

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

Chair: Audrey Koosmen

MEETING OPEN: 09:00

ATTENDANCE

<u>First</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Group</u>
Meredith	Ryan	FAWNA (NSW) INC
Fiona	Dawson	Friends of the Koala
Lorraine	Vass	Friends of the Koala-Alt [non-voting]
Audrey	Koosmen	Hunter Wildlife Rescue-NATF
Peter	Graham	LAOKO-Snowy Mountains Wildlife Rescue
Sandy	Norris	Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers
Jacquie	Maisey	Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers
Julia	Rose	Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers - Alt [non-voting]
Shona	Lorigan	ORRCA
Suzy	Watson	Wildcare Queanbeyan-Alt
Kerryn	Parry-Jones	Wildlife A.R.C.
Joshua	Mesilane	Wildlife Carers Network Central West
Richard	Woodman	Wildlife Rescue South Coast

APOLOGIES		
Don	Eagleton	Australian Seabird Rescue
Rod	Miller	FAWNA-Alt
Jill	Dean	Hunter Wildlife Rescue-NATF-Alt
Christeen	McLeod	Koalas In Care
Paul	McLeod	Koalas In Care
Shirley	Lack	NARG
Leesa	Pratt	ORRCA-Alt [non-voting]
Carmel	Northwood	Port Stephens Koalas
Julie	Jennings	Port Stephens Koalas-Alt
Sonja	Elwood	Sydney Wildlife
Chris	Thompson	Sydney Wildlife
Miriam	Hazel	Wildcare Queanbeyan
Jacky	Hunt	Wildlife ARC
Justine	King	Wildlife Rescue South Coast-Alt [non-voting]
Lorraine	Yudaeff	WINC

Welcome by Chair Audrey Koosmen.

Introduction of new members Kerryn Parry-Jones the Alt delegate for Wildlife A.R.C. Inc, and to Julia Rose Alt for Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers. Meeting was advised that Helen Kennedy is no longer representing Sydney Wildlife. Helen was on the original steering committee to form the NWC and made a significant contribution. Jill Dean Alt for HWR has

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

resigned from NWC due to serious health problems. A special thank you has been extended to both Helen and Jill for their service.

Meeting rules were explained. Members asked to think and check before sending off emails to avoid unnecessary upset of members. Members were also reminded to keep check that messages from NWC are not being sent to their email Spam box.

09:50 a.m. Peter Stathis, Senior Team Leader, Biodiversity and Wildlife Team, National Parks and Wildlife Service welcomed to the meeting to present an update on

The Group Audit process
Biodiversity Conservation Act
Wildlife Licensing

Notes of discussion: See: F: 17 08 26 BCA Summary of Discussions

Vote of thanks given for addressing NWC - P Stathis departs 12.45 p.m.

General Meeting No. 45 Agenda Items

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 23 May 2017 General Meeting No. 44

Motion: That the Minutes of the 23 May 2017 General Meeting 44 are a true and correct record.

Proposed: M. Ryan; Seconded: J. Mesilane; Carried

2. Business arising from that meeting. Action list update

- i) ¹Cruelty database progress report – M. Hazel. Report not available due illness of Miriam, then her deputy.
- ii) Letter to IGL's – Secretary. Letter sent by OEHL but no replies received nominating an IGL representative on Council – OEHL to be asked what more NWC can do to resolve this impasse. **PS:** difficult to provide an effective representative voice – one person for an uncoordinated group of IGLs. Insurance implications were discussed. NPWS can disseminate information to IGLs. Question was asked about lack of supervision by licensee of IGLs. NPWS preference is for people to be in groups. IGLs still provide a service in areas where there is no other rehabilitation service provider. NPWS would prefer all rehabilitation to be undertaken from within groups operating with minimum standards. There are 26 IGLs. Need an incentive to encourage representation.
- iii) Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference 2018 sponsorship – contact made asking for details of sponsorship opportunities. ²NWC's request has been acknowledged but no details provided by 25-8-2017.
- iv) Media contacts to be provided by ³Reps to incoming Media Officer. Update – P. Graham – hold over for new Media Officer. Difficulty of constantly changing media contacts – at a minimum the names of local media outlets would be helpful.

