

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room A35, ground floor, Parliament House, commencing at 3.02 pm on Monday 18 January 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, and Santoro (from 3.05 pm). Also present: Mr Dahms and Mr Beh.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 18 December 1992 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Grice.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr J. Purvis Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (18 December 1992)
 - 8th Biennial Conference
2. Mr T.D. Fenwick, Acting Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (22 December 1992)
 - Reply to Committee's letter of 11 December 1992 re long unreconciled bank accounts
3. Mr T.D. Fenwick, Acting Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (4 January 1993)
 - B.C. of letter to CJC re interference with files in Finance Section.
4. S. Harper, Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts, Tasmania (12 January 1993)
 - Further information re 8th Biennial Conference of the Australasian Public Accounts Committees, Hobart (29, 30 March 1993)
5. Mr T Rothwell, Gold Coast Motor Events Co (14 January 1993)
 - Supplying a copy of their external Audit Report for the year ended 30 June 1992.
6. Mr T Bale, Queensland Treasury (15 January 1993)
 - Structural Efficiency Process Review of Queensland Treasury's Financial Management Policy Branch and asking for Committee comment
7. Mr J Purvis, Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts, Tasmania (18 January 1993)
 - Accommodation details for the 8th Biennial Conference of the Australasian Public Accounts Committees, Hobart (29, 30 March 1993).

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Business Arising

Agreed that all items except 6 be deferred to the appropriate parts of the agenda.

Agreed that Mr Dahms write to Mr Bale, Queensland Treasury advising that as the Committee is not a client of Queensland Treasury's Financial Management Policy Branch it would not be appropriate for the Committee to make a submission to the proposed review of that Branch.

Outward correspondence

1. Mr R M Richards, Chairman, Gold Coast Motor Events Co (23 December 1993)
 - Requesting a meeting with the Committee on Tuesday 19 January 1993.
2. Clerk of Parliament (18 January 1993)
 - Requesting purchase of a lap-top computer for the Research Director from the Committee's Budget.

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Elliott) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Matters Arising

Mr Beh informed the Committee that the Gold Coast Motor Events Co had advised that its Management were available to meet with the Committee on Tuesday 19 January 1993.

Mr Dahms informed the Committee that negotiations are continuing re the lap-top computer for the Research Director. Further negotiations await the return of the Acting Clerk-Assistant (Committees) from leave.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co

Members were supplied with project papers containing background material and a copy of questions for the inspection visit to the Gold Coast Motor Events Co on 19 January 1993. Members took a ten minute recess to read the questions after which discussion ensued.

Agreed that Member's additions/changes to the questions would be edited into the document and new copies to the questions would be provided to Members at the 19 January 1993 meeting.

Agreed that the Chairman would ask the scheduled questions and Members would ask supplementaries.

Mr Dahms informed the Committee of travel arrangements for the 19 January 1993 meeting.

Discussion ensued as to the need for privacy at the meeting with Gold Coast Motor Events Co senior management on 19 January 1993. The Committee sought direction from section 27 of the Act.

Agreed (moved Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy) that the meeting with the Gold Coast Motor Events Co senior management on 19 January 1993 be held in private so as not to prejudice the future of the coming race.

EARC Report of the Review of Parliamentary Committees

Member's views were canvassed to clarify the Committee's position on some aspects for the Committee's submission on the above report.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Mr Beh provided a progress report on its DPI inquiry and outlined future directions for the inquiry.

Mr Beh informed the Committee that Mr Graham Carpenter, Assistant Under Treasurer, Financial Information Systems Branch of the Treasury expressed the desire to address the Committee about matters raised with the Committee by DPI concerning QGMFS.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Santoro) that pursuant to the provisions of section 4(2) of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1992*, the Committee authorises the publication of the transcript of proceedings of a meeting between the Chairman, Research Staff and senior DPI management on 15 December 1992.

Agreed

- that Mr Carpenter be provided with the Transcripts of the proceedings of a meeting between the Chairman, Research Staff and Senior DPI management held on 15 December 1992
- that he be invited to attend the Committee's meeting on 25 January 1993 to provide his views on QGFMS; and
- that he be advised that Hansard would record the proceedings.

Committee Confidentiality

The Chairman reminded Members that:

- Committees are a bipartisan function of Parliament
- issues considered by Committees should be dealt with in an independent manner and free of party political bias; and
- matters before Parliamentary Committees should remain confidential within the Committee. Leaders or parties should not be privy to Committee information other than that which has been made publicly available by the Committee.

Resolved unanimously (moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy) that:

- all matters before the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts remain strictly confidential within the Committee
- Committee Members not report to their respective Leaders or Parties upon any matter before the Committee; and
- specifically with respect to the Gold Coast Motor Events Co project, Committee Members make no media statements and that all documentation before the Committee remain strictly confidential within the Committee.

Committee Travel

The Chairman noted that the proposed visit by the Committee to Canberra and Sydney clashed with the first sitting week of the Legislative assembly (23-26 February 1993).

Agreed that initially Members would seek leave from their respective Whips.

Mr Dahms supplied Members with copies of the latest information for the 8th Biennial Conference of Australasian Public Accounts Committees. Members were asked to provide expressions of interest for hotel bookings and ancillary activities.

Committee Staffing

The Chairman read two letters covering the secondment from the Auditor-General's Department of a replacement for Jim Beh.

Resolved (Moved Fenlon, seconded Santoro) that the letters as drafted be forwarded.

Committee Budget

Members noted the Committee's Budget statements for the period to 31 December 1992.

Other Business

- Mr D'Arcy advised the Committee that he has an invitation to visit New Zealand which he will be taking up on 26 January 1993. Whilst there he will take the opportunity to meet with Members of the New Zealand Finance and Expenditure Committee.
- Mr Santoro advised the Committee that he will also be visiting New Zealand and that he will meet with Members of the New Zealand Finance and Expenditure Committee.

Next Meeting

25 January 1993.

The meeting closed at 5.17 pm.

Confirmed *25th JANUARY* 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 5.04, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 10.35 am on Monday 25 January 1993. Members present: D'Arcy (from 10.43 am), Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis and Santoro (from 10.43 am). Also present: Mr Dahms and Mr Beh; Mr Carpenter and Mr Mason (Queensland Treasury to discuss QGFMS from 11.00 am until 11.48 am); Mr Rollason (from 12.35 pm). Apologies Pearce.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 18 January 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Elliott seconded Fenlon.

Inward correspondence

1. Dr L. Powell, Director, Queensland Institute of Medical Research (22 January 1993)
 - Thanking Chairman for a copy of the Committee's report into the implementation of the Public Finance Standards
2. Mr J Purvis, Public Accounts Committee, Tasmania (22 January 1993)
 - Requesting attendance numbers for the 8th Biennial conference of the Australasian Public Accounts Committees (Hobart, 29/30 March 1993)

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Elliott) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr R D Doyle, Clerk of the Parliament (19 January 1993)
 - Public Accounts Committee staff secondment to replace Jim Beh
2. Ms Michelle Cornwell, Deputy Clerk of the Parliament (20 January 1993)
 - Classification level for the secondee to replace Jim Beh
3. Mr Graham Carpenter, Queensland Treasury (20 January 1993)
 - Invitation to attend the Committee meeting of 25 January 1993 to advise on QGFMS
4. Mr Tim Bale, Queensland Treasury (21 January 1993)
 - Committee's reply re the review of the Financial Management Policy Development Branch of Queensland Treasury

5. Mr B M Rollason, Auditor-General (21 January 1993)
 - Invitation to the luncheon meeting with Committee on 25 January 1993

6. Messrs Ron Richards, Peter Graham, Bob Minnikin and Tim Rothwell, Gold Coast Motor Events Co (22 January 1993)
 - Transcripts of their meeting with the Committee on 19 January 1993 for correction

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Elliott) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co

Members were briefed upon the current position of this project.

EARC Report of the Review of Parliamentary Committees

Member's views were canvassed to clarify the Committee's position on some aspects for the Committee's submission on the above report.

Members were advised that the final draft of the submission would be faxed to them for comment.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Messrs Graham Carpenter and John Mason, Queensland Treasury addressed the Committee on systems problems with QGFMS raised in Appendix C of DPI's letter to the Committee of 4 December 1992. Members also asked questions including matters raised by DPI during the Committee's inspection visit on 15 December 1992. This section of the meeting was recorded by Hansard.

Agreed that:

- the Committee write to DPI for a progress report on their bank and ledger reconciliations as at 31 January 1993;
- The Auditor-General's opinion be sought as to whether DPI's claimed bank reconciliations are true reconciliations; and
- research staff provide a summary report on the DPI inquiry and a future course of action at the next meeting of the Committee.

Committee Travel

Members were yet to request leave from their respective whips for the IIR conference, and visit to Canberra (24 - 26 February 1993).

Attendance at the 8th Biennial conference of Australasian Public Accounts Committees was discussed (28 - 31 March 1993).

Agreed that:

- Members and research staff attending would be, D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Dahms and Stolz;
- dates 28 - 31 March 1993 inclusive;
- travel by Business Class air fare.

Committee Staffing



Farewell to Jim Beh

The Chairman thanked Jim for his dedication and service to the Committee during his two secondments. These secondments resulted in reports on the Accountability of Government Companies and the Implementation of the Public Finance Standards - both excellent pieces of work which have lifted the standing of the Committee in the Parliament and in the Public Sector. The Chairman also thanked Jim for his assistance in providing the necessary continuity during transition from the Committee of the 46th to the Committee of the 47th Parliament.

Members and Ted Dahms joined the Chairman in thanking Jim by acclamation.

Next Meeting

23 February 1993.

Lunch with the Auditor-General

The meeting adjourned to the Speaker's Dining Room where matters concerning the Auditor-General's First Report on audits performed for the Financial Year Ending 30 June 1993 were discussed over lunch.

The meeting closed at 2.15 pm.

Confirmed 22nd February 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 5.04, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.40 pm on Tuesday 23 February 1993. Members present: D'Arcy (until 2.21 pm), Elliott (from 2.19 pm), Fenlon, Hollis, Pearce. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz. Apologies Grice, Santoro.

The Chairman introduced Ms Debbie Stolz, the Committee's new Officer on Secondment and welcomed her to the Committee.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 25 January 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy.

Matters Arising

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Committee's submission on EARC's Report on the Review of Parliamentary Committees has been handed to the Parliamentary Committee for Electoral and Administrative Review. He further advised that the Public Accounts Committee was the only Committee to make such a detailed submission.

Resolved (moved Hollis, seconded Pearce) that the Committee thank Jim Beh and Ted Dahms for their efforts in producing this submission.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr H R Smerdon, Queensland Treasury (29 January 1993)
 - thanking Committee for its reply to his letter re the exposure draft on recording and valuation of non-current physical assets in the Queensland public sector.
2. Mr Peter Graham, Graham Corporation Pty Ltd (1 February 1993)
 - advice on corrections for transcripts of proceedings from the meeting held with Gold Coast Motor Events Co, 19 January 1993.
3. Mr Bob Minnikin, Gold Coast Motor Events Co (2 February 1993)
 - advice on corrections for transcripts of proceedings from the meeting held 19 January 1993, additional information advice requested by Committee.

4. Mr Simon Gaylard, Coopers and Lybrand (3 February 1993)
 - advising that Mr David Abbott has replaced Mr Charles Denes as their Director of Government Services.
5. Mr J J Mason, Queensland Treasury (3 February 1993)
 - advice of corrections by himself and Mr Graham Carpenter to transcripts of the meeting held 25 January 1993.
6. Mr Bill D'Arcy, MLA, Member for Woodridge (8 February 1993)
 - report on trip to New Zealand.
7. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (3 February 1993)
 - advice on the Dept's bank reconciliations.
8. Mr Tim Rothwell, Gold Coat Motor Events Co (9 February 1993)
 - providing details of matters requested by the Committee at the meeting held 19 January 1993.
9. Mr Rex Klein for the Clerk of the Parliament (10 February 1993)
 - advice on lap-top computer for Research Director.
10. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (16 February 1993)
 - details of identified variances between the Dept's receipts and expenditure ledgers and the internal bank accounts.
11. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (10 February 1993)
 - advice re seminar on public sector finances for Members and invitation for Chairman to lunch with the Society.
12. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (16 February 1993)
 - program for the seminar on public sector finances for Members.
13. Mr Wayne Goss, MLA, Premier of Queensland (16 February 1993)
 - advice of his intention to respond to Parliament on the recommendations in the Committee's report on the implementation of the Public Finance Standards.
14. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (22 February 1993)
 - program for the seminar on public sector finances for Members.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy seconded Fenlon) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising

1. Members' attention was drawn to the letter from Mr Tim Rothwell, Gold Coast Motor Events Co (8) and to his supply details as requested by the Committee at the inspection meeting of 19 January 1993. The documents are available in the Research Director's room for perusal by Members.

Members' attention was also drawn to Gold Coast Motor Events Co's stated difficulty in supplying details of all tenders over \$30,000 and their alternative offer for the Committee to view them.

2. The lap-top Computer for the Research Director is on order. The purchase will be charged against the general Committee budget rather than the Public Accounts Committee Budget.
3. Members' attention was drawn to the letter from Len Scanlan re the seminar for MLAs on public sector finance.

Outward Correspondence

1. Messrs G Carpenter and J J Mason (28 January 1993)
 - transcripts of the meeting held 25 January 1993 for corrections.
2. Mr John Purvis, Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (29 January 1993)
 - attendees, rooms and dates of travel for the 8th Biennial conference.
3. Mr B R Rollason, Auditor-General (8 February 1993)
 - requesting verification of bank reconciliations and identified variances reported by Dept of Primary Industries.
4. Mr B R Rollason, Auditor-General (10 February 1993)
 - requesting advice of his Department's involvement in the implementation of QGFMS in the Dept of Primary Industries (Public Finance Standard 400(3)).
5. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (10 February 1993)
 - requesting details of identified variances between its receipts and expenditure ledgers and the internal system bank accounts.
6. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (17 February 1993)
 - reply to invitation for Chairman to Society's luncheon and note on seminar on public sector finances for Members.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Pearce) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Authority of Officer on secondment (Ms Debbie Stolz)

Resolved (Moved D'Arcy, seconded Pearce) that Debbie Stolz, on interchange from the Auditor-General's Department to the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts, be appointed to assist the Committee in the conduct of its business and to act under the Committee's authority and direction, in terms of Sections 19 and 20 of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988*.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Members were supplied with documentation covering matters concerning this inquiry to date and were briefed by the research staff.

Agreed that Members would read the material supplied and that the matter would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Committee Travel

Attendance at the 8th Biennial conference of Australasian Public Accounts Committees was discussed (28 - 31 March 1993) and Members supplied details of flights required.

QGFMS Seminar

Mr Dahms advised the Committee that Treasury offered to arrange a seminar on QGFMS for Members using a taped presentation.

Agreed that this matter be held over until next meeting.

Letter to Jim Beh

Mr Dahms raised the matter of a letter to Jim Beh thanking him for his services to the Committee.

Agreed that a letter be written by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee to Jim Beh thanking him for his service to the Committee and especially mentioning his reports.

Committee Budget

Agreed that consideration of the Committee's budget be held over until the next meeting of the Committee.

Other Business

The matter of attending the coming Indy race in March was discussed.

Agreed that Ted Dahms would ring Tim Rothwell of Gold Coast Motor Events Co to arrange tickets for an inspection visit of the Committee on Thursday 18 March 1993. Research staff and three members would attend.

Next Meeting

2 March 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.26 pm.

Confirmed *2nd March* 1993

Chairman 

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room A.17, Parliament House commencing at 1.08 pm on Tuesday 2 March 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott (from 1.30 pm), Fenlon, Grice (from 1.16 pm), Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (from 1.15 pm). Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 23 February 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Pearce, seconded D'Arcy.

Matters Arising

1. Mr Dahms advised the Committee that the date for the inspections visit to the Indy Gold Coast race is 19 March 1993. Members wishing to attend needed passport-type photographs for the event passes.

The Chairman advised that as this is a sitting day, Members wishing to attend would require leave from their respective Whips.

Agreed that Hollis, Pearce, Santoro and Elliott would attend together with the research staff. Each would arrange their own photograph and provide this to Ted Dahms by Thursday, 4 March 1993.

2. Mr Dahms advised Members that their flights and accommodation for the 8th Biennial Conference of Australasian Public Accounts Committees in Hobart (March 28 - 30 1993) had been arranged. Details were with the meeting papers. Mr Santoro advised that his flights were not booked as required. Mr Dahms agreed to alter them accordingly.

Inward correspondence

There was no inwards correspondence.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (17 February 1993)
 - Chairman unable to attend the National Accountants in Government Conference and Members' responses to the MLA seminar.

2. Mr Jim Beh, Dept of the Auditor-General (2 March 1993)
- letter of appreciation of Mr Beh's service with the Committee.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Pearce) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Members were briefed on matters concerning this inquiry by the research staff and decisions were made on the future direction of this inquiry

Agreed that:

- the Committee write to the Department seeking additional information on the PSMC Review of DPI, strategic planning associated with this Review, DPI's IT operational plan, training plans, consultancies and the use of external agencies.
- this information be required by Wednesday 10 March 1993
- a future plan for the inquiry would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Committee.

Aboriginal and Islander Communities Visit.

The Chairman raised the matter of inspection visits to Aboriginal and Island communities as a follow up to previous inquiries and to inform the Committee of the situation in these communities. Mr Dahms provided a briefing on follow ups needed from the previous inquiries. Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Pearce) that:

- the Committee write to the Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs requesting follow up information on recommendations in its Reports 7 and 8 dealing with financial administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils
- an inspection visit to Aboriginal and Island Communities in Queensland be carried out by the Committee
- a meeting be organised between the Committee and the Cairns regional Manager of the Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs as part of this inspection visit
- Research staff develop an itinerary for this inspection visit.

QGFMS Seminar

Mr Dahms advised the Committee that Treasury offered to arrange a seminar on QGFMS for Members using a taped presentation.

Agreed that Treasury should be thanked, but Members did not wish to attend.

Committee Budget

The Committee noted its budget for the month ending 31 January 1993.

Other Business

Mr Grice raised the matter of what the Committee's procedure with the Gold Coast Motor Events Co inquiry.

He was advised that the Committee would wait until after the March race to return to the inquiry, possibly May.

Discussion took place concerning the future timings of inquiries.

Agreed Mr Dahms would provide a rough outline of future plans for the Committee's inquiries and that Mr Fenlon would prepare a motion for the next Committee meeting for the Committee to commence the inquiry into the engagement of external consultants by the public sector.

Next Meeting

16 March 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.01 pm.

Confirmed *18th March* 1993



Chairman

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MINUTE OF 10 MARCH 1993

The Committee received a letter from Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries, requesting a copy of the Transcript of Proceedings of the Committee's meeting with Treasury Department officers (Messrs Graham Carpenter and John Mason) on 25 January 1993. A copy of the letter is attached.

The following motion was to put to Members on 9 March 1993.

"THAT PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 4(2) OF THE *PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS ACT, 1992*, THE COMMITTEE AUTHORISES THE PUBLICATION OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND MESSRS GRAHAM CARPENTER AND JOHN MASON, QUEENSLAND TREASURY ON 25 JANUARY 1993."

The Chairman advised Mr Dahms on 10 March 1993 that the majority of Members voted in support of the Motion.

Votes were Cast as follows:

FOR: Mr D'Arcy, Mr Elliott, Mr Fenlon, Mr Hollis, Mr Pearce, Mr Santoro

AGAINST: Mr Grice

Minute Confirmed by Members:

Date: 16. 3. 93.



Handwritten signatures of committee members: Tony Elliott, Brian D., David Danks, Ray Hall, Jim Pearce, and M. Grice.

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 5.04, Parliament House commencing at 1.10 pm on Tuesday 16 March 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (from 1.15 pm). Apologies Grice. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 2 March 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy, seconded Elliott.

Matters Arising

Mr Dahms advised the Committee that a car was booked for travel to Indy on Friday 19 March. It would be ready to leave from the Parliamentary Annexe at 8.30 am. The passes for Members and research staff would be forwarded by the Gold Coast Motor Events Co this week. Mr Tim Rothwell would meet us at the venue.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr J Varghese, Dept of Primary Industries (9 March, 1993)
 - request that the Transcript of Meeting with Treasury Officers be released to the Dept of Primary Industries.
2. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (10 March, 1993)
 - response to the Committee's letter (3 March, 1993). Additional information and supporting documentation as requested was supplied by the Dept of Primary Industries.
3. Mr Barrie Rollason, Auditor-General (15 March 1993)
 - response to Committee's inquiries as to the involvement of the Department of the Auditor-General in the development of the financial management systems in the Dept of Primary Industries.
4. Mr T Fenwick, Dept of Primary Industries (15 March 1993)
 - advice upon variances identified during the reconciliation process.

Resolved (moved Elliott seconded Fenlon) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (3 March 1993)
 - request for additional information and documentation from the Department to assist the Committee in its inquiry into the bank reconciliations and systems balancing problems.
2. Ms R Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (5 March 1992)
 - request for information to enable the Committee to follow-up the recommendations made in its Reports No 7 and 8.
3. Mr T Rothwell, 1993 Australian IndyCar Grand Prix (8 March 1993)
 - applications for accreditation to attend the Grand Prix.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Members were briefed on matters concerning this inquiry by the research staff and initial recommendations were placed before the meeting.

Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy) that the Committee produce an interim report on the DPI unreconciled bank accounts inquiry for tabling during the May 1993 session of Parliament and a full report by 31 July 1993.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy) that the research staff and Chairman request further information from DPI management as required for these reports.

Agreed that an interim report be prepared for 28 March 1993 as a rough draft and that it include a recommendation for the review of the Dept of Primary Industries by Treasury as well as the PSMC.

Aboriginal and Islander Communities Visit.

Debbie Stolz briefed the Members on groupings and travel plans for the Committee's inspection visit to Aboriginal and Island Communities in April.

Agreed that Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs be invited to the next meeting of the Committee for a discussion of the current situation with Aboriginal and Islander Communities.

Committee Budget

The Committee noted its budget for the month ending 28 February 1993.

Other Business

A rough outline of future plans for the Committee's inquiries and Mr Fenlon's motion for the Committee to commence the inquiry into the engagement of external consultants by the public sector were postponed until the next meeting.

Next Meeting

6 April 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.07 pm.

Confirmed *6th March* 1993

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Hall', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held at the Derwent Room, Wrest Point Motel, Hobart commencing at 10.20 am on Thursday 30 March 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Fenlon, Hollis, Santoro. Apologies Elliott, Grice, Pearce. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

Research Staff gave a briefing on the progress of the DPI interim report.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that DPI be requested to supply organisation charts including positions, names of officers in those positions, classifications and position descriptions for senior management of the Corporate Services Area, pre and post amalgamation. Changes to the post amalgamation personnel and management structure to date.

Next Meeting

6 April 1993.

The meeting closed at 10.40 am.

Confirmed *6th March* 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 5.04, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 10.07 am on Tuesday 6 April 1993. Members present: Fenlon, Grice (until 12.25 pm), Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (from 10.15 am until 12.30 pm). Also present: Ms Ruth Matchett (Director-General, and Mr Paul Toolis (Regional Manager, Cairns), Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (from 12.35 pm until 2.45 pm); Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz. Apologies D'Arcy, Elliott.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 16 March 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Santoro.

Matters Arising

Agreed that matters dealing with the Department of Primary Industries be left until item 8 on the Agenda.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr R Sutherland, General Manager (Finance), Dept of Primary Industries (15 March 1993).
 - correspondence and procedure manuals inadvertently omitted from documents supplied 10 March 1993.
2. Ms R Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (16 March 1993).
 - response to Committee's request for action taken by the Department in relation to the recommendations made in PAC Reports 7 and 8.
3. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General (Memorandum, 17 March 1993)
 - issues which a review team could consider at the Dept of Primary Industries.
4. Mr T Fenwick, (under the hand of J Varghese) Acting Director-General, 19 March 1993
 - response to Committee's request for information about discrepancies between information supplied by Dept of Primary Industries and that tabled by the Auditor-General in his Second Report on 1991/92 Audits.
5. Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Dept of Primary Industries (19 March 1993)
 - Explanation for signing on behalf of Acting Director-General.

6. Mr T Fenwick, Acting Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (22 March 1993) Letter addressed to the Auditor-General, B/c copy to the Committee.
 - advice to Auditor-General that the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee was advised that Bank Accounts reconciliations (up to including 30 June 1992) were completed by 31 January 1993.
7. Mr T Fenwick, Acting Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (2 April 1993)
 - Engagement of consultants and contractors by the Department.
8. Mr T Fenwick, Acting Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (2 April 1993)
 - Information on staff organisational charts and position descriptions as requested by the Committee.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr J G Miller, Dept of Primary Industries (23 March 1993)
 - explanation requested for the discrepancy between information supplied to the Committee and that tabled by the Auditor-General in his Second Report on the 1991/92 Audits, in relation to the completion date of bank reconciliations.
 2. Dr L Keliher, Public Sector Management Commission (24 March 1993)
 - permission from the PSMC to enable the Committee to quote from the Commission's (Cabinet-in-confidence) Report on the Dept of Primary Industries.
 3. Mr J Miller, Dept of Primary Industries.
 - request for additional information from the Department in relation to its management structure.
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1. Mr Len Scanlan, Australian Society of CPAs (17 February 1993)
 - Chairman unable to attend the National Accountants in Government Conference and Members' responses to the MLA seminar.
 2. Mr Jim Beh, Dept of the Auditor-General (2 March 1993)
 - letter of appreciation of Mr Beh's service with the Committee.

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that the outwards correspondence be adopted.

Chairman's Report on the IIR Conference in Sydney (February 1993)

The Chairman tabled his report on the IIR Conference on Public Sector Accounting and Resource Management attended by himself (as an invited contributor) and the Research Director.

Standard of Preparation of Financial Statements for Audit

The Chairman raised the matter of the poor standard of preparation of departmental financial statements which the Auditor-General commented upon in his First Report on Audits Performed for the Year Ended 30 June 1992. He also raised the possibility of the Committee writing to accountable officers in support of the Auditor-General's concerns.

Agreed that the Committee adopt this action, but before proceeding, the Chairman and Research Staff discuss with the Auditor-General existing guidelines, the advisability of quoting specific details, target group and any other matters the Auditor-General considers appropriate. The Research staff to provide a briefing paper at the next Committee meeting.

Consultancy Inquiry

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the Committee commence an investigation into the purchase of private services by the public sector. Such investigation to take the following course:

- (a) it extend to all departments and statutory authorities;
- (b) it deal with consultants, contractors, sub contractors and other providers of private services;
- (c) it encompass procedures and practices from tendering to final verification that the service has been delivered; and
- (d) it sets out to establish whether the purchase of such services represents a proper and efficient use of public funds.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that:

- the Chairman and Research Staff visit the Presiding Member and Research Staff of the South Australian Economic and Finance Committee (which is completing a similar inquiry) to ascertain the their terms of reference, their inquiry plan and any pitfalls they may have encountered during their inquiry;
- the Research staff provide a briefing paper to the Committee

containing a plan for its inquiry and draft letters at a meeting in May 1993; and

- the Auditor-General be invited to advise the Committee at this same meeting on the matter as raised in his First Report on Audits Performed for the Year Ended 30 June 1992.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

A first rough draft of the report into the long unreconciled bank accounts at the Dept of Primary Industries was placed before the Committee for discussion. Mr Dahms stressed that the draft was very rough, was not proof read and that the separate sections written by Ms Stolz and himself had yet to be integrated. The aim of tabling of this rough draft was to inform Members on the direction of the report and to promote discussion.

Discussion ensued and Members provided feed back to the Research Staff on layout, findings, conclusions and recommendations. The final draft is to be presented to Members for approval at the next meeting of the Committee.

General Business

Mr Grice requested leave to raise a matter of General Business since had to depart before the end of the meeting.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that leave be granted.

Mr Grice advised the Committee that 38 matters concerning the running of the 1993 Indy car race had been referred to the CJC. He further informed the Committee that the CJC had referred 22 of these to the Police. He sought advice from the meeting as to the effect these matters might have on the Committee's inquiry into the Gold Coast Motor Events Co.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that Mr Grice prepare a briefing on the matter he raised for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting.

Aboriginal and Islander Communities Visit.

Ms Ruth Matchett (Director-General, and Mr Paul Toolis (Regional Manager, Cairns), Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs attended the meeting from 12.35 pm. Discussion ensued on matters related to the financial management by Aboriginal and Island Communities and the planned visit by the Committee to these Communities.

In view of matters raised during the discussion, Members present decided that the planned inspection visit to Aboriginal and Islander Communities would be inappropriate in the time frame planned by the Committee. A decision was taken to postpone the inspection visit pending further discussion and inquiries.

Next Meeting

April (date to be confirmed)

The meeting closed at 2.45 pm.

Confirmed

20th April

1993

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop at the top and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Chairman

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 6.38, Level 6, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 7.00 am on Tuesday 20 April 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice (until 7.55 am), Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (from 7.10 am). Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 6 April 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Pearce.

Matters Arising

1. The Chairman apologised to Members for the cancellation of the planned Committee inspection visit to Aboriginal and Island Communities during April 1993. The cancellation resulted from information that the Community leaders travel during the Easter period reducing the chances of the Committee being able to meet with them and as a courtesy they require at least two weeks notice before a visit.

For the benefit of Members not present at the 6 April 1993 meeting the Chairman briefed the Committee on the discussion with Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Agreed that the Committee should keep in contact with this Department and that it should continue with a letter to Ms Matchett seeking greater details of the Department's implementation of the Committee's recommendations from its reports (7 and 8) into the financial administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded Fenlon) that the matter of implementation of the Committee's recommendations concerning the administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils be considered again at the next meeting.

The Chairman advised that the proposed inspection visit to the Aboriginal and Island Communities by the Committee is not cancelled but postponed.

Agreed that, before any inspection visit takes place, the Committee establish exactly what it wishes to achieve by the visit.

2. Mr Elliott raised the matter of not receiving the "Notice of a Meeting" for the 6 April 1993 meeting.

Mr Dahms advised that he would check the Fax stream records and ensure that all recent Electoral Office changes have been made.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr H R Smerdon, Queensland Treasury (13 April 1993)
- notice of Senior Departmental executives Forum.
2. Ms Ruth Matchett, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (14 April 1993)
- reply to questions in the Committee's letter of 16 March 1993.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded Fenlon) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

There was no outwards correspondence.

Dept of Primary Industries Long Unreconciled Bank Accounts

In accordance with Standing Order 203 the Chairman read his final draft report paragraph by paragraph for the second time.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded D'Arcy) that the Chairman's final draft report be adopted by the Committee as its report on its review of the Auditor-General's first and second reports on audits performed for the year ended 30 June 1992: Matters concerning the Department of Primary Industries.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded D'Arcy) that pursuant to the provisions of section 4(2) and section 5 of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1992*, the Committee authorise the publication and printing of its report entitled "Review of the Auditor-General's first and second reports on audits performed for the year ended 30 June 1992: Matters concerning the Department of Primary Industries".

Discussion ensued on the matter of press releases.

Discussion ensued about the availability of the Committee's accumulated expertise and documents for the Joint Advisory Team.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Santoro) that, on publication of the report, the Chairman write to various members of the Joint Advisory Team inviting representatives of that Team to a meeting with the Chairman, Research Staff and Committee Members to avail themselves of the accumulated expertise and documentation that has been accumulated during the Committee's inquiry.

Next Meeting

11 may 1993

The meeting closed at 8.23 am.

Confirmed *11th May* 1993



Chairman

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room A35, Ground Floor, Parliament House commencing at 12.40 pm on Tuesday 11 May 1993. Members present: D'Arcy (from 12.43 pm), Elliott, Fenlon, Grice (from 12.42 pm), Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (until 1.00 pm). Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 20 April 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Pearce.

Matters Arising

1. Mr Dahms informed the Committee that the fax stream numbers for Members has been checked and all changes had been made.
2. Mr Elliott raised the matter of his recollection of a Committee decision that a joint press conference would be held re the Committee's report on the Dept of Primary Industries inquiry.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that a formal motion be moved on the next occasion when a report is published.

Inward correspondence

1. Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Dept of Primary Industries (22 April 1993)
 - comments on Committee's Report No 24 - request Committee appropriately note his appointment to the position of Executive Director (Corporate Services) on 23 November 1991.
2. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (28 April 1993)
 - acknowledging receipt of Committee's Report 24.
3. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (29 April 1993)
 - comments on Committee's Report No 24.
4. The Honourable E D Casey, Minister for Primary Industries (28 April 1993)
 - appointment of the Joint Advisory Committee and a copy of the Charter and Terms of Reference for the review.

