

Reeve's Review of Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976
PUBLIC HEARING
ATTENDANCE of Aboriginal Community Representatives
from Katherine and Timber Creek Regions
KATHERINE
KNOTTS CROSSING RESORT CONFERENCE ROOM
Tuesday 4 May 1999 2.00 - 5.00 pm

Arrangements made by Kathryn Wells, Consultant
for
Northern Land Council

Timber Creek		
Community Meeting	Jerry Jones	Own Vehicle
Amanbidjie AGM	Deborah Jones	Own Vehicle
Yarralin		
Community Meeting	Jacky Anzac, Pigeon Hole	Charter, Timber Ck
	Riley Young, Lingara	Charter, Timber Ck
	George Campbell, Yarralin	Own Vehicle
Manyallalak		
Community Meeting	Peter Bolgi	Pick Up
	Marianne Galawonga	Pick Up
	Maryanne Kalamuka	Pick Up
	Hilda Dooley	Pick Up
Beswick		
Community Meeting	Sam Ashley	Pick Up
	plus 3 others tba Tuesday	Community Government Council Office
	David Lane	Own Vehicle
Barunga		
Community Meeting held by Siv Parker and Andy Andrews Adv by Jawoyn	Phyllis Wynjoric	Pick Up
	Nell Brown	Pick Up
	James Waller	Pick Up
	Anthony Lee	Own Vehicle
Bulman		
Community Meeting	Kenny Murray	Charter, Air North
	Ronnie Lindsay	Charter, Air North
	Tex Camphoo	Charter, Air North
Jilkminggan		
Community Meeting	Jessie Roberts	Pick Up
	Robert Smiler	Pick Up
Elliott	tba	Bus

NB Ted Lowe will do the Jilkminggan pick up and collect Elliott bus arrivals.
Siv Parker will confirm and meet charters. One casual driver to pick up Barunga,
Manyallalak and Beswick representatives in morning and to be driven home. Charter
people to stay overnight, flown home following day.

Minutes of Community Meetings
Manyallalak

Thursday 29 April, 4.30 pm
Pre - School Building

Women:

Mavis Jumbiri
Maryanne Kalamuka
Marianne Galawonga
Lorraine Daylight
Lili Dooley
Daisy Bell Williri
Hilda Dooley
Kathleen Daylight
Cynthis Williri
Anna Bolgi
Kirsty Dooley
Christine Dooley
Jane Dooley

Men:

Reggie Miller
Peter Bolgi
Ian Daylight
Austin Friday
Long John

It was noted that people were unhappy about the Reeve's proposals.

Meeting resolved

That NLC should talk with large community meeting about ABR and Royalty monies and how it will be looked after and spent for future planning.

That Peter Bolgi and Marianne Galawonga would speak to and attend, with Maryanne Kalamuka and Hilda Dooley, the public hearing in Katherine on Tuesday.

Minutes of Community Meetings
Beswick

Friday 30 April, 11.00 am
School Oval

Women:
14 women total
Martha
Jane Fordimail
+ 2 other sisters
Mummies (3)
Aunties

Men:
16 men
6 senior men incl
Sam Ashley
David Blanas
Samual Blanas
4 younger men
6 young men

It was noted that the Reeve's proposals were like going back to welfare days when the government controlled people's activities. People saw that it was a big change for land business and money that would affect everybody. It was suggested that now people had their land it was important that people think about how they are going to work, be independent and strong so government can't affect them like this.

People asked questions through Sam Ashley about land title, future of ATSIC monies, Local Government structure and wondered if the government wanted to change the land rights act then they might change everything at the same time.

Meeting resolved

That Beswick should be thinking about the future for the spending of monies and how to look after them as well as economic development.

That Sam Ashley would talk with the older men and decide on three men to attend public hearing in Katherine.

Minutes of Community Meetings
Bulman - Gulin Gulin and Weemol

Friday 30 April, 2.30 pm

Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council Aboriginal Corporation Lawn

Women:

Annette Miller
Christine Lindsay
Rosemary Miller

Men:

Peter Miller
Spencer Martin
Ronnie Lindsay
Kenny Murray
Keith, Accountant

It was noted that Bulman people didn't want to be broken up which is what the Reeve's Report suggested. Bulman people wanted to keep having a strong power base so that the government can't steamroll us like they are trying to do with the Reeves' Report. We don't tell whitefellas or the pastoral properties how to spend their money. How people spend their income is not a government matter. It is not government business what we do with our money.

