Assembly oppose any/all coercive, mandatory or forced vaccinations (Paper 199).

Petition read.

10. MOTION: PETITION REFERRED TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AGREED TO

Mr Sloan moved that Petition Number 4 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

11. QUESTIONS

14.11 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Manison
14.16 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Manison - Supplementary
14.17 Mr Bowden to Mr Gunner
14.21 Mr Edgington to Ms Uibo
14.26 Mr Bowden to Mrs Worden
14.29 Mr Burgoyne to Mrs Worden
14.34 Mr Monaghan to Mr Kirby
14.39 Mr Yan to Ms Fyles
14.43 Mr Costa to Ms Uibo
14.47 Ms Boothby to Ms Fyles

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Know Your Assembly alumni.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

14.51 Mr Monaghan to Mrs Manison
14.55 Mr Guyula to Mr Gunner
14.56 Mrs Hersey to Ms Uibo
15.00 Mr Monaghan to Ms Lawler
15.06 Ms Purick to Mrs Manison

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

Ms Uibo, pursuant to Standing Order 115, gave an answer to a question asked on a previous day during question time from Mr Edgington.

12. TAXATION ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2021 (SERIAL 15)

Mr Gunner (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Taxation Administration Act 2007*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Gunner moved that the Bill be read a second time, delivered a second reading speech, and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 200).

Mr Edgington moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

13. MINERAL ROYALTY AMENDMENT BILL 2021 (SERIAL 14)

Mr Gunner (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Mineral Royalty Act 1982*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Gunner moved that the Bill be read a second time, delivered a second reading speech, and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 201).

Mr Edgington moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

14. PLANNING AMENDMENT BILL 2021 (SERIAL 13): BILL AGREED TO

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

Mr Maley, Ms Purick, Ms Lawler.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly resolved to consider the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 3 considered together.

Clauses 1 to 3 stand as printed.

Clause 4 considered.

Clause 4 stands as printed.

Clause 5 considered.

Clause 5 stands as printed.

Clause 6 considered.

Clause 6 stands as printed.

Remainder of the Bill taken together.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

On the motion of Ms Lawler (Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics), the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

15. MINISTERIAL POLICY STATEMENT: INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT NOTED

Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the statement.

Ms Lawler.

Question put and passed.

16. MINISTERIAL POLICY STATEMENT: SMALL BUSINESS, MOTION TO NOTE

Mr Kirby (Minister for Small Business) made a statement regarding small business.

Mr Kirby moved that the Assembly take note of the statement.

Ms Boothby, Mr Guyula.

On the motion of Mrs Manison debate was adjourned.

17. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: CRIME IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Mr Yan had proposed a Matter of Public Importance in the following terms:

Keeping Territory homes, businesses and families safe must be a priority for Government. Ensuring that crime does not remain at crisis levels is a major concern and it is important that Territorians do not live in constant fear of becoming potential victims of crime.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Mr Yan, Ms Purick, Mrs Manison, Mrs Hersey, Mr Sloan, Mr Edgington, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Maley, Mr Burgoyne.

Discussion concluded.

18. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mrs Finocchiaro, Ms Moss, Ms Boothby, Mrs Hersey, Ms Ah Kit, Mr Edgington, Mr Yan, Ms Uibo.

The Assembly adjourned at 21.56 until Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 10.00.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MICHAEL TATHAM
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly