



The Australian Rangeland Society

Council meeting No. 228

MINUTES

7 pm Queensland Time via Teleconference – Wednesday 5 December 2012

Delayed start: 8 pm Qld time

1. **Present:** John Taylor (Chair), Carolyn Ireland, Graeme Tupper, Annabel Walsh, Larissa Lauder (left the meeting at 9.10 pm), Ben Forsyth, Peter Marin
Visitor: Ken Hodgkinson
Apologies: Kate Masters (Kate is overseas until approximately May 2013)
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** The Minutes of Council Meeting 225, 25 September 2012 by teleconference and Out of Session Council Meeting 227, 31 October 2012 were approved.
Moved: Graeme/Peter, Seconded: Ben/Graeme, Carried.
3. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - A. Concise Policy and Guidelines and Schedule of fees for Advertising in ARS Publications. (See 4 c III below)
 - B. Changing articles. Completed and on the website. Item closed.
 - C. Resignation of Ken Hodgkinson as Chair of Publications Committee (PC) in Dec 2012. (See 4 c VI below)
 - D. Survey of Membership
 - a. Summary to be written for RMN and Website (John and Carolyn)
 - b. Increase Indigenous involvement (Peter)
 - c. Initiate a web conference via Future Farmers (Ben)
 - d. Membership Fees and Strategy for Cash Reserves: On hold until survey completed.
 - e. Sponsorship opportunities. On hold until survey completed.
 - f. Council and Director Development – on hold until survey completed
 - E. Next Conference in the Northern Territory. Email from Camilla Osborne. **Action:** John to carry this forward.
 - F. Reappointment of associate editor Bernard Hubert. Action: John to write and offer a renewal of Bernard's term. **Action:** John to write a letter of thanks to Esther Mwangi.

- G. Review of Guidelines for Travel Grants and Scholarships. **Action:** Carolyn to work on proposed changes, circulate to Council and put to AGM in May 2013.
- H. Motion re Rangelands Australia. John declared a conflict of interest. Peter took the Chair. Discussion re: Chair of Range Science at Sydney Uni. Mark Adams Dean of Faculty of Science has replied to Ben and is keen to interact with our sub-committee. Bequest worth 8.6 million dollars!
- a. Subcommittee. Annabel has agreed to be on the subcommittee, Ben is the Chair. Will choose 2-3 out of the other volunteers.
 - b. Terms of reference – Peter tabled a draft TOR today. **Action:** Council to provide feedback to Peter by Friday week.

4. General Business:

A. Membership – Graeme Tupper:

ARS now has 262 active members. Graeme to follow up all people at the conference who are not members. Also will follow up with others who may like to join. Thanks to Graeme for his efforts. Council noted these actions.

B. Finance – Peter Marin:

Profit and Loss Statement tabled. Current account \$3,082. Savings account \$177,602. Conference account \$51,769. Total ~\$232,000. Conference has not only made a profit but it appears it will be able to pay back the seed funding as well which is a good result. Report noted by Council. **Action:** Peter to confirm.

C. Publications Committee (Ken Hodgkinson, chair, PC)

- a. Moving from four to six issues of TRJ per year. Carolyn Ireland took the Chair. Discussion re Chris Anderson budget and trend with institutions. Our journal is seen as good value for money. \$10K is not a lot for a special issue. Sponsorship could be another avenue. Six issues will be mandatory but they could be thinner. **Motion:** that Council accept the Publications Committee (PC) recommendation – Moved: Carolyn, Seconded: Graeme, Carried.
- b. Advisory editors – notification of names to Council. John took the Chair. Advisory Editors are as follows – Dr. Joel Brown, Dr. Margaret Friedel, Prof. Iain Gordon, Prof. ZhiBiao Nan, Prof. Osvaldo Sala, Dr. Brian Walker, Prof. Deli Wang, Dr. Anne Waters-Beyer and Dr. Iain Wright. There are 6-7 more to appoint. Free membership to each. Council noted this information.
- c. Guidelines for advertising (see 3A above). Ken tabled new guidelines and a draft advertisement which were accepted by the PC at the Kununurra Conference. All advertisements to be approved by editors. CSIRO will handle the finances. **Motion:** that Council accept the advertising guidelines recommended to Council. Moved: Annabel, Seconded: Peter, Carried. **Action:** Peter and John to come up with schedule of advertising costs for Website and RMN. **Action:** Advise CSIRO Publishing with CC Russell for uploading to the website.
- d. Associate editors for Council approval. **Motion:** that Brian Cooke, Andrew Ash and Tony Pressland be reappointed. Moved: John, Seconded: Carolyn, Carried. **Action:** John to write letters to the three with information from Ken.