5. Mr D Luttrell, Executive Director, Information Policy Board (29 April 1993)
 - comments on Committee's Report No 24.
6. Mr B R Rollason, Auditor-General (4 May 1993)
 - establishment of Queensland Audit Office.
7. Mr J J Howard, Dept of Primary Industries (6 May 1993)
 - comments on the Committee's report on its inquiries into the Dept of Primary Industries.
8. Mr P J McPhillimy, Secpro International (30 April 1993)
 - letter (with attachments) to Mr Grice and tabled by Mr Grice.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Elliott) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

1. Matters in the letters from Mr Varghese (1) and Mr Howard (7) were discussed.

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that the Chairman reply to the letters from Messrs Varghese and Howard informing them that the Committee has made its deliberations and awaits the report of the Joint Advisory Team, and that Messrs Varghese and Howard may bring the matters raised to the attention of the Joint Advisory Team.

2. **Agreed** that the letter from Mr McPhillimy (8) be held over until the next meeting.

Outward Correspondence

1. The Honourable E D Casey, Minister for Primary Industries (20 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.
2. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (20 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.
3. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (22 April 1993)
 - return of QGFMS training manuals and accounting manual.
4. Media Release (20 and 22 April 1993)
 - Report 24 - Dept of Primary Industries.
5. Mr E F Finger, Director-General, Dept of the Premier, Economic and Trade Development (23 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.

6. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission (23 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.
7. Mr D Luttrell, Executive Director, Information Policy Board (23 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.
8. Mr H Smerdon, Under Treasury, Queensland Treasury (23 April 1993)
 - copy of Committee's Report 24 forwarded.
9. Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Dept of Primary Industries (23 April 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter dated 22 April 1993.
10. Ms R Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (23 April 1993)
 - request for further information re recommendations made in Committee Reports 7 and 8 on the financial administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.
11. Mr R D Doyle, Clerk of Parliament (30 April 1993)
 - tabling of Report 24.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Elliott) that the outward correspondence be adopted

Matters Arising from the Outward Correspondence

Agreed that matters concerning Aboriginal and Island Councils (10) be discussed under Item 7 on the Agenda.

Review of the Queensland Audit Office

Members were briefed with respect to the Committee's statutory obligations under amendments to the Financial Administration and Audit Act with respect to:

- consultation by the Treasurer in preparation of the Queensland Audit Office Budget; and
- consultation by the Premier about strategic reviews of the Queensland Audit Office.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that Mr Dahms arrange an inspection visit to the Queensland Audit Office by all Committee Members for 1.00 pm Thursday, 13 May 1993.

Standard of Preparation of Departmental Statements

A sample letter to all departmental accountable officers was placed before the Committee for consideration.

Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Fenlon) that the letter as constructed be forwarded to all accountable officers.

Aboriginal and Island Councils

The matter of the Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs apparent lack of due consideration of Committee requests was discussed at length. This perceived lack of due consideration was raised as a result of recent replies to a letter from the Committee (5 March 1993) requesting follow-up information with respect to the Department's implementation of recommendations in reports 7 & 8, and to recent verbal responses by a Departmental officer to the research staff on the same matter.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Elliott) that the research staff prepare background material in preparation for the calling of Officers of the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs to a public hearing.

Agreed that the Committee consider:

- the implementation by Councils of recommendations made by the Auditor-General
- transition process to the present councils and in particular specific recommendations, laws and policies with respect to accountability
- clarification of the process (raised by Ruth Matchett) about the development of financial modules
- the framework within which the Committee is able to make recommendations
- the need and timing of inspection visits to Aboriginal and Islander Communities required in association with this Public Hearing (this matter is addressed further under Committee Budget).

Agreed that no fore-warning of the Public Hearing be given to the Department officers.

Report on Visit to South Australian economic and Finance Committee

The Chairman provided Members with a report on the visit to the South Australian Economic and Finance Committee by himself and the research staff. The visit was to discuss the recent Economic and Finance inquiry into the hiring of consultants by public sector agencies in South Australia.

The research staff provided some broad details about the setting up of the Committee's inquiry into this matter in Queensland.

Committee Program

The Chairman provided a program of Committee activities for the remainder of the calendar year.

Committee Budget

The Committee considered its budget for the month ending 30 April 1993.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that using sub committees the Committee:

- avail itself of the opportunity to inform itself of the operations of other public accounts committees in Australia and New Zealand, and
- visit aboriginal and Islander communities prior to the planned public hearing into the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Mr Dahms was requested to establish whether the committees of the Federal Parliament and that of New Zealand would be meeting during June 1993 and report to the next meeting.

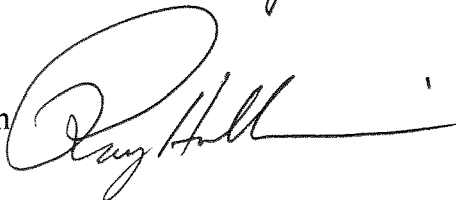
Next Meeting

18 May 1993, 1.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 1.23 pm.

Confirmed *18th May* 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room 5.04, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.00pm on Tuesday 18 May 1993. Members present: Elliott (from 1.20pm), Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz. Apologies: D'Arcy, Santoro.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 11 May 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Pearce.

Inward Correspondence

1. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission (7 May 1993)
 - advising that the Minister for Primary Industries has approached his organisation in relation to Recommendations 2 and 3 contained in the Committee's Report No 24.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Pearce) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. All Accountable Officers, as per attached list, (13 May 1993)
 - letter re the Standard of Preparation of Departmental Statements.
2. Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries (13 May 1993)
 - Committee has considered his comments in relation to Report No 24.
3. Mr J Howard, Manager, Business Services and Systems, Department of Primary Industries (13 May 1993)
 - Committee has considered his comments in relation to Report No 24.
4. Mr H Smerdon, Under Treasurer and Under Secretary, Treasury Department (13 May 1993)
 - requesting advice re the timing of the consultation process between the Committee and the Treasury Department in relation to the Queensland Audit Office Budget.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co Inquiry

The Chairman noted on behalf of Mr D'Arcy the latter's concern about the Director's fees for the original five listed proprietary companies and the lack of a prospectus for these companies.

The letter tabled at Committee meeting dated 11 May 1998 by Mr Grice concerning matters raised by Mr McPhillimy of Secpro International were discussed at length.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Elliott) that, pursuant to section 13(d) of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988*, the Chairman write to the Auditor-General providing a copy of the letter and accompanying documents from Mr McPhillimy of Secpro International requesting his comments on the matters raised.

Agreed that:

- the Committee wait for advice from the Auditor-General before proceeding further with the matter; and
- the Chairman liaise with the Chairman of the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee regarding the matters.

Committee Travel

Mr Dahms advised that Parliament would be recessed during June 1993 and this would not be a suitable time for Members to visit Canberra. The alternative was a Senate visit planned by EARC for 24 May 1993.

Agreed that D'Arcy, Elliott and the Research Staff would avail themselves of this opportunity.

Mr Dahms advised that the New Zealand parliament and Committees were meeting all through June 1993 and would be available for meetings with Members.

Agreed that travel to New Zealand would be reconsidered for July 1993.

An inspection visit to Aboriginal and Islander Communities was discussed.

Agreed that Fenlon, Grice and Pearce would represent the Committee on this Inspection Visit and arrangements would be made by Ms Stolz. Ms Stolz would accompany the delegation.

Next Meeting

July 1993 date to be decided by the Chairman when Legislative Assembly sitting days known.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm.

Confirmed *13th July* 1993

[Signature]
Chairman

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Clerk of the Parliament
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Mr F N Albietz
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Mr B M Rollason
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Dr P Coaldrake
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Mr D G Stevenson
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Mr V J O'Rourke
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Mr R L Marshman
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Mr K Hilless
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Professor R D Scott
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Dr C A Emerson
Director-General
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Mr B B Smith
Director-General
Department of Justice &
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Ms R L Matchett
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Mr B A Stewart
Director-General
Department of Consumer Affairs
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Mr R K Hamburger
Director-General
Queensland Corrective Services
Commission
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Mr R W Dunning
Director-General
Administrative Services Department
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Mr R K Doyle
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Mr B G Wilson
Director-General
Department of Lands
PO Box 40
WOOLLOONGABBA QLD 4102

Mr R S O'Regan
Chairman
Criminal Justice Commission
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Mr D Solomon
Chairman
Electoral & Administrative
Review Commission
PO Box 349
BRISBANE ALBERT ST QLD 4002

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Committee Meeting Room A35, Parliament House commencing at 11.05 am on Friday 11 June 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Pearce, Santoro (from 11.07). Mr Hollis unable to be present (away overseas). Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Mr Fenlon raised a point of order.

He submitted that the meeting was not properly constituted in that he disputes the power of the Deputy Chairman to call a meeting. The only power prescribed for the Deputy Chairman within the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988* is the power to preside at a meeting. He further submitted that the meeting be adjourned until the matter is clarified.

Mr Elliott tabled a letter from the Clerk of the Parliament and an unsigned opinion from the University of Queensland Law School which provide the opinion that section 9 of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988* confers all the powers on the Deputy Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and that includes the power to call a meeting of the Committee.

Mr Elliott detailed two other independent opinions (verbal) in support of his power as Deputy Chairman to call a meeting of the Committee, one from staff with a legal background in the Parliamentary Library.

Mr Elliott ruled that the meeting was in order based upon the weight of this advice.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 18 May 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy, seconded Santoro.

Correspondence

Mr Dahms informed the Meeting that most of the correspondence inward concerned replies to the Committee's questionnaire concerning the standard of preparation of departmental financial statements and that all correspondence could wait until the next meeting at which the Chairman would be present.

Agreed that the correspondence be held over until the next meeting at which the Chairman would be present.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co

Mr Dahms informed the meeting that the Auditor-General had replied to the Chairman's letter of 19 May 1993 referring to him matters raised by Mr

McPhillimy concerning the Indy Car Race and placed before the Committee by Mr Grice. The Auditor-General informed the Committee by letter dated 3 June 1993 that he would examine the details raised by Mr McPhillimy and act on any details which he believes are audit related.

Committee Travel

Ms Stolz placed before the meeting details of the travel itinerary to Aboriginal and Island Councils for July 1993.

Mr Dahms supplied preliminary details for the Chairman's proposed travel to New Zealand in July 1993. He was requested to determine dates of hearings to be conducted by the New Zealand Finance and Expenditure Committee into bills and estimates. Members thought all the Committee should be included in this travel. Mr Dahms was requested to seek advice from the Chairman as to the size of the delegation he had in mind. Details of these matters were to be faxed to Members as soon as possible.

Queenslands Ambulance Service

Mr Elliott raised issues included in the Interim Report of the Public Sector Management Commission into the Queensland Ambulance Service and the question of the accuracy of reporting in the 1991/92 Annual Report of the Bureau of Emergency Services.

Discussion ensued.

During the discussion it was established that, under section 13 of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988*, the Committee could not review the Interim Report of the Public Sector Management Commission, but it could review annual reports of the Bureau of Emergency Services.

The Research Staff provided a briefing which informed the Committee that the Public Sector Management Commission was continuing its review of the Bureau of Emergency Services and would produce its final report in late July, early August 1993; The Auditor-General is currently conducting his audit of the Bureau of Emergency Services. The Research Staff recommended that these two bodies be allowed to complete their audit/review and that the Committee subsequently review the Auditor-General's Report on Audits Performed for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 1993 and the 1992/93 Annual Report of the Bureau of Emergency Services.

Ms Stolz explained the various budget papers and financial statements for the Bureau of Emergency Services for the 1992/93 financial year.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Santoro):

- that the Committee note the review of the Bureau of Emergency Services is

continuing and the audit of departmental financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 1993 is currently being conducted by the Auditor-General;

- that the Committee write to the Auditor-General asking him to include in his audit review a clarification of the following:
 - into which Queensland Ambulance Service Account were the Trust Funds held by the Local Area Ambulance Committee remitted;
 - how much did each Local area Ambulance Committee remit; and
 - were remitted Trust Funds monies budgeted for and expended according to the provisions of the *Ambulance Service Act 1991*.

Carried unanimously

Discussion ensued concerning press conferences after this meeting.

Agreed That the matters discussed by the Committee and the action proposed by the Committee remain within the Committee and that the press would not be involved.

Next Meeting

Undetermined.

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm.

Confirmed

13th July

1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.00 pm on Tuesday 13 July 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz. Apology: Elliott.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 18 May 1993 were circulated at this meeting (for the second time) since the movers and seconders at the 11 June 1993 meeting were not present at the 18 May 1993 meeting. They were confirmed on the motion by Grice, seconded Fenlon.

Minutes of the meeting of 11 June 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Grice, seconded D'Arcy.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Auditor-General has replied to the Committee's request for information concerning the Queensland Ambulance Service trust funds. The matter was deferred until the next meeting.

Inward Correspondence

1. Ms Laurel Power MLA, Caucus Secretary (7 May 1993)
 - seeking submission from the Committee re Reform of the Parliament (Hobart, House of Assembly Select Committee).
2. Professor Roger Scott, Director-General of Education (18 May 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements. A detailed response to be forwarded at a later date.
3. Mr David Solomon, Chairman, Electoral and Administrative Review Commission (26 May 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements. Plan not included.
4. Mr H R Smerdon, Under Treasurer, Queensland Treasury (26 May 1993)
 - review of the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) Budget, which was discussed at the Cabinet Budget Review Committee on 24 June. Treasurer's staff to arrange an appropriate time to discuss the budget with Committee's Secretary.
5. Mr R W Dunning, Director-General, Administrative Services Department (26 May 1993)

- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
6. Mr B M Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (28 May 1993)
 - agreement to the extended period of secondment for Ms D A Stolz.
 7. Mr G W Taylor, General Manager, Finance and Administration, Queensland Corrective Services Commission (31 May 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
 8. Mr B M Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (3 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of documents concerning the Indy Grand Prix. Matters relating to audit aspects will be acted upon.
 9. Mr R S O'Regan QC, Chairman, Criminal Justice Commission (1 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
 10. Mr David Solomon, Chairman, Electoral and Administrative Review Commission (26 May 1993, received 3 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements with a copy of their plan previously omitted (see item 3).
 11. Mr P W Anderson, Secretary, Island Co-ordinating Council (6 June 1993)
 - confirmation of Meeting between the Delegation of the Public Accounts Committee, Minister for Family Services and the Island Co-ordinating Council.
 12. Mr Santo Santoro, MLA, Member for Clayfield (10 June 1993)
 - inclusion of Indy Car Race on the Agenda of the next full meeting of the Public Accounts Committee.
 13. Mr R K Boyle, Director-General, Dept of Business, Industry and Regional Development (22 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
 14. Mr R L Marshman, Director-General, Dept of Employment, Vocational Education, Training and Industrial Relations (16 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
 15. Mr B M Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (22 June 1993)
 - B/c copy of letter to the Premier, advising of the unsuitability of the PSMC nomination (Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Dept of Primary Industries) to the Selection Panel for the Appointment of the Deputy Auditor-General. Mr Rollason suggests that the appointment of a Member for the Public Accounts

Committee would be more suitable.

16. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (24 June 1993)
 - an invitation to the Chairman to attend the Launch of a New Financial Management System Pilot and Training Package.
17. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (24 June 1993)
 - an invitation to the Research Director to attend the Launch of a New Financial Management System Pilot and Training Package.
18. Mr Vince O'Rourke, Chief Executive, Queensland Rail (21 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
19. Mr P Philipson, Director Finance, Dept of Lands (21 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
20. Mr Peter Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission (21 June 1993)
 - Consultancy Inquiry. Mr Coaldrake advises a Draft policy entitled Staffing Options to Manage Organisation Change in the Queensland Public Sector has been developed. This Policy relates the re-employment of employees who have been paid severance benefits.
21. Mr M F Schafer, Director, Organisational Services, Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations (Ombudsman) (23 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
22. Mr John Just, Manager Financial Services, Queensland Police Service (23 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
23. Mr Craig Emerson, Director-General, Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage (under the Hand of R F Smith) (24 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
24. Mr W F Turner, Director (Finance), Queensland Transport (23 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
25. Mr J A Geldard, Acting Sectary, Queensland Electricity Commission (under the Hand of W Hughes) (29 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
26. Mr Ian Thompson, Acting Clerk of the Parliament, Legislative Assembly

- Offices (30 June 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
27. Mr Craig Atkinson, Legislative Assembly Offices, (Memorandum 30 June 1993)
- budget for PAC trip to Torres Strait and Cairns.
28. Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, (under the Hand of P Loughland) (29 June 1993)
- advising a copy of the Island Council Accounting Standards had been forwarded under separate cover.
29. Mr R V Newton, Manager Finance Branch, Dept of Justice and Attorney-General (30 June 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
30. The Honourable Edmund Casey MLA, Minister for Primary Industries (30 June 1993)
- requesting Committee's agreement to changes in the make-up of the Joint Advisory Team to be appointed according to recommendations in report No 24 of the Committee.
31. Mr Alan Warren, Manager, Finance and Administration Branch, Dept of Minerals and Energy (1 July 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
32. Mr P W Anderson, Secretary, Island Co-ordinating Council (1 July 1993)
- arrangements for the Delegation from the Public Accounts Committee to meet with the Executive Group of the Island Co-ordinating Council.
33. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries (1 July 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
34. Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (29 June 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
35. Mr F Michael Cassidy, Director, Financial Services Branch, Queensland Treasury (30 June 1993)
- acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
36. Mr P W Anderson, Secretary, Island Co-ordinating Council (5 July 1993)
- arrangements for the Delegation from the Public Accounts Committee to meet with the Executive Group of the Island Co-ordinating Council and Transport arrangements to return to Horn

Island after Meeting.

