

**NSW Wildlife Council Inc.**  
**General Meeting #33 - MINUTES**

Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014  
"The Centre"  
14 Frances St  
RANDWICK

**CHAIR: Audrey Koosmen**

**MEETING OPEN: 9:30 am**

**PRESENT:**

Geoff	BARTLETT	HKPS
Warren	BLACKLEY	Wildlife Carers Mudgee Region Inc
Donna	BLACKLEY	Wildlife Carers Mudgee Region Inc (Alt)
Jan	BRAZEL	Wildlife Arc.
Jill	DEAN	NATF (Alt)
Rochelle	FERRIS	ASRInc. (From 11:35)
James	FITZGERALD	Wildcare Queanbeyan (Alt)
Peter	GRAHAM	LAOKO - SMWR
Naomi	HENRY	Wildcare Queanbeyan
Jacky	HUNT	Wildlife Arc. (Alt)
Helen	KENNEDY	SMWS – (From 10:30)
Audrey	KOOSMEN	NATF
Shirley	LACK	NARG
Jackie	MAISEY	NTWC
Jane	MILLS	WRSC (Alt)
Bruce	MULLIGAN	Wildlife Aid Inc.
Sandra	NORRIS	NRWC
Rachel	PEACH	Wildlife Aid Inc. (Alt)
Meredith	RYAN	FAWNA
Lorraine	VASS	FOK
Richard	WOODMAN	WRSC

**APOLOGIES:**

Lorraine	YUDAEFF	WINC
Jane	MILLS	WRSC (Alt)
Shona	LORIGAN	ORRCA

**GUESTS:** FROM 13:30  
Peter STATHIS, Snr Team Leader Biodiversity and Wildlife NPWS  
Branch of OEH  
Organisational chart provided for the new branch which will not be fully set up until early 2015.  
Geoff Ross will be the primary contact for all wildlife rehabilitators in NSW.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING #32 on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

**MOTION:**  
**That the Minutes of the NWC General Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 be accepted.**

**Moved: J. Brazel**  
**Seconded: J. Hunt**  
**Carried**

**2. REPORTS:**

**2.1. Chair – Audrey Koosmen; To be tabled at AGM**

**2.2. Secretary – Richard Woodman;**  
**Correspondence list appended to Minutes**

**MOTION:**  
**That the Secretary's Report be accepted.**

**Moved: D. Blackley**  
**Seconded: J. Maisey**  
**Carried**

**2.3. Treasurer – Shirley Lack –**  
Report unable to be circulated. To 23-8-2014; Expenditure \$2946.40 Balance \$66019.59

**MOTION:**  
**That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.**

**Moved: S. Lack**  
**Seconded: W. Blackley**  
**Carried**

**2.4. Insurance – Shirley Lack**

- Premium for Volunteer and Public & Products liability increased to \$6325 on basis of \$275 per member group.
- \$5016 premium paid for D&O Insurance to Dresden Group.
- There was one large claim by a group that went to the Insurance Company direct against NWC Policy.
- All <sup>1</sup>Reps to reiterate to their group that any insurance claim must only go through the NWC Insurance Officer.

Vote of thanks was given to S. Lack, Insurance Officer, for her work and patience in dealing with insurance matters.

**MOTION:**

**That the Insurance Report be accepted.**

**Moved:** P. Graham

**Seconded:** G. Bartlett

**Carried**

**2.5. OTHER REPORTS – NCC L. Vass**

- Daisy Barham has been confirmed as NCC Campaign Manager.
- New Website launched,
- Released; Our Environment Our Future policy document for the environment sector.
- The Annual conference to be held in November is the opportunity for member groups to nominate topics for motions to the Conference – closing date for proposed motions 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**MORNING TEA**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING:**

**3.1. Wombat Best Practice Guidelines (WBPG)**

- **WBPG** had been sent to WIRES for comment.
- WIRES declined to be involved.
- The matter will be discussed with OEH for further clarification.

**3.2. Euthanasia of injured sick native fauna by farmers – N. Henry**

- Letter drafted by N. Henry and circulated to Exec.

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<sup>1</sup> All Reps to advise groups all insurance matters must go through NWC Insurance Officer, S. Lack.

Request <sup>2</sup>a letter from DPI to state that farmers can shoot such animals on humane grounds.

**3.3. Welcome package for new members**

- Nearing completion<sup>3</sup>

**3.4. Save Ballina's Koala campaign.** – L. Vass, Friends of the Koala (FOK)

Minister Hunt has approved the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade. While his decision fell short of re-routing Section 10 he has imposed restrictions and ruled that its construction cannot commence until he is satisfied that the long term survival of the Koala population can be assured. The Minister's accountability under the EPBC Act requires that he maintains direct oversight. RMS is aware that he is specially interested in population viability modelling which was demonstrated to departmental staff by Dr Steve Phillips of Biolink. The approved highway route dissects two Koala populations. Modelling demonstrates the smaller, eastern population will seriously decline almost immediately and the western population will become unviable by 2035.

Lorraine Vass and FOK were congratulated for the work done on the Koala Count which was piloted in the Northern Rivers last year. This year the NPA is planning to extend the Koala Count in November 2014 to include Victoria and Queensland. South Australia provided the greatest count from the Adelaide Hills. Corporate sponsorship is being sought.

