

Minutes of 2009 AGM of the Australasian Wildlife Management Society

The Australasian Wildlife Management Society held its 2009 Annual General Meeting at the annual conference in Napier, New Zealand at 5pm on 2nd December 2009.

Record of AGM proceedings:

1. Opening. 1645 hours.

2. Apologies. Desley Whisson, Lyn Selwood, Steve McLeod, David Forsyth, John Tracey, Ben Allen, Sylvana Maas, Steven Sare

Those members in attendance:

Terry Korn, Greg Baxter, Mike Braysher, Doug Armstrong, Andrew Moriarty, Tarnya Cox, Neal Finch, Lucy Bridgman, Graeme Coulson, Lyn Hinds, Elaine Murphy, Dave Ramsey, Wendy Ruscoe, Glen Saunders, Rebecca Lawrence, Jim Hone, Peter Shaughnessy, Arlene McDowell, George Wilson, Tony English, Sue Briggs, Roger Pech, Andrea Byrom, Kath Handasyde, Bob Gough, Peter Fleming, Peter West, Wendy Dimond, Charles Krebs, Cathy Herbert.

3. Minutes of previous meeting, 25 November 2008, Fremantle. Motion: Minutes accepted as true and accurate record. Moved Peter Fleming, Seconded Graeme Coulson. Passed.

4. Matters arising from the 2008 AGM minutes:

- 4.1 AWMS Directions Planning Meeting. Full report in President's report later in meeting. Outcomes endorsed by 2009 committee.
- 4.2 AWMS association with CSIRO Publishing. This matter resolved.

5. President's report (Terry Korn). President read report as circulated. Motion that president's report be accepted. Moved Terry Korn, Seconded Wendy Ruscoe. Passed.

6. Correspondence (Desley Whisson). No correspondence.

7. Treasurer's report (Sylvana Maas). Circulated in writing and read by President. Motion: That the treasurer's report be accepted. Moved: Mike Braysher, Seconded: Jim Hone. Passed.

Motion; that a financial breakdown of the finances of each conference be tabled at each AGM. Moved: Elaine Murphy, Seconded: Sue Briggs. Passed.

There was discussion of what would be appropriate membership fees with the guiding principle being that fees should cover ordinary operating costs.

Motion: That membership fees be raised and that committee prepare a discussion paper for circulation to the membership about fee options including automatic CPI increases. Moved: Sue Briggs, Seconded: Mike Braysher. Passed.

8. Membership report (Cathy Herbert).

Report read to meeting. Membership decreased to 212, including 60 student members. Members invited to check that their subscriptions are up to date. There was discussion about how new student members could be retained after they complete their studies.

Motion; Membership Secretary's report be accepted. Moved: Peter Shaughnessy, Seconded: Cathy Herbert. Passed.

9. Position Statement Co-ordinator's report. Peter Fleming provided report for Steve McLeod.

9.1 Call for Position Statement topics. Bob Gough agreed to prepare a statement about the role of recreational hunting in wildlife management.

10. General Business:

a) Special resolutions relating to the constitution (see attached paper). Proposed changes circulated prior to the conference and explained by President at the AGM. President recommended that section 24.1 be changed so that electronic communication be deemed an acceptable replacement for hard copy if members have email. Motion: That the proposed changes be agreed to.

1A. Moved: Terry Korn. Seconded: Sue Briggs. Passed unanimously.

1 B. Moved: Terry Korn, Seconded: Wendy Ruscoe. Passed unanimously.

Conference for 2010. Desley Whisson has suggested that the 2010 meeting be held in Victoria. Possible locations are Mornington Peninsula or Mildura. Organising committee needs to be cognizant of ESA conference from 6-10 December 2010 which is being held in Canberra.

The 2011 Conservation Biology conference will be held in Christchurch New Zealand, starting 29 November. There is likely to be 2000-3000 attendees. This will have implications for the 2011 AWMS conference and the committee will have to decide if it will run a conference in 2011.

Greame Coulson questioned AWMS policy about students presenting spoken papers on prospective work rather than being able to present data and findings. Students who have no results should be encouraged to resent a poster. This information should be added to the conference guidelines. There was general agreement on this.

11. Election of office-bearers.

Secretary - Desley Whisson did not seek another term as secretary. Greg Baxter was nominated for the position by Wendy Ruscoe/seconded by Dave Ramsey and was elected.

Treasurer - Sylvana Maas retired as treasurer. Don Fletcher was nominated for the position of treasurer by Terry Korn/seconded by Sylvana Maas and was elected.

Committee - The terms of Cathy Herbert and David Ramsay have expired and they have both re-nominated for another two year term. Cathy Herbert was nominated by Glen Saunders/seconded by John Tracey. Dave Ramsey was nominated by Peter Fleming/seconded by Steve McLeod. Both were re-elected!

Motion: That the committee review the constitution and make recommendations to next year's AGM that will remove ambiguity about the length of a committee member's term of office. Moved: Peter Shaughnessy, Seconded: Kath Handasyde. Passed.

Student Representative (ex-officio) Wendy Dimond stepped down as student representative on council and her place will be taken by Lucy Bridgeman. The president thanked Lucy for accepting the role of student representative.

The meeting expressed its thanks for Terry Korn's efforts in 2009.

12. Meeting closed 1745 hours.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS for consideration at the 2nd December 2009 AGM

The AWMS Planning Group met in May 2009 and recommended that the Objects of the society be expanded and made more specific. The proposed changes are in italics.

1. Change to the constitution.

(a) Change **section 1 Objects** of the Australasian Wildlife Management constitution to read as

- 1 AWMS is a professional society that promotes the study and application of scientific wildlife management in the Australasian region.
- 2 AWMS actively encourages the development, dissemination and adoption of applied scientific research in wildlife management. *Target groups include wildlife research scientists, wildlife managers, wildlife practitioners, policy developers, educators and students.*
AWMS' fora includes conferences, meetings, workshops, symposia, publications and on-line communications.
- 3 *AWMS aims to influence policy and management decisions through the provision of clear, explicit and pragmatic advice on options for wildlife management and associated risks.*

A further change is recommended by the committee to allow notification of meetings by electronic means in addition to the normal pre-paid post

(b) Change **section 24 (1) Notification** to include the words “*or electronically*”

24 (1) Except where the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary shall, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause to be sent by pre-paid post *or electronically* to each member at the member's address appearing in the register of members, a notice specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.