37. Dr P H Stanley, Director-General, Queensland Health (30 June 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
38. Mr F M Cassidy, Director, Financial Services Branch, Queensland Treasury (30 June 1993, received 2 July 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
39. Mr T A Leighton, Director, Financial Services Branch, Dept of the Premier, Economic and Trade Development (6 July 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.
40. Mr Dick Persson, Director- General, Dept of Housing Local Government and Planning (25 June 1993 received 10 July 1993)
 - acknowledgment of letter re Standard of Preparation of departmental statements and copy of plan.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Grice) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

- 12. Mr Santoro MLA re Indy Car Race - left until item 6 on the agenda.
- 15. Auditor-General re the selection panel for the position of Deputy Auditor-General. The matter has been resolved with Tom Tolhurst replacing Jim Varghese on the selection panel for the Deputy Auditor-General. The Chairman is also to be included on the selection panel.
- 16. Mr Miller re invitation to launch of the Dept of Primary Industries new Financial Management System pilot. Mr Santoro requested that in future where the Chairman is unable to accept an invitation that other Members be informed to allow them to accept in his place.
- 20. Dr Coaldrake's reply to the Committee's letter of 25 May 1993, requesting a copy of the results of the PSMC survey of the re-engagement of redundant public servants and any changes to the Redundancy policy, omitted a copy of the survey results.

Agreed that the Chairman write to Dr Coaldrake requesting a copy of the PSMC survey of the redundancy policy and in particular the re-engagement of redundant public servants as requested in the Committee's letter of 25 May 1993.

- 30. The Honourable Edmund Casey MLA proposing a change in the

composition of the Joint Advisory Team to be constituted as a result of recommendations in Report No 24 of the Committee.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce):

- that the Committee inform the Minister that it stands by its original recommendation which provided for independence from the Department in the composition and the operation of the Joint Advisory Team; and
- that the Chairman, as a matter of urgency seek a meeting with the Minister to express concerns of the Committee regarding the proposed changes to the Joint Advisory Team.

Agreed that the Chairman bring to the notice of the Minister at this meeting that it had offered its expertise and papers from the inquiry into the Department of Primary Industries to the Joint Advisory Team.

Outward Correspondence

1. Ms Laurel Powell MLA, Caucus Secretary (18 May 1993)
 - Committee's submission on Reform of the Parliament (Hobart, House of Assembly Select Committee).
2. Mr Graham Carpenter, Treasury Department (18 May 1993)
 - offering the Committee's expertise and documents to the Joint Advisory Team during its review of the Dept of Primary Industries Corporate Services program.
3. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General (19 May 1993)
 - copies of the Secpro documents related to the Indy Grand Prix Race for his information and comment.
4. Mr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission (25 May 1993)
 - requesting a copy of the PSMC survey of the re-engagement of redundant public servants and any changes to the Redundancy Policy that have resulted.
5. The following letters were written to arrange meetings for the Committee's inspection visits to Aboriginal and Island Councils in July 1993:
 - The Executive Officer, Island Co-ordinating Council, Thursday Island (31 May 1993)
 - The Chairman, Hopevale Aboriginal Council, Hopevale (31 May 1993)
 - Mr R Patterson, Chairman, Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council, Cairns (1 June 1993)
 - Mr J Mosby, Chairman, Yorke Island Council, Yorke Island (2 June 1993).
6. Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and

Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (11 June 1993)

- requesting a copy of Island Council Accounting Standards issued by the Minister.
7. Details of the Public Accounts Committee's delegation and its intention during the Inspection Visit to Aboriginal and Island communities during July was forwarded as follows:
- The Honourable Anne Warner, Minister, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (15 June 1993)
 - Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (15 June 1993).
8. Revised list of Members in the Delegation was forwarded as follows:
- Mr Peter Anderson, Executive Officer, Island Co-ordinating Council, Thursday Island (15 June 1993)
 - Mr David Costello, Chairman, Hopevale Aboriginal Council, Hopevale (15 June 1993)
 - Mr R Patterson, Chairman, Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council, Cairns (15 June 1993)
 - Mr J Mosby, Chairman, Yorke Island Council, Yorke Island (15 June 1993).
9. Mr S D Bredhauer MLA, Member for Cook (15 June 1993)
- advice of the Committee's inspection visit to Aboriginal and Island Councils in his electorate with a copy of the itinerary.
10. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General (16 June 1993)
- requesting certain information be obtained on the Queensland Ambulance Service during the current audit of the Bureau of Emergency Services.
11. Mr P Anderson, General Manager, Island Co-ordinating Council, Thursday Island (17 June 1993)
- acceptance of a joint meeting between the Committee's Delegation, Members of the Island Co-ordinating Council and the Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
12. Mr P Anderson, General Manager, Island Co-ordinating Council, Thursday Island (25 June 1993)
- date for the meeting with Members of the Island Co-ordinating Council.
13. The following letters provide confirmation of meeting dates during the Committee's the Inspection Visit to the various councils as follows:
- Mr Peter Anderson, Executive Officer, Island Co-ordinating Council, Thursday Island (5 July 1993)
 - Mr David Costello, Chairman, Hopevale Aboriginal Council, Hopevale (5 July 1993)
 - Mr J Mosby, Chairman, Yorke Island Council, Yorke Island (5 July 1993).

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded D'Arcy) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Mr Grice noted the bulk of correspondence and questioned the need to provide full copies to all Members.

Agreed that in future only one copy of the correspondence would be provided at each meeting and that Members could peruse those of interest at the Meeting.

Chairman's Visit to the United Kingdom

Mr Hollis briefed the Committee on his trip to the UK and in particular mentioned the closeness of operation between the National Audit Office and the Public Accounts Committee in that country. He indicated that the process results in greater accountability and significant financial savings. A briefing paper is to be produced which will be distributed to Members together with relevant documents.

Aboriginal and Island Councils Inspection Visit

Mr D'Arcy and Mr Fenlon briefed the Committee on the Delegation's findings from this inspection visit.

Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that a Sub-Committee of the Public Accounts Committee be formed comprising Members who were in the July 1993 delegation to the Aboriginal and Island Councils (namely Messrs D'Arcy, Fenlon, Grice) to follow-up various matters with Mr K Fitzgerald, Audit Director (Administrative Services) Queensland Audit Office and with ASTIC.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co Inquiry

Mr Santoro advised the Committee that he had in his possession further allegations concerning questionable matters in the financial administration of the Indy Car Grand Prix. He would make these available and was happy let the matter lie until the next meeting of the Committee.

Mr Dahms informed the Committee that he had contacted Mr Tim Rothwell, Assistant General Manager, Gold Coast Motor Events Co and was advised that they planned to have their financial statements ready for the external auditor on 26 July 1993.

Committee Travel

The proposed visit to New Zealand in August 1993 was discussed.

Agreed that:

- the Delegation consist of Messrs Hollis, Pearce and Dahms; Messrs Santoro and D'Arcy would attend depending upon commitments (Mr Dahms to be advised of their availability or otherwise by Friday 16 July

1993).

- the period of travel to be 16 - 20 August 1993 inclusive;
- the Delegation during the proposed visit to New Zealand would be examine;
 - the operations of the New Zealand Parliamentary Committee System and compare it with that recently examined by the Chairman in the United Kingdom and by research staff and other Members of the Committee in the Australian Federal Parliament;
 - the role of the New Zealand Audit Office and its relationship with the Expenditure and Finance Committee; and
 - any other accountability mechanisms available to the New Zealand Parliament; and
- the Research Staff would develop an itinerary.

Mr Dahms advised the Committee that before travel to New Zealand or New Guinea a submission must be made to the Parliamentary Service Commission. When the PSC is not sitting the submission may be made to Mr Speaker.

Agreed that the Research Staff and Chairman would prepare the submission.

Standard of Preparation of Departmental Statements

A spread sheet of responses to the Committee's letter of 14 May 1993 requesting departmental heads to provide proposed plans for the preparation of their departmental statements together with the names of officers designated to prepare these financial statements was placed before the Committee.

Two Departments (Education and Consumer Affairs) had not supplied the requested information by the specified date and many of the replies were not signed by the Director-General.

Agreed:

- that the Chairman write to the Directors-General of the Dept of Education and the Dept of Consumer Affairs reminding them of the request and requiring them to submit the information to the Committee by 4.00 pm, Friday 16 July 1992; and that
- the matter lie until after the Auditor-General has completed his audits for the financial year ended 30 June 1993.

Consultancy Inquiry

Mr Dahms provided the Committee with details of the progress with this inquiry.

- the Questionnaire is planned for the end of July 1993 with returns by 31 August 1993;
- the inquiry on compliance with the Instructions for the Engagement and

- Use of Consultants will involve public hearings during October 1993 based upon the survey carried out by the Queensland Audit Office;
- public submissions will be called during August-September 1993.

Next Meeting

24 August 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.20 pm.

Confirmed *26th August* 1993



Chairman

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 6.47, Level 6, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.02 pm on Thursday 15 July 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Grice, Hollis, Mr Elliott. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz. Apologies: Fenlon, Pearce, Santoro.

Resolved (Moved Grice, Seconded Elliott) that in accordance with Section 15(1) of the *Public Accounts Act 1988*, Mr D'Arcy be appointed as the Chairman of the Aboriginal and Island Council Sub-committee.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm.

Confirmed

24th August

1993



Chairman

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.07 pm on Tuesday 24 August 1993. Members present: D'Arcy (until 1.45 pm), Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Also present: Mr Dahms and Ms Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meetings of 13 and 15 July 1993 were circulated. They were confirmed on the motion by Grice, seconded D'Arcy.

Inward Correspondence

1. Mr Getano Lui (Jnr), Chairman, Island Co-ordinating Council (15 July 1993)
 - Formal advice of matters raised by the Sub-Committee at the Meeting held 6 July 1993.
2. Mr Robert Patterson, Chairman, Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council (21 July 1993)
 - Invitation to address the full meeting of the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council on Tuesday 3 August 1993.
3. Mr H R Smerdon, Under Treasurer, Queensland Treasury (9 August 1993)
 - Consultation with Committee in developing the proposed budget for the Queensland Audit Office.
4. Mr Ed Casey, Minister for Primary Industries (9 August 1993)
 - Explanation of the delays in forming the Joint Advisory Team (as required by the Committee's Report No 24). The Treasurer also provided a revised Draft terms of Reference.
5. Mr R G Pitt, Deputised Chairman, State Purchasing Council (10 August 1993)
 - Request as to the State Purchasing Councils relationship to the Committee's inquiry into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants.
6. Acknowledgment of Summons to attend Public Hearing
 - Dept of Primary Industries*
 - Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services).
 - Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs*
 - Ms R L Matchett, Director-General.

7. Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (19 August 1993)
 - Confirm that copies of Accounting Standards have been forwarded to the Chairmen of Island Councils.

8. Responses to Committee's request for its plan for the preparation of Departmental Statements - 2 letters.
 - Dept of Consumer Affairs
 - Dept of Education

9. Acknowledgment of receipt of the Committee's questionnaire on the Engagement of External Consultants - 2 letters.
 - Bureau of Emergency Services
 - Queensland Corrective Services Commission

10. Responses to Committee's questionnaire on the Engagement of External Consultants - 4 letters.
 - Gladstone Port Authority
 - Mackay Port Authority
 - The Wide Bay-Burnett Electricity Board
 - The Totalisator Administration Board of Queensland

11. Submissions, Engagement and Use of External Consultants - 5 responses.
 - Reeves Lourensz Group Pty Ltd
 - Technisyst
 - Greg Hannant & Associates
 - Mr Leon Pushong
 - Australian Data Preparation

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr Ed Casey, Minister for Primary Industries (16 July 1993)
 - Committee's response Mr Casey's letter of 30 June 1993. The advise given was that the Joint advisory Team and the process of its review was to be independent from the Department. The Committee strongly holds this view and does not agree to the proposed change to the composition of the JAT.

2. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission (22 July 1993)
 - Request for a copy of the results of the PSMC review examining the effectiveness of all aspects of the current redundancy policy.

3. Mr Ross Pitt, Deputised Chairman, State Purchasing Council, Administrative Services Department (23 July 1993)

- Request for a copy of the results of the State Purchasing Council's review on the Engagement of consultants by the Public Sector.
4. Mr H R Smerdon, Under Treasurer & Under Secretary, Queensland Treasury (30 July 1993)
 - Request for a meeting with the Treasurer and Treasury Department staff to discuss the Queensland Audit Office budget (requirement of \$68, *Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1977*).
 5. All Accountable Officers and Statutory Bodies (30 July 1993)
 - Questionnaire on the Engagement and Use of External Consultants.
 6. Issue of Summons, Dept of Primary Industries Inquiry (6 August 1993).
 - Dr P Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission
 - Ms Carolyn Granger, Acting Deputy Director-General (Resources), Dept of Education
 - Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Dept of Primary Industries
 - Mr J Howard, Manager Business Services & Systems, Dept of Primary Industries (6 August 1993)
 - Mr J Miller, Director-General, Dept of Primary Industries
 7. Issue of Summons, Inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils (6 August 1993).
 - Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services & Aboriginal and Islander Affairs
 - Mr Les Malezer, Division Head, Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Dept of Family Services & Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (12 August 1993)
 8. Ms Jeni Eastwood, Joint General Secretary, State Public Services Federation, Queensland (10 August 1993)
 - Notification that Committee is:
 - (a) forwarding a questionnaire to Public Sector bodies in relation to its inquiry into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants as well as calling for Public Submissions; and
 - (b) holding Public Hearings into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils and Dept of Primary Industries.
 9. Mr Laurie Gillespie, Joint General Secretary, State Public Services Federation, Queensland (10 August 1993)
 - Notification that Committee is:
 - (a) forwarding a questionnaire to Public Sector bodies in relation to its inquiry into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants as well as calling for Public Submissions; and
 - (b) holding Public Hearings into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils and Dept of Primary

Industries.

10. Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services & Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (6 August 1993)
- Notification of the change of venue for the Public Hearing into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Chairman's Visit to the United Kingdom

Mr Hollis briefed the Committee on his proposal for a new method of operation of the Committee based upon his observations of public service accountability processes in the United Kingdom. A briefing paper on the proposal was circulated for consideration and comment by the Members.

Committee Travel to New Zealand

Messrs Hollis, D'Arcy, Pearce and Dahms travelled to New Zealand to examine that country's system of Parliamentary Committees and to engage in talks with the Controller and Auditor-General. The Chairman gave an overview of the New Zealand trip, which reinforced the opinion that the Public Accounts Committee should maintain its core business. As a result of this visit the delegation formed the view that the direction in which the Chairman wishes to develop the operations of the Committee are the most appropriate for Queensland. A report on the delegation's business discussions will be provided for Members at the next meeting.

Committee's Annual Report

The Chairman read his final draft annual report for the 1992-93 financial year paragraph by paragraph for the first time pursuant to Standing Order 203.

Agreed that the Chairman would read his final draft annual report for the 1992-93 financial year paragraph by paragraph for a second time at the next meeting of the Committee.

Aboriginal and Island Councils

Mr D'Arcy presented the Aboriginal and Island Councils Sub-Committee's report on its activities since the previous full meeting. A copy is attached as Attachment 1.

Mr D'Arcy also placed before the Committee the issues paper prepared by Ms Stolz for the Committee's inquiry into the financial administration on the

Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that the issues paper be adopted by the Committee.

