

# MINUTES

## Cairns Meeting

Tuesday 20 May 2008

5.45 PM EDST



### 1. Present.

Steve Walker (SW) – Qld  
Ian Popay (IP) - NZ  
Sandy Lloyd (SL) – Vice President  
Trevor James (TJ) - NZ  
John Virtue (JV) – President  
Rachel Melland (RM) – SA *Via telephone*  
Dennis Gannaway (DG) –Secretary / Treasurer  
Michael Widderick (MW) – QLD  
Rex Stanton (RS) – NSW  
Warrick Felton (WF) - NSW QLD *Via Telephone*  
David Stephenson (DS) - SA  
Alice Beilby (AB) – NT  
Ian Faithful (IF) – Vic  
Chris Preston – (SA)  
Elizabeth Schrammeyer – (Tas.) *Via telephone*

### 2. Apologies.

Aaron Maxwell (AM) – WA  
Katherine Batchelor – WA  
Doug Bickerton (DB) – SA  
Matthew Baker (MB) - TAS  
Daniel Joubert (DJ) – Vic

### 3. Additional agenda items.

Agenda Item 9.3 Added. Discussion required on the hosting of the 18<sup>th</sup> AWC.

### 4. Adoption of Minutes from meeting held 14 February 2008.

No amendments to the minutes were put forward.

**Motion # 05/08 01.** JV moved that the minutes be accepted.

Seconded by IP. Unanimously accepted.

### 5. Presidents Report.

JV tabled the President's report for the period February 2008 to May 2008. Copy of the report circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting.

Addition items reported.

- Expenditure on conference display material was less than expected. \$3500 was budgeted. \$1390 was spent.
- It was recognised that there were some spelling mistakes that must be rectified for past CAWS Medal winners.
- Member societies were encouraged to make use of the display material.

**Motion # 05/08 02.** JV moved that the report be accepted. Seconded TJ. Unanimously accepted.

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

### 6.1 Presentation of Financial Reports.

DG tabled Treasurer's report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008 reflecting current bank balances of the cheque and investment accounts. The report was circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting. No major expenditure had occurred prior to the meeting.

**Motion # 05/08 03.** DG moved that the report be accepted. Seconded JV. Unanimously accepted.

### 6.2 Secretary's report.

DG reported that there were no issues that are hindering the running of CAWS at present. Correspondence sent and received listed on accompanying report.

Correspondence not included on the report.

- Joint letter from WSSA and CAWS to Hon. Tony Burke Minister of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries highlighting weeds issue in South Australia and weeds awareness in general.

**Motion # 05/08 04.** DG moved that the Secretary's report be accepted as tabled. Seconded JV. Unanimously accepted.

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

7.1. DG to circulate copy of CropLife to members. **Action – DG to circulate.**

7.2. DJ, DB and SL to develop policy position statement for NGIA on topic of plant labeling. – It was agreed that this item should remain on the agenda until completed.

7.3. SL and JV to email the editor of Weed Watch to book space for the next newsletter for an article on the Weed Wise Nursery award winners. - Done

7.4. Caws executive requested to email ideas to DG or JV relating to the display at the 16th AWC. – Done. JV thanked all that had assisted in the stall.

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

### 8.1 South Australian Report.

Report tabled by RM. Circulated prior to the meeting.

### 8.2 Victoria.

Report tabled by IF. Circulated prior to meeting.

### 8.3 New South Wales.

Report presented by RS

- Society is conducting several seminar series through the course of the year.
- Discussions on improved benefits for society members are underway. An idea of including a subscription to Plant Protection Quarterly in the cost of membership has been suggested.
- Collaboration with other weed-orientated groups around the state is being progressed.

### 8.4 Western Australia.

Report presented by SL

- Sales of the *Western Weeds* book are proceeding well. Sales have passed 13000 copies.

### 8.5 New Zealand.

Report tabled by IP. Circulated prior to the meeting.

### 8.4 Tasmania.

Report tabled by ES. Circulated prior to the meeting.

### 8.5 Queensland.

- Crop weed symposium to be presented in Toowoomba.
- Next QLD environmental weed symposium to be held in Yeppoon in July 2009.
- Society is concerned that they do not have anybody qualified or experienced enough to judge the *Weed Wise Nursery Award* for the State. It was agreed that should an application be received, assistance in judging could be obtained from SL and JV.

### 8.6 Northern Territory

See agenda item 10.3

## **9. Australian Weeds Conference**

### 9.1 16<sup>th</sup> AWC QLD

MW reported that to date, no major mishaps had been reported. A total of 403 delegates had been registered, 20 of those were complimentary. A total of 132

presentations would be delivered by the end of the conference and 80 posters were on display.

The following are points that should be taken into account by future organisers.

