



# The Australian Rangeland Society

## Council Meeting No. 263 Minutes

**Time:** 5.10pm (QLD Time); **Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 by Teleconference

1. **Present:** David Phelps, Don Burnside, Bob Shepherd, Angus Whyte, Dionne Walsh & Megan Munchenberg.

**Apologies:** Andrew Ash & Cathy Waters

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

**Motion:** That the minutes of Council Meeting No. 262 held on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 by teleconference be approved.

**Moved:** Don Burnside

**Seconded:** Angus Whyte

**Carried**

3. **Business arising from the minutes:**

**A. ARS Strategic Plan**

- a. Strategic Planning notes from the Port Augusta Conference to be circulated to Council members (**Bob to action**)
- b. David, Don, Bob, and Andrew Ash to continue developing on the Strategic Plan in Brisbane on Friday evening the 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October (after the National Australian Landcare Conference). PC members Ron Hacker and Paul Novelly and past president John Taylor are available. Other ARS Council members are welcome if they are in Brisbane on those dates. Bob to organise an Airbnb after obtaining details from Wendy Phelps. (**Bob to action**).

**B. The RMN** – Compilation of a list of other organisations that publish rangeland-relevant material has started with content from Bob & Dionne; more contacts are needed from NSW, SA and WA. Current list to be sent to ARS Council members for input. List is to be finalised by the Strategic Planning meeting in Brisbane in mid-October. (**all Council members to action; Bob to action and collate list**)

**C. 2025 IRC bid**

- a. Deadline for submitting Dana Kelly's letter in the RMN was missed. Request that Dana's letter be revamped as new information comes available and that it be submitted for the November edition. Letter also to go out on social media immediately. (**Bob to action**)
- b. A meeting outside ARS Council is required within the next month to progress the bid and enlist additional people. An email for the selection of a suitable meeting date to be sent by the 26<sup>th</sup> September. (**David to action**)

**D. Adelaide Convention Centre** – a brief report to be written and circulated to ARS Council members after David's 2017 visit (**David to action**)

**E. International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists** – the RMS of Mongolia is advancing the IYR&P with the FAO. There is a "Catch 22" between the Dept of Agriculture & Water Resources and FAO representatives in Australia which is delaying the Dept from writing a letter of support. Dana Kelly is enlisting NFF and ARS support for FAO representatives in Australia. The ARS Council supports the designation of the IYR&P. Dana to be advised of this support (**David to action**). A letter of support to be written with Dana's input and sent ASAP (**Bob to action**)

**F. ARS awards** – case for a new category of award for those who have given outstanding service to the rangelands. To be developed by the 2019 AGM. Emails received to date to be circulated to ARS Council members by 26<sup>th</sup> September (**Don to action**)

**G. Role Statements for Publications Committee Members** – the following role statements have been finalised and approved by Council:-

- Associate Editor of The Rangeland Journal

- Advisory Editor of The Rangeland Journal
- Social Media Editor
- Editor-in-Chief of The Rangeland Journal

The following role statements require details on the length of tenure:-

- Range Management Newsletter Editor
- Member of The Publications Committee
- Website Editor

Motion: That the Range Management Newsletter editor, Member of the Publications Committee and the Website Editor be approved with the addition of a term of tenure of three (3) years; and that the responsibilities of the Publications Committee include the seven (7) points as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Publications Committee report for ARS Council dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (copy attached to the Publications Committee report in Section 6.3 of the minutes of the ARS Council Meeting 263 [these minutes] 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018)

Moved: Bob Shepherd

Seconded: Don Burnside

Carried

**(Bob to action)**

- H. **Congratulatory letter to Port Augusta ARS Conference Organising Committee** – A letter was sent to the Organising Committee. A copy is to be sent to Bob for the secretary's files. **(David to action)**
- I. **Updating the 1984 book "Management of Australia's Rangelands"** – A copy of Ron Hacker's email on costs to be re-sent to ARS Council members **(David to action)**
- J. **Paid ARS Life Membership** – no progress to date. Logistics of proposal to be drafted for the Strategic Planning meeting in Brisbane 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> October and proposal completed by the end of 2018. **(Don to action)**
- K. **ARS Biennial Conference Canberra 2019**
- Reports from 2008 to 2017 ARS conferences were sent to Cathy Waters by Bob & Don.
  - \$15,000 has been made available to the Organising Committee as 'seed funding'
  - Update from Mark Stafford-Smith
    - George Wilson is the Conference Organising Committee Treasurer
    - Anticipated conference registrations – 350 people
    - Draft budget includes an anticipated sponsorship of \$75,000 and a profit target of \$20,000.
    - Tentative date for the conference is early September 2019.
  - It was felt by Council that the budgeted profit of \$20,000 was too low and that it should be possible to at least match the profit made at the Port Augusta conference. This is to be raised with Mark **(Don to action)**
  - Breakeven registration numbers are to be requested from the Organising Committee **(Don to action)**
- L. **Mark Stafford-Smith Award** – An article is to be written for the RMN **(Don to action)**
- M. **Underfunding of rangeland-based NRM groups**
- David & Megan have discussed the issue and a letter has been drafted but needs to be redrafted in light of the new PM's interest in drought
  - The ARS and Rangeland's based NRM groups have an important role to play in drought policy and management.
  - The lack of funding is reducing the effectiveness and ability of community and landcare groups to operate in remote Australia. The recent poor level of funding allocated to the Smart Farms Program where ~400 applications were received, but funding was only available for 15 projects, was raised. **(Note: there are future rounds in 2018-19)**
  - Need more emphasis on on-ground activities to stimulate NRM, Landcare and community groups.
  - The draft letter to be re-written and sent to Council members for comment **(Bob to action)**
- N. **Science & Technology Australia** – cost for membership is \$7.95 per head which equates to ~\$1200 for the ARS. Council felt that the value for money was not apparent and declined the offer to join.

## O. **Membership**

- No response to emails was received from student members who were given complimentary membership at the IRC in Canada, therefore they are being advised that they will be removed from the active membership list.
- Emails continue to be sent to encourage the renewal of memberships.
- Send list of unpaid members to respective ARS Council members to chase up (**Don to send list**)

P. **Publications Committee members visit to Sydney**. Visit was approved by Council; see section 6.3(c) in the Publications Committee report for outcomes. Emails addressed to the ARS Secretary's account are still not being automatically redirected to Bob Shepherd's home email account. (**Don to action**)

## 4. **Correspondence**

(See Appendix 1.)

Motion: That the inwards correspondence be received & outwards endorsed.

**Moved**: Bob Shepherd

**Seconded**: Don Burnside

**Carried**

It was requested that the correspondence list include the author(s) of each item/email. (**Bob to action**)

## 5. **Business Arising from Correspondence**

- All business arising from the correspondence was dealt with in business from the minutes of the last meeting, or in the Finance, Membership and Publications Committee reports.

## 6. **Reports**

### 6.1 **Membership Report** (Don Burnside)

#### 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018

**The summary**: There are 179 current paid up and complimentary members. There are 52 members yet to pay, and 14 expired complimentary members who have been invited to join.

**The detail**: We had 193 members who were financial at 31 December 2017. This includes 21 people who opted for the three-year memberships and hence will not need to renew until the end of 2019.

Renewals as at 31 August 2018 are shown below. Ten (10) members have taken up 2018-2020 memberships, giving a total of 31 members who have 'multi-year memberships'.

The rate of memberships renewals has slowed to a trickle which is concerning. Fifty two (52) members who were paying members in 2017 are still to pay in 2018. Monthly renewals continue to be sent to all those outstanding.

Fourteen (14) members whose complimentary status expired at 31 December 2017 are being sent final notices in the hope that they will elect to continue as paid membership. The likelihood that many of these will join is low, especially the 8 student prize winners from the IRC in July 2016.

## Membership at 31 August 2018:

| Category                                      | Hardcopy Journal + RMN | E-journal + RMN | RMN only       | Total            |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Paying members 2017                           | 114* (89**)            | 50* (41**)      | 29* (11**)     | 193* (141**)     |
| New members to date in 2018                   | 4                      | 2               |                | 6                |
| <b>Total paid members to date in 2018</b>     | <b>93</b>              | <b>43</b>       | <b>11</b>      | <b>147</b>       |
| Complimentary members expiring end of 2017*** | 0                      | 14              | 0              | 14               |
| Complimentary members for 2018****            | 5                      | 27              | 0              | 32               |
| Institutional subscribers                     | 10                     | 81              | 0              | 91               |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>133 (126)</b>       | <b>174 (94)</b> | <b>29 (11)</b> | <b>336 (248)</b> |

\* 2017 paying members to pay in 2018

\*\* Number paid for 2018 (and beyond) as at 31 August 2018

\*\*\* Includes IRC student prize winners and some members of 2017 Conference Organising Committee – these have been invited to join as paying members.

\*\*\*\* There are currently 34 complimentary members, but two volunteered to pay for 2018

\*\*\*\*\* Total including institutional subscribers ( in brackets ARS members only)

Motion: That the membership report be accepted.

**Moved:** Don Burnside

**Seconded:** Dionne Walsh

**Carried**

### Discussion from membership report:

- See 'e-Range Management Newsletter only' membership discussion in the Publication Committee report.

### 6.2 Financial Report (Don Burnside)

Overall financial situation for year ended 31 August 2018.

Our overall financial position for the year to date is shown in the below. As at 31 August, net assets were **\$145,285**.

| INCOME  | Jan 1 to August 31, 2018 (GST excl) | Comments   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Total ARS Membership Income                         | \$14,386                            | Some subs received before Jan 1. However, since then, subs coming in slower than desirable. About 25% members still to pay. Are being hassled monthly. |
| Total Conference income                             | \$2,941                             | All conference income is now in  |
| Journal income (special issues and CSIRO dividends) | \$26,600                            | RRR Special Issue (University of New England) - \$16,600<br>Northern Development Special Issue (CSIRO) - \$10,000                                      |
| Interest income                                     | \$427                               |  |
| GST Refund from ATO                                 | \$5,038                             | Q4 2017 and Q2 2018 GST received   |
| Miscellaneous income                                |                                     |  |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                                 | <b>\$49,328</b>                     |  |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                     |                                     |  |
| Bank service charges                                | \$415                               |  |
| GST paid to ATO                                     | \$2,013                             | Q1 2018 GST  |
| Professional fees                                   | \$1,530                             | 2017 Audit   |

