

**NSW Wildlife Council, Inc.
Meeting Number (14)**

**Thursday 7th May 2009
Department of the Environment & Climate Change
Bridge Street, Hurstville, NSW
9:30 am**

Minutes

1.0 Meeting Opened at 9:45am.

NWC Chair Audrey Koosmen welcomed new member Georgie Whaley NRWC. All members introduced themselves.

- 1.1 Present:** Audrey Koosmen NATF, Julia McConnell IGLs, Stan Wood WIRES, Shirley Lack NARG, Gwen Parry-Jones Wildlife ARC, John Donnelly NTWC, Ilona Roberts TVWC, John Gorham FAWNA, John Meany NANA, Elena Guarracino LAOKO, Greg Tarlinton Wildcare Q, Georgie Whaley NRWC, Carmel & Frances Woods Minutes.
- 1.2 Apologies:** Bruce Mulligan Wildlife Aid, Marny Bonner ASR, Lorraine Vass FOK, Paige Sinclair PPP, Coralie Tarlinton Wildcare Q, Andrew Hudson WCMR, Ronny Ling ORRCA.
- 1.3 Teleconferencing:** None
- 1.4 Guest(s):** Daniel Van Dyk DECC, Dr Miranda Gott DECC

2.0 Register of Proxies: No proxies were registered

3.0 Guest Speakers Daniel Van Dyk DECC, Dr Miranda Gott DECC

The first meeting of the Minimum Standards Steering Committee was held in April and looked at the framework which was widely distributed to members and which was also put on Ozark. Daniel had lots of feedback which was mainly positive. The next meeting is scheduled for next week. Daniel advised that he has been ringing around the Regional National Parks Offices and gathering information in relation to what happens in their respective areas such as the level of involvement with groups and wildlife carers etc. Daniel & Miranda distributed a handout of questions relating to the licencing of policy (Att #1). The Council discussed each of these points and Miranda put the various comments on a whiteboard and this information was later printed out. (Att #2)

4.0 Previous Meeting No 12 held on Sat 8 Nov 08

4.1 Meeting No 12 held Saturday 8th November 2008

- 4.1.1 **Amendments to Minutes of Meeting No 12:** Stan Wood advised that the proposed amendments had not been done and offered to do them during the lunch break. It was decided to defer this item till after lunch.
- 4.1.2 **Adoption of Minutes of Meeting No 12:** Amendments were unable to be effected on the day and it was decided to carry out this task on line. Stan to do dot points and put on line for discussion and final approval.

4.2 Meeting No 13 Held Thursday 19th February 2009

- 4.2.1 **Adoption of Minutes of Meeting No 13:**
 - Motion:** That the draft minutes be adopted
 - Proposed:** John Donnelly NTWC
 - Seconded:** Stan Wood WIRES
 - Carried:** Unanimously

4.3 Business Arising

- 4.3.1 **Minimum Standards** (Audrey Koosmen NATF and all members)
Previously covered in Item 3.0
- 4.3.2 **Telstra Sponsorship Proposal** (Coralie Tarlinton Wildlife Q)
Coralie Tarlinton was not present. Greg Tarlinton advised that there was nothing to report as yet and asked that the Item be deferred.
- 4.3.3 **Memorandum of Understanding NWC/DECC/RTA Update** (Shirley Lack NARG and Phil Machin NARG)
The letters to DECC and the RTA were sent.
- 4.3.4 **Public Gift Fund** (Julia McConnell IGLs)
Julia reported that she hasn't done anything with this as yet because we have yet to actively raise revenue and asked that this item be removed until we are successfully seeking funding. John Donnelly advised of a donation from Jerry Harvey of a laptop which is to be raffled for NWC. A note of thanks to John Donnelly NTWC.
Action: John Donnelly to present laptop to the next NWC Meeting
- 4.3.5 **Native Animal Keepers Consultative Committee** (Stan Wood WIRES)
Stan Wood advised that there hasn't been another meeting since the last one in January.
Action: Stan Wood WIRES to circulate the minutes from the last NAKCC meeting.
Action: Audrey Koosmen NATF to contact and invite Russell Harrison DECC. to address NWC
- 4.3.6 **RBG/DECC Flying Fox Camp Management Policy** (Ilona Roberts TVWC,) Ilona's report was tabled accepted.

