

# MINUTES



## Teleconference

**Thursday 15 November 2007  
1.30 PM EDST**

### **1. Present.**

Matthew Baker (MB) - TAS  
Stephen Johnson (SJ) - NSW  
Ian Popay (IP) - NZ  
Sandy Lloyd (SL) – Vice President  
Trevor James (TJ) - NZ  
John Virtue (JV) – President  
Rachel Melland (RM) - SA  
Ken Young (KY) – Vic  
Dennis Gannaway (DG) –Secretary / Treasurer  
Daniel Joubert (DJ) – Vic  
Steve Walker (SW) – Qld  
Katherine Batchelor – WA  
Rex Stanton (RS) – NSW  
David Stephenson (DS) - SA  
Aaron Maxwell (AM) - WA

### **2. Apologies.**

Jamie Cooper (JC) – TAS  
Doug Bickerton (DB) – SA  
Alice Beilby (AB) - NT  
Michael Widderick (MW) - QLD

### **3. Additional agenda items.**

No additional agenda items provided.

### **4. Adoption of Minutes from meeting held 23 August 2007.**

The following amendments to the minutes were proposed.

7.1 Change the phrase “ not relevant” to “would not impact”

**Motion # 11/07 01.** KY moved that the minutes be accepted with amendments.

Seconded by IP.

Unanimously accepted.

## **5. Presidents Report.**

JV tabled the President's report for the period August 2007 to November 2007. The report was circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting.

**Motion # 11/07 02.** JV moved that the report be accepted.

Seconded RM.

Unanimously accepted.

## **6. Secretary / treasurers Report.**

### **6.1 Presentation of Financial Reports.**

DG tabled Treasurer's report for the period July to November 2007 reflecting current bank balances of the cheque and investment accounts. The report was circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting.

DG reported that the required audit for the past financial year had not been completed as yet.

**Motion # 11/07 03.** DG moved that the report be accepted.

Seconded RM

Unanimously accepted.

Actions required – DG to have financial records audited for past financial year.

### **6.2 Secretary's report.**

Nothing of consequence to report aside from the correspondence received and sent as listed in the tabled report. Report circulated prior to the meeting.

**Motion # 11/07 04.** DG moved that the Secretary's report be accepted as tabled.

Seconded JV.

Unanimously accepted.

## **7. Business arising from previous minutes.**

7.1 DB to provide DG with auditors contact details – completed. JV indicated that the indicative cost for the audit should be \$200.00.

7.2 DG to send letters to early career winners and update website – Completed.

7.3 DB, SL and DJ to develop CAWS response to NGIA document on plant labeling. It was agreed that this would remain a standing agenda item until completed - Action required.

7.4 JV & DG to number policies and circulate. – Completed. Copies of policies circulated with meeting agenda. Policies updated on CAWS website.

7.5 Members to provide comments on CAWS Strategic Plan – RM informed the meeting that the final draft was complete. JV thanked members for their comments. Action required – JV to circulate the Draft Strategic Plan to all member societies for final comments prior to adopting it at the next meeting.

- 7.6 CAWS article for Weed Watch - ongoing. It was agreed that the next article would be based on the Weed Wise Nursery award. Action required – JV and SL to develop an article for the next edition of the Weed CRC Weed Watch Newsletter.
- 7.7 Timing of Conferences. SJ to report on development of working paper listing future conferences. Action required – SJ to develop list as time allows.
- 7.8 SJ to develop set of procedures for the running of the travel awards for Australasian Weeds Conferences. This action has not been completed as yet. It was agreed that as the 16<sup>th</sup> AWC was fast approaching individual societies should be free to make travel awards without specific direction from CAWS. It was further agreed that winners of travel awards would be expected to present a poster at the conference. Action required – SW to speak with organizing committee to ascertain whether there is still sufficient time to accommodate posters from award winners.
- 7.9 State societies to provide JV copies of conference proceedings from 1978 onwards plus a letter giving permission for CAWS to act on their behalf. – Completed.
- 7.10 Sub committee to choose and announce Weed Wise Nursery Award Winners – Completed. This year's winner is *Bulleen Arts and Garden* from Victoria. DJ reported that the prize was awarded at the Victorian Weeds Conference. It was acknowledged that the publicity surrounding the presentation could be improved in future. Action required - JV to develop and circulate national press release announcing the award and organize a local media event at the nursery.
- 7.11 JV to write letter to Lord of the Weeds Coordinator re CAWS future support. – Completed. JV reported that the Coordinator was understandably disappointed at CAWS inability to run the competition. SL reported that her attempts to have the CSIRO Education department take over the competition were unsuccessful. SL indicated that preliminary talks with the Landcare organization regarding the competition were positive but no decisions had been taken as yet. Action required – SL to continue discussions with Landcare and inform the Lord of the Weed Coordinator of their interest.
- 7.12 Comments required from members on proposed letter to the Federal Opposition re successor to Weed CRC – Completed. JV reported that an acknowledgment response had been received from the Shadow Minister for the Environment. Action required – JV to circulate the press releases pertaining to weed management released by the various political parties.
- 7.13 NSW 2012 International Weed Science Congress bid. SJ indicated that no bid would be made for this conference.

## **8. Reports from member Societies.**

### **8.1 South Australian Report.**

Report tabled by RM

### **8.2 Victoria.**

Report tabled by DJ

During discussion on the report the possibility of a closer working relationship between CAWS and the Victorian-based Invasive Species Council (ISC) was discussed. The meeting was in general agreement that this would be a positive move. RM argued that CAWS, possible in conjunction with ISC, could develop position statements to be circulated as required to make statements from an environmental point of view. The example of the controversy surrounding the Biofuels Industry was cited.

