



NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL CATCHMENTS COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 26 October 2015

MINUTES

10:00am to 12:00pm

**Venue: The Geraldton Club
Marine Terrace, Geraldton**

Signed as a true and correct record of proceedings

 

CHAIR

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10.00am to 12.00pm

AGM AGENDA

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|------------|----------------|--|---|
| 1.0 | 10.00am | Open Meeting | |
| | | 1.1 | Attendance & Apologies |
| | | 1.2 | Public questions and deputations |
| 2.0 | 10.02am | Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes | (for Decision) |
| | | 2.1 | Amendments to previous minutes |
| | | 2.2 | Matters arising from previous minutes |
| 3.0 | 10.05am | NACC Annual Reports | (for Information/Decision) |
| | | 3.1 | Chair's Report |
| | | 3.2 | CEO Report |
| | | 3.3 | Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements |
| 4.0 | 10.45am | Appointment of Auditor | (for Decision) |
| 5.0 | 10.55am | Voting on proposed Constitutional changes | (for Decision) |
| 6.0 | 11.25am | Open Question Time | (for Discussion) |
| 7.0 | 11.50am | Elections of Directors | (for Information) |
| 8.0 | 12.00pm | Close Meeting | |

1.0 Open Meeting (10.00am)

Title: Open Meeting
Author: Jill Wilson
Position: Chair
Date: 26 October 2015

1.1 Attendance & Apologies

Title: Attendance & Apologies
Author: Evelyne Halikis
Position: Executive Assistant
Date: 26 October 2015

Present

NACC Board Members J Wilson
K Broad
Y Marsden
C Sullivan
R Keogh
B Logue

Executive Support R McLellan
T Maina
E Halikis

NACC Members J Wedge; P Logue; T Brooker; J Allan; S Spriggs; J Beven;
J Sorgiovanni; N Dunlop; S Love; H Maclean; E Jackson;
E Halikis; Y Marsden; G Erickson; J Wilson; C Sullivan;
R McLellan; T Maina; R Keogh; K Broad; E Fierra; B Logue;
C Love; R Deutekom; S Samulkiewicz-Taylor;
A Parenzee; J Stingemore; S Rowe; G Burrows; F Beswick;
P Findlater;

Observers Apologies: J Holley (State Government Representative)
C Kajewski (Federal Government Representation)
S Goodhand (Federal Government Representation)

Apologies: D Revell (Director); T Thomas (Director); A Nagle; S Yokwe;
C Lee; J&R Johnson

1.2 Public Questions and Deputations

2.0 Previous Meeting Minutes

(for Decision)

Title Acceptance of Previous Minutes
Author Evelyne Halikis
Position: Executive Assistant
Date: 26 October 2015

2.1 Amendments to previous Minutes

There were no amendments to the 2014 AGM meeting Minutes.

2.2 Matters arising from previous Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

Resolution 1/NACCAGM/10/15

The meeting confirmed the previous AGM Minutes of 27 October 2014 as presented.

MOVED: S Rowe

SECONDED: Y Marsden

CARRIED: All

3.0 NACC Annual Reports (for Information/Decision)

3.1 Chair's Report

3.2 Executive Officers Report

3.3 Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements (2014/2015)

Introduction

Reports from the Chair – Jill Wilson; the CEO – Richard McLellan; and the Treasurer - Yvonne Marsden were presented on the day.

The NACC Annual Report including detailed audited financial statements can be viewed at <http://www.nacc.com.au>

Resolution 2/NACCAGM/10/15

The meeting approved the 2014/2015 Annual Report, including the 2014/2015 Audited Financial Report for the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council.

MOVED: T Maina

SECONDED: C Sullivan

CARRIED: All

Resolution 3/NACCAGM/10/15

The meeting accepted the official annual report from the Chair and the CEO.

MOVED: P Findlater

SECONDED: J Sorgiovanni

CARRIED: All

4.0 Appointment of an Auditor

(for Decision)

Resolution 4/NACCAGM/10/15

Focus Accounting Services were re-appointed as the independent auditors of Northern Agricultural Catchments Council for a further term of one year.

MOVED: T Maina

SECONDED: K Broad

CARRIED: All

5.0 Voting on proposed Constitutional changes (for Decision)

The Chair outlined the proposed changes whereby there were several types of changes required:

- 1) Those required by the Department of Commerce;
- 2) Cosmetic and grammatical corrections;
- 3) Wording changes

There was much discussion amongst the members, and the NACC Board and management, with relation to the proposed changes to the Constitution.

Recommendation 5

That the NACC members approve the items listed for the proposed changes to the Constitution with the exception of Rules 6.2 and 9.1.