| <b>INCOME</b>  | <b>Jan 1 to August 31, 2018 (GST excl)</b> | <b>Comments</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| Marketing and promotion (website, travel grants, social media support) | \$3,198                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heidi Wright (normally \$120 per month, and \$330 per month while she is acting SME)</li> <li>Website management (Noelene Duckett)</li> <li>Travel to Sydney for Hacker and Grant</li> </ul> |
| Conference expenses  | \$7,828                                    | all conference costs are now in   |
| Journal expenses   | \$18,182                                   | Full payment for payment of TRJ for calendar year 2018  |
| Newsletter costs   | \$0  |   |
| Council costs  | \$777                                      | Webex and Chorus call   |
| Corporate costs  | \$694                                      | High cost due to failure to lodge change of directors with ASIC   |
| Honoraria (Publications Chair, Book keeper)                            | \$5,250                                    | Book keeper - \$2,750 and PC Chairperson - \$2,500  |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>  | <b>\$39,887</b>                            |   |
| <b>PROFIT/ LOSS</b>  | <b>\$9,441</b>                             |   |
|  |  |   |
| <b>Balance of Accounts at 31 August 2018</b>                           | <b>Actual</b>                              |   |
| Operating Cheque Account 8347  | \$478                                      |   |
| Conference Account 8363  | \$15,059                                   | Transfer of \$15,000 as 'seed funding' for the 20-19 Conference   |
| Savings Account 8721   | \$129,139                                  |   |
| Membership Account 3504  | \$109                                      |   |
| Petty cash conference  | \$500                                      |   |
| <b>Total cash</b>  | <b>\$145,285.00</b>                        |   |
|  |  |   |
| <b>Outstanding accounts receivable and payable</b>                     |  |   |
| nil  |  |   |
| <b>Net assets</b>  | <b>\$145,285.00</b>                        |   |

### Notes on financial Report:

- **Membership income:** This is behind budget, with 52 paying members (25%) still to pay for 2018. Monthly reminders bring in a few each time, but we need some further hassling via the RMN and more direct contact.
- **Journal income:** Income has been received for two special issues of the Journal (RRR and Northern Development), and for the 2017 Conference Special Issue which will be published early in 2019. We cannot expect further income from special issues until late 2019 at the earliest.
- **Marketing and promotion expenses:** Includes payments being made to Wright Social for posts on Social Media (\$120/mth) and a payment of \$833 made to Noelene Duckett for her management of the website after Camilla Osborn's resignation and before Russell Grant's recent appointment. Further payments made to Wright Social for providing social media (\$330/mth) and to Ron Hacker and Russell Grant for travel to Sydney for discussions with Zym Zen.
- **Journal expenses:** Full year payment of \$18,182 to CSIRO for publication of TRJ under the new contract. This compares favourably with full year payment of \$29,091 under the previous contract.
- **Council costs:** Significantly reduced costs for communications due to switch to Webex.
- **Corporate costs:** Represents fines paid to ASIC for Don's late notification of change in Directors (resignation Carol, appointment Bob). Mea Culpa.
- **Honoraria:** Payments have been made to Don Heylen (Book keeper) - \$2,500 and Ron Hacker (Chair, Publications Committee) - \$2,500. Payments are still due to the Editors of the Journal and RMN.

**Travel Grants:** Depending on applications, there could be outlays for travel grants before the end of 2018. Motion: That the financial report be accepted and accounts passed for payment.

**Moved:** Don Burnside

**Seconded:** Dionne Walsh

**Carried**

## Discussion from Finance Report:

- Even accounting for future expenditure in 2018, the ARS will be able to balance the books (or record a small loss at worst case) for the year. This is a good outcome for a non-ARS conference year.
- Study and travel grants will be incurred in either late 2018 or early 2019. There has been one enquiry to date.
- Study and travel grants are to be promoted to members by social media and email (**Don to action**)

### 6.3 Publication Committee Report (12<sup>th</sup> September 2018)

The Publications Committee (PC) met on 29 August, 2018. The following matters are forwarded for Council's information and consideration.

#### a. **The Rangeland Journal**

Volume 3 of 2018 has been published and distributed. Issue 4 will be the Special Issue (SI) on Northern Development and issue 5 will be a normal issue for which most of the required manuscripts are already accepted. It is anticipated that both these issues will be published by the end of October. Hopefully the final issue for the year will be published in December. The SI from the Port Augusta is progressing with 2 papers accepted, 7 papers in second and third drafts, and 9 revised drafts outstanding. However, several papers require major revision and this may slow progress. It is possible that the SI may not make issue 1 of 2019 although it will be published in the first half of the year. There is still no SI contracted for the second half of 2019 but there are several possibilities under negotiation.

A virtual issue (VI) of the journal will be published in the near future. A collection of recently published papers from TRJ (2010-2017) on the subject *Grazing and biodiversity – the positive side* has been assembled for this purpose. Twenty one papers have been selected initially, providing examples of positive relationships between grazing and biodiversity from around the world. The final selection will be made based on advice from PC members and from CSIRO Publishing regarding the appropriate number of papers to include. Papers in the VI will be available for free download for a limited period. Experience with the first VI published in 2017 was very positive with papers being downloaded at about five times the usual rate.

The Editor-in-Chief has received an adverse comment regarding a paper from the SI on northern development which was published 'on-line early' in June. The respondents claimed that the paper had used data from their reports on the northern beef industry in an inappropriate way and that the authors' assessment of the economic importance of pastoralism in their specific region of interest was therefore biased. After discussion between the Editor-in-Chief, CSIRO Publishing and the Chair, PC it has been agreed that the paper will be published, as intended, as part of the SI and that the complainants will be offered the opportunity to publish their comment in a subsequent issue, together with a rebuttal from the authors if they wish to exercise that right. Both the comment and the rebuttal will be peer reviewed.

#### b. **Range Management Newsletter**

No report (Noelene Duckett was unable to attend the meeting). However she will be keen to receive reports and articles for the November issue. The PC noted that Council has yet to finalise its consideration of the discussion paper submitted earlier in the year on future directions for the RMN (see earlier comment under B about identification of similar organisations publishing 'rangeland-relevant material').