Action: Ilona to write to DECC, Minister Peter Garrett and BGT.

- 4.3.7 Refit to Coal Trains to Prevent Wildlife Injury** (Bruce Mulligan Wildlife Aid)
Bruce Mulligan Wildlife Aid is not representing Wildlife Aid on the Council and it was decided to remove this item.
Bruce Mulligan has now resigned from NWC as WLA rep WLA have asked that this be removed from agenda
To be removed from Agenda moved Shirley Lack seconded John Gorham all in favour
- 4.3.8 National Wildlife Council** (Lorraine Vass FOK)
Lorraine Vass FOK was not present. No report.
- 4.3.9 Euthanasia of Small Animals** Bruce Mulligan (Wildlife Aid)
Bruce Mulligan Wildlife Aid is not representing Wildlife Aid on the Council and it was decided to remove this item.
- 4.3.10 Kangaroo Management Plan** (Stan Wood WIRES, Shirley Lack NARG) No report was tabled.
Action: Stan Wood to provide Shirley Lack with dot points so letter can be written to Michael Wright DECC & Dr Miranda Gott DECC
- 4.3.11 Removal of Wildlife Signage by RTA in Rural Areas** (Stan Wood WIRES, Elena Guarracino LAOKO, Greg Tarlinton Wildcare)
Audrey Koosmen spoke with RTA Steven Smith told no more wildlife signs would be removed throughout the state, this is now resolved.
- 4.3.12 NWC Logo** (Audrey Koosmen NATF)
Discussion took place as to Logo's presented.
Audrey Koosmen is to make a decision within 7days as to the NWC logo to be used.
Moved: John Meany (NANA) and seconded John Gorhman (FAWNA)
- 4.3.13 Meeting with new NSW Minister for Environment and Climate Change Carmel Tebbut & Opposition Shadow Minister Pru Goddard** (Audrey Koosmen NATF)
Audrey advised she is still working on a suitable date.
- 4.3.14 NWC Impact Statement** (Shirley Lack NARG)
Phil has received 8 Impact Statements and is still waiting for the remainder.
Reminder that all Council Reps send in their groups statements within 8 days to Phil.
- 4.3.15 NWC Submission to DECC re Climate Change Action Plan** (Sonja Elwood SMW)
Sonja Elwood not present. No report
- 4.3.16 Strategic Plan** (Audrey Koosmen NATF)
Audrey advised that SMW have been unable to locate our property relating the Strategic Plan facilitation undertaken last November. It was decided that Audrey will ask IFAW if they are able to provide a facilitator for our meeting next November so we can revisit the task.

- 4.3.17 The Constitution** (Shirley Lack NARG)
No report.
- 4.3.18 Upkeep of Contact List** (Julia McConnell IGLs)
Julia reported that Coralie Tarlinton Wildcare is not able to do this task. Shirley Lack NARG agreed to take over this task and will put the new list on line.
- 4.3.19 Wildlife Watch** (John Donnelly NTWC)
John Donnelly reported that the NTWC editor could not assist NWC with Wildlife Watch
- 4.3.20 With Compliments Slips** (Stan Wood WIRES)
Stan Wood WIRES provided and distributed the 'with compliments' slips as previously promised. Thank you to Stan.
- 4.3.21 4.3.21 New Positions Descriptions** (Lorraine Vass FOK, Elena Guarracino LAOKO)
Position descriptions written by Lorraine Vass FOK and Elena Guarracino for Newsletter Compiler and Revenue Officer were tabled. Julia provided an old Revenue Officer position description which Elena will check and integrate if necessary.
- 4.3.22 Invitation to Scott Cardamatis** (Audrey Koosmen NATF)
Scott Carmadatis to speak to Elena Guarracino LAOKO) on 8th May 2009.
- 4.3.23 NSW Wildlife State Emergency – NWC Capability** (Audrey Koosmen NATF, Elena Guarracino LAOKO, John Gorham FAWNA discussion took place as to NWC capabilities in State Emergency
Actions: Audrey Koosmen to speak with DPI and invite them to attend a NWC meeting also speak with DPI regard Emergency Training for groups. John Gorham to draft a Major Incident Plan for NWC.
- 4.3.24 Attendance at Meetings** (Audrey Koosmen NATF)
Audrey Koosmen NATF contacted all groups re non attendance of meetings. A letter is to be sent to each group to remind them of their obligations under the constitution.
Action: To contact all groups by letter, Audrey Koosmen (NATF)