The public hearing date of 13 September 1993 was confirmed for the Members and witnesses from the Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs are, Ms Ruth Matchett, Director General, Mr Les Malezer, Divisional Head and Mr Jim Warhope, Assistant Divisional Head (Division of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs).

Dept of Primary Industries

The date for the Public Hearing into the financial management of the Dept of Primary Industries is set for 29 September 1993. Witnesses called before the Committee from the Department are Mr Jim Miller, Director-General, Mr Jim Varghese, Executive Director, Corporate Services and Mr Jim Howard, Manager Business Services and Systems. Additional witnesses called are Dr Peter Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission and Ms Carolyn Granger, acting Deputy Director-General (Resources) Dept of Education (formerly Manager of the Review Team at the Public Sector Management Commission and responsible for the review to the Dept of Primary Industries).

Consultancy Inquiry

The questionnaire in the meeting notes was forwarded to all departments and a selection of other public sector entities for return by 30 August 1993. Advertisements calling for public submissions were placed in the Saturday Courier Mail on 7 and 14 August 1993). a public hearing is planned for October 1993.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co

Agreed that the matter be left on the table until a decision had been made on the future of the Indy Car Race Event.

Committee Budget

The Committee noted its budgets for 31 May 1993, 30 June 1993 and 31 July 1993.

Other Business

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy) that the Committee express its appreciation for the excellent work of the Committee's Research staff in carrying out their duties on behalf of the Committee.

Mr Elliott raised the issue of the Queensland Ambulance Service. Mention was made that Members were supplied with the Auditor-General's reply. Ms Stloz outlined the situation with trust funds as described in the Auditor-General's letter.

Agreed that Mr Elliott would obtain specific examples for further discussion about the Auditor-General's explanation.

Next Meeting

31 August 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.03 pm.

Confirmed *31st August* 1993

Chairman 

Sub-Committee, Aboriginal and Island Councils Report

Establishment

At the Committee Meeting held on 13 July 1993, the Committee resolved to form a Sub-Committee to inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils. The Sub-Committee Members appointed were Messrs D'Arcy, Fenlon and Grice.

Mr D'Arcy was appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee at a subsequent meeting of the full Committee held on 15 July 1993.

Sub-Committee Business

Following the Sub-Committee's formation, the following meetings were held.

Friday, 16 July 1993

1:00pm to 2:30pm - Conference Room, Level 15, Parliament Annexe, Brisbane

Present: Messrs D'Arcy (Chairman), Fenlon and Grice. Also present Ms Stolz (Research Officer) and Mr Ken Fitzgerald, Audit Director - Administrative Services, Queensland Audit Office.

Mr Fitzgerald is responsible for the Audit of the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs. His duties include the 'quality control' of the audit reports issued on the Community-based Councils.

Wednesday, 21 July 1993

10:45am to 11:55am - Room A17, Parliament House, Brisbane

Present: Messrs Fenlon and Grice. Also present Ms Stolz (Research Officer), Mr Phil Donnelly, State Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and Mr Geoff Richardson, Deputy State Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Commission (ATSIC) is a Commonwealth Government body, which supplies the majority of the Councils' funding. ATSIC issues terms and conditions for the expenditure of its grants moneys. Councils are required to report to ATSIC on a quarterly basis.

Thursday, 22 July 1993

10:00am to 11:00am - Room A17, Parliament House, Brisbane

Present: Mr D'Arcy (Chairman), Ms Stolz (Research Officer), Mr Mark Le Grand, Director, Official Misconduct Division, Criminal Justice Commission and Ms Teresa Hamilton, Official Misconduct Division, Criminal Justice Commission.

Due to the Secrecy provisions of its constituting Act, the Criminal Justice Commission staff were restricted in the amount and type of information which they could provide to the Committee.

The Criminal Justice Commission expects to present its Report on Aboriginal and Island Councils and recommendations to the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee in the near future.

Monday, 2 August 1993

3:30pm to 4.05pm - Room A17, Parliament House, Brisbane

Present: Messrs D'Arcy (Chairman), Fenlon and Grice and Ms Stolz (Research Officer).

A discussion was held concerning the Sub-Committee's approach to its Meeting with Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council on Tuesday 3 August 1993.

Tuesday, 3 August 1993

2:00pm to 4:00pm - Horn Island

Messrs D'Arcy and Grice and Ms Stolz (Research Officer) attended the full Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council meeting at Horn Island. Messrs D'Arcy and Grice addressed the meeting on the subject of the financial accountability of Aboriginal Councils.

The Sub-committee also discussed the relationship between the Co-ordinating Council and the Community-based Councils. A new structure was proposed which would increase the powers and responsibilities relating of the Co-ordinating Council while the Community-based Councils powers and responsibilities may have diminished. This proposal was not well-received by the Members.

Wednesday, 4 August 1993

10:30am to 11:00am - Cairns

Messrs D'Arcy and Grice and Ms Stolz (Research Officer) met with Mr Ted Brishke, District Secretary, Australian Workers Union. This meeting took place in Cairns.

Mr Brishke briefed the Members on his dealings with the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council and Aboriginal Councils. Discussion included wages payments and lack of workers compensation premium payments.

Tuesday, 10 August 1993

2:00pm to 4:30pm - Commonwealth Offices, Brisbane

The Federal House of Representatives - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee is currently conducting an inquiry into Aboriginal and Islander people's Access to and Equity of Services. This Committee held a Public Hearing in Brisbane on Tuesday 10 August 1993. Witnesses at this Hearing included the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (Federal body).

Mr D'Arcy held discussion with Mr Garrie Gibson, Chairman and Mr Allan Kelly, Secretary of the Committee. Ms Stolz attended the Public Hearing. A request will be made to obtain transcripts of the Hearing and the Committee's Report.

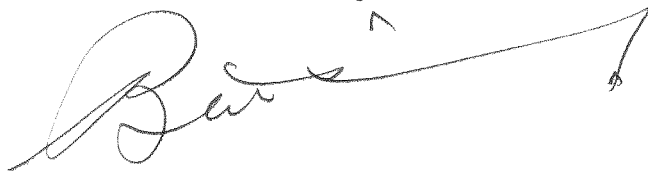
ATSIC regional councils have the same problem of accountability to their community residents, as the Community-based Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Issues Paper

The Sub-Committee has prepared an Issues Paper, which will be distributed to witnesses appearing before the Committee's Public Hearing on Monday 13 September 1993.

The rationale behind the preparation of this Paper - is provide witnesses with a means of identifying the areas likely to be canvassed by the Committee at the hearing. This information should prevent the Departmental representatives from taking questions on notice.

The Draft Issues Paper is before the Committee for endorsement.



Bill D'Arcy,
Chairman, Aboriginal and Island Councils Sub-Committee

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.07 pm on Tuesday 31 August 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon (until 2.25 pm), Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (until 2.30 pm). Also present: Ms Stolz and Mr Ken Fitzgerald Queensland Audit Office.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meetings of 24 August 1993 were circulated. They were confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy, seconded Pearce.

Inward Correspondence

1. Responses to Questionnaire - Engagement and Use of External Consultants

University of Central Queensland (18 August 1993)
Griffith University (19 August 1993)
Grainco (23 August 1993)
University of Southern Queensland (23 August 1993)
Bundaberg Port Authority (24 August 1993)
Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers (COD) (26 August 1993)
Administrative Services Department (26 August 1993)
Public Sector Management Commission (27 August 1993)
Queensland Art Gallery (26 August 1993)
James Cook University of North Queensland (26 August 1993)
Cairns Port Authority (30 August 1993)
Townsville Port Authority (27 August 1993)
Queensland Industry Development Corporation (QIDC) (26 August 1993)
Queensland Institute of Medical Research Council (26 August 1993)
Peninsula and Torres Strait Regional Health Authority (27 August 1993)
Port of Brisbane Authority (27 August 1993)
Queensland Cultural Centre Trust (27 August 1993)
The Public Trustee of Queensland (30 August 1993)
Bureau of Emergency Services (30 August 1993)
Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs
(30 August 1993)
Suncorp (27 August 1993)
Queensland Electricity Commission (30 August 1993)
Capricornia Electricity Board (30 August 1993)

2. Submissions - Engagement and Use of External Consultants

Harry O'Neale (24 August 1993)
N H Wareham (25 August 1993)
Laurie Gilbert (25 August 1993)
Office & Computer Environment Pty Ltd (27 August 1993)
Sinclair Knight (30 August 1993)
Robert Magan & Associates (27 August 1993)
TCP, Telecommunications Consultants Pty Ltd (30 August 1993)
Robert Campbell (30 August 1993)
Andersen Consulting (30 August 1993)
Marketshare (30 August 1993)
Realty Research (30 August 1993)
The Queensland Council of Professions (30 August 1993)
The Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia - Queensland Charter (30 August 1993)

Resolved (moved D'Arcy seconded Pearce) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Chairpersons of Aboriginal and Island Councils (25 August 1993)
 - Notification of Public Hearing with the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
2. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (25 August 1993)
 - Request for Dept of Primary Industries 1991-92 Audit Report and 1992-93 audit report, when available.
3. Mr G Gibson, MHR, Chairman - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee (25 August 1993)
 - Notification of the Public Hearing with the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Committee's Annual Report

The Chairman read his final draft annual report for the 1992-93 financial year paragraph by paragraph for the second time pursuant to Standing Order 203.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Grice) that the Chairman's final draft report be adopted by the Committee as its Annual Report for 1992/93

Consultancy Inquiry

The Chairman advised that a number of responses to the Committee's questionnaire and written submissions had been received by the Research Director.

Briefing on Aboriginal and Island Councils

Mr Ken Fitzgerald, Audit Director - Administrative Services, Queensland Audit Office gave the Committee a briefing on the Financial Administration problems of the Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Other Business

Mr D'Arcy presented the Aboriginal and Island Councils Sub-Committee's report on its activities since the previous full meeting. A copy of the report is appended as Attachment 1.

The Committee discussed an article which appeared in the Cairns Post on Wednesday 25 August 1993. Mr Grice explained the circumstances surrounding this article.

Discussion ensued.

Next Meeting

14 September 1993.

The meeting closed at 2.36pm.

Confirmed *14th September* 1993

Chairman 

Sub-Committee, Aboriginal and Island Councils Report

Sub-Committee Business

Wednesday 25 August, 1993

11:30am to 12:35pm

Room A17, Parliament House, Brisbane

Present: Mr D'Arcy (Chairman) Mr Fenlon, Mr Grice and Ms Stolz (Research Officer), Mr Mark Le Grand, Director, Official Misconduct Division, Criminal Justice Commission and Ms Theresa Hamilton, Official Misconduct Division, Criminal Justice Commission and Mr Pat McCallum Financial Systems Analyst, Criminal Justice Commission.

The CJC's Report to their Parliamentary Committee will be delayed. Their perceptions of financial administration problems of Aboriginal and Island Councils agreed with the Sub-Committee's view.



Bill D'Arcy,
Chairman, Aboriginal and Island Councils Sub-Committee

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.06 pm on Tuesday 14 September 1993. Members present: D'Arcy (until 1.30 pm), Elliott (from 1.16 pm), Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (until 1.50 pm). Also present: Mr Ted Dahms and Ms Debra Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meetings of 31 August 1993 were circulated. They were confirmed on the motion of Pearce, seconded Fenlon.

Inward Correspondence

1. Responses to Questionnaire - Engagement and Use of External Consultants

Mr P Blacker, Conference Convenor, Interdepartmental Accounting Group (25 August 1993)

- Invitation for the Chairman to deliver the key note address and open conference.

Ms R Matchett, Director-General of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (31 August 1993)

- Acknowledgment and queries re Issues Paper on the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

2. Responses to Questionnaire - Engagement and Use of External Consultants

Department of Lands (1 September 1993)

The Mackay Electricity Board (1 September 1993)

Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning (1 September 1993)

Quality Educating Australia (1 September 1993)

Department of Primary Industries (2 September 1993)

Electoral Commission of Queensland (2 September 1993)

The South East Queensland Electricity Board (2 September 1993)

Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing (3 September 1993)

Central Regional Health Authority (3 September 1993)

The South West Queensland Electricity Board (3 September 1993)

Livestock and Meat Authority of Queensland (3 September 1993)

Queensland Investment Corporation Board (3 September 1993)

Parliamentary Service Commission (7 September 1993)

Queensland Rail (7 September 1993)

Department of Environment and Heritage (7 September 1993)

Department of the Premier, Economic and Trade Development (8

September 1993)

Queensland Corrective Services Commission (8 September 1993)

Queensland Electricity Commission (8 September 1993)

Brisbane South Regional Health Authority (8 September 1993)

Central West Regional Health Authority (8 September 1993)

Sunshine Coast Regional Health Authority (8 September 1993)

South West Regional Health Authority (8 September 1993)

Darling Downs Regional Health Authority (9 September 1993)

Brisbane North Regional Health Authority (9 September 1993)

The Queensland Tourist and Travel Corporation (10 September 1993)

Queensland Treasury (10 September 1993)

4. Submissions - Engagement and Use of External Consultants

The Consultancy Bureau (31 August 1993)

CMPS (Qld) & F Pty Ltd (3 September 1993)

Ernst & Young (3 September 1993)

Loder & Bayly Consulting (3 September 1993)

AIM (3 September 1993)

State Public Services Federation (8 September 1993)

5. Mr Barrie Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (10 September 1993)

- State of the audit on the Gold Coast Motor Events Co.

6. Mr Barrie Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (20 September 1993)

- Copy of the 1991-92 Audit Report on DPI for the Committee's information.

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Fenlon) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

1. (Item 1) The Chairman asked that details of the IAG Conference be made available to Members.
2. (Item 5) The Auditor-General advised that he did not expect a full audit in respect to the Gold Coast Motor Events Co to be completed for two months.
3. (Item 6) The Chairman drew the confidential nature of the 19th Audit Report on DPI to the attention of the Members.

Outward Correspondence

1. Notification of Public Hearing into the Financial Administration of

Aboriginal and Island Councils (31 August 1993)

Ms D Conroy
Associate Professor Peter Cassidy
Mr D Tucker
Mr J Wanna
Dr P Reynolds
Professor K Wiltshire
Professor P Weller
Mr S Prasser
Dr R Fitzgerald

2. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (1 September 1993)
 - Request re the Status of the Audit of the Gold Coast Motor Events Co.
3. The Hon R Gibbs MLA, The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing (6 September 1993)
 - Request for a copy of the report on the previous Board's financial and management practices.
4. Letters of thanks - New Zealand trip (7 September 1993)
 - Mr A Carpinter, Clerk, Finance and Expenditure Committee
 - Mr A Spencer, Director, Office of the Controller and Auditor-General
 - Ms M Harris, Clerk-Assistant (Select Committees)
 - Mr M Matthews, Assistant Controller and Auditor-General
 - The Hon P Gresham MP, Chair, Finance and Expenditure Committee
 - The Hon P Dunne MP, Opposition Member, Finance and Expenditure Committee

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Public Hearing - Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils

The Committee debriefed the Public Hearing into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils held Monday 13 September 1993.

Discussion ensued

The Chairman placed on record the Committee's appreciation of the efforts of its Research Staff for the research and arrangements surrounding this hearing.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Grice) that the Committee seek legal opinion concerning aspects of the financial accountability of the Director-General, Dept Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs with respect to her prescribed

responsibilities under the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*, the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984* and the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*; in particular to resolve any possible conflicts between these acts as to where the accountability lies for financial assistance provided under section 82 of the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984* and section 83 of the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

Agreed that the Committee would meet at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 29 September 1993 to discuss the outcome of the inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Gold Coast Motor Events Co

Agreed that the matter be left on the table until the Auditor-General's report was available and a reply received to the Committee's letter to the Hon R Gibbs (Outward Correspondence Item 3).

Consultancy Inquiry

Mr Dahms advised the Committee that 25 public submissions have been received to date on the engagement and use of external consultants by the Queensland Public Sector. These contain constructive comments which will be of use in formulating the Committee's report. A precis of the submissions is almost finished and will be circulated to Members as soon complete.

A small number of agencies have not responded to the Committee's questionnaire and letters requesting the information within seven days will be forwarded.

Thank you letters are being forwarded to those agencies who have responded and to those interested parties who have responded to the Committee's call for public submissions.

Dept Primary Industries Public Hearing

An issues paper is being prepared and a draft will be provided for Members' perusal before Friday, 17 September 1993. Questions would be supplied as soon as possible after that.

Agreed that a Meeting of the Committee would be held at 8.00 am, Wednesday, 29 September 1993, before the Public Hearing to discuss the questions.