#### c. **Web site**

Russell Grant has taken over from Noelene Duckett as Web Site Editor and is gaining familiarity with the site and the Zym Zen content management system. He has some ideas for site development which will produce a discussion paper for PC. Russell and Ron Hacker met with Janine Howard (principal of Zym Zen) and the company's art director in Sydney on 7 August, with expenses paid by ARS. A summary of the meeting is attached as Appendix 1. Although this meeting was productive, and Janine seems genuinely interested in supporting the ARS (she has family connections with western NSW), Ron Hacker is still not particularly happy with the professionalism or efficiency of the service offered. However, he notes that the ARS should seek to understand and work with the idiosyncrasies of the company rather than consider a

shift to another provider. (Zym Zen is a relatively small company that works exclusively with the not-for-profit sector; it provides the ARS with low-cost web site support but with some attendant difficulties).

Zym Zen has indicated that they would be prepared to offer ARS a 30% discount on the standard price of \$2240 (+ GST) to develop a 'library function' for the site, allowing members easier access to past Conference papers and RMNs, and making this material more readily accessible by search engines. However, it is still not clear to me exactly how this facility works or what workload it might impose on the Web Site Editor. Russell will seek clarification of these issues before a proposal is put to Council. ZymZen has also offered to 're-skin' the site (i.e. 'to improve the design and optimise the site for members who have less than ideal Internet access'), also at a discounted price, once their new content management system is operational. The PC may submit a proposal to this effect to Council, but probably not until 2019.

The direct link from the ARS site to the TRJ page of CSIRO Publishing is now working correctly but is not yet available from the public ARS site. When it is available there will be a potential issue, not foreseen, of members whose subscription includes the RMN only (i.e. not TRJ + RMN) being able to access TRJ via this link. Advice from CSIRO Publishing is that it would be possible to bar access to the link for 'e-RMN only' members but this would have to be done from the ZymZen end. It would require that the list of such members be constantly updated. Given the general level of performance of ZymZen this is not an option Ron Hacker would recommend. It is probably preferable simply to terminate the 'e-RMN only' class of membership. There are only 29 members involved and the cost of going to 'e-TRJ + e-RMN' is only \$30 p.a.

**Recommendation 1:** *That Council consider terminating the current 'e-RMN only' class of membership.*

#### **d. Social media**

The following summary of activity on the Facebook and Twitter accounts since the interim management arrangements with Wright Social came into effect on 16 July has been provided by Heidi Wright. Heidi's full report is included as Appendix 2.

##### **Facebook:**

2-3 posts on average [per week] to the Facebook Page; 41 new page likes; average weekly total reach: 719 people and 60 engaged.

##### **Twitter:**

3 tweets on average per day; total Twitter reach - 1764 people and 69 people engaged; 21 new followers.

Two enquiries were received in response to the advertisement for a Social Media Editor. Only one of these has resulted in a formal expression of interest; the other withdrew citing inability to devote sufficient time to the role. The formal expression of interest was from Ms Sarah Moles whose resume and response to the 'key competencies and knowledge' outlined in the Role Statement were provided to Council. After discussion of the application the following motion was passed: *That PC recommend to the Council that Sarah Moles be appointed as SME for three years, subject to a review at three months demonstrating satisfactory performance.*

**Recommendation 2:** *That Council appoint Sarah Moles as Social Media Editor on the usual terms and conditions subject to a review of performance by the Chair of the Publications Committee after three months.*

#### **e. General**

In the Publications Committee report for the Council meeting of 28 February 2018 Ron Hacker sought clarification of the role and responsibilities of the PC and presented a statement of responsibilities agreed by the PC for Council's consideration. To my recollection Ron has not received any response to these suggestions and therefore again bring them to your attention. Ron has attached the relevant section of the February report as Appendix 3.

## **Appendix 1. Summary of meeting with Zym Zen, Sydney, 7 August 2017**

### **Present:**

From ARS: Ron Hacker, Russell Grant

From Zym Zen: Janine Howard (Principal), Brett Slivka (Art Director)

### **Establishment of a library or resource function for the ARS site**

- Zym Zen is working to develop a new content management system (Subrosa) which will offer a resource function;
- This system should be capable of providing a search capacity for all resources on the site; ARS emphasised that the essential resources that need to be searchable are past RMN articles and conference papers, this appears to present no difficulties;
- Subrosa should be completed about the end of September (i.e. after the migration of the ARS site to the new data centre);
- Need a list of key words (whose meaning is agreed within ARS) to enter into the resource function; could start with the list of key words used by The Rangeland Journal but may need to add others; species names could added as a secondary list if necessary; it is not clear to what extent key words are essential to the functioning of the Subrosa resource function or just desirable;
- Zym Zen is keen to get the cash flow going and so is prepared to offer ARS the development of the resource function at a cut price; the cost of uploading current resources to the resource function could be charged either as a one-off cost or an on-going increase in the annual hosting fee which would provide on-going servicing of the facility;
- It seems likely that the best course of action will be to wait until the Subrosa system is finished before trying to progress this matter further.

### **Action:**

- Ron Hacker to email Janine and Brett setting out the capability which ARS wants to have on the site;
- Zym Zen to provide a proposal including costing, timing and mock-up of the facility in time for the next Publications Committee meeting on 29 August;

### **Administrators access to the site for Russell Grant**

- Russell still does not have access despite this being arranged with Janine some time ago. Janine and Brett checked Russell's email details on their system and all appears to be correct. The previous address for Russell was deleted. Access should now be available.

### **Training in the Zym Zen content management system**

- Janine is able to provide training in the content management system for Russell and Ron via the Internet at short notice. She could arrange a training session this Friday (10 August) if this is suitable for Russell.
- Two training sessions per annum will be provided.