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Reports:

5.1 Treasurer's Report: (Julia McConnell IGLs)

- 5.1.1** The Treasurers report was tabled (Att #4). The second round of funding from the RTA has been paid and the final round from DECC has also been received. Julia reminded the Council that there is only one more round of funding to be received and that's the 3rd and final round from the RTA. The invoice for our insurance premium is yet to be received but will be approximately \$22,000 from a balance of \$70,000. A letter was received by Audrey Koosmen NATF asking the Council to provide sponsorship for Flying Fox Information

Conservation Network (FFICN) Conference 2009. Audrey Koosmen NATF spoke in the affirmative for making a donation of \$500, which was supported by Julia McConnell IGLs. Stan Wood WIRES agreed but noted that a precedent could be set for other conferences. Elena Guarracino LAOKO also supported the decision but questioned the amount, saying the criteria for support needs to be considered. Sponsorship of the Koala Conservation Conference was also discussed.

Motion: That the Council provide sponsorship of \$500 for each of these conferences.

Moved: Stan Wood WIRES

Seconded: Elena Guarracino LAOKO

Action: Julia McConnell IGLs to arrange payments

5.1.2 **Authorised signatories**

Julia advised that the authorised signature changes have not been effected because we have not been able to produce minutes which the bank requires.

Motion: To add Shirley Lack as an Authorised Signatory and not to include Marny Bonner as an Authorised Signatory.

Moved: John Meany NANA

Seconded: Stan Wood WIRES

Carried: Unanimously

Action: Julia McConnell IGLs to effect.

5.1.3 **Reimbursement of expenses**

Applications for reimbursement have been received from John Donnelly NTWC, Julia McConnell IGLs, Georgie Whaley NRW, Elena Guarracino LAOKO, Ilona Roberts TVWC.

Motion: Approve payments as above

Moved: John Donnelly NTWC

Seconded: Shirley Lack NARG

Action: Julia McConnell IGLs to arrange payments

5.1.4 **Bank Statement Delivery**

Julia advised that phone banking has been set up, and we can now obtain information from the bank electronically.

5.2 **Insurance Officer's Report:** (Shirley Lack NARG)

The Insurance Officer's report was tabled. (Att #5)

The premium for the insurance is due on 1st May 2009, but the invoice is generally not received until some time later, however we are covered till it arrives and make payment. The cost of insurance will not be known until we receive the invoice. The premium will be paid by the Treasurer who will issue invoices to all groups requiring Protector Liability cover.

There is a claim pending for a dog bite incident. Claim yet to be received.

5.3 **Media Officer's Report:** (Marny Bonner ASR)

Marny Bonner ASR was not present and no report was tabled.

5.4 **Revenue Officer's Report:** (Elena Guarracino LAOKO)

The Revenue Officer's report was tabled. (Att #6)

Elena reported that DPI would not fund NWC as they fund WIRES. An agreement between WIRES and DPI needs to be before DPI will consider funding NWC.....

Action: Stan Wood (WIRES) to speak with DPI.

Note of thanks to Elena Guarracino LAOKO for her hard work outlined in this report.

5.5 NCC Representative Report: (Lorraine Vass FOK)

The NCC Representative's report was tabled and accepted.

5.6 Secretary's Report: (Shirley Lack NARG)

The Secretary's Report was tabled.