Action required – JV to contact the President of ISC to make initial contact and explore possible common ground.

### **8.3 New South Wales.**

Report tabled by SJ

The NSW society has requested that the CAWS minutes be distributed, via email, to the member societies.

**Motion # 11/07 05.** SJ moved that the approved CAWS minutes be emailed to the Secretary of member societies for distribution to their executive members.

Seconded RM

Unanimously accepted.

Action required – DG to circulate approved minutes to member societies via email.

It was pointed out to the meeting that within the CAWS Strategic plan the CAWS President is required to provide member societies with a quarterly report for publication in their respective newsletters.

Action required – JV to provide member societies with quarterly reports

### **8.4 Western Australia.**

AM reported that the society had held their 9<sup>th</sup> AGM. SL was voted as President and AM as vice president. KB will remain as CAWS delegate and Secretary. A new member Dr Pippa Michael's (?) from Curtin University has joined the executive.

The Emapi 9 conference held in September was a success in terms of the participation of delegates. It is anticipated that it will however be a financial loss. The next Emapi conference will be held in South Africa in 2009.

The winner of the Student Poster award at the conference was the winner of the CAWS Student Travel Award, Emilie-Jane Ens.

The Western Weeds Book is proving to be successful with over 1000 copies sold to date.

### **8.5 New Zealand.**

Report tabled by IP

### **8.4 Tasmania.**

MB reported the State society was represented at the Tasmanian Landcare Conference and has held technical weed management workshops throughout the State, particularly in the south of the island.

The society has sent out 400 newsletters to Landcare groups in an effort to boost membership. It is too early to report on the outcome of this effort.

### **8.5 Queensland.**

The Society is holding its AGM on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

JV asked about an update on Member Society membership estimates:

Tas 70, Vict 115, NSW 170, Qld 250, SA 65, WA 40, NZ 90

## **9. Australian Weeds Conference**

### **9.1 Preparation update (SW)**

- Preparation for the 16<sup>th</sup> AWC is progressing well.
- To date 200 participants have taken up the “super early bird” registration offer.
- Half the field trips have been booked.
- The minimum required numbers of bookings for the dinner have been made.
- The event has secured sponsorship from GRDC and Desert Channels Queensland.
- Review of papers is underway with only a few outstanding
- Program is being developed
- 1 symposium has been agreed to at this stage

### **9.2 CAWS Orator discussion paper**

Agenda paper (CAWS Agenda paper 9.1) tabled and circulated prior to meeting. Four alternative speakers were presented in the paper with a preference for Julie Denslow of Hawaii.

**Motion # 11/07 06.** SW moved that CAWS support that Julie Denslow is the Orator at the 16<sup>th</sup> Australian Weeds Conference to be held in Cairns, Queensland on 18 – 22 May 2008.

Seconded JV

Unanimously accepted.

### **9.3 CAWS Display at the 16<sup>th</sup> AWC**

JV requested that executive members forward ideas for themes for the display stand. The following were put forward;

- Poster with the strategic plan.
- The CAWS revamped website displayed on a computer – if new website is ready on time.
- Butcher's paper for people to record ideas and comments
- Display for the 17<sup>th</sup> AWC in New Zealand
- Poster of past CAWS Medal Winners
- Poster of Weed Wise Nursery Winners
- Display for the Lord of the Weeds competition – promoting or asking for successor

Action required – Executive is requested to email ideas to JV and DG

## **10. General Business**

### **10.1 NSW Weed Society response to CAWS Weed Wise Nursery Award**

Agenda paper 10.1 *Weed Society of New South Wales CAWS Weed-Wise Nursery Award* tabled. Paper circulated prior to the meeting with the agenda.

The paper elicited the following comments from Member Societies;

- The competition should continue to run as is with one single national award selected from the winners of individual State awards. Suggested that the application procedure be simplified. Victoria placed an ad in their states garden industry newsletter (DJ).
- Award should be honesty based. Difficult to have 3 judges visit applicants. State awards would generate local media attention. National Award National coverage (RM).
- Selection of winners was a good experience in Tas. Advocated a closer working relationship with the Nursery & Garden Industry Association (NGIA) and suggested that a higher number of nominations would improve the quality of the eventual winner (MB).
- No comment as no nominations were received (SW)
- Simplify the rules to encourage better participation from the nurseries (IP).
- There is a need for consistency in judging. Suggestion of a nationally agreed checklist to ensure that all societies are judging applications equitably (RS).
- General agreement that the awards must be developed in conjunction with nursery industry and other appropriate bodies to be as inclusive as possible.

**Motion # 11/07 07.** SJ moved that CAWS liaise with the national nursery industry association and other relevant bodies to revise selection criteria. Seconded RS

Unanimously accepted. (WA representatives had left the meeting and did not vote)

**Motion # 11/07 08.** SJ moved that the effectiveness of the awards is reviewed after 3 years. Seconded RS  
Unanimously accepted. (WA representatives had left the meeting and did not vote)

**Motion # 11/07 09.** SJ moved that awards be given to the 6 Australian states + NZ who make up CAWS The value of each award should be about \$400 making the program \$2800 p.a.  
Seconded RS

For - QLD, NSW

Against – VIC, SA, TAS, WA, CAWS President

Abstained - NZ

WA representatives had left the meeting and did not vote.

Motion defeated by majority vote.

Discussion was had on certificates for state winners.

Action required – DG to develop a certificate.

#### **11. Next meeting.**

Teleconference –14 February 2008 @ 1.30 EDST

Meeting closed 3.30 pm

President.....\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2007