



The Australian Rangeland Society

Council meeting No. 229

MINUTES

6 pm Queensland Time via Teleconference – Wednesday 23 January 2013

1. **Present:** John Taylor (Chair), Carolyn Ireland, Graeme Tupper, Peter Marin, Annabel Walsh, Ben Forsyth (from 7.45 pm)
Apologies: Kate Masters (Kate is overseas until approximately May 2013)
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** The Minutes of Council Meeting 228, 5 December 2012 by teleconference were approved. **Moved:** Carolyn, Seconded: Graeme, Carried.
3. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - A. Concise Policy and Guidelines and Schedule of fees for Advertising in ARS Publications. John and Peter proposed some competitive rates for advertising in RMN and on Website. These rates have been sent to Chris Anderson for approval. No response from Chris to date. **Action:** John to follow up with Chris. **Action:** Carolyn to send to RMN and on Website.
 - B. Resignation of Ken Hodgkinson as Chair of Publications Committee (PC) in Dec 2012. Search committee have four people under serious consideration. Conversations have taken place and Wal is in the process of talking to them. Ken is prepared to stay on as long as needed but not indefinitely. Hopefully Wal will be able to give us candidates for our next meeting in March. **Action:** John to maintain contact with Wal.
 - C. Survey of Membership (deferred until next meeting)
 - 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
 - D. Next Conference in the Northern Territory. Email from Camilla Osborne. John has circulated an email containing a proposed letter to NT participants for approval by Council. Council should reflect on Paul's comments. Review the Kununurra report and come back to this item. Please see 5A for details. **Action:** John to carry this forward.

- E. Review of Guidelines for Travel Grants and Scholarships. Carolyn has circulated proposed changes to Council and changes were made. Moved that the new guidelines be accepted by Council Moved: Peter, Seconded: Graeme, Carried.
Action: Carolyn circulate final to Council and put to AGM in May 2013.
- F. Motion re Rangelands Australia. John declared a conflict of interest. Peter took the Chair.
- a. Subcommittee.
ARS Members who have agreed to serve on the Sub-Committee are Ben Forsyth (Chair), Annabel Walsh, Caroline Harris, Megan Munchenberg and Dana Kelly. Dionne Walsh has not yet decided and Bob Shepherd has still to respond. Bruce Alchin has a conflict of interest – John suggested that he should stand aside.
 - b. Terms of reference.
Peter and Ben have finalised the TOR. Ben has sent to proposed members of Committee.
Council endorsed the recommendations and the terms of reference. Council would like to see a report in a couple of month's time – **Action:** Annabel will monitor this.
Action: John to copy contact details of key players to Ben and Annabel.

4. General Business:

A. Membership – Graeme Tupper:

ARS now has 51 active members. 213 not yet renewed for 2013 and two new application – Total 266. Website has had problems and renewal notice has not gone out. Graeme is putting pressure on the Technicians. He is also sending invitations to non-member conference attendees.

B. Finance – Peter Marin:

Profit and Loss Statement tabled. Current account \$5,400. Savings account \$203,500. Conference account \$1,400. Total ~\$210,500.

C. Publications Committee

- a. Recommendation to Council that Digby Race be appointed as an Associate Editor. Moved that Council accept this recommendation: Moved: Carolyn, Seconded: Annabel, Carried
- b. Recommendation to Council that they accept a Contract for publishing Special Issues of TRJ.
Moved that Council recommends that the Finance and Audit Officer of the ARS and in the absence of that person another of the Directors should sign off on these contracts. Moved: Graeme, Seconded: Annabel, Carried.
Moved that Council accept the Publications Committee's recommendation for contracts for special issues: Moved: Annabel, Seconded: Peter, Carried.
- c. Recommendation to Council that James Wright is appointed as Editor of the ARS Twitter Site.
Council is unable to accept the recommendation on the information provided. Council asks that the term be for three years subject to annual review. The Publications Committee, with James, to develop a statement of the role, his qualifications (expertise?) in the rangelands, any expenses that may be incurred

and the expected outputs and planned achievements for the first twelve months. An appropriate Honorarium will be offered. **Action:** John to convey Council's recommendation to Ken.

5. New Business:

- A.** Kununurra Conference Report and Minutes of the Organising Committee Final Meeting. Council unanimous in its approval of the Report. Moved that Council accept the report and congratulate the Organising Committee on a job well done: Moved: Graeme Seconded Annabel, Carried. **Action:** John to write to Paul with Council's congratulations and highlighting the report's value to future conferences.
The Conference Template. Is it ready to send to the Northern Territory? Need to put a comment on the front cover that the template does not need to be filled in immediately; it is there as a guide but it **does** need to be followed quite closely. **Action:** John to respond to Camilla Osborn and others.
LEB Conference: Would like to see evaluations of our conferences. Section 6.1 and 6.2 (edited) may be useful to them. **Action:** Peter to send this to them.
- B.** ARS Archive stored at Middleback Station. Middleback has recently been sold to the Department of Defence. Need to know how much there is, where it can be stored and also digitise some of it. **Actions:** Move Archive to Adelaide, Annabel and Carolyn will review the material and then move it to Moorna Station.
- C.** Rangeland Initiative Meeting. **Action:** Peter to report to Council Members out of session.
- D.** SRM Meeting in early Feb. John and Kate will be there, also David Bowman. Kate and John to meet with Young Range Scientists for some contact for Ben. CSIRO Publishing has provided flyers for distribution.

6. Correspondence:

INCOMING

18/12/2012	Email	Don Burnside	Submitting Minutes of Final Conference Meeting
20-Dec-12	Email	Helen King	Accepting ARS Travel Grant of \$1200
20-Dec-12	Email	Tiffany Carroll-MacDonald	Accepting ARS Travel Grant of \$1260
20-Dec-12	Email	Steve Blake	Accepting Invitation to join the Publication Committee
21-Dec-12	Email	Andrew Ash	Accepting Invitation to extend Associate Editorship
23-Dec-12	Email	Don Burnside	Submitting Final Conference Report
05-Jan-13	Email	Brian Cooke	Accepting Invitation to extend Associate Editorship
20-Dec-12	Email	Tony Pressland	Accepting Invitation to extend Associate Editorship

OUTGOING

18-Dec-12	Card	Mrs Bolton Smith	Card sent with copy of RMN containing Bill's Obituary
20-Dec-12	Email	Tiffany Carroll-MacDonald	Awarding ARS Travel Grant of \$1260
20-Dec-12	Email	Helen King	Awarding ARS Travel Grant of \$1200
20-Dec-12	Email	Hossein Piry	Advising application ARS Travel Grant unsuccessful
20-Dec-12	Email	Steve Blake	Invitation to join the Publications Committee
20-Dec-12	Email	Brian Cooke	Invitation to extend Associate Editorship
20-Dec-12	Email	Tony Pressland	Invitation to extend Associate Editorship
20-Dec-12	Email	Andrew Ash	Invitation to extend Associate Editorship
20-Dec-12	Email	Bernard Hubert	Invitation to extend Associate Editorship

7. Next meeting –

The next meeting of Council will be held by teleconference on Wednesday 27th March, 2013 at 6 pm Queensland time.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm Queensland time.