- Make the necessary arrangements early (years prior to the event) and use competent conference organisers.
- QLD organising group consisted of between 8 – 10 people split into sub committees.
- Some confusion regarding the instruction relating to the submission of conference papers and oral presentations had not been read by potential presenters. This led to some confusion.
- Arrangements made for “standing” lunches did not work well.
- Securing a relevant Minister to open the conference proved to be difficult.
- Sponsorship was achieved through using connections within the Society and being persistent in follow-up.
- Delivery of the conference proceedings, whether on CD or hardcopy, would be determined in future by feedback received from delegates attending Cairns conference.

It was agreed that at the end of the conference a final report will be drawn up and circulated to CAWS Executive.

Action – 16<sup>th</sup> AWC organising committee to develop a final report and distribute to CAWS Executive.

### 9.2 17<sup>th</sup> AWC New Zealand.

TJ tabled *Agenda Paper 9.2 17<sup>th</sup> Australasian Weeds Conference*

Action – JV to write to NZ Plant Society confirming that the profit share agreement between CAWS and the individual societies, on monies made from the weeds conferences, still applied irrespective of financial assistance offered by CAWS. The letter will also offer financial assistance in the future should the NZ Plant Protection Society require it.

**Motion 05/08 05.** TJ moved that the New Zealand Plant Protection Society Inc. host the 17<sup>th</sup> Australasian Weeds Conference in Christchurch New Zealand from Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 30 September 2010. Seconded IP. Unanimously accepted.

### 9.3 18<sup>th</sup> AWC 2012

IF raised the issue of the hosting of the 18<sup>th</sup> AWC. A decision was required soon on the hosting society in light of the long lead time required to successfully plan for the event.

It was agreed that should the Northern Territory not be in a position to make a commitment to hosting the 2012 event within a year (June 2009) then the Victorian Society would undertake the task.

No formal motion was made to the meeting.

## **10. General Business**

### 10.1 Funding (Travel) for visiting scientist.

RS tabled *Agenda Paper 10.1 Funds to support visit by International Scientist.*

**Motion # 05/08 06.** RS moved that a maximum of \$6000 be allocated (from CAWS funds) to assist with the travel of Dr Suzanna Warwick from Canada to speak to audiences in NSW and other states as appropriate. Seconded WF. Unanimously accepted.

Actions – States willing to host a talk by Dr Warwick to contact Rex Stanton. NSW Society to contact DG to make arrangements for funds transfer.

### 10.2 Constitutional issues with AGM.

JV tabled *Agenda Paper 10.2 CAWS Constitutional Issues.*

**Motion # 05/08 07.** JV moved that Clause “4(i) d” in the CAWS Constitution be modified to read:

**d) Terms of Office**

The President shall not be eligible for election for three consecutive terms except in the case where the first term was in filling a vacancy caused by the unavailability of the previous President. The terms of the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer shall commence three months after the close of the Annual General Meeting at which the elections are held, and shall end three months after the close of the next Annual General Meeting. The terms of Delegates are not limited and each member Society shall notify the Secretary/Treasurer in writing of its Delegates whenever a change occurs.

Seconded TJ. Unanimously accepted

Action – JV to make necessary changes to Constitution

**Motion # 05/08 08.** JV moved that the motion of Agenda Item 6.4 on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007 (That societies be charged \$1.00 per member) be rescinded. Seconded by RS. Unanimously accepted.

**Motion #05/08 09.** JV moved as motion that the 2007-2008 Society membership fee be set at \$50.00 per membership block of 50 members.

### 10.3 NT Weed Society Formation.

AB tabled *Agenda Paper 10.3 Funding support for the formation of an NT Weed Society.*

**Motion # 05/08 10.** JV moved that the CAWS Executive group supports the initial seed funding request of \$2000 to cover initial establishment and promotion costs of the NT Weed Society. Monies to be paid on the formation of the society. Seconded IP. Unanimously accepted

### 10.4 Approval of CAWS Strategic Plan.

JV tabled *Agenda Paper 10.4 Finalisation of the CAWS Strategic Plan.*

**Motion #05/08 11.** JV moved that CAWS Executive approves the CAWS Strategic Plan 2007 -2010. Seconded SW. Unanimously accepted

### 10.5 CAWS and Member Societies future growth.

JV tabled *Agenda Paper 10.5 Sustaining and growing CAWS and member societies.*

Topic was discussed generally amongst members during dinner. A radical suggestion was made that CAWS becomes the single weed society, with states/territories/NZ having local branches. This was counterbalanced with the need for local ownership and leadership at the “grass roots” level. The future structure of the new national weeds research centre may provide opportunities for collaborative activities with CAWS. No motion was proposed but CAWS members were asked to further progress a list of ideas, in conjunction with all relevant parties, and forward these to JV or DG.

Action – CAWS members to forward ideas to DG. A compilation will be circulated to all members for comment.

### 10.6 Annual Students & Early Career Weed Scientist Travel Award.

JV announced that as no nominations had been received for the award that the closing date is extended from the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008 to 30 June 2008.

All were in agreement that this should take place. State representatives were asked to communicate this back to their societies.

## **11. Next meeting.**

Teleconference: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008. Eastern Daylight Saving Time (Aus.)  
This meeting is the annual CAWS AGM.

Meeting closed 10.30 pm

President.....\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2008