

MINUTES

Teleconference

Thursday 3 June 2010

9.00 AM WADST (Australia)



1. Present.

Sandy Lloyd (SL) – President
Trevor James (TJ) – Vice President, NZ
Alex Douglas (AD) – Secretary/Treasurer
Warwick Felton (WF) - NSW
Rex Stanton (RS) - NSW
Aaron Maxwell (AM) – WA
Catherine Borger (CB) - WA
David Hughes (DH) – SA
Rachel Melland (RM) – SA
Kerry Harrington (KH) – NZ
Ian Popay (IP) - NZ
Michael Hansford (MH) –Vic
Ian Faithful (IF) – Vic
Jonah Gouldthorpe (JG) - Tas

Michael Widderick (MW) – Qld (proxy for RMcF and DE)

2. Apologies.

Rachel McFadyen (RMcF) – Qld
Dorean Erheart (DE) – Qld
Martin Bower (MB) - Tas

3. Additions/Alterations to the agenda.

No additional items for the agenda.

4. Adoption of the minutes from 4 March 2010.

There were no changes required to the minutes.

Motion # 06/10 01. CB moved that the minutes be accepted.

Seconded by MH. Unanimously accepted.

5. Presidents Report.

We had a very busy first quarter in WA, including visits by Carol Mallory-Smith in February, and the Australian Weeds Committee in mid- March. The week after the AWC'tee meeting, there was a massive storm in Perth which caused widespread damage. I can't believe how quickly time has passed since then.

17AWC is progressing, though I note from the NZ report that there have been only 95 registrations to date, and wonder whether some people are waiting for funds to be confirmed for the 2010-2011 financial year.

There have been several teleconferences of 23rd APWSS conference which is progressing well.

Victoria is progressing 18AWC.

A planning meeting was held for the International Herbicide Resistance Conference, planned for 2013, last week - more details will be available soon.

There has been no change to the DAFF website regarding weed funding

<http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/invasive/>

[national_weeds_productivity_research_program](#)

Sandy is expecting that the Poisonous weeds book has been printed – SL has written a forward for the book.

Thanked Rod Randall for helpful comments on the design of the CAWS medal – first draft had NZ falling off the edge of world.

6. Secretary Treasurer Report.

Most of the correspondence since the last meeting has been regarding the design and striking of a new CAWS medal featuring the new logo. However, with the designs confirmed and the order finalized expect to receive the new medals any day soon.

Correspondence In

Brochure on business events in Tasmania – forward to Tas delegates.

Received 3 applications for CAWS student travel awards.

Received one CAWS medal nomination.

Letter from Ros Shepherd thanking CAWS for funds to support printing of Poisonous weeds book.

Finances

A reconciliation was circulated with the agenda.

NSW and Tasmania are still to pay their membership fees.

Majority of outgoings associated with teleconference charges, Book publishing, and new CAWS medal.

Action AD to email JG regarding outstanding Tas membership fees.

Motion #06/10 02. MW moved that the financial and secretarial reports be accepted.

Seconded by KH. Unanimously accepted

7. Business arising from the minutes.

7.1. Collaboration with NGIA

SL spoke with Robert Prince (Head Office); NGIA does have a round of awards when it is not a 'conference year'. These were presented in March

2010. Robert is quite interested in a weed wise nursery collaboration, call for nominations in August finalized approx October and make an announcement in March April 2011 probably at Melbourne International Garden Show.

Action SL to progress with Robert Prince.

TJ queried how important it was to liaise with the NGIA. NZ has had an offer from Robert Chin to travel to NZ and speak at the 17AWC. Although it is quite late to be including something new in the program and it will not have a paper in the proceedings would it be beneficial to allow him the opportunity to speak? Would build bridges with the nursery industry. Could make room for him in the concurrent sessions (perhaps he could bring some copies of a paper to hand out during the session).

Action TJ to respond to Robert Chin favorably.

7.2. National newsletter

Kathryn Batchelor was to source quotes to get this started.

Action AM to liaise with Kathryn and if necessary will progress with an out of session paper.

7.3. Guidelines for CAWS funded visitors

SL has circulated a paper prior to this meeting. Combination of the last three versions of the paper. Main change is that the draft itinerary is circulated to the member societies via the CAWS secretary. Also added, point 6, which as an alternative to points 4 and 5 that 2 or more member societies can present a proposed itinerary with a budget.

Motion #06/10 03. SL moved that the committee accept this version of the policy.

Seconded by IP. All in favour with no abstaining.