Other Business

A copy of the report on the Chairman and Committee delegation's trip to New Zealand (16 - 20 August 1993) presented to the Committee.

Next Meeting

29 September 1993, 8.00 am before the Public Hearing and 2.00 pm after the DPI Public Hearing.

The meeting closed at 1.56 pm.

Confirmed *5th October* 1993

Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tony Hill". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Chairman".

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room B.27, Parliament House commencing at 8.05 am on Wednesday 29 September 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Fenlon, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Apologies Elliott, Grice. Also present: Mr Ted Dahms and Ms Debra Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Santoro) that the minutes of the Committee meeting on 14 September 1993 and the correspondence be held over until the next meeting.

Family Services Evidence

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded D'Arcy) that pursuant to the provisions of section 4(2) of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1992*, the Committee authorises the publication of the transcript of Proceedings at its public hearing conducted 13 September 1993 into the Financial administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Briefing of Committee Members on the DPI Hearing

Members were provided with a final briefing on the questions for today's public hearing into the financial management of the Dept of Primary Industries.

Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Santoro) that a copy of the verified transcripts from the Public Hearing into the Financial Management of the Dept of Primary Industries be forwarded to the Auditor-General with a letter pointing out issues which the Committee feels need addressing in the current audit process.

Request from DEVETIR for Redundancy Data

The Committee was approached by DEVETIR for access to the redundancy data gathered by the Committee in response to its consultancy questionnaire. DEVETIR together with the PSMC is currently revising the Government's Policy for Managing Organisational Change which includes redundancy issues.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that the Chairman and a delegation of Members seek a meeting with the Minister (The Hon Matt Foley MLA) during the week beginning 4 October 1993

to discuss the matter.

Meeting adjourned 8.50 am for the Public Hearing into the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries.

Meeting reconvened 1.00 pm

Family Services Report

Discussion ensued concerning the matters to be addressed in the Committee's report on the financial management of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Agreed that the report should include the following:

- No accountability for public monies;
- too many agencies distributing moneys;
- the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs position and actions;
- the Auditor-General's position; and
- solutions.

Agreed that the Chairman write to the Minister requesting the following information concerning Internal Audit:

1. Was an internal audit service provided by the Department of Community Services, Ethnic Affairs and Northern Development, from the date the resources were transferred to the Councils?
2. Could you provide details as to how the internal audit service operated, if it existed?
3. If the service did not exist or ceased operations could you provide reasons for this situation?
4. If the service was ceased prior to your administration, was it replaced by any other similar service?
5. What is the current policy and practice in relation to the internal audit of Aboriginal and Island Councils?
6. What progress has been made in implementing any such policy or practice?

Agreed that Mr Dahms would provide a copy of the letter requesting the Crown Solicitor's advice concerning accountability issues involved in the financial management of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Other Business

Only one reply is outstanding for the Consultancy questionnaire, University of Central Queensland.

Agreed that Mr Dahms telephone the contact person regarding the matter.

Mr Santoro advised that he would be unable to attend the Committee meeting of 12 October 1993 and tendered his apologies for that meeting.

Mr Pearce and Mr D'Arcy indicated their intention to attend the Interdepartmental Accounting Group Annual Conference (24-26 November 1993).

Next Meeting

5 October 1993

The meeting closed at 1.40 pm.

Confirmed 5th October 1993

Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ray Hull", written over a horizontal line.

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.10 pm on Tuesday 5 October 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon (from 1.29 pm), Grice, Hollis, Santoro. Apology Pearce. Also present: Mr Ted Dahms and Ms Debra Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meetings held on 14 and 29 September 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Elliott, seconded D'Arcy.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Agreed** that the Chairman would seek a meeting time with the Hon Matt Foley MLA concerning the availability of Committee redundancy data to DEVETIR and convey the time to Members interested in attending.
2. The University of Southern Queensland has not returned any answers to the Committee's questionnaire on consultancies, but has replied as other canvassed universities that the questionnaire held little relevance to their activities.

Agreed that the matter be held and until a uniform approach was developed for all Universities canvassed.

Inward Correspondence

1. Ms T Hamilton, Legal Adviser, Official Misconduct Division, Criminal Justice Commission (21 September 1993)
 - Correction of transcripts.
2. Ms R Matchett, Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (22 September 1993)
 - Correction of transcripts.
3. Ms D Curtis, Chairperson, Mr J Crighton, Secretary and Ms E Bell, Treasurer, Downs Active Residents and South West Queensland Tenants Association (17 September 1993).
 - Suspension of Mr Kerry Hart from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning.
4. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission (9 September 1993)
 - Response to Committee's request for a copy of the draft policy

entitled "Policy on Staffing Options to Manage Organisational Change in the Queensland Public Sector". A copy of the policy was attached.

5. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission (10 September 1993)
 - PSMC "global" response to the Committee's questionnaire on the engagement and use of consultants.
6. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (27 September 1993)
 - Request for the information supplied, by the Auditor-General, to the Committee, under the provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit 1977*. The Director-General also inquired whether other Departmental Officers, (other than those summons) could appear before the Committee at the Public Hearing.
7. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (28 September 1993)
 - Advised that Mr R Sutherland, Executive Manager, Financial Management Systems would also attend the hearing to give evidence.
8. cc Letter from The Clerk of The Parliament (30 September 1993).
 - Referral of the Chairman's letter and verified transcripts of evidence taken by the Committee, to the Crown Solicitor.
9. Responses to Questionnaire - Engagement and Use of External Consultants
 - University of Queensland (15 September 1993)
 - Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations (*The Sugar Experiment Stations Board*) (15 September 1993)
 - Department of Justice and Attorney-General (16 September 1993)
 - Mackay Regional Health Authority (20 September 1993)
 - Wide Bay Regional Health Authority (21 September 1993)
 - West Moreton Regional Health Authority (22 September 1993)
 - Royal Queensland Theatre Company (24 September 1993)
 - The Egg Marketing Board (24 September 1993)
 - Queensland Police Service (27 & 29 September 1993)
 - Queensland Museum Board of Trustees (27 September 1993)
 - Department of Education (28 September 1993)
 - Queensland Performing Arts Trust (28 September 1993)
 - Queensland Treasury Corporation (28 September 1993)
 - Golden Casket Art Union Office (28 September 1993)
 - Queensland Sugar Corporation (29 September 1993)
 - Department of Minerals and Energy (29 September 1993)
 - Queensland Department of Transport (4 October 1993)

Resolved (Moved D'Arcy, seconded Santoro) that the inwards correspondence be accepted

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

1. **Agreed** that the reply to Mr Crighton (item 3) should be that on the information supplied the matter raised is outside the powers and functions of the Committee.
2. **Agreed** that the Chairman would pursue the matter of a legal opinion from the Crown Solicitor concerning the financial accountability of the Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs with the Clerk of the Parliament (Item 8).

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr R D Doyle, The Clerk of The Parliament (15 September 1993)
 - Request that the Crown Solicitor give a legal opinion on - the financial accountability of the Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs with respect to the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act and the Community Services Acts.
2. Correction of Transcript of Proceedings of the Inquiry into the Financial Administration of the Aboriginal and Island Councils (16 September 1993)
 - Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
 - Mr R L Malezer, Divisional Head, Division of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
 - Mr J L Wauchope, Assistant Division Head, Division of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.
 - Mr P M Le Grand, Director of Official Misconduct, Criminal Justice Commission.
 - Ms T J Hamilton, Legal Adviser, Criminal Justice Commission.
3. Amendments to the Issues Paper, Department of Primary Industries: Financial Management (16 September 1993)
 - The Hon E Casey MLA, The Minister for Primary Industries.
 - Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries.
 - Dr P Coaldrake, Chair of the Public Sector Management Commission.
 - Ms C Grainger, Acting Deputy Director-General, (Resources), Department of Education.
4. Mr R Pitt, Deputised Chairman, State Purchasing council, Administrative Services Department (16 September 1993)
 - Advised the Status of the Committee's inquiry into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants, and requested an opportunity to consult with State Purchasing Councils at a future date.
5. Mr K Fitzgerald, Audit Director - Administrative Services, Queensland Audit Office (16 September 1993)

- Extending thanks to Mr Fitzgerald for his assistance to the Committee during the Inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.
6. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (17 September 1993)
- Extending thanks to Mr Rollason for his assistance and that of the Audit Office during the Committee's inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.
7. Acknowledgments of the submissions to the Committee's inquiry into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants by the Queensland Public Sector (17 September 1993)

Harry O'Neale
 N H Wareham
 Laurie Gilbert
 Office & Computer Environment Pty Ltd
 Sinclair Knight
 Robert Magan & Associates
 TCP, Telecommunications Consultants Pty Ltd
 Robert Campbell
 Andersen Consulting
 Marketshare
 Realty Research
 The Queensland Council of Professions
 The Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia - Queensland Charter
 Reeves Lourensz Group Pty Ltd
 Technisyst
 Greg Hannant & Associates
 Mr Leon Pushong
 Australian Data Preparation
 The Consultancy Bureau
 CMPS (Qld) & F Pty Ltd
 Ernst & Young
 Loder & Bayly Consulting
 AIM
 State Public Services Federation

8. Letters requesting, pursuant to Section 19 of the Public Accounts Committee Act, the completion and return of the Committee's questionnaire re the engagement and use of external consultants (21 September 1993)

Mr T Pyne, Chairperson, The Far North Queensland Electricity Board.
 Ms G Taylor, Regional Director, West Moreton Regional Health Authority.
 Mr J Sullivan, Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Service.
 Professor R Scott, Director-General, Department of Education.
 Dr E Hegarty, Chairperson, Queensland Museum Board of Trustees.
 Mr J Douglas, Chairperson, Royal Queensland Theatre Company.
 Mr H Bananno, Chairperson, The Queensland Cane Growers' Council.
 Mr R Hohl, Chairperson, The Egg Marketing Board.
 Sir L Hielscher, Chairman, Queensland Treasury Corporation Capital Markets Board.

9. Letters advising of the Committee's public hearing into the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries (22 September 1993)
- Dr J Wanna, Centre of Australian Public Sector Management, Griffith University.
Associate Professor P Cassidy, Head, School of Economics and Public Policy, QUT.
Dr R Fitzgerald, Humanities Division, Griffith University.
Professor P Weller, Centre of Australian Public Sector Management, Griffith University.
Dr P Reynolds, Department of Government, University of Queensland.
Mr D Tucker, Department of Government, University of Queensland.
Mr D Conroy, Senior Lecturer, School of Economics and Public Policy, QUT.
Mr S Prasser, School of Management, University College of Southern Queensland.
Professor K Wiltshire, Department of Government, University of Queensland.
10. Mr K Dixon, Office Managing Partner, Anderson Consulting (22 September 1993)
- Acknowledgment of his offer to appear before the Committee at its public hearing into the Engagement and Use of External Consultants by the Queensland Public Sector.
11. Mr R D Doyle, The Clerk of The Parliament (29 September 1993)
- Request to forward a copy of the verified transcript of evidence taken by the Committee at its Public Hearing into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils to the Crown Solicitor.
12. Correction of Transcript of Proceedings of the Inquiry into the Financial Management of Department of Primary Industries (30 September 1993)
- Mr J Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries.
Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries.
Mr J Howard, Manager, Business Services and Systems, Agribusiness Group, Department of Primary Industries.
Mr R Sutherland, General Manager (Finance) Department of Primary Industries.
Dr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission.
Ms C Grainger, Acting Deputy Director-General (Resources), Department of Education.
13. Mr J Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (30 September 1993)
- Referral of Questions taken on notice at the Public Hearing to Mr Miller for his response. Answers are to be received to the Research Director by 4:00 pm on Wednesday 6 October 1993.

14. Copies of transcripts of evidence forwarded to witnesses who appeared before the Committee's public hearing into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils (30 September 1993)

Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Mr R L Malezer, Divisional Head, Division of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Mr J L Wauchope, Assistant Division Head, Division of Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

Mr P M Le Grand, Director of Official Misconduct, Criminal Justice Commission.

Ms T J Hamilton, Legal Adviser, Criminal Justice Commission.

15. Copies of the transcript of evidence from the public hearing into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils, forwarded to interested parties. A request was made for any comments on the evidence given be forwarded to the Senior Research Officer by 29 October 1993 (30 September 1993)

Mr R Patterson, Chairperson, Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council.

Mr G Lui Jnr, Chairperson, Island Co-ordinating Council.

Mr R Day, Chairman, Mer Island Council.

Mr A Ewart, Bamaga Island Council.

16. Ms R Matchett, Director-General, Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (5 October 1993)

- Request for information to supplied as a result of the public hearing. This information is to be forwarded to the Research Director by 4:00 pm on Tuesday 12 October 1993.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded D'Arcy) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

DPI Public Hearing

Discussion ensued on the outcome of the public hearing conducted on 29 September 1993 and the content of the final report on the financial management of the Dept of Primary Industries.

Agreed that:

- Research Staff put other work aside and concentrate on the DPI report with the aim of tabling it during the week beginning 12 October 1993;
- Members read the transcripts and provide the Research Staff with their thoughts on the report;

- the report need only be brief, around 3-4 pages; and
- it contain:
 - . a short history,
 - . the three areas of accountability, amalgamation and management,
 - . the Committee's recommendations from its Interim Report and the Department's actions, and
 - . conclusions.

Other Business

1. The matter of the inquiry into the Gold Coast Motor Events Co was raised.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that the Chairman would meet with the Hon Mr Gibbs and the Auditor-General concerning matters associated with this inquiry and report back to the Committee.

2. The Letter to the Hon Anne Warner MLA concerning questions about internal audit in Aboriginal and Island Councils was placed before the Committee.

Discussion ensued.

Agreed that the letter as tabled be forwarded.

Next Meeting

7 October 1993

The meeting closed at 2.05 pm.

Confirmed

15th October

1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room A.17, Parliament House commencing at 8.05 am on Friday 8 October 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Also present: Mr Ted Dahms and Ms Debra Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Santoro) that the minutes of the Committee meeting on 5 October 1993 and the correspondence be held over until the next meeting.

Transcripts of DPI Public Hearing

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Pearce) that pursuant to the provisions of section 4(2) of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1992*, the Committee authorises the publication of the Transcript of Proceedings of its public hearing conducted on Wednesday 29 September 1993 into the financial management of the Department of Primary Industries.

Report into the Financial Management of DPI

The Chairman read the whole of his draft report on the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries pursuant to Standing Order 203 and circulated printed copies to Members.

Next Meeting

13 October 1993 at 4.00 pm

The meeting closed at 1.33 pm.

Confirmed 15th October 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 5.04, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.25 pm on Friday, 15 October 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott (from 4.50 pm), Fenlon, Grice (from 4.50 pm), Hollis, Pearce, Santoro (from 4.50 pm). Apology Santoro (unavailable until after 2.00 pm). Also present Ted Dahms and Debra Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meetings held on 5 and 8 October 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy, seconded Fenlon.

Inward Correspondence

1. Mr J G Miller, under the hand of J C Varghese, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (undated)
 - response to questions taken on notice.
2. Ms C Grainger, Acting Deputy Director-General (Resources), Department of Education (undated)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).
3. Mr J Howard, Manager, Business Services and Systems, Agribusiness Group, Department of Primary Industries (5 October 1993)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).
4. Dr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission (5 October 1993)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).
5. Mr J C Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries (5 October 1993)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).
6. Mr J Howard, Manager, Business Services and Systems, Agribusiness Group, Department of Primary Industries (6 October 1993)
 - documents tabled on notice.
7. The Hon. R J Gibbs, MLA, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing (7 October 1993)
 - response to the Committee's letter re the Minister's review of Management's operations and appointment of the new Board of the Indy Company (Gold Coast (Motor Events) Co).

8. Mr R Sutherland, General Manager (Finance), Department of Primary Industries (7 October 1993)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).
9. Mr J C Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries (8 October 1993)
 - response to questions taken on notice.
10. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (8 October 1993)
 - documents tabled on notice.
11. Mr K M O'Shea, Crown Solicitor (11 October 1993)
 - legal opinion on the responsibility of the Director-General of the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs towards the Aboriginal and Island Councils in terms of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*, the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* and the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984*.
12. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (12 October 1993)
 - advice to the Committee that the Department's financial statements will include details of staff resources provided or received at below fair value and goods or services received by the Department at below fair market value. The publication of the cost of consultancies will be discussed with the Auditor-General. The financial statements will be signed by Management on Friday 15 October 1993.
13. Mr J G Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (12 October 1993)
 - advice of corrections to the Transcript of Proceedings (29 September 1993).