**Action:** Russell to advise Janine and Ron if Friday is suitable or otherwise a convenient time.

### **Migration to the new server**

- This is taking longer than expected; ARS is third in line for migration. Zym Zen is working to ensure, as a priority, that the membership renewal system works. ARS advised that Don Burnside would be continuing in this role for the moment.

### **Instagram malfunction**

- It appears that there is a corruption to the Instagram link which is preventing access to upload images and also mis-formatting the text.
- It may be that the person who initially installed the link (Heidi Wright) will be the only one who can repair it.

**Action:** Ron Hacker to ask Heidi Wright to determine if she can repair the Instagram function and if not to consult with Brett Slivka.

### **Link to *The Rangeland Journal* on the CSIRO Publishing site**

- The link is still not operational; Janine expected that it would have been completed by now and will follow up with Toast.

### ARS Secretary's email redirection

- Janine given a copy of the email from Bob Shepherd and she undertook to rectify the problem.

### Contact with Janine

- Best way to contact Janine is to SMS the mobile (0411338896) first and she will return the call.

## Appendix 2. Australian Rangeland Society Social Media Report

### Summary

- *Facebook*

2-3 posts on average to the Facebook Page

41 New Page Likes

Average Weekly Total Reach: 719 people and 60 engaged

- *Twitter*

3 tweets on average per day

Total Twitter Reach: 1764 people and 69 people engaged

21 New Followers

The following statistics and information is a summary of weekly results the Facebook and Twitter pages have accumulated since July 7<sup>th</sup>. All statistics have been gathered from social media pages, Facebook insights and weekly Facebook Business emails.

|                           | Period       |              |              |                    |              |               |                |                |                | Totals |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
|                           | 13 - 19 July | 20 - 23 July | 24 - 29 July | 30 July - 3 August | 4 - 8 August | 9 - 14 August | 15 - 19 August | 20 - 25 August | 26 - 31 August |        |
| Posts                     | 3            | 2            | 2            | 3                  | 2            | 2             | 2              | 4              | 3              | 23     |
| Page visits               | 13           | 11           | 1            | 13                 | 12           | 14            | 11             | 10             | 8              | 93     |
| Total reach               | 521          | 1560         | 2590         | 544                | 384          | 307           | 306            | 466            | 277            | 6,955  |
| People engaged            | 46           | 141          | 286          | 52                 | 19           | 14            | 13             | 20             | 15             | 606    |
| Page likes                | 843          | 859          | 872          | 872                | 873          | 873           | 878            | 878            | 879            | 7,827  |
| Tweets (Inc re-tweets)    | 3            | 5            | 9            | 4                  | 6            | 7             | 5              | 12             | 12             | 63     |
| Re-tweets & likes         | 20           | 14           | 4            | 23                 | 32           | 14            | 9              | 30             | 13             | 159    |
| Total Twitter Reach       | 1281         | 504          | 407          | 2068               | 1106         | 1013          | 577            | 4014           | 1008           | 11,978 |
| Total Twitter Engagements | 353          | 27           | 12           | 84                 | 24           | 42            | 20             | 66             | 25             | 653    |

### Appendix 3. Extract from the report of February 2018 - Defining the role of the Publications Committee

The Articles and Memorandum of Association (as amended October 2012) provide no specific role for the Publications Committee, and the only responsibilities reserved to Council are to appoint editors for the Society's publications and to provide direction as to the general form of the Journal. These functions are defined in clause 24 which states:

(a) *The Council may appoint from time to time persons to be the Editors of the Society's publications on such terms and conditions as it may decide.*

(b) *The Editor of the Journal shall be responsible for the scientific content of the Journal, and shall be subject to the directions of the Council as to the general form of the Journal.*

The only other clause which deals with the Society's publications is clause 23 which states, in part, that

(e) *The Council shall appoint biennially a Publications Committee consisting of the Editors for the Journal, Newsletter and Website, and such other members (not necessarily being members of the Council) as the Council may decide.*

(f) The members of the Publications Committee shall hold office for three years after their appointment or last reappointment, except that the Council may at any time terminate the appointment of any one or more of the members of the Committee.

Given that the Society's media activities across all platforms are now relatively complex, it is opportune to define administratively the responsibilities of the Publications Committee in order that the management of these activities can proceed efficiently.

To this end the Publications Committee recommends that its role should include:

1. Appointment of Associate Editors and Advisory Editors of *The Rangeland Journal*. Council should be advised of new appointees to these roles, and appointees should receive a letter of welcome from the President. However, appointees would commence duties on acceptance of an invitation, specifying the terms and conditions of the appointment, issued by the Publications Committee;
2. Managing the day-to-day production of the Society's publications consistent with contractual obligations (e.g. with the publisher of *The Rangeland Journal*) and any directives issued by Council;
3. Managing the tendering and negotiation of contracts necessary for the production of the Society's publications (e.g. for publication of *The Rangeland Journal*, publication of Special Issues, and provision of web site support), and recommending draft contracts to the President for signature on behalf of the Society;
4. Making recommendations to Council regarding the appointment of Editors-in-Chief of *The Rangeland Journal*, and Editors of *Range Management Newsletter*, the web site and social media accounts, and the terms and conditions of these appointments;
5. Developing and modifying as required the Role Statements for positions related to the Society's publications (Publications Committee member, Associate Editor, Advisory Editor, Editor-in-Chief, RMN Editor, Web Site Editor, Social Media Editor);
6. Providing a report to each Council meeting describing the condition of the Society's publications and advising of actions taken under its agreed responsibilities;
7. Any other actions directed by the Council.

Motion: That the Publication Committee report be accepted.