7.4. Amendment to the allocation of CAWS funds

This item is in response to a letter written by NSW. The other member societies were to discuss the points raised in this letter with their executives and respond.

Tasmania has provided a written response. Most points did make things more transparent.

1. Each member society having one (only delegate) vote – Tas agreed with.

In general we do not actually count up the votes made supporting a motion. If a delegate votes against something or a society abstains then that is recorded.

President has a casting vote (should there be a tie) and the secretary/treasurer does not vote.

Do not think that we have had a case where only two societies have voted in a motion. We need a quorum of 10 and if 2 states voted for something they would still only have 4 votes.

TJ Do we really want to rewrite the constitution on the basis of a small issue to do with funding.

RS CAWS constitution has been altered over time and is not a long standing document. Suggested changes coming from NSW do not reflect things that have happened in the past but want to prevent this sort of thing occurring in the future.

Does having a casting vote mean that the president does not vote normally – yes this is the case.

The comments from the Tas executive suggest making the President and vice-president non-voting.

President and vice-president do not come from the same state as the vp will take over the presidency in the next term so no one state is more powerful than another.

SA just run second SA weeds conference and all been working full time on that and have not had the opportunity to comment as yet

Vic – not raised at their meetings as yet.

Qld this has been discussed on 12/2/10. did not agree but MW does not have the back ground on this issue.

TJ is in the constitution that where practical the position of President rotates between the states. But does not specify that the VP should come from another state. Quite draconian to take the vote from an elected committee member such as the VP.

Hold this matter to the next meeting to enable societies to discuss.

50% profit share from AWC

50% of profit always goes to CAWS in a CAWS 'owned' conference but if CAWS supported another type of conference with seed funding then following loan repayment profit share would be negotiable

8. Reports from Member Societies.

The reports from member societies are compiled in a separate document circulated with these minutes.

8.1. Report from SA

DH presented the SA report.

Congratulations to John Virtue on winning the SA award for excellence.

8.2. Report from Vic

MH presented the Vic report.
2012 AWC progressing well and the venue has been booked (Hotel in Albert Park). Draft program coming together and some possibilities for key note speakers. Looking to rework the theme.
Dates are 8/10/12 to 11/10/12. similar structure to previous AWC's.
17AWC happy to include advertise it in satchels but require brochures 2 weeks before the conference date.
2012 will also be the 6th International Weed Science Congress will be held in china. No further information on this website.
Vic now has a newsletter editor.

8.3. Report from NSW

RS presented the NSW report.
Request from newsletter editor for the CAWS president to write a report for the NSW newsletter.

8.4. Report from WA

AM tabled the report from WA.
Guy Preston is visiting WA through June and July and will give a seminar in Perth on 12th July.

8.5. Report from NZ

TJ presented the report from NZ.

8.6. Report from Tas

JG presented the Tas report.

8.7. Report from Qld

MW presented the report from Qld.
Plans for 11th Qld weed symposium end July in 2011 in McKay.
Publishing a weeds of southern Qld book, 3rd edition to be produced. 60,000 copies of 60 page book sold at \$2.20/copy. Includes common control options for most of the weeds.
Trying to promote more regional activities, north and coastal.

9. General Business.

9.1. Award for on-ground weed workers to attend AWC's
One person was put up for this award, Josh Noble.
DH – Josh is a very enthusiastic person who has set up his own company, 4-5 years out of university still has some things to learn and this award and travel to the 17AWC is a good opportunity for him to learn some new things.
He is expected to present a poster at the AWC – to include his abstract in the paper needs to get in proceedings ASAP.

Action DH to send TJ contact details for Josh Noble as soon as possible.

Motion #06/10 04. SL moved that we approve the inaugural travel award for an on-ground weed worker to Josh Noble of SA, value of \$1000.00. Seconded by DH. All in favour with no abstaining.

9.2. Student and Early Career weed scientist awards 2010

Received 3 nominations for the two awards, all applicants are members of their state societies.

- Catherine Borger (WA) applied for early career award (previously received a student award) \$1900 to travel to 17th AWC.
- Eleanor Dormontt (SA) applied for a student travel award (has previously received a student award) requested \$3000 for a study tour. Felt it was more appropriate that she receive an early career award (max of \$2000).
- Asad Shabbir (Qld) applied for a student travel award to attend 17AWC, requested \$1655.

John Virtue (immediate past president) agreed with SL's recommendations.

There was discussion as to why there are so few nominations for these awards. Perhaps we should reconsider how we advertise awards (email direct to lecturers). State applications vs. direct to CAWS applications. Advertise on key conference web sites. We are not offering a full grant; applicants still need to find more money to actually undertake the travel.