¹ Carry over item to November meeting – Cruelty Database M Hazel

² Carry over item for future meeting – AWRC 2018 Sponsorship

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

- v) Retention of seized animals. WRSC Draft Policy forwarded to OEHL seeking comment. Separate Agenda item.
 - vi) NWC Grants – separate Agenda Item.
 - vii) Strategic Plan Review – sharing of Group Policies and resources. Suggestion for a NWC on-line library of resources that might be shared. Sub Committee to continue – J Hunt, M Hazel, A Koosmen? A Koosmen wishes to be removed from this committee. ⁴Action AK follow up subcommittee for future action – produce a resource list for groups to provide for sharing.
- b) JM WCNCW asks if any groups are prepared to share their Constitution and governance/policy documents. ⁵Members to contact JM Direct.

3. Correspondence

17-7-17 from Wildlife ARC advising D. Henshaw is no longer Alt Rep to NWC.
22-7-17 from FAWNA confirming no change to Rep and Alt
17-8-17 from Jill Dean, not continuing as Alt for NATF-HWR or committee (to be confirmed in writing by NATF)
18-8-17 from Sydney Wildlife S. Elwood Rep, C. Thompson Alt including a testimonial to former Rep Helen Kennedy; reply from Chair and from Secretary
19-8-17 from J R Woodman, WRSC D O I form
20-8-17 from S. Lack, NARG D O I Form
22-8-17 From Wildlife A.R.C. Kerryn Parry-Jones as Alt delegate
23-8-17 from NCC attaching revised Certificate for Public & Products Liability Insurance⁶
26-8-17 from NTWC confirmation of Rep and Alt for 2017-2018

Motion: That the correspondence above and emails forwarded to Reps/Alt line are noted.
Proposed: M. Ryan; Seconded: J. Rose: **Carried**

Business arising from correspondence Action Item 6

4. Chair Report – A. Koosmen – to be presented at AGM

5. Treasurer's Reports tabled: -

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report as tabled is accepted.

Proposed A. Koosmen, Seconded: P. Graham - **Carried**

6. Insurance Officer Report – J. Dean Nil report. No claims for the period. Alex Smillie of Dresden has retired.

7. Media Officer Report – P. Graham – Nil report.

³ All groups to provide media contacts to Media Officer

⁴ AK ask sub-committee to produce resource list for distribution to member groups

⁵ Groups who choose to share Constitution with WCNCW

⁶ Distribute new Certificate to Group – Insurance officer

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

8. Secretary and Public Officer Reports – M. Ryan. All reports are up to date and after AGM the FormA12 will be lodged and the ACNC details and reports as required will be completed.

9. Update on Macropod Code of Practice – S. Lorigan

Discussions on macropods as a whole – capture myopathy

Role of antibiotics – overuse – effect on environment – Code needs to include reference to Poisons Act.

Release methods need vet sign offs.

It is expected that the Draft Code will go to NPWS within a few weeks.

10. Nature Conservation Council – L. Vass – Annual Conference (28-29 October 2017) circular distributed. Notice of any motions to be put before the Conference needs to be lodged by 22 September 2017. L. Vass advises she will not nominate for the position of NWC Rep to NCC. A vote of thanks given to Lorraine Vass for her contribution as NWC rep to the NCC.

11. Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016:

Stakeholder Meetings: Koalas and Animal Keepers – A. Koosmen, S. Lorigan. Matters that may not have been included in OEH discussion. Very little feedback received. Koala workshops have resulted from these meetings.

NWC is pushing NPWS with continuation of Code development.

Expect Draft 1 of the Koala Code will go back to respondents in September; changes will only be received from attendees.

Draft 2 November; (3rd if required) then to Independent Review; then final signoff by OEH (can take up to a year)

12. Biodiversity Conservation Act – Items to discuss following OEH presentation?

Need to encourage participation in the public discussion paper process.

Questions on what form the Peak Body will take. NWC in a changed format? OEH will only deal with one body in whatever form that is. Peak Body could be a Board made up of numerous bodies – this might be an imposed solution – it would be better if stakeholder bodies could get together early to form an acceptable Peak Body. How do we adapt and make the best of the situation? We as a Sector can't operate in isolation as a rehabilitation peak body.

