



The Australian Rangeland Society

Council meeting No. 220 – 8 December 2011

MINUTES

4pm Queensland Time by Teleconference

1. **Present:** John Taylor, Carolyn Ireland, Larissa Lauder, Graeme Tupper, Ben Forsyth, Annabel Walsh

Apologies: Peter Marin, Kate Masters

2. **Minutes of previous meeting** Council Meeting 219, 22 September 2011 by teleconference.
Moved: Larissa, Seconded: Graeme, Carried

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

- Concise Policy and Guidelines and Schedule of fees for Advertising in ARS Publications to Council for approval from Publications Committee. John has had a meeting with Chris Anderson. As part of the new publishing agreement with the ARS, CSIRO Publishing has been requested to establish a revenue stream from advertising in TRJ, RMN and website. CSIRO Publishing has outlined several options and has introduced Wendy Wild, their National Advertising Manager who would be our key contact. Summary from John: There has been much interaction between Ken, John Milne and Chris Anderson. As well as the CSIRO guidelines we will need other guidelines from editors of TRJ and RMN. John: concerned that CSIRO suggest all ads be paid for; we may wish some to be free, for instance in the RMN. Not yet resolved. Hold over until next meeting.
- Website requirements re: Rangeland Alliance links for our website. John will email organisations directly this week and a copy of the email will be sent to the Secretary.
- Changing articles – on hold until the item can be presented to the next AGM.
- Proposal from CSIRO to list a paper by Gary Bastin in an Institutional Repository. Carolyn has sent another reminder to Ken – still no response. Remove from action list.
- Resignation of Ken Hodgkinson as Chair of Publications Committee (PC) in Dec 2012. Publications Committee (PC) has discussed. PC seeking 2 Council volunteers and 2 PC volunteers for a "Search Group" as outlined in the PC Minutes. Carolyn to email Ken that Council's nomination is John Taylor (noting that John is away the last week of January and first of February 2012 and that Annabel will be his backup). John to circulate anything significant to Council.
- Current financial position. Peter still to provide a consolidated list of abnormal items to Council. Carolyn to remind Peter.

- Survey of Membership Fees and Strategy for Cash Reserves: John and Larissa have compiled a draft survey which has been circulated to members. Carolyn: Covers the major items but is short enough to be filled out. John: Need to add present/past/never a member. Graeme: survey is good but take out the \$\$ amount under discount on conference fees. John: We will capture and upload the survey electronically – can then get some fairly quick analyses. Also an alert on the website. Graeme: Important to send in paper form to those who do not use email (15-20 people). Annabel: would be happy to phone them as well; her offer accepted by Council. John: Past members – we made need to also send a paper version (Graeme to do this, Carolyn offered to help if necessary). Also needs to be in the newsletter as a hard copy. Should we offer an incentive? Different States have a variety of rules. It is an anonymous survey and the incentive is therefore irrelevant. Ben: members to send on to their personal contacts with instruction to fill it out at the website. John: was going to send it to NRM groups. Feedback to John by Sunday 11 Dec. John to finalise and send around to Council for final approval. Survey Monkey – run for about three months from end of January. Council recommended the Gold Plan at Survey Monkey – Peter to organise this payment. How do we deal with the responses, what percentage of responses or members are valid to make a decision? Council Members need to think about this. Preliminary results in July newsletter and final report at September Conference.
- Advertisements for the above survey. All Members of Council to send name of Publication, editor, email, dates and rates to Carolyn who will compile a data base. None received to date. We have enough other mechanisms to get a reasonable response. Remove from Action List.
- Sponsorship of Stipa Conference and other sponsorship opportunities. Council agreed that we need to get results from the above survey first. Remove Stipa Conference from action list.
- Kununurra Conference (standing item on agenda) –
 - Larissa Report. Larissa has not been to the last two meetings and will not be at any for the next six months. Ben offered to take over, Carolyn to back up. Larissa to inform the organising committee. John: Larissa to also thank the organising committee for the amount of information we are getting and ask for a revised budget on a regular basis.
 - Minutes of Organising Committee 25 October 2011. Larissa: Paul was to liaise directly with Graeme re: conference fees and the \$100 membership fee. Graeme: will follow up with Paul and Ray Bird. Larissa: Producer fee to be full fee. Carolyn to continue to send the Minutes of the Organising Committee to Council.
 - First brochure. Sent out with RMN this month by Graeme. John: Larissa to congratulate the organising committee on an eye-catching brochure.
 - Request from Sandra van Vreeswyk for more funds. Peter, John and Carolyn to review this and come up with a strategy. On the condition that we get an update on the budget. Carolyn to call Peter and organise a teleconference. Feedback to Council by email.
 - Paul Novelly enquiry re public liability insurance. Carolyn to check that this has been clarified.
 - Face book page for conference and afterwards for the ARS. Larissa: would be beneficial to have one of these and a dedicated person to do this. Graeme: Agrees with this. Annabel: Russel as the obvious choice. John: Must have this but the problem is – who is going to do it. John: will put this to Russel and also to talk to Jennifer Duffecy from the Kununurra Organising Committee about setting this up as a Society level site rather than a simple conference site.