A letter was received by Audrey Koosmen NATF asking the Council to provide sponsorship for Flying Fox Information Conservation Network (FFICN) Conference 2009. Audrey Koosmen NATF spoke in the affirmative for making a donation of \$500, which was supported by Julia McConnell IGLs. Stan Wood WIRES agreed but noted that a precedent could be set for other conferences. Elena Guarracino LAOKO also supported the decision but questioned the amount, saying the criteria for support needs to be considered. Sponsorship of the Koala Conservation Conference was also discussed.

Motion: That Elena Guarracino LAOKO and Stan Wood will represent the Council at the Wildlife Preservation Society Centenary Luncheon 1909-2009 at a cost of \$100 per head.

Moved: John Donnelly NTWC

Seconded: Elena Guarracino LAOKO

Carried: Unanimously

Action: Julia McConnell IGLs to arrange payment

6. General Business:

6.1 Reimbursement of Expenses (Julia McConnell IGLs)

Council only pays travel costs for members to attend meetings and not accommodation. Julia pointed out that some people drive long distances and can only claim travel even though they must stay over, whereas people who fly claim for their travel without any accommodation. In order to ensure equal access to attend meetings and also to encourage attendance Julia suggested that the Council should reimburse reasonable accommodation costs as well as travel where a member has no choice but to stay over due to distance and location.

Motion: That Council reimburse reasonable accommodation costs to attend meetings when deemed necessary.

Proposed: Stan Wood WIRES

Seconded: Julia McConnell IGLs

Carried: Unanimously

6.2 Use of Tongs for Picking up Reptiles: (Julia McConnell IGLs)

Tongs for picking up reptiles are being sold in pet shops and used by some people. Julia raised this as a cruelty issue because they have the capacity to cause serious injuries and death to reptiles and are

considered inappropriate way of handling reptiles in general herpetological circles.

Stan Wood WIRES said he would raise this matter at the next NAKCC meeting.

The Council agreed to send letters to DECC and RSPCA

Action: Stan Wood WIRES to raise this issue at the next NAKCC meeting

Action: Julia McConnell IGLs to compose a letter to DECC and RSPCA

6.3 List of Decisions on Website: (Julia McConnell IGLs)

The Council agreed that decisions taken would be recorded on the website to allow easy access to previous decisions over time.

Greg Tarlinton Wildlife Q agreed to continue to do this.

There was a vote of thanks to Greg for his hard work in getting the website up and running and with a great new look.

Action: Greg Tarlinton Wildcare Q to update Councils decisions on the website as soon as possible

7.0 Any Other Business:

7.1 Euthanasia of Large Animals: (Ilona Roberts TVWC)

Ilona requested the NWC to look into how more licenses can be obtained to members of groups to euthanase large animals such as kangaroos.

Greg Tarlinton Wildlife Q to draft a letter to ensure that people keep their licence, requesting that people have a licence for euthanasia of large animals, and can shoot them when needed.

Action: Greg Tarlinton, Wildlife Queanbeyan to draft a letter that NWC members could use to approach authorities to have their shooters licence upgraded to dispatch an animal by means of euthanasia.

7.2 Emails: (Ilona Roberts TVWC)

Ilona expressed concern about the number of emails that came through the list. This was discussed.

7.3 Ratify the Appointment of Secretary:

Motion: That the appointment of Shirley Lack NARG to the position of Secretary be ratified.

Moved: Stan Wood WIRES

Seconded: John Donnelly NTWC

Carried: Unanimously

8.0 Future Meeting Dates/Venues

The meeting dates for the remainder of the year are –

Thursday 13th August 2009 at the DECC office in Hurstville
Saturday and Sunday 28 and 29 November 2009. The Centre at Randwick has already been booked for this meeting.

9.0 Close of Meeting:

Meeting was closed at 4.07 pm

Attachments –

- #1** Handout from DECC to Council re Licencing Policy Review
- #2** Council's response to DECCs handout re Licencing Policy Review
- #3** Ilona Robert's Report on BGT re Flying Foxes at Botanic Gardens
- #4** Treasurer's Report
- #5** Insurance Officer's Report
- #6** Revenue Officer's Report
- #7** NCC Representative's Report
- #8** Secretary's Report