**Moved:** Don Burnside

**Seconded:** Gus Whyte

**Carried**

#### **Discussion from Publications Committee report:**

- *Recommendation 1:* 'e-RMN only' class of membership. The following points were raised:-
  - ARS Council is reluctant to terminate 'e-RMN only' class of membership as it provides a value-for-money 'entry point' subscription for new members
  - Council noted the need for more options for members, not less
  - Only 11 of the 29 'e-RMN only members' have renewed their membership
  - The small number of e\_RMN members represents a small risk of Journal access being mis-used
  - The cost of e-subscriptions could be increased

It was resolved to wait for the outcome of Zym Zen's efforts to change the e-RMN only membership function so that only the RMN can be accessed. Ron Hacker and Russell Grant to advise ARS Council of the outcome with Zym Zen. If this change is not feasible, then Council will revisit the matter. **(Bob to action)**

- *Recommendation 2:*

Motion: That the ARS Council appoint Sarah Moles as Social Media Editor on the usual terms and conditions subject to a review of performance by the Chair of the Publications Committee after three months.

**Moved:** Bob Shepherd

**Seconded:** Dionne Walsh

**Carried**

Ron Hacker and Russell Grant are to be advised of the ARS Council's decisions on both recommendations. **(Bob to action)**

- It is important to get the ARS website working properly before new features are added.
- Discussion on social media:-

- There is strong potential to increase the rates of social media usage
- It is important for ARS Council members and the general ARS membership to provide Sarah Moles with content for use on social media.
- A social media plan has been developed to guide the SM editor

## 7. General/New Business:

- a. **FAO draft review report** “A Case of Benign Neglect – Knowledge gaps about sustainability in rangelands and pastoralism”
- Circulate to ARS Council members
  - Send a copy to past-president John Taylor and invite feedback
  - Feedback required by 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018
  - A reminder to be sent on the 18<sup>th</sup> September
  - Responses to be forwarded to the editorial team via the ARS secretary and president. **(Bob to action)**

## 8. Next meeting of Council:

8.00 pm (Qld time) Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018

## 9. Meeting close: 8.00pm

## LIST OF ACTIONS:-

- A. ARS Strategic Plan**
- Circulate Strategic Planning notes from Port Augusta to Council members **(Bob to action)**
  - Organise Airbnb in Brisbane for Friday evening the 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Obtain Airbnb details from Wendy Phelps. **(Bob to action)**.
- B. The RMN** – Current list to be sent to ARS Council members for input. List is to be finalised by the Strategic Planning meeting in Brisbane in mid-October. **(all Council members to action; Bob to action and collate list)**
- C. 2024 IRC bid**
- Request that Dana’s letter be revamped as new information comes available and that it be submitted for the November edition. Letter also to go out on social media immediately. **(Bob to action)**
  - A meeting outside ARS Council is required within the next month to progress the bid and enlist additional people. An email for the selection of a suitable meeting date to be sent by the 26th September. **(David to action)**
- D. Adelaide Convention Centre** – a brief report to be written and circulated to ARS Council members after David’s 2017 visit **(David to action)**
- E. International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists**
- Dana to be advised of ARS Council support for IYR&P **(David to action)**
  - A letter of support from ARS to be written with Dana’s input and sent ASAP **(Bob to action)**
- F. ARS awards** – case for a new category of award for those who have given outstanding service to the rangelands to be developed by the 2019 AGM. Emails received to date to be circulated to ARS Council members by 26th September **(Don to action)**
- G. Role Statements for Publications Committee Members** That the Range Management Newsletter editor, Member of the Publications Committee and the Website Editor be approved with the addition of a term of tenure of three (3) years; and that the responsibilities of the Publications Committee include the seven (7) points as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Publications Committee report for ARS Council dated 12th September 2018 **(Bob to action)**
- H. Congratulatory letter to Port Augusta ARS Conference Organising Committee** – A copy of the letter to be sent to Bob for the secretary’s files. **(David to action)**
- I. Updating the 1984 book “Management of Australia’s Rangelands”** – A copy of Ron Hacker’s email on costs to be re-sent to ARS Council members **(David to action)**
- J. Paid ARS Life Membership** – Logistics of proposal to be drafted for the Strategic Planning meeting in Brisbane 12th – 13th October and proposal completed by the end of 2018. **(Don to action)**

- K. **ARS Conference Canberra 2019**
  - a. It was felt by Council that the budgeted profit of \$20,000 was too low and that it should be possible to at least match the profit made at the Port Augusta conference. This is to be raised with Mark **(Don to action)**
  - b. Breakeven registration numbers are to be requested from the Organising Committee **(Don to action)**
- L. **Mark Stafford-Smith Award** – An article is to be written for the RMN **(Don to action)**
- M. **Underfunding of rangeland-based NRM groups** – the draft letter to be re-written and sent to Council members for comment **(Bob to action)**
- N. **Membership** - Send list of unpaid members to respective ARS Council members to chase up **(Don to send list)**
- O. **CSIRO Publishing Contract** - copy to be sent to Bob. **(Don to action)**
- P. **Secretary's ARS email A/C** – ARS Secretary emails to be redirected to Bob Shepherd's home email account. **(Don to action)**
- Q. **ARS Correspondence** - Correspondence list to include the author(s) of each item/email. **(Bob to action)**
- R. **ARS Study & travel grants** - Study and travel grants are to be promoted to members by social media and email **(Don to action)**
- S. **Publications Committee Recommendations**
  - a. **e-RMN only membership** – Council to wait for the outcome of Zym Zen's efforts to change the e-RMN only membership function. Ron Hacker and Russell Grant to advise ARS Council of the outcome with Zym Zen. If this change is not feasible, then Council will revisit the matter. **(Bob to advise PC)**
  - b. **Social Media Editor** – write letter offering Sarah Moles this editor's position and advise PC **(Bob to action)**
- T. **FAO draft review report** - "*A Case of Benign Neglect – Knowledge gaps about sustainability in rangelands and pastoralism*" to be sent to ARS Council members & John Taylor for comment **(Bob to action)**