- e. Recommendation that the funding for special issues is directed through the Society rather than straight to CSIRO Publishing. **Motion:** that Council accept the recommendation from the PC by John, Seconded: Ben, Carried.
- f. Chair of Publications Committee – process to be followed after December 2012 (see 3C above). No progress made on this. Search committee still approaching members which may take some time. Important that there is no vacuum. Ken not keen to carry on *ad infinitum*. Fallback strategy – Ken offered to carry on until end of March but no longer. Alternative to appoint a convenor of the PC who chairs the meeting – however this requires some leadership. Thanks were expressed to Ken for staying until March. Search committee needs to “crank it up a notch”! Council noted this strategy. **Action:** John to talk to Wal as Chair of the Search Committee and report back to Council out-of-session.
- g. Table of three year terms for existing members of the Publications Committee. Council noted the information. Ken Hodgkinson, Peter Johnson, David Eldridge and Wal Whalley terms expire next year. **Action:** John to approach John Milne and Chair of the PC for their opinion on the renewals in the middle of 2013 and to offer a further three year term if warranted.
- h. Development of case for Twitter and Facebook to be added to publications. Ken has talked to CSIRO people who run Facebook and Twitter. Ken intends to write this up. There are people from the Kununurra Conference who would be happy to run these. Are they editors or managers? Really an editors job as well as some managing. Ken wants to develop a case and put it to the PC and Council. Need to have people who are willing to put time into this. What are the costs? Council noted this, and awaits further information from the PC.
- i. Appointment of Steve Blake to the Publications Committee. Motion: that Council appoint Steve Blake to the PC on condition that he becomes a member of the Society. **Moved:** Peter, Seconded: Larissa, Carried. **Action:** John to write a letter to Steve Blake.

Council thanked Ken for all his work for the Society and for his willingness to continue for three months.

5. New Business:

- A. Travel Grant Applications (DECIDED OUT-OF-SESSION by a majority of Council)
 - Hossein Piry Sahragard (not a member of the ARS) – Application received 25 October 2012 - **Not accepted**
 - Tiffany Carroll-Macdonald (member of the ARS for 6 months) – Application received 29 November 2012 – **Recommended \$1,260 funding**
 - Helen King (member of the ARS for 12 months – Application received 1 December 2012 – **Recommended \$1,200**
- B. Noelene Duckett Travel Grant Report – Information Item
- C. 2013 Meeting dates

229	Council Meeting	23 January
230	Council Meeting	28 March
231	Annual General Meeting	23 May
232	Council Meeting	25 July (Carolyn not here)
233	Council Meeting	26 September (Carolyn not here)
234	Council Meeting	28 November
235	Council Meeting	30 January 2014

D. Kate's absence for 6 months

6. Correspondence:

INCOMING

16-Oct-12	Email	Lesley Dias CSIRO	Seeking permission to publish a paper in an eRepository - forwarded to Ken
16-Oct-12	Email	Camilla Osborne	Expressing interest in holding next Conference in NT
17-Oct-12	Letter	Wal Whalley	Thanking the Society for his Fellow Award
19-Oct-12	Email	Helen King	Clarifying Travel Grant Procedure
25-Oct-12	Email	H P Sahragard	Application for Travel Grant
02-Nov-12	Email	Ben Forsyth	Forwarding Kevin Ingram's feedback on Conference
02-Nov-12	Email	Peter Marin	Annabel's acceptance of position on subcommittee
06-Nov-12	Email	Mark Feltrin	Seeking advice re Mongolia and Africa Rangelands-forwarded to Ken Hodgkinson and Peter O'Reagain
08-Nov-12	Email	Marwan El Hassan	Clarifying Travel Grant Procedure
26-Nov-12	Email	Noelene Duckett	Travel Grant Report
09-Oct-12	Notice	ASIC	Approval for Changes to Articles
29-Nov-12	Email	Tiffany Carroll-Macdonald	Application for Travel Grant
01-Dec-12	Email	Helen King	Application for Travel Grant

OUTGOING

16-Oct-12	Email	Lesley Dias CSIRO	Seeking permission to publish a paper in an eRepository - forwarded to Ken
19-Oct-12	Email	Helen King	Replying to request to Clarify Travel Grant Procedure
06-Nov-12	Email	Mark Feltrin	Seeking advice re Mongolia and Africa Rangelands-forwarded to Ken Hodgkinson and Peter O'Reagain
08-Nov-12	Email	Marwan El Hassan	Replying to request to Clarify Travel Grant Procedure

7. Next meeting –

The next meeting of Council will be held by teleconference on Wednesday 23rd January 2013 at 6 pm Queensland time.

Meeting closed at 10.05 pm Queensland time.