- Signatories for Conference Account to be changed by Peter. Peter to send Carolyn an email when this is done. Carolyn to clarify with Peter.
- Council and Director Development. Larissa's request for support – uncertainty of doing this as a one-off. John: we should be investing in Council Members but there should be a ceiling. As we need to report in Annual Report we need to have a process. Possibly the format as in a Travel Grant. Document tabled. Larissa: Governance Course was good and not expecting any reimbursement. Happy to look at it with a long term plan. Carolyn: Current Directors (3) not eligible. Annabel: Society should support innovation ways of training rather than generic courses. Graeme: Not sure Directors are not eligible. Ben and Larissa: Ideally everyone should have experience on Council before they move to a Director position. Carolyn: Suggested that we make it part of the Scholarship section of our existing grants scheme and encourage potential members of Council to apply for relevant courses. John: Summarised the discussion. We considered issue of supporting future director development – suggestion that we include a category in the Travel Grant and Scholarship Awards and invite members to apply. This as a short term strategy to allow people to undertake some training as best we can. Ben: Is an outcome required today? Annabel: funding for this sort of thing is available from other sources. Action: Council Members to research opportunities and come back to another meeting with course availability and funding levels required and answering the question - what are our expectations of a course? Hold over to another meeting.

4. General Business:

4a. Membership – Graeme Tupper:

No report

4b. Finance – Carolyn reported for Peter Marin:

No report.

4c. Publications Committee

No report.

5. New Business:

- Applications for travel grant/scholarship
 - Noelene Duckett. John did not take part in the decision because he has a conflict of interest as one of Noelene's referees. ND is a current financial member of 12 months standing. Larissa: are we funding something that will have a benefit to us? Ben: application well justified. Graeme: of great benefit to the Society. Annabel: supports this – she has the runs on the Board. John: Maybe she should think of a more structured survey. Larissa: should we fund someone to go to our own conference. Recommended: that Noelene be awarded a Travel Grant of \$2,000
 - H el ene Aubault. No evidence she is a member of the Society. Does not therefore qualify for a Grant. John to phone her to clarify her membership. If she is a member then Council recommended that she be awarded a Travel Grant of \$2,000.
- The Rangeland Journal Lectures and John Milne visit – John Taylor. Hold over to next meeting.

- Holbrook Stipa Conference – Video of proceedings on CD – Annabel Walsh. Hold over to next meeting.
- 2016 International Year of Rangelands – Annabel Walsh. Hold over to next meeting.
- 2019 Proposal to hold IRC in Brisbane – Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Hold over to next meeting.
- AW Howard Trust – grant worth up to \$20,000 Hold over to next meeting.

6. Correspondence:

INCOMING

<i>MEETING #220</i>			
09-Nov-11	Email	Andy Chen - Brisbane Convention Centre	Proposal to host the 2019 IRC in Brisbane
21-Nov-11	Email	PIRSA	AW Howard Trust - Grant of up to \$20,000
21-Nov-11	Email	Paul Novelly	Enquiry re public liability insurance
21-Nov-11	Email	Sandra van Vreeswyk	Funds for Kununurra Conference
22-Nov-11	Email	Chris Anderson - CSIRO Publishing	Info on Policy and Guidelines for advertising in TRJ and RMN
29-Nov-11	Email	Noelene Duckett	Application for travel grant
30-Nov-11	Email	Helene Aubault	Application for travel grant

OUTGOING

<i>MEETING #220</i>			
23-Sep-11	Email	Don Burnside	Charters Towers Final Report, Conference letterhead and use of EventPro systems
23-Sep-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	Reminding him about Gary Bastin Paper listing in an Institutional Repository
22-Nov-11	Email	PIRSA	Reply from Carolyn Ireland re AW Howard Trust
21-Nov-11	Email	Paul Novelly	Response from Peter Marin to enquiry re public liability insurance
22-Nov-11	Email	Sandra van Vreeswyk	Response from Peter Marin re funding
06-Dec-11	Letter	Ron Hacker	Invitation to become an Associate Editor

7. Next meeting –

The next regular meeting of Council will be held by teleconference on Thursday 9 February 2012 at 4 pm Queensland Time.

Meeting closed at 7 pm, Queensland time.