Resolved (Moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the inwards correspondence be accepted

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

1. The Chairman briefed the Committee on his meeting with the Hon R.J. Gibbs re the Gold Coast Motor Events Co (item 7).

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the Committee's final deliberations on the Gold Coast Motor Events Co await the Auditor-General's first report on audits performed for the financial year ended

30 June 1993.

2. **Agreed** that a briefing be prepared by the Research Staff on the advice from the Crown Solicitor concerning the financial accountability of the Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (Item 11).

Outward Correspondence

1. J C Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries (5 October 1993)
 - request for response to question taken on notice during public hearing, (29 September 1993).
2. Mr J Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries (5 October 1993)
 - request for documents that witnesses asked to table, during the public hearing (29 September 1993).
3. Release of the verified copies of the Department of Primary Industries, Transcript of Proceedings (11 October 1993)

Mr J Miller, Director-General, Department of Primary Industries
Mr J Varghese, Executive Director (Corporate Services), Department of Primary Industries
Mr J Howard, Manager, Business Services and Systems, Agribusiness Group, Department of Primary Industries
Mr R Sutherland, General Manager (Finance) Department of Primary Industries
Dr P Coaldrake, Chair, Public Sector Management Commission
Ms C Grainger, Acting Deputy Director-General (Resources), Department of Education
Mr S Austin, ABC Radio, Townsville
Ms J Kennedy, ABC Radio, Brisbane
Mr R Troyhan
Mr R Holland, Public Sector Management Commission.
Mr S Austen, Queensland Treasury
Mr A Scott, State Public Services Federation Qld

4. Mr J Crighton, Secretary Downs Active Residents & South West Qld Tenants Association, Toowoomba (6 October 1993)
 - reply to the request concerning the suspension of Mr Hart from the Toowoomba office of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning.
5. Mr P Canet-Senior (6 October 1993)
 - supply of a copy of the Committee's issue paper on the financial

administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils and the relevant transcript of proceedings. Request that any written submission on these Councils be received at the Committee Office, by 15 October 1993.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Committee Travel

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Pearce) that Committee travel be approved as follows:

6-7 May 1993 the Chairman and Research Staff - travel to Adelaide to discuss with the Presiding Member and Research Staff the South Australian Economic and Finance Committee the procedures and outcomes for their inquiry into the use of consultants by the South Australian public sector. The information is to assist the Committee in its inquiry into the engagement and use of consultants by the Queensland public sector.

2-4 August 1993 D'Arcy, Grice and Stolz - inspection trip to Cairns and Horn Island as part of the Committee's inquiry into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Report on the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries

In the absence of opposition Members the meeting adjourned at 1.45 pm until a time to be determined when a second reading of the Committee's Report on the Financial Management of the Dept of Primary Industries would be possible.

Meeting reconvened at 4.20 pm with Elliott, Grice and Santoro attending at 4.50 pm.

Elliott, Grice and Santoro mentioned their desire to pursue ministerial accountability in the Report. Discussion ensued.

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded Pearce) that the report be read a second time. Carried unanimously.

The Chairman read his final draft report paragraph by paragraph.

Santoro indicated his desire to submit a minority report on ministerial accountability. Discussion ensued.

Moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy that the Chairman's final draft report be adopted by the Committee as its Report on the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries.

Moved Santoro, seconded Grice that paragraph 4.1.1 of the Chairman's report be amended to include reference to the Minister's lack of accountability.

Discussion ensued. Amendment lost four votes to three - original motion resolved unanimously in the affirmative. Santoro indicated his intention to submit a minority report within 14 days as required under Standing Order 203.

Resolved unanimously (moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy) that pursuant to the provisions of sections 4(2) and 5 of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1992*, the Committee authorise the publication and printing of its report entitled "Report on the Financial Management of the Department of Primary Industries".

Next Meeting

9 November 1993

The meeting closed at 6.05 pm.

Confirmed

9th November

1993

Chairman

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Chairman, written over the printed name.

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.34 pm on Tuesday 9 November 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Also present Ted Dahms.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 15 October 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Grice.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Chairman tabled a briefing note prepared by Ms Stolz on the matter of advice to the Director-General, Dept Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Services concerning the format of Annual Financial Statements for Aboriginal and Island Councils. Carried forward to item 7 on the Agenda.

Inward Correspondence

1. Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Dept Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (28 October 1993)
 - documents in response to questions asked at the public hearing of 13 September 1993.
2. Mr S Santoro, Member for Clayfield (20 October 1993)
 - copy of proposed amendment of 4.1.1 of the Committee's Report on the Financial Management of the Dept of Primary Industries.
3. Messrs J A T Elliot (Member for Cunningham), S Santoro (Member for Clayfield) and A M Grice (Member for Broadwater)(29 October 1993)
 - minority and dissenting Report on the Financial Management of the Dept of Primary Industries.
4. The Hon E Casey MLA, Minister for Primary Industries (29 October 1993)
 - advice to the Committee on action taken on recommendations contained in its Interim Report on the financial management of the Dept of Primary Industries.
5. Mr K M O'Shea, Crown Solicitor (2 November 1993)
 - information concerning advice to the Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs on Annual Financial Statements of Aboriginal and Island Councils by his office.

6. The Hon Anne A Warner MLA, Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (2 November 1993)
 - Response to Committee's request for clarification of the Department's role in relation to the provision of internal audit services to Aboriginal and Island Councils.
7. Mr N George, senior Auditor, Queensland Audit Office (3 November 1993)
 - information extracted from the special project audit working papers (1991/92) to do with the use of consultants by the Queensland public sector.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Pearce) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

1. Members requested copies of items 1,5 and 6 from the inward correspondence.
2. Mr Dahms outlined the matters contained in letter from Mr George, Queensland Audit Office (item 7) and drew Members attention to the agencies listed in the categories, non-compliance with the Instructions for the Use of Consultants by the Public Sector, best practice and perceived high use of consultants.

Outward Correspondence

1. Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (26 October 1993)
 - second request for information and documents in response to questions asked at the public hearing held on Monday 13 September 1993.
2. Mr K M O'Shea, Crown Solicitor (1 November 1993)
 - requesting information on the format of Annual Financial Statements required under the Community Services (Aborigines) Act and the Community Services (Torres Strait) Act.
3. Ms Ruth Matchett, Director-General, Dept of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (3 November 1993)
 - requesting information concerning the delay in issuing the prescribed format for Annual Financial Statements of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

4. Mr R D Doyle, The Clerk of Parliament (3 November 1993)
 - tabling of the Committee's Report on the Financial Management of the Dept of Primary Industries.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Fenlon) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Attendance at the IAG Conference 24-26 November 1993

The meeting was advised that Mr Hollis was invited to open this Conference and provide an address later on the opening day. Mr Dahms is also scheduled to address the Conference as part of the session on Parliamentary Committees. Members D'Arcy and Pearce responded positively to a request for expressions of interest to attend the Conference. Mr Santoro advised that he could not attend but requested copies papers delivered by Mr Hollis and Mr Dahms. Ms Debbie Stolz had previously indicated her desire to attend the Conference.

Resolved (D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that Messrs Hollis, D'Arcy, Pearce, Dahms and Ms Stolz attend the IAG Conference to be held at the Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast, 24-26 November 1993.

Transcripts from the Public Hearing of 29 September 1993

Resolved (moved Fenlon, seconded D'Arcy) that the transcripts of the Committee's public hearing into the financial management of the Department of Primary Industries held on Wednesday, 29 September 1993 be adopted as the Committee's Report number 27.

Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils

The briefing paper prepared on the format of Annual Financial Statements for Aboriginal and Island Councils (under matters arising from the minutes) was noted.

Discussion ensued concerning the progress of the Report.

Agreed that the first reading of the Report be set for the next Committee meeting (16 November 1993).

Consultancy Inquiry

Mr Dahms provided copies of the public submissions with a summary and details of key issues. Hearing dates of 22 and 29 November 1993 were altered to replace 22 November 1993 with 15-17 December 1993. Members were asked to confirm the December date with Mr Dahms as soon as possible.

Committee Budget

The Committee noted its budget report for the month ending 31 October 1993.

Mr Grice stated that the budget amount for advertising would have to be increased for the new procedure to be introduced next year. The Chairman advised that many such matters have yet to be considered in the final planning for the new procedures.

The matter of travel to Canberra to visit Federal Committees as planned for the beginning of 1993 was raised. After discussion the matter remained unresolved.

Other Business

1. Gold Coast Motor Events Co was discussed.

Agreed that the Parliamentary Committee for Criminal Justice be contacted to ascertain progress with documents provided to them some time ago (documents tabled before the Committee at its meeting of 18 May 1993).

Agreed further that the matter be otherwise left in abeyance.

2. Aboriginal and Island Communities.

Agreed that the Chairman write to the Criminal Justice Commission inquiring as to the date of release of their report on Aboriginal and Island Councils.

3. Mr Santoro re-affirmed his apologies for the Committee meeting to be held on 16 November 1993.

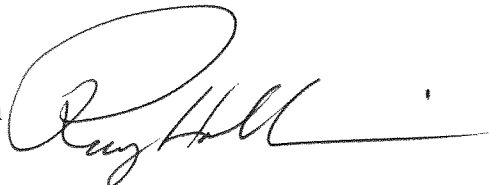
Next Meeting

16 November 1993

The meeting closed at 2.15 pm.

Confirmed *16th November* 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.35 pm on Tuesday 16 November 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Fenlon, Elliott, Grice, Hollis, Pearce. Apologies Santoro. Also present Ted Dahms and Debbie Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 9 November 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Fenlon, seconded Grice.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. Mr Dahms advised that it was no longer appropriate to table the Committee's transcripts of evidence taken at its public hearings as reports. A recent change to Standing Orders provides that all reports tabled in the Assembly are automatically taken as ordered to be printed. The Committee does not order its transcripts to be printed.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded Pearce) that the resolution made by the Committee at its meeting of 16 November 1993 adopting the transcripts of evidence taken at the public hearing on the financial management of the Dept of Primary Industries be rescinded.

2. Mr Dahms advised that the hearing dates for the consultancy inquiry were set as 29 November 1993 and 16 December 1993.

The Consulting agencies Ernst and Young, Andersen Consulting, The Consultancy Bureau and Loder and Bayly Consulting Group have indicated their willingness to appear before the Committee on the morning of 29 November 1993 and the Committee is requesting the Directors-General of the Depts of Lands and Transport to appear as examples of best practice on the afternoon of the same day.

Agencies chosen for the public hearings on 16 December 1993 are, The Bureau of Emergency Services, Dept of Tourism Sport and Racing, TAB and Queensland University of Technology.

Inward Correspondence

1. Ms R L Matchett, Director-General, Dept Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (undated, received 9 November 1993)
 - copies of correspondence between the Department and the Office of Parliamentary Counsel re the format for Annual Financial Statements of Aboriginal and Island Councils.
2. Mr D Clarke, Regional Director, Central West Region, Queensland Health (11 November 1993)
 - correction to an answer to the Committee's consultancy questionnaire.
3. Mr Mark Le Grand, Director, Official Misconduct Unit, Criminal Justice Commission (16 November 1993)
 - reply re date of issue of the CJC's report on Aboriginal and Island Councils.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Elliott) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr Mark Le Grand, Director, Official Misconduct Unit, Criminal Justice Commission (11 November 1993)
 - request for date of issue of the CJC's report on Aboriginal and Island Councils.
2. Mr R K Hamburger, Director-General, Corrective Services Commission (12 November 1993)
 - requesting information on the transfer of contractors to the Commission's payroll.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Fenlon) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Matters Arising from the Outward Correspondence

The Chairman explained the reason for the letter to The Corrective Services Commission and requested Members to read the Annual Reports and bring any matters such as this to the notice of the Committee.

Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils

Pursuant to Standing Order 203 the Chairman read the whole of his draft report on the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils and circulated printed copies to Members.

Discussion ensued concerning the progress of the Report.

Agreed that Members of the Sub-Committee meet on Friday 19 November 1993 after Question Time to consider the Report.

Next Meeting

30 November 1993

The meeting closed at 2.15 pm.

Confirmed *30th November* 1993

Chairman *[Signature]*

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.45 pm on Tuesday 30 November 1993. Members present: Elliott, Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Apologies D'Arcy, Fenlon. Also present Ted Dahms and Debbie Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 16 November 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of Elliott, seconded Pearce.

Inward Correspondence

1. Ms Heather Melrose, Vice-President, Sunshine Coast Environment Council (14 November 1993)
 - requesting PAC investigation into apparent careless usage of public money re resumption of crown land at Emu Swamp.
2. T Handran, A/Manager, Internal and Operational Audit, Brisbane North Region, Queensland Health (17 November 1993).
 - clarification of previous response to the questionnaire concerning consultancy services.
3. Mr D G Stevenson, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport (received 19 November 1993)
 - acceptance to attend hearing, advising names of officers also appearing.
4. Mr P V Kelly, Regional Director, Wide Bay Region, Queensland Health (17 November 1993)
 - clarification of previous response to the questionnaire concerning consultancy services.
5. Mr B G Wilson, Director-General, Department of Lands (19 November 1993)
 - advising attendance at the public hearing, names of staff also appearing.
6. Mr Peter Forster, Director, The Consultancy Bureau (22 November 1993)
 - accepting invitation to attend the public hearing, advising names of officers also attending.
7. Mr Kevin J Dixon, Office Managing Partner, Andersen Consulting (22 November 1993)
 - confirming attendance at public hearing, advising names of officers also attending.
8. Mr Don Blair, Partner, Ernst & Young (22 November (1993))
 - confirming attendance at public hearing, advising name of colleague also attending.

Resolved (moved D'Arcy, seconded Elliott) that the inwards correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

Members were asked to study the material from Ms Heather Melrose concerning resumption of Emu Swamp for the next meeting.

Outward Correspondence

1. Mr Geoff Stevenson, Director-General, Department of Transport (16 November 1993)
 - invitation to attend the public hearing on 29 November 1993.
2. Mr Bruce Wilson, Director-General, Department of Lands (16 November 1993)
 - invitation to attend the public hearing on 29 November 1993.
3. Letter to consultancy firms (16 November 1993) as follows:
 - The Consultancy Bureau
 - Andersen Consulting
 - Loder and Bayly Consultancy Group
 - Ernst and Young
 - invitation to attend the public hearing on 29 November 1993.
4. Letter to academics (16 November 1993)
 - extending an invitation to attend public hearing on 29 November 1993.
5. Mr Barrie Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (19 November 1993)
 - requesting extracts from 1992/93 Audit Reports to assist preparation for the public hearings into the use of external consultants by the Queensland public sector.
6. Letter to witnesses (4.1 to 4.3, 23 November 1993)
 - thanking them for advice re attendance with key issues to be canvassed at the hearing attached.

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Fenlon) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils

Pursuant to Standing Order 203 the Chairman read the whole of his draft report on the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils paragraph by paragraph.

Moved Pearce, seconded Elliott that the Chairman's report into the Financial

Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils be adopted as its report number 27.

Moved Grice, seconded Santoro that the statement by the Sub-Committee (section 8 of the Report) be deleted and that the following statement by the Committee be inserted as a Concluding Statement by the Committee:

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned suggestions, conclusions and recommendation, the Committee does not believe that this current system of Aboriginal and Island Councils can ever work. The different approaches to funding and accountability by Federal and State agencies and the complications caused by these are at continual odds with the cultural values and practices of the people involved.

The Committee suggests an meeting of State and Federal Ministers to initiate with the Aboriginal and Island communities a completely new acceptable structure.

The amendment and amended motion were carried unanimously.

Moved Santoro, seconded Pearce that the Committee record its thanks for the efforts of the Sub-Committee in bringing down this report.

Carried

Other Business

The Chairman raised the matter of documents provided to him by Mr Hollaway and concerning the QEC. Some of the matters have been referred to the Auditor-General after examination of the Documents by Ms Stolz.

Agreed that the matter be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

Next Meeting

7 December 1993

The meeting closed at 2.07 pm.