**4. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**4.1. Executive Officer Report - June 2014**

The final report from the Executive Officer, C. Lloyd, was tabled and discussed. Points raised will be deliberated on as part of the forthcoming Strategic Plan Review. The Member Survey results have not yet been provided and when they are received they will become part of the Strategic Plan Review process.

It was the general feeling of the meeting that rather than seeking the services of an Executive Officer, consideration should be given to the employment of a part time contracted Project Officer to take on particular tasks that have been identified as part of the Strategic Plan review process. A specific Task/Position Description would need to be developed for each contracted project or task.

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<sup>2</sup> Chair to contact DPI

<sup>3</sup> Chair to email Jane Mills enquiring on expected date of completion

**4.2.** The dissemination of the "**First Responders Resource Guide for Seabird Emergencies**" book and pocket guide. – Rochelle Ferris

- Printed booklets made available to all members present.
- ASR and Rochelle in particular was congratulated on this excellent resource for seabird emergencies and was thanked for her hard work in bringing this excellent program to fruition.
- The material is available free on line on the DPI website.

**4.3. Webmaster – Shirley Lack**

- Webmaster was appointed on a paid basis.
- BAMC Services is paid up until the end of August '14.

**MOTION:**

That for reasons of procedural correctness, the position of contracted Webmaster is advertised and that a suitable candidate is chosen from a selected short list of three candidates.

**Proposed: P. Graham                      Seconded: L. Vass:**  
**Carried.**

**Action:** Appoint a sub-committee to prepare advertisement and analyse responses to present for purposes of a short list of candidates?

**MOTION:**

That S. Lorigan, J. Hunt, P. Graham form the sub-committee.

**Proposed: A. Koosmen                      Seconded: M. Ryan**  
**Carried.**

**4.4. Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference Hobart 2014 – Shirley Lack & Audrey Koosmen**

- The Conference papers are now available on [www.awrc.org.au](http://www.awrc.org.au).
- Next Conference will be held in Victoria in 2016

**MOTION:**

**That the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference Hobart 2014 Report is accepted.** Report to be appended to Minutes.

**Moved:                                      H. Kennedy**  
**Seconded:                                  R. Woodman**  
**Carried**

- 4.5. Carers Grant – Shirley Lack**
- Review documentation distributed at meeting.
  - Members asked to respond to recommendations in the next two weeks – Mon 08-09-2014.
  - Responses are to be sent to [grants@nwc.org.au](mailto:grants@nwc.org.au) (email address to be set up promptly).
  - Thanks given to the sub group, J. Hunt, S. Lack and N. Henry, with particular thanks to Jacky for taking the main burden of this task.
- 4.6. NWC Meetings with OEH & Ministers Office – Audrey Koosmen**
- Work in progress due to changes in positions.
  - Plans for OEH and NWC Management Committee to meet will take place after AGM.
- 4.7. Progress on Species COP – Audrey Koosmen –**
- Bird of Prey will be the next Best Practice Guidelines (BPG)
- 4.8. Training Manuals – Audrey Koosmen**
- OEH keen to see standardisation of training in NSW.
  - When applying for RMS funding NWC disclosed it would be placing emphasis on developing training modules.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- 5.1. Development of anti-Chlamydia vaccine. – L. Vass**
- NSW component is about to commence.
  - First stage was testing vaccine in captive animals in Queensland.
  - Project to translocate animals in Qld to capture, collar and vaccinate animals.
- 5.2. Call at the 2013 Koala Conference for a National Koala Alliance – L. Vass**
- Alliance has since been formed.
  - Governance needs to be finalised before membership is sought.
  - Wingecarribee Shire Council is showing a lot of interest in Koalas and is taking a proactive role in lifting community awareness of Koala issues.
- 5.3. 10/50 Bush Fire clearing zones within 10 metres of any building. – G. Bartlett**
- Discussion took place whether NWC should make a submission and in what form.

### **MOTION:**

That NWC submits a proposal to the NSW Premier with copy to the Environment Minister that environment protection controls that have been removed from the Bushfire Environmental Assessment Code are reinstated.

**Moved: R. Ferris    Seconded N. Henry;  
Carried**

**To be actioned:** <sup>4</sup>G. Bartlett to prepare draft for submission to Management Committee by Fri 5 September.

**5.4 Minister's Round Table** was attended by NWC for the first time on June 19 2014

The NSW Wildlife Council has been invited to be a member of the minister's environmental roundtable and Shona Lorigan attended on behalf of the council on June 19<sup>th</sup>. A change of premier and ministerial reshuffle in the preceding weeks resulted in a changed format for the roundtable meeting. The Heritage and environment roundtables were combined and the meeting was used as an introduction to the new minister Robert Stokes.

The 2-hour meeting commenced with an introduction by the minister on his views and thoughts about his role as Minister. In summary his main focus is that all development and decisions from the government should have a sustainable focus and that means that anything that is done should not just focus on the present but ensure that the environment is not left in a state or condition that will have a negative impact for future generations.

Each attendee then presented an introduction of themselves and the group they represent

The next meeting is scheduled for later in the year but the minister was unable to confirm a date and NWC is awaiting confirmation of the next meeting.

Report to be appended to Minutes.

**6. NEXT MEETING:**

General Meeting #34      Tue, 25th November '14      OEH Hurstville

**MEETING CLOSED: 16: 40**

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<sup>4</sup> G. Bartlett prepare draft submission