



NACCC
Managing Natural Resources

**NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL CATCHMENTS
COUNCIL**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 6 October 2017

1.05pm to 2.58pm

**Venue: Batavia Cost Marine Institute
Willcock Drive, Separation Point, Geraldton**

MINUTES

Signed as a true and correct record of proceedings

Chair

NACC AGM MINUTES CONTENTS PAGE

AGM AGENDA	1
1.0 Open Meeting (1.05pm).....	2
1.1 Attendance & Apologies.....	2
1.2 Public Questions and Deputations.....	2
2.0 Previous Meeting Minutes (for Decision)	3
2.1 Amendments to previous Minutes	3
2.2 Matters arising from previous Minutes.....	3
Resolution 1/NACCAGM/10/17	3
3.0 NACC Annual Reports (for Information/Decision).....	4
3.1 Chair’s Report.....	4
Resolution 2/NACCAGM/10/17	5
3.2 Executive Officer’s Report.....	6
Resolution 3/NACCAGM/10/17	6
3.3 Treasurer’s Report and Audited Financial Statements (2016/2017).....	6
Resolution 4/NACCAGM/10/17	6
4.0 Appointment of an Auditor (for Decision)	6
Resolution 5/NACCAGM/10/17	6
5.0 Review of Constitutional changes (for Information)	7
Resolution 6/NACCAGM/10/17	7
6.0 Open Question Time (for Discussion)	7
7.0 Retirement and Election of Directors (for Information).....	7
7.1 Appreciation of retiring Board Members.....	7
7.2 Appointment of new Board Members – Election results	7
8.0 Close meeting 2.58pm	7

NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL CATCHMENTS COUNCIL

6 October 2017
1.00pm to 3.00pm

AGM AGENDA

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|------------|---------------|---|---|
| 1.0 | 1.00pm | Open Meeting | |
| | | 1.1 | Attendance & Apologies |
| | | 1.2 | Public questions and deputations |
| 2.0 | 1.05pm | Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes | (for Decision) |
| | | 2.1 | Amendments to previous minutes |
| | | 2.2 | Matters arising from previous minutes |
| 3.0 | 1.10pm | 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 | 2.00pm | Appointment of Auditor | (for Decision) |
| 5.0 | 2.05pm | Voting on Constitutional changes | (for Decision) |
| 6.0 | 2.35pm | Open Question Time | (for Discussion) |
| 7.0 | 2.45pm | Retirement and Election of Directors | (for Information) |
| 8.0 | 3.00pm | Close Meeting | |

1.0 Open Meeting (1.05pm)

Title: Open Meeting
Author: Rob Keogh
Position: Chair
Date: 6 October 2017

1.1 Attendance & Apologies

Title: Attendance & Apologies
Author: Evelyne Halikis
Position: Executive Assistant
Date: 6 October 2017

Present

NACC Board Members R Keogh; K Broad; Y Marsden; M Stanborough

Executive Support R McLellan; T Maina; E Halikis

NACC Members E Halikis; A Maxted; S Taylor; E Beamont; E Honeybone;
J Wilson; R Deutekom; A Rowland; R McLellan; T Maina;
K Broad; M Stanborough; Y Marsden; S Love; E Jackson;
S Yokwe; S Levett; R Keogh; I Asmussen; J Sorgiovanni;
L White

Apologies: D Revell; M Canny; S Rowe; J Stingemore; K Jefferies;
C Love; M Payne; V McGuinness;

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: 6 October 2017

2.1 Amendments to previous Minutes

2.2 Matters arising from previous Minutes

There were no matters arising from the AGM Minutes of 17 October 2016.

Resolution 1/NACCAGM/10/17

The meeting confirms the previous AGM Minutes of 17 October 2016 as presented.

MOVED: J Sorgiovanni

CARRIED: All

3.0 NACC Annual Reports

(for Information/Decision)

Introduction

Reports from the Chair – Rob Keogh; the CEO – Richard McLellan; and the Acting Treasurer – Yvonne Marsden were presented on the day.

The 2016/2017 Annual Report can be found here: <https://www.nacc.com.au/annual-report-2016-2017/>

3.1 Chair's Report

The Chair presented a verbal report to the meeting.

Acknowledgements

The Chair acknowledged the former Chair, Jill Wilson, as a stalwart of NACC and thanked Jill for her attendance at the AGM.

The Chair also acknowledged and thanked Director Yvonne Marsden who decided not to stand for re-election this year. Yvonne's involvement with NACC spans a period of 20 years during which time she has been a major contributor to and supporter of NACC. Yvonne will continue her involvement with NACC.

Board of Directors

Due to the resignation of two board members in 2016 the Board enacted a clause in the Constitution not previously used, which was to appoint a supernumerary director, Miriam Stanborough. Miriam joined the Board in March this year and has been an excellent contributor.

The Board decided to seek the appointment of two new directors in the 2017 elections which occurred in September. Five candidates were nominated for selection, from which the two successful candidates were Mrs Susanne Levett and Dr Indre Asmussen.

Board Director and Treasurer, Mrs Bev Logue recently resigned from the Board.

The Chair introduced the current Board of directors, being Kent Broad (Deputy Chair), Miriam Stanborough; Susanne Levett, Indre Asmussen and Dean Revell (apology). The Chair welcomed the new directors to the Board and looked forward to their contribution. It is hoped their time on the Board is a happy and productive one.