Motion #06/10 05. SL moved that we approve 2 early career weed scientist awards – Dr Catherine Borger (\$1900), Eleanor Dormontt (\$2000) - and one student - Asad Shabbir (\$1655) – travel awards.

Seconded by IP, all in favour, CB abstains.

RS suggested that a bio of the winners be circulated to committee and also be put on the CAWS website.

Action AD to contact winners with congratulatory letters, and cheques, and request bio information and a photo that can be loaded onto the website.

9.3. CAWS Medal nominations

Have not finished judging. There is a second applicant expected for this award – delayed due to administrative problems, can be difficult to get work history and keep confidentiality. This should be available shortly.

President, Immediate Past President and one other to make decision.

9.4. 17th AWC Progress – CAWS Orator

Lots of information on the website, provisional program delayed as have extended the early bird registration to 18th June. Trial tours are outlined so that can make an informed decision.

Reducing the budget as will breakeven at 200 delegates and currently have 103. Still look to be on track to make a small profit.

Discussion as to reasons for the lack of delegates. Generally larger number of delegates come from the early bird registrations.

Action SL to put notice on enviro weeds list

Prof Lesley Weston putting on a workshop on ID methods largely using DNA, this is now in the program and will be expanded in the next 2-3 weeks. Still looking for a CAWS orator. SL suggested Prof Jodie Holt (Uni of California) works on thistles etc and has designed the vegetation for the planet Pandora from the movie Avatar.

Motion #06/10 06. SL moved to that she would approach Prof Jodie Holt to find out her availability for CAWS orator at the 17th AWC.

Seconded TJ

SL offered 2 copies of Western Weeds as prizes for conference.

Supposed to be having a CAWS workshop on the Sunday prior to the conference.

Who will be attending from the committee – SL, CB, MW (as a proxy), RS, IF NZ delegates, not sure of SA delegates or proxies. No Tasmanians and possibly no Victorians.

A workshop for those that are there and a telelink is possible. In addition to the AGM which is required. Was to be planning for our future growth etc. This would need a clear purpose and facilitator. May be difficult for proxies if there is too much of a historical nature to be assessed or gone over

There is an executive meeting on the Tuesday evening which could also include the AGM. This would also be able to be teleconferenced.

Action TJ to develop this in the next week and tighten this up, liaise with SL.

9.5. Update on 23rd APWSS

RM teleconference on 24/5/2010 unable to attend.

Originally RM was classed as an advisor and later clarified as the CAWS representative (part of our funding agreement).

7 people plus eventcorp present at that meeting.

Sebel Cairns confirmed as venue. September 2011.

Program subcommittee been most active and organizing the key note speakers \$17K allocated to cover speakers costs so approx 6-7 speakers. Field days reduced from 5 to 3 a mix of technical and tourist venues. Field trips and the dinner optional in registration to reduce costs. Sally Ford (eventcorp) has advised that the target for sponsorship is \$75K. Setting up sponsorship committee at present not sure who is heading this up. Cut off for submission of abstracts move to December. Another meeting in late August. We may be approached to fund a CAWS orator. They would need to apply for this in due course.

Action RM to advise RS of how many delegates the APWSS is budgeting on.

9.6. Update on 18th AWC

Comments have already been made under the state report from Victoria. Eventcorp has been engaged as organizer.

Initial budget working on 400 delegates.

Still working on the rates – super early bird about \$700.

Venue is the Sebel in Albert Park (btn St Kilda and Yarra river). Near where they have the Grand Prix.

Coastal and Dandenong ranges field trip and possibly also Dept of Agric molecular field trip.

Program is being worked on at present.

Can the proceedings be just an electronic version or must it be a book.

Traditionally a book is produced, CD's are optional. CAWS policy does stipulate that the organizing society will make available to delegates a printed proceedings at the conference but can provide other options. If only electronic really need a booklet of abstracts to go with that.

17th AWC needs more promotion – partially due to lack of circulation of delegate list from previous conference (eventcorp restriction perhaps for privacy?). With extension of early bird registration good opportunity to recirculate conference details.

Victoria would appreciate lists from Cairns and NZ.

10. Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be during the 17th AWC. Tuesday 28 September 5 – 7pm NZ time (approx. 2 -4 in Sydney and 12-2 in Perth).

Usually the AGM follows the normal meeting (quite short).

Agenda items will be required 1 month prior to discussion at these meetings.

Nomination of a Vice President from Victoria?

Action AD to organise books to be audited.