JR Encouraged by what PS is saying, recognising that it would be possible to work for rehab under one entity. **LV** Regional representation was considered historically.

RW WIRES is well resourced. As a brand name it is universally recognised. Voting system needs to be reviewed to be better representative.

SW How will NWC respond when discussion paper released? ⁷Recommend pre-prepare a media release of the stats contained in the discussion paper. Distribution recommended to all local media, stakeholders and local politicians.

⁷ Media Officer – make recommendations for media strategy

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

Taronga Wildlife Hospital questioned whether they could be invited as a member of the NWC.

Propose: M. Ryan That the Taronga Wildlife Hospital is ⁸invited to join the NSW Wildlife Council
Seconded: J. Mesilane; Carried

- 13. Retention of Seized Animals** – R. Woodman, WRSC. Revised Draft Document sent with Agenda. Potential of this problem to grow with any relaxation of laws related to keeping of wildlife under the BC Act. WRSC will go ahead with their proposed Policy but wishes to offer the option for the Policy to be adopted by NWC or any individual group. SMWR does not have a problem beyond bearing the cost of holding the animals and use of facilities; FAWNA and HWR happy to continue as they currently are but will reserve the option of taking up the Policy in the future should things change. NTWC the question arises whether expenses can be claimed from owners in case of “found” animals.

Document Version 3 is available to any group that wishes to adopt it internally.⁹

- 14. Wildlife Rehabilitation Grants 2017-18** – Summary of Grants for voting to be distributed on the evening of Friday 25 August to those present at The Centre, including a Ballot Paper. All voting members to ensure they collect from the Secretary their Summary of Grants document and Ballot paper, either Friday evening or Saturday morning.

Returning Officers to be endorsed at this meeting. All completed Ballot papers to be handed in by 4 p.m. Saturday 26 August to enable counting to take place overnight. Results will be announced at the AGM on Sun 27 August 2017.

Moved: J. Mesilane: Recognising that the grant budget has been set at \$10000 the returning officers may recommend accepting one extra grant that may exceed the total budget.

Seconded P. Graham **Carried**

Reminder of changed conditions: Grants amounts available range from \$500 to \$2000; one only grant may be awarded to any one group; Grant budget total is \$10,000.

- 15. Elections 2017-2018** – All positions will be declared vacant at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 27 August 2018. Returning Officer to be elected.

A. Koosmen Nominates J. Rose to this position. Seconded R. Woodman **Carried**

- 16. General and Other business:**

Management Committee Meetings – meeting informed of possible proposal to trial these by telephone conference call – A. Koosmen

General Meetings of Rep and Alt group – FOK President is asking whether consideration has been given to video conferencing meeting. JM suggests incoming committee should first decide what form of electronic meeting works before considering trialling any meeting format change to the membership group. A lot of technological challenges can occur.

- 17. Member group Rescue Telephone and Wildlife Data Recording System – should NWC offer a recording system to member groups who require help?**

⁸ Secretary/President – invite Taronga Wildlife Hospital to join NWC

⁹ J. Hunt M. Hazel - Shared Resources committee to include the document in the Shared Resource inventory.

**NSW Wildlife Council – Minutes – General Meeting No. 45 – 0930 hours –
Saturday 26 August, 2017 – The Centre, 14 Frances Street, Randwick**

M Ryan - will demonstrate FAWNA’s integrated rescue line and wildlife records entry system.

JM advises he is hoping to have a similar system up and running and it will be available as open source software that groups can use.

PG – LAOKO currently uses Data Sheet for Fauna Rehabilitators with one person maintaining it. He is planning to send the sheet to all SMWR members to complete their own records.

AK feels her group fails with a different phone system not set up for recording rescue resolutions.

Dates of next general meetings:

No. 46 - Tuesday, 21 November 2017	OEH Hurstville (not booked)
No. 47 - Tuesday, 20 February, 2018	OEH Hurstville (not booked)

Meeting Close: 4.50 pm.

Signed/Chair ...Ratified A. Koosmen..... Date ...21 November 2017.....