

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 157

THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2019

1. Meeting of Council

The Council assembled at 10.00am pursuant to order.

The President, Hon Kate Doust, took the Chair.

Prayers and an Acknowledgement of Country were read.

2. Statement by President — Mental Health Month

The President made the following Statement —

Mental Health Month occurs each year in the month of October. Last week, 6 to 12 October, was Mental Health Week in Western Australia, which coincided with World Mental Health Day, observed on 10 October. Mental Health Month is an important opportunity to bring mental health out in the open and to improve understanding of mental health issues. Parliament House was illuminated orange last night, and will continue to be through to Sunday, to promote Mental Health Month and improve community awareness and interest in mental health and wellbeing.

Members, you should have received a Black Dog Institute pin and information on mental health. I encourage you to wear the pin and to make the information available in your electorate offices for constituents. We should all understand the importance of mental health in our everyday lives and encourage help-seeking behaviours when needed.

3. Ministerial Statement — Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41 — Ocean Reef Boat Harbour — Redevelopment

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning made a Ministerial Statement with respect to the *Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour Redevelopment*.

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning tabled the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour Redevelopment Plans. (Tabled Paper 3278).

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning tabled the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour Redevelopment Submissions. (Tabled Paper 3279).

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning tabled the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour Redevelopment Report on Submissions. (Tabled Paper 3280).

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Planning tabled the Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1270/41, Ocean Reef Boat Harbour Redevelopment Transcript of Hearings. (Tabled Paper 3281).

4. Ministerial Statement — Australian Farmer of the Year Awards

The Minister for Agriculture and Food made a Ministerial Statement with respect to three Western Australians named best in their fields at the 2019 Australian Farmer of the Year Awards this week. Barley researcher and geneticist Professor Chengdao Li won the Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research; Jackie Jarvis was crowned Rural Community Leader of the Year; and Nils Blumann claimed the title for Farming Legend of the Year.

5. Paper

The following Paper was laid on the Table by —

Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier

Annual Reports —

Mental Health Advocacy Service (2018–19) (Date received 16/10/2019) 3277

6. Regional Healthcare

Hon Martin Aldridge: To move on the next day of sitting —

That the Legislative Council acknowledges the disparity that exists between metropolitan and regional Western Australia with respect to healthcare and calls on the State Government to:

- (a) implement strategies to improve healthcare in regional Western Australia;
- (b) appoint a Rural Health Commissioner to deliver better information and transparency and most importantly to drive innovation and reform in healthcare and population health generally;
- (c) immediately increase and modernise the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) to better support those required to access specialist and allied health services; and
- (d) ensure palliative care is accessible across regional Western Australia.

7. Government Transparency and Accountability

Non-Government Business No. 1 having been called, Hon Dr Steve Thomas moved, without notice —

That this House:

- (a) notes the promise of the Premier that his Government would deliver a gold standard of transparency and accountability;
- (b) notes the many occasions in which the McGowan Government has failed to deliver on the Premier's promise; and
- (c) calls on the Premier to finally deliver on his promise by raising his Government's standards of transparency and accountability to a gold standard so that the Parliament and the community can be assured this administration is operating in an open, accountable and honest manner.

Debate ensued.

Motion lapsed.

8. Order of Business

Ordered — That Orders of the Day Nos 2, *Transport Regulations Amendment (Road Passenger Services) Regulations (No. 2) 2019 — Disallowance*, 3, *City of Bunbury — Fees Notice 2019 — Disallowance*, and 4, *Public Health Amendment Regulations 2019 — Disallowance*, be taken after Order of the Day No. 21, *High Risk Offenders Bill 2019*. (Minister for Environment).

9. Health Regulations Amendment (Fees and Charges) Regulations 2019 — Disallowance — Discharge from Notice Paper

The Order of the Day having been called, Hon Charles Smith moved, without notice —

That, pursuant to recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, Order of the Day No. 1, *Health Regulations Amendment (Fees and Charges) Regulations 2019*, be discharged from the Notice Paper.

Question — put and passed.

10. Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2019

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate resumed.

11. Statement by President — Clerk of the Cook Islands

The President made the following Statement —

I would like to formally welcome the Clerk of the Cook Islands Parliament, Mr Tangata Vainerere, to the Parliament of Western Australia. The Parliament of Western Australia has a longstanding twinning arrangement with the Cook Islands Parliament spanning over 25 years. During this time, we have engaged in capacity building and knowledge sharing across the two parliaments.

Tangata, or Ta, as he is better known, was appointed Clerk of the Cook Islands Parliament on 16 November 2018 having previously been the executive director of the Pacific Legislatures for Population Governance. Ta has also served as Clerk of Committees and as the secretariat for Parliament's Public Accounts Committee.

Ta joins us this week on a professional development attachment whereby he has been immersed in procedural, committee and administrative matters. In recognition of his status as Clerk, Ta has joined us at the Clerk's table to observe question time. On behalf of all Members, I welcome Ta to our Chamber.

12. Questions Without Notice

Questions without notice were taken.

The Minister for Education and Training tabled a High Priority Maintenance and Minor Works program of the Department of Education, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Donna Faragher. (Tabled Paper 3282).

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General tabled manuals, case work practice in relation to Child and family Support, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Nick Goiran. (Tabled Paper 3283).

The Minister for Regional Development tabled details of redundancies made in the department of Primary Industries and Regional Development in the last 12 months, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Colin de Grussa. (Tabled Paper 3284).

The Minister for Regional Development, by leave, incorporated into *Hansard* information in relation to an investigation into the number and nature of complaints that have been made by farmers and food producers in respect to incidents of drone surveillance, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Colin de Grussa.

13. Personal Explanation

The Minister for Regional Development, by leave, made a personal explanation to correct an answer in relation to a question without notice asked by Hon Martin Aldridge regarding travel expenses for her granddaughter on the Minister's trip to Broome.

14. Statement by President — Non-Government Business

The President made the following Statement —

I have received two pieces of correspondence, one from Hon Peter Collier and one from Hon Jacqui Boydell, to advise that an agreement has been reached between the Liberal party and the Nationals WA to swap the dates for non-government business. The Liberals will be undertaking non-government business on 24 October 2019 and the National Party will be undertaking non-government business on 5 December 2019.

The President tabled the amended non-government business schedule. (Tabled Paper 3285).

The President tabled the agreement reached between the Liberal party and the Nationals WA to swap the dates for non-government business. (Tabled Paper 3286).

15. Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2019

Debate resumed on the second reading of this Bill (*see item 10 above*).

Interruption pursuant to order.

16. Members' Statements

Statements were taken.

17. Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 5.44pm until Tuesday, 22 October 2019 at 10.00am.

Members present during the day's proceedings

Attendance: Present all Members.

NIGEL PRATT
Clerk of the Legislative Council

HON KATE DOUST MLC
President of the Legislative Council