Confirmed *P⁰¹ December* 1993

Chairman *Roy Hall*

Sub-Committee, Aboriginal and Island Councils Report

Sub-Committee Business

Friday 19 November, 1993

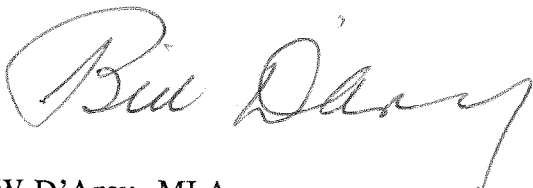
11:00am to 12:35pm - Room A17, Parliament House, Brisbane

Present: Mr D'Arcy (Chairman) Mr Fenlon, Mr Grice, Mr Hollis and
Ms Stolz (Research Officer)

The Sub-committee read the Report on Financial Administration and Island Councils and **agreed** that the following statement being included in the Report:

"Notwithstanding the above mentioned suggestions, conclusions and recommendations we do not believe that this current system as it crosses from Federal to State departments and those differing approaches to accountability can ever work as the complications caused are at continued odds with the cultural values and priorities of the people involved."

"Suggest an urgent meeting of State and Federal Ministers to initiate with the Aboriginal and Island Communities a new acceptable structure."



W D'Arcy, MLA

Chairman

Aboriginal and Island Council Sub-Committee

STATEMENT BY RAY HOLLIS, M.L.A.
CHAIR OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

In view of the intense media speculation concerning the release last Friday of the Public Accounts Committee's inquiry into the financing of Aboriginal communities I have decided to make this statement.

I wish to make it quite clear that the inquiry did not focus on the communities themselves but on the accountability of the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

This has long been an area of contention and has troubled various governments in Queensland over the past 50 years.

The only section of the report that are in question concerns Sections 82 and 83 of the Aboriginal and Islander Acts.

While the committee was of the view that the Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs and the Director-General had certain responsibilities under this section, I agree with the Minister that in a legal interpretation of this section neither she nor the Director-General are accountable under this section.

It was to this issue that my comments on the weekend were addressed.

This is a key point which has been missing from media commentary on the matter.

I cannot let this statement pass without some comments on the attitude and actions of the media.

I take the view that as a politician and as chair of the Public Accounts Committee I am open to scrutiny from the media.

However as a family man I believe strongly that my family has a right to privacy. The strong messages of support I have been getting in my electorate office yesterday following the 7.30 Report of Monday night suggest to me that the media is out of step with public attitudes in this matter, and I suggest they review their performance and act accordingly.

What I am more concerned about, however, is the way the findings of the committee have been used by members of the Opposition. It has been used solely as a political vehicle to score political points with no regard at all to improving the quality of public administration in this state.

The Public Accounts committee is not about acting as judge, jury and executioner. What the committee is about is improving the quality of public administration. It is a committee concerned with improving the quality of public administration for the future, not pointing the finger at events in the past.

For the committee system to work effectively it needs the commitment of all members to its proper workings.

The actions of the Opposition last Friday showed that they undoubtedly had prior knowledge of the contents of the report before it was released, and as such, the integrity of the committee system was damaged.

It has and always is my intention to provide accountability as a prime focus of this government. I will continue as chair of this committee and trust that Opposition members of this committee will join me in achieving this aim in a bipartisan fashion.

MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 9.13, Level 9, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 1.45 pm on Wednesday 8 December 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott, Fenlon, Grice, Hollis (from 1.55pm), Pearce, Santoro. Also present Ted Dahms and Debbie Stolz.

In the absence of the Chairman at the beginning of the meeting, Mr Elliott, the Deputy Chairman, assumed the Chair.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 30 November 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy seconded Pearce.

Inward Correspondence

1. Mr T J Handran, Acting Manager Internal and Operation Audit, Queensland Health - Brisbane North Region (25 November 1993)
 - Amendment to Brisbane North Regional Health Authority's response to the Consultancy questionnaire.
2. Mr M W Goldsworthy, Acting Senior Adviser, Human Resource Planning, Queensland Corrective Services Commission (26 November 1993)
 - Information requested to be forwarded by Friday 3 December 1993.
3. Dr P H Stanley, Director-General, Queensland Health - Central Office (23 November 1993)
 - Some discrepancies have been revealed in the Department's response to the consultancy questionnaire. These discrepancies are being examined and the Committee will be advised when the issue is resolved.
4. Mr K J Dixon, Office Managing Partner, Anderson Consulting (31 November 1993)
 - Thanks to the Committee for the opportunity to appear at the public hearing.
5. Mr P Lowry, for Regional Director, Queensland Health - Central Regional (29 November 1993)
 - Amendment to Central Regional Health Authority's response to the Consultancy questionnaire.
6. Mr B A Stewart, Director-General, Queensland Emergency Services (6 December 1993)
 - Mr Stewart and Dr Keliher to appear before Committee at the Public Hearing on 16 December 1993.
7. Mr R J Smith, Assistant Regional Director (Finance and Administration) Queensland Health - Brisbane South Region (26 November 1993)

- Amendment to Brisbane South Regional Health Authority's response to the Consultancy questionnaire.
8. Mr B A Stewart, Director-General, Queensland Emergency Services (6 December 1993)
 - Mr T Moate will appear with Mr Stewart and Dr Keliher before Committee at the Public Hearing on 16 December 1993.
 9. Mr B G Wilson, Director-General, Department of Lands (3 December 1993)
 - Additional information about the use of "preferred" consultants and suppliers of goods and services where Quality Assurance Systems have been audited by the Department of Lands .

Resolved (moved Grice, seconded Santoro) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Outward Correspondence

1. Correction of Transcript of Proceedings of the Public Hearing Held on 29 November 1993 (2 December 1993)
 - Mr K Dixon, Office Managing Partner, Anderson Consulting
 - Ms L Cochrane, Queensland Manager, Anderson Consulting
 - Mr P Forster, Director, The Consultancy Bureau
 - Ms C Sinclair, Director, The Consultancy Bureau
 - Mr N Murr, Senior Associate, The Consultancy Bureau
 - Mr J Wood, Director/Queensland Manager, Loder & Bayly Consulting Group
 - Mr D Blair, Partner/Regional Director, Ernst & Young
 - Mr B Donaldson, Principal, Ernst & Young
 - Mr B Wilson, Director-General, Department of Lands
 - Dr N Divett, Executive Director, Programs, Department of Lands
 - Mr P Philipson, Director of Finance, Department of Lands
 - Mr K Watts, Executive Director, Corporate Services, Department of Lands
 - Mr G Stevenson, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport
 - Mr N Doyle, Director of Roads, Queensland Department of Transport
 - Mr W Turner, Director of Finance, Queensland Department of Transport
 - Mr G Uhlmann, Executive Director, Corporate Management & Development, Queensland Department of Transport
2. Request for agencies appearance at the public hearing to be held on Thursday 16 December 1993 (2 December 1993)
 - Mr B Stewart, Director-General, Queensland Emergency Services
 - Dr L Keliher, Director, Bureau of Emergency Services
 - Professor T C Dixon, AM, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology
 - Mr R D McIlwain, Chief Executive Officer, TAB

- Mr D Williams, Director-General, Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing
- Ms J Eastwood, Joint General Secretary, State Public Services Federation, Queensland

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Santoro) that the outward correspondence be adopted.

The Chairman joined the meeting and assumed chair.

Moved Elliott, seconded Santoro that the business of the meeting be suspended to resolve conflicting matters surrounding the Committee's tabled report into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

The motion was lost four votes to three. Discussion ensued.

Agreed that the matter be left until item nine on the agenda which deals with a debriefing on the same report.

Auditor-General's Report

Agreed that this matter be left until the next meeting to allow Members the opportunity to study the Report in more detail.

QEC

Discussion ensued concerning the matters raised in material supplied to the Chairman by Mr Hollaway concerning the QEC (Minutes 30 November 1993, Other Business). Many of the matters raised by Mr Hollaway might be best referred to the Public Works Committee.

Agreed that the matters raised in the material supplied by Mr Hollaway be raised again at the next meeting and that a letter be written to Mr Hollaway stating that the Committee was studying the material further.

Emu Swamp, Perigean Beach

Discussion ensued concerning the matters raised by Ms Melrose on the resumption of land in the Emu Swamp area (Minutes 30 November 1993, Inward Correspondence, item 1).

Agreed that since the matters raised were complex and probably outside the Committee's powers to investigate, a decision on what action the Committee should take be deferred until the documents were studied further; and that a letter be written to Ms Melrose informing her that the Committee was still considering its action on the matters raised.

Consultancy Hearing, 16 December 1993

Mr Dahms briefed the Committee on the coming hearing. Not all acceptances have been received and they would be chased up.

A meeting would be held at 8.00 am on the 16 December 1993 before the hearing to brief the Committee on matters to be covered.

Debriefing, Report 27

The Chairman tabled his personal statement made by him in the House today. The business of the meeting was suspended to allow Members to discuss the confusion in the media concerning this report.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.25 pm to allow for divisions in the House.

Meeting reconvened at 3.35 pm.

Discussion continued and resulted in several motions.

Resolved unanimously (moved Fenlon, seconded Santoro) that the Committee affirms its endorsement of its report into Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils (Report 27) and awaits the reply from the minister, the Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, as required pursuant to Section 36 of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988*.

Agreed unanimously that the Committee adopt the following operational procedures:

- After the adoption of a report no Member of the Committee shall contradict the findings of the Committee without addressing the matter with the Committee.
- No Member of the Committee shall make comments inconsistent with the adopted report of the Committee unless they are signatories of a dissenting report.
- No Member of the Committee will attempt to pre-empt any finding of the Committee.
- Media briefings/press conferences on behalf of the Committee when reports are released shall be conducted jointly by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

Resolved unanimously (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that the following media release be given out and that no further comment be made other than those in the release.

The Public Accounts Committee met at length today to deliberate on the issue of the Chairman's comments subsequent to the release of the Report into the financial administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils.

During its deliberations the Committee was particularly conscious of the necessity to preserve and support the integrity of the fledgling Committee system within the Parliament of Queensland.

With this in mind the Committee unanimously carried the following resolution:

That the Committee affirms its endorsement of its report into Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils (Report 27) and awaits the reply from the responsible Minister, The Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs as required pursuant to Section 36 of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1988*.

Furthermore the Committee resolved to adopt a set of operational procedures and guidelines which in the opinion of the Committee will facilitate and make more efficient deliberations of the Committee and the announcements of the outcomes of such deliberations.

Committee Budget

The Committee noted its budget report for the month ending 30 November 1993.

Other Business

The Committee discussed the need to travel to Canberra and inspect the operations of Federal parliamentary committees.

Agreed that the Research Staff investigate possible times when Federal parliament was sitting and committee hearings were taking place in early 1994.

The Sub-Committee, Aboriginal and Island Councils tabled a report from a meeting on Friday 19 November 1993.

Agreed that the Research Staff gather articles containing criticism of its tabled report into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and island Councils and address matters raised therein.

Next Meeting

8.00 am, 16 December 1993

The meeting closed at 4.50 pm.

Confirmed 16th December 1993

Chairman



MINUTES

of a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts held in Room 6.38, Level 6, Parliamentary Annexe commencing at 8.20 pm on Thursday 16 December 1993. Members present: D'Arcy, Elliott (from 8.35 am), Grice, Hollis, Pearce, Santoro. Apologies Fenlon. Also present Ted Dahms and Debbie Stolz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 30 November 1993 were circulated and confirmed on the motion of D'Arcy seconded Pearce.

Inward Correspondence

1. Martin Holmes, Department of Lands (6 December 1993)
 - Correction of Transcripts - Public Hearing held 29 November 1993. Mr Watts is on recreation leave and will be unable to peruse the transcript in the time frame requested.
2. Mr R D McIlwain, Chief Executive, The Totalisator Administration Board of Queensland (7 December 1993)
 - Confirmation of attendance at the Public Hearing.
3. B Birgan, B Birgan & Associates (6 December 1993)
 - Submission on engagement and use of external consultants in the Public Sector.
4. Professor R D Gibson, Vice-Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology (8 December 1993)
 - Confirmation of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Dixon's and Mr Nelson's attendance at the Public Hearing.
5. B Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (10 December 1993)
 - Provided a copy of the draft audit report on the Bureau of Emergency Services. No adverse comments in the Audit Reports on the Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing, The Totalisator Administration Board of Queensland, or the Queensland University of Technology.
6. Correction of Transcripts - Public Hearing held 29 November 1993
 - K Dixon, Office Managing Partner, Anderson Consulting (8 December 1993)
 - P J Philipson, Director Finance, Department of Lands (8 December 1993)
 - D G Stevenson, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport (8 December 1993)
 - P Forster, Director, The consultancy Bureau (8 December 1993)
 - J Wood, Loder & Bayly Consulting Group (8 December 1993)
 - W F Turner, Queensland Department of Transport (10 December 1993)

- 1993)
- N G Divett, Executive Director Programs, Department of Lands (10 December 1993)
7. Mr M Goldsworthy, Acting Senior Adviser, Human Resource Planning, Queensland Corrective Services Commission (13 December 1993)
 - Response to Chairman's letter on Consultants and Contractors used by the Commission.
 8. Mr J Yates, Industrial Officer, The Association of Professional Engineers and Scientists, Australia (14 December 1993)
 - Complaint about the policy for use of consultants in the Department of Transport.
 9. Mr B Rollason, Auditor-General, Queensland Audit Office (13 December 1993)
 - Provided copy of the Audit Report on the Gold Coast Motor Events Co. (Indy Grand Prix)

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded D'Arcy) that the inward correspondence be accepted.

Matters Arising from the Inward Correspondence

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded D'Arcy) that the Committee write to Queensland Treasury concerning asset management matters raised in the Audit Report (Item 9).

Outward Correspondence

1. Letters advising of the Committee's public hearing into the engagement and use of external consultants by the Queensland Public Sector (10 December 1993)

Dr J Wanna, Centre of Australian Public Sector Management, Griffith University.

Associate Professor P Cassidy, Head, School of Economics and Public Policy, QUT.

Dr R Fitzgerald, Humanities Division, Griffith University.

Professor P Weller, Centre of Australian Public Sector Management, Griffith University.

Dr P Reynolds, Department of Government, University of Queensland.

Mr D Tucker, Department of Government, University of Queensland.

Ms D Conroy, Senior Lecturer, School of Economics and Public Policy, QUT.

Mr S Prasser, School of Management, University College of Southern Queensland.

Professor K Wiltshire, Department of Government, University of Queensland.

Dr M Robinson, Associate Professor, School of Economics and Public Policy, QUT.

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded D'Arcy) that the outward correspondence be

adopted.

Auditor-General's Report

Resolved (moved Santoro, seconded Pearce) that the Auditor-General be invited to a half day briefing of the Committee on his first report on audits performed for the financial year ended 30 June 1993 and that this occur prior to the first sitting day in February 1994.

QEC

Further discussion ensued concerning the matters raised in material supplied to the Chairman by Mr Hollaway concerning the QEC (Minutes 30 November 1993, Other Business).

Ms Stolz advised the Committee that some of the matters raised would be best referred to the Auditor-General and others were matters concerning the introduction of new technology which eventually led to by staff redundancies.

Resolved (moved Elliott, seconded Pearce) that the Committee write to Mr Hollaway and advise that the Committee is referring certain matters raised in his submission to the Auditor-General and that he would be advised of the outcome in due course.

Emu Swamp, Perigean Beach

Further Discussion ensued concerning the matters raised by Ms Melrose on the resumption of land in the Emu Swamp area (Minutes 30 November 1993, Inward Correspondence, item 1).

Resolved (moved Pearce, seconded Grice) that the Committee write to Ms Melrose advising her of the Committee's powers and functions, that the matters raised fall outside these and that, in the Committee's opinion they should be referred to the Criminal Justice Commission.

Consultancy Hearing, 16 December 1993

Research Staff briefed the Committee on the questions for the public hearing commencing 9.00 am today.

Other Business

1. Mr Dahms mentioned the Committee's request at its last meeting (8 December 1993) that the Research Staff collect all references to the Committee's report into the Financial Administration of Aboriginal and Island Councils and prepare a briefing paper addressing items in these references. He advised that due to other critical work this was not completed.

Agreed that the preparation of this briefing paper continue, that it must contain reference to the Committee's findings on the structure of Aboriginal and Island Councils and that the briefing paper be provided to Members as

soon as completed.

2. **Resolved** (moved D'Arcy, seconded Grice) that the Committee write to the Dept of Transport concerning consultancies by Sinclair McKnight and Epell consultants engaged to investigate co-ordination of traffic lights on arterial roads in south east Queensland.
3. Members requested that the Research Staff provide a list of references on the subject of legal liability of Ministers.

Next Meeting

1.30 pm, 15 February 1994

The meeting closed at 9.00 am.

Confirmed 15 February 1994

Chairman 