## Appendix 1.

### ARS Correspondence 2<sup>nd</sup> August to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

|   |   |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
|  @ Don Burnside | RE: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time) - Financial and Membership Re... | Tue 11-Sep-18 9:27 PM |
|  @ Don Burnside | RE: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time) - Financial and Membership Re... | Tue 11-Sep-18 7:33 PM |

#### Date: Monday

|  |  |                       |
|--|--|-----------------------|
|  Bob Shepherd        | RE: Letter to Minister RE: Rangeland NRM Groups Funding              | Mon 10-Sep-18 9:01 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd        | RE: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018        | Mon 10-Sep-18 9:00 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd        | RE: Council Meeting Sept 12  | Mon 10-Sep-18 8:50 PM |
|  Rangeland President | Re: Letter to Minister RE: Rangeland NRM Groups Funding              | Mon 10-Sep-18 6:12 PM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | MLA Annual Call  | Mon 10-Sep-18 2:34 PM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time) | Mon 10-Sep-18 2:24 PM |

#### Date: Sunday

|   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
|  Bob Shepherd       | Letter to Minister RE: Rangeland NRM Groups Funding                                 | Sun 09-Sep-18 11:26 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd       | FW: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 11:10 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd       | RE: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 11:08 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd       | Item I ARS Meeting 262 - Thank you Letter to Port Augusta Conf Organising Committee | Sun 09-Sep-18 11:05 PM |
|  @ Bob Shepherd     | Item H Meeting 262 - PC Role Statements   | Sun 09-Sep-18 10:57 PM |
|  @ Bob Shepherd     | Action Item B Meeting 262 - Newsletters for ARS Articles Sept2018                   | Sun 09-Sep-18 10:30 PM |
|  Cathy Waters       | Re: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 7:06 PM  |
|  Dana Kelly         | Re: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 6:54 PM  |
|  Cathy Waters       | Re: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time)                | Sun 09-Sep-18 6:17 PM  |
|  Ron Hacker         | RE: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 6:10 PM  |
|  John A Taylor      | RE: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 6:00 PM  |
|  Megan Munchenbe... | RE: ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                       | Sun 09-Sep-18 5:16 PM  |
|  Bob Shepherd      | RE: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time)                | Sun 09-Sep-18 4:15 PM  |
|  Bob Shepherd     | ARS Strategic Planning - Meeting 13th & 14th October 2018                           | Sun 09-Sep-18 4:14 PM  |
|  Cathy Waters     | Re: ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time)                | Sun 09-Sep-18 3:59 PM  |
|  @ Bob Shepherd   | ARS Council Meeting #263 - Wednesday 12th Sept 6.00pm (Qld Time)                    | Sun 09-Sep-18 12:12 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd     | ARS Council Meeting Host key 514368   | Sun 09-Sep-18 10:48 AM |
|  andrew ash       | Webex meeting invitation: ARS Council Meeting #263                                  | Sun 09-Sep-18 10:46 AM |

#### Date: Last Week

|  |  |                        |
|--|--|------------------------|
|  @ Ron Hacker        | Report for Council   | Fri 07-Sep-18 9:08 PM  |
|  @ Dana Kelly        | FW: Invitation to review the Gap Analysis  | Fri 07-Sep-18 10:42 AM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: Meat & Livestock Australia 2019/20 annual call for sheepmeat and grassfed beef proposals - RD&A p... | Thu 06-Sep-18 9:35 AM  |
|  Bob Shepherd        | Meat & Livestock Australia 2019/20 annual call for sheepmeat and grassfed beef proposals - RD&A prior... | Wed 05-Sep-18 9:57 PM  |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | FW: Meat & Livestock Australia 2019/20 annual call for sheepmeat and grassfed beef proposals - RD&A ...  | Wed 05-Sep-18 12:45 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd        | RE: Seed funding for ARS Canberra 2019   | Mon 03-Sep-18 6:47 PM  |
|  Bob Shepherd        | RE: Drought Policy   | Mon 03-Sep-18 6:43 PM  |
|  PHELPS David        | Accepted: ARS Meeting No.263   | Mon 03-Sep-18 6:10 PM  |
|  @ Don Burnside      | RE: Seed funding for ARS Canberra 2019   | Mon 03-Sep-18 2:31 PM  |
|  Don Burnside        | RE: Drought Policy   | Mon 03-Sep-18 2:10 PM  |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: Drought Policy   | Mon 03-Sep-18 9:19 AM  |
|  Rangeland President | Re: Drought Policy   | Sun 02-Sep-18 9:11 PM  |
|  Bob Shepherd        | Drought Policy   | Sun 02-Sep-18 1:42 PM  |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: Minutes of ARS Council Meeting 262 (1st August 2018)   | Sun 02-Sep-18 12:05 PM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: Minutes of ARS Council Meeting 262 (1st August 2018)   | Sun 02-Sep-18 10:20 AM |
|  Bob Shepherd        | Minutes of ARS Council Meeting 262 (1st August 2018)   | Sun 02-Sep-18 10:15 AM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | RE: Minutes of ARS Council Meeting 262 (1st August 2018)   | Sun 02-Sep-18 10:01 AM |
|  wyndham3@bigpo...   | Accepted: ARS Meeting No.263   | Sun 02-Sep-18 9:56 AM  |