Meeting resolved

That a new model be developed which included the following parts:

- i) that TOs elect a decision making community based body for the land and country based on a cultural system of government of Dua and Yirritja as well as Minngaringi, Jungai and Dailyon. Owners, managers and workers should be working together,
- ii) that this community council corporation have responsibility for employment, land, tourism, pastoral, education and training matters with people responsible for each portfolio acting as the executive of the corporation,
- iii) that a regional council be established which acts as a collective treasury for all the mining royalty monies and to advise on pastoralism, cattle, arts, tourism etc which Aboriginal people themselves decide how it is to be spent,
- iv) that Local Government monies and ATSIC monies be joined together and paid to community corporations directly,
- v) that a strong political body be established as a power base so that Aboriginal people don't get steam rolled by government, and
- vi) that public discussion, community discussion and models be developed to sort out the political body, money allocation side and Aboriginal investment of their own monies.

That this model be drawn up properly as a picture story so Bulman people can speak to it in Katherine.

That Ronnie Lindsay and Kenny Murray would attend the public hearing in Katherine on Tuesday and Kenny to speak on behalf on Peter Miller. Annette Miller was teaching that day and not able to attend.

Minutes of Community Meetings
Jilkminggan

Tuesday 27 April, 10.00 am
Lawn

Women:

Jessie Roberts
Sheila Conway
Jessie's d; Fay
Karen
Old Harriett
Jenny
Mary

Men:

Robert Smiler
Billy Fulton
Willy
Daylight
Joey McDonald

We don't want people telling us what to do about our land and how we spend our money. We can decide for ourselves about whether we spend our money on motor car, station use or agricultural gear.

If we want we can talk to Mole Hill, Mataranka, Transient camp and join together for Jilkminggan. We want to be strong. NLC has been operating a long time.

Individual mining agreements are no good, they're not strong agreements. Sacred Sites - we work with Roper Land Care Group. We've finished that. That's on line. Its all fenced off so now you can run bullocky.

It was noted that Jilkminggan wanted a strong regional council to provide good advice on contracts for infrastructure development, mining and other business.

Meeting resolved

That Jilkminggan wanted to discuss the investment of royalty monies for business ventures.

That Jilkminggan wanted to be able to develop and expand its own tourism ventures, and pastoral business, cattle.

Minutes of Community Meetings

Yarralin

with representatives from Lingara and Pigeon Hole

Wednesday 28 April, 8.00 am

Under Stand of Bamboo

Women:

Maureen Slim

Amy Murren

Ria Jacky

Goodoooga Anzac

Christine Daly

Mary Daly

Dianne Delagat

Peggy Chap

Irene Williams

Mona Anzac

Connie Konkerman

Lisa Campbell

Sadie/Jessie Tangeri

Ruth Darby

Lorna Jacky

Nina

Men:

Horace

Nugget Hector

Tony Hector

Bobby Hector

Raymond Hector

Kenny Hector

Nipper Brown

Captain Bishop

Donald Hanson

Captain Charcoal

Anzac

George Campbell

Riley Young

George John

Billy Anzac

Barry Young

Brian Darby

Peter Chap

The meeting noted that it didn't think it was right the government should tell Aboriginal people that were spending too much money on themselves or that the land was not developed properly. We don't like what white people do to their land but this is our land and we want to do it our own way.

Land is not just about money or about hunting and cooking. Land is a really important thing. We talk to our land. It is our history. It is our stories. We believe in all the law, our sacred sites.

Aboriginal people will ever change. Our law is our life, the backbone of the land. We are Aboriginal people, the black people on this land. We have our rights.

Reeves' proposals for regionalisation shouldn't be made as it makes Aboriginal people like sardines. What happened to self determination? Reeves' wants to take our rights back. We want to work with our Resource Centre and everything included with one organisation on top to help make it strong.

Meeting resolved

That we write to the Prime Minister and the Minister telling him we don't want that thing [the Land Rights Act] to be broken up. We want the government to look really hard at why they want to break up the land councils. The reason is that the government is not going to listen to five or six people who fight for Aboriginal people. The government doesn't want strong Aboriginal organisations as they lose sometimes even when they go to court.

That NLC be asked to look into this more, this land business - doing it Aboriginal way. Aboriginal people have their own rights. Ask the NLC to push for more proper way, a strong way to make money for people on their land.

Minutes of Community Meetings
Timber Creek

Amanbidjie Pastoral Aboriginal Corporation AGM

Wednesday 30 April, 12 noon

Ngali Wurru Wuli Conference Room

Women:

Deborah Jones

Violet

Kathryn Yarrabi

Nancy Raymond

Susan Jones

Margaret McDonald

Isa Pretlow

Daisy

Jessie Pitin

Elaine Long

Doris Roberts

Nancy Roberts

Jos Cox

Rita Bulman

Men:

Johnny Cooper

Jerry Jones

Trevor Boxer

Fitzroy Jones

Darby

Roy Harrington

Tony Mimba

Laurie

The meeting was not happy with Reeves' Report. The NLC model with traditional owners having authority was better.

People wanted to be able to make decisions for themselves about monies, pastoral development and what they wanted to spend that on.

Jerry Jones and Deborah Jones would attend the meeting in Katherine