2016/17 Performance Highlights

Overall it was a good year for NACC; all programs met or succeeded their milestones. Some of our programs won national recognition or have been otherwise recognised. The Chair stated that he was extremely proud of the coastal and marine team which won a national award. Our Aboriginal Participation Program has recently been successful in obtaining a very significant contract from the Commonwealth government for our Indigenous Rangers Program and this will be rolled out in the next year.

The organisation and governance of NACC is by both subjective and objective measure superior. We have been audited twice and those audits covered the whole range of activities, management and governance and in both of those audits NACC was in the top three of the 56 NRMs in Australia. NACC achieved top ranking and when speaking with NRM people in Western Australia and Australia, NACC is recognised as a leader in the business we do and the way in which we do our business. The quality of management and governance gives the Chair great confidence and this is a tribute to Richard McLellan, Tom Maina and the NACC staff.

2018 and beyond – NLP2

You will be aware that the current funding arrangements – NLP1 – end in June 2018. As part of the federal budget announced in May 2017 there is provision for funding effectively for an NLP2. It has three less than desirable aspects:

1. Nominally the same amount of funding as NLP1 but is spread over five years instead of four, effectively a 20% reduction in funding.
2. It is notionally contestable. We will have to bid to be the service provider for the NRM services in this region. We will go into a tendering process
3. While the overall announcement that funding will be available, we are now in October and we are yet to find out the allocation of the funding and the process by which we might bid for that money. Richard and the Board are trying to anticipate this and Richard has set up a process by which we will take up our bid. We will play to our strengths and we NACC will emphasise collaboration, leverage and partnerships as part of any bid we do.

We face a continuing period of uncertainty and the Chair urged members to where possible promote NACC's interests, performance and capabilities.

Question 1 – Dr J Wilson

With the competitive process, have they indicated which groups will be eligible? Do they have to be NFP (Not-for-Profit)?

Response – Dr R Keogh

No, they haven't. The only two certainties are that the bidding will be on a regional basis within the current boundaries of the region and it will be for all of the services to be provided rather than an entity being able to bid for a portion of the services. It will be for the whole thing.

Question 2 – S Yokwe

Are the state agencies eligible to bid?

Response – Dr R Keogh

No, the Commonwealth wouldn't be funding any state agencies. In saying that, we would look where we can to link by way of partnership and cooperation with state agencies.

Question 3 – S Love

The two agencies, Environmental and Agricultural, at the consultation session; do you know the criteria for tendering?

Response – Dr R Keogh

We are hoping to find this out at the consultation session on 13 October where NACC will be represented.

Resolution 2/NACCAGM/10/17

The meeting approved the Chair's report

MOVED: K Broad

CARRIED: All

3.2 Executive Officer's Report

Question 4 – J Sorgiovanni

How long do the sustainable agricultural projects go for?

Response – R McLellan

They will be wrapped up by 30 June 2018 and the new agricultural program will commence from June 2018. For NLP2 we will be taking before and after photos of every project. We will be doing monitoring, evaluation and reporting. All farm trials are on the NARvis and Farm Trials websites.

Resolution 3/NACCAGM/10/17

The meeting approved the report delivered by the CEO.

MOVED: J Wilson

CARRIED: All

3.3 Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements (2016/2017)

Question 5 – J Wilson

The \$1.5M for the Aboriginal project 2017/2018; will you spend it by then?

Response – R McLellan

Yes, we can make payments into the next financial year. The Department of Parks and Wildlife and Western Mulga will be employing people on 12-month contracts.

Resolution 4/NACCAGM/10/17

The meeting approved the 2016/2017 Annual Report, including the 2016/2017 Audited Financial Report for the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council.

MOVED: S Levett

CARRIED: All

4.0 Appointment of an Auditor (for Decision)

Resolution 5/NACCAGM/10/17

AMD Midwest Pty Ltd be re-appointed as the independent auditors of Northern Agricultural Catchments Council for a further term of one year.

MOVED: Y Marsden

CARRIED: All

5.0 Review of Constitutional changes (for Information)

Resolution 6/NACCAGM/10/17

The NACC members agreed to the changes to the Constitution as outlined by the Chair.

There was a quorum for the AGM with over 75% of those present voting for the Constitutional changes. (18 – For; 3 – Abstained; 0 – Against)

Question 6 – S Love

Is NACC membership automatically accepted once they fill in the form?

Response – R McLellan

Yes, we assume honesty and eligibility but will review if required.

(Post-script: with added rigour for Board nominees.)

MOVED: J Wilson

CARRIED: All

6.0 Open Question Time (for Discussion)

There were no questions asked at this time.

7.0 Retirement and Election of Directors (for Information)

7.1 Appreciation of retiring Board Members

A special thank you is extended to Yvonne Marsden for her excellent service on the NACC Board and Committee over a period of twenty years. Yvonne was presented with a gift from NACC as a token of our appreciation. CEO Richard McLellan also acknowledged Yvonne's services to NACC during her term on the NACC Board.

Thank you to Bev Logue who has resigned as Board director following a two-year term with NACC.

7.2 Appointment of new Board Members – Election results

Following a successful election campaign NACC is pleased to advise that our two newest Board directors are Mrs Susanne Levett and Dr Indre Asmussen.

The Chair introduced the new directors to the membership at the meeting.

8.0 Close meeting 2.58pm