#### Date: Two Weeks Ago

|   |  |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
|  @ Bob Shepherd | Minutes of ARS Council Meeting 262 (1st August 2018)                 | Sat 01-Sep-18 12:26 PM |
|  Bob Shepherd   | RE: ARS Council Minutes 262 - 01 August 2018 (1st Draft 17th August) | Fri 31-Aug-18 7:49 PM  |
|  Bob Shepherd   | RE: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 7:43 PM  |

|  |                     |  |                        |
|--|---------------------|--|------------------------|
|  | David Phelps        | Re: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 2:45 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside        | Accepted: ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:43 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside        | RE: ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:42 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside        | RE: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:40 PM  |
|  | David Phelps        | Re: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:33 PM  |
|  | Dionne Walsh        | Accepted: ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:21 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | RE: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:20 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:17 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 1:16 PM  |
|  | PHELPS David        | New Time Proposed: ARS Meeting No.263                                | Fri 31-Aug-18 8:45 AM  |
|  | Ron Hacker          | Re: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                 | Fri 31-Aug-18 8:37 AM  |
|  | David Phelps        | Fwd: Financial report for Rangelands Journal attached                | Fri 31-Aug-18 8:24 AM  |
|  | Dionne Walsh        | Accepted: ARS Meeting No.263   | Fri 31-Aug-18 8:24 AM  |
|  | Megan Munchenbe...  | Tentative: ARS Meeting No.263  | Fri 31-Aug-18 8:01 AM  |
|  | Rangeland President | Re: ARS Meeting No.263   | Thu 30-Aug-18 11:31 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | Next ARS Council Meeting   | Thu 30-Aug-18 10:22 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | ARS Meeting No.263   | Thu 30-Aug-18 10:20 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | ARS Meeting No.263   | Thu 30-Aug-18 10:19 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd        | RE: ARS Council Minutes 262 - 01 August 2018 (1st Draft 17th August) | Thu 30-Aug-18 8:47 PM  |

**Date: Last Month**

|  |                      |  |                        |
|--|----------------------|--|------------------------|
|  | Bob Shepherd         | ARS Council Minutes 262 - 01 August 2018 (1st Draft 17th August) | Fri 17-Aug-18 11:04 PM |
|  | Russell Grant        | Re: Meeting with Zym Zen   | Thu 16-Aug-18 3:26 PM  |
|  | Noelene and Ashle... | Re: Minutes of February 2018 ARS General Meeting                 | Thu 16-Aug-18 2:54 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | Seed funding for ARS Canberra 2019                               | Wed 15-Aug-18 9:22 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | RE: ARS2019: PCO doc final                                       | Tue 14-Aug-18 6:19 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | RE: Seed funding for ARS Canberra 2019                           | Tue 14-Aug-18 5:31 PM  |
|  | President ARS        | RE: Social Media Review  | Sun 12-Aug-18 10:38 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | Business Events Tasmania   | Fri 10-Aug-18 6:12 PM  |
|  | Ron Hacker           | Social Media Review  | Fri 10-Aug-18 5:40 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | RE: Meeting with Russell Grant and myself                        | Fri 10-Aug-18 1:24 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | RE: Meeting with Zym Zen   | Fri 10-Aug-18 1:20 PM  |
|  | Ron Hacker           | Meeting with Zym Zen   | Fri 10-Aug-18 9:15 AM  |
|  | Russell Grant        | Re: Meeting with Russell Grant and myself                        | Thu 09-Aug-18 10:22 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | RE: IRC 2025 - Australian Bid                                    | Thu 09-Aug-18 8:31 PM  |
|  | Dana Kelly           | RE: IRC 2025 - Australian Bid                                    | Wed 08-Aug-18 10:36 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | RE: IRC 2025 - Australian Bid                                    | Wed 08-Aug-18 10:00 PM |
|  | Rangeland President  | Zoom meetings  | Wed 08-Aug-18 6:58 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | RE: IRC 2025 - Australian Bid                                    | Wed 08-Aug-18 3:23 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | IRC 2025 - Australian Bid  | Wed 08-Aug-18 11:58 AM |
|  | Ron Hacker           | Strategic planning and CSIRO meetings                            | Tue 07-Aug-18 10:05 PM |
|  | Ron Hacker           | RE: Redirection of ARS Secretary Emails                          | Tue 07-Aug-18 5:58 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | RE: Redirection of ARS Secretary Emails                          | Mon 06-Aug-18 9:31 AM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | Redirection of ARS Secretary Emails                              | Sun 05-Aug-18 10:22 PM |
|  | Heidi Wright         | Re: Tweets to ARS  | Sun 05-Aug-18 4:23 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | Travel details for Don - October 12-14 2018                      | Sun 05-Aug-18 3:03 PM  |
|  | Ron Hacker           | RE: Tweets to ARS  | Sun 05-Aug-18 12:06 PM |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | Tweets to ARS  | Sat 04-Aug-18 10:24 PM |
|  | Rangeland President  | Re: Tweets to ARS  | Sat 04-Aug-18 9:27 PM  |
|  | Ron Hacker           | RE: sabbatical   | Sat 04-Aug-18 8:25 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | Tweets to ARS  | Sat 04-Aug-18 5:39 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | FW: Action list from Pt Augusta ARS strategic planning meeting   | Sat 04-Aug-18 4:29 PM  |
|  | Don Burnside         | FW: sabbatical   | Sat 04-Aug-18 3:15 PM  |
|  | Bob Shepherd         | RE: October 13-14 meeting  | Fri 03-Aug-18 8:03 PM  |