Special Resolution 5/NACCAGM/10/15

That the NACC members accept the items listed for the proposed changes to the Constitution with the exception of Rules 6.2 and 9.1.

Moved: S Rowe

Seconded: P Logue

Carried: All

Motion: That the changes to Rule 6.2 be accepted.

Moved: Y Marsden

Seconded: K Broad

Carried: All

Rule 6.1

Motion: That the Board seeks clarity on the wording to see if Rule 6.1 conflicts with Rule 6.2 and if so, make the appropriate changes at the next AGM to ensure consistency with Rule 6.2.

Moved: P Findlater

Seconded: R Keogh

Carried: All

Rule 9.1

Current wording: The number of elected directors is to be 7.

Suggested change: The number of elected directors is to be a maximum of 7.

Motion: That the change to Rule 9.1 be accepted.

Moved: K Broad

Seconded: C Sullivan

Carried: All

It was also suggested that the Constitution would be improved if Rule 9.1 also stated a minimum number of directors. It was agreed that appropriate changes should be presented at the next AGM.

6.0 Open Question Time (for Discussion)

Question 1 by Phil Logue

I have spoken to 2 active members of NACC who did not receive voting papers for this year's election. What are the protocols to follow to ensure our members are engaged and get the opportunity to vote?

Response 1 from J Wilson

It is important to have all members listed on our database.

Response 2 from R McLellan

NACC is going through a transition to streamline our membership enrolment. We have a digital database which is kept up-to-date by the Communications Office. I think there may be a glitch in the system which we will work to rectify. There is possibly a gap between the electronic and paper membership applications.

We are still a grass roots organisation and we are proud of our membership. We certainly do not want to exclude any members.

Question 2 by Nic Dunlop

A lot of groups I work with are aging and weary. There have been social changes in Australia with different attitudes to obligations and land caring. What can be done to attract younger groups?

Responses 1 from J Wilson and NACC members

There was general acknowledgment that there is an aging volunteer population. NACC is involving school age children in its coastal programs to get them interested in the environment and volunteering in general. It was recognised that technology is changing the way in which we interact.

A comment was that young people in NRM and other groups are more interested in one off events and are hesitant to make a big commitment.

Teachers are quite keen on having some kind of program in their schools to teach children about volunteering across all sections of the community, not just environment. For example how could NACC take the Inland to Ocean program to secondary schools which could be used in the society and environment class? Perhaps children could be taught what is involved in volunteering across all sectors which could lead to careers in this area.

There are many tools available for the younger generation to become involved that don't include attending meetings such as Online and interactive meetings.

There is enthusiasm in the community, we just need to find a way in which to harness it.

Question 3 by J Allan

Is there a way to become an official NACC volunteer? My particular interests are marine coastal, biodiversity and climate change. Whenever you have an event, I would like you to call me. I am new to the region and would like to volunteer with NACC.

Response from J Wilson

We have your contact details and will make sure you are contacted by our program coordinators who will certainly appreciate your participation.

Response by R McLellan

Since I came on board we have developed a new 3-year strategy for the organisation. There are individual core program strategies in biodiversity, coastal & marine, sustainable agriculture

and indigenous engagement. We have developed a communications strategy and we do have on our list of things to do, a volunteer strategy to actually develop a proper volunteer engagement process with a list of names of people in the community. It is not yet completed but you can be assured Jaye that your name will be the first one on the list.

Question 4 by J Stingemore

This is a comment in regard to the paper associated with the voting process for the Board members. There is too much paper used.

Responses from members

The NACC package was exactly the same package as was used for the shire elections. There was discussion around the privacy of the vote and the name of the voter in the same envelope.

No safe system has been devised to vote online which will keep the vote confidential.

We are not using forest timber to make paper so we can still use paper.

End

Shane Love acknowledged the Board and congratulated Jill Wilson on her efforts and work over the last two years.

7.0 Elections of Directors (for Information)

7.1 Appreciation of retiring Board Members

A special thank you is extended to Geoff Erickson, Shane Love and Tarleah Thomas for their service on the NACC Board and Committee.

7.2 Appointment of new Board Members – election results

Congratulations to returning director Kent Broad who was re-elected following the recent Election of NACC Board members. There were four Board vacancies up for re-election in 2015 and Kent Broad was resoundingly reelected.

Congratulations and welcome to Bev Logue, Robert Keogh and Dean Revell who were successfully voted in as new NACC Board Directors.

The existing Board members, being Jill Wilson, Yvonne Marsden and Claire Sullivan will be up for re-election in 2017.

8.0 Close meeting 12:10pm