

MINUTES

Teleconference

**Thursday 5 March 2009
9.00 AM WADST (Australia)**



1. Present.

Sandy Lloyd (SL) – President
Trevor James (TJ) – Vice President, NZ
Alex Douglas (AD) – Secretary/Treasurer
Ian Popay (IP) - NZ
Rachel McFadyen (RMcF) – Qld
Dorean Erhart (DE) – Qld
Rex Stanton (RS) – NSW
Warwick Felton (WF) - NSW
Aaron Maxwell (AM) – WA
Catherine Borger (CB) - WA
David Hughes (DH) – SA
Michael Hansford (MH) -Vic

2. Apologies.

Rachel Melland (RM) – SA
Daniel Joubert (DJ) – Vic
Matthew Baker (MB) – Tas.
Elizabeth Schrammeyer (ES) – Tas.
Alice Beilby (AB) – NT

3. Adoption of Minutes from meeting held 11 December 2008.

Top of page 4 'at' appears twice.

Motion # 03/09 01. MH moved that the minutes be accepted with amendments.
Seconded by WF. Unanimously accepted.

4. Presidents Report.

SL has not submitted a written Presidents Report due to recent health problems.

5. Secretary / Treasurers Report.

A treasurer's report had been circulated prior to the teleconference.

5.1 Reimbursement of the WA society for the Weed Wise Nursery Award. AD is not able to do this as the amount owing to the WSWA has not been submitted. (WSWA treasurer has recently had a baby).

Action – AM to present to next meeting.

5.2 Secretary/treasurer stipend. According to CAWS policy this stipend is an annual amount of \$1000. The S/T submits an invoice and is paid by cheque (approved by the President).

5.3 Internet Banking. AD has access to the accounts via internet banking. AD raised the issue of a second approval for internet transfers, to be authorised by SMS.

The committee discussed having only AD to authorise fund transfers and decided that 2 'signatories' should still be required.

AD will set up an electronic authorisation process with the NAB as soon as possible. With SL and TJ added as SMS security.

5.4 Contacts for delegates and state societies. AD has sent out a document requesting contact details of delegates and also for state society secretaries.

Action – Those who have not completed these details please do so and return to AD.

5.5 At the meeting held on 18/9/08 an amendment to the CAWS constitution was ratified. As DOCEP was not notified within 1 month that this change had been made and accepted the committee will need to ratify the amendment again and submit to DOCEP.

Motion # 03/09 02. AD 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 AM. Unanimously accepted

6. Business arising from previous minutes.

6.1. Draft Guidelines for international visitors. SL has been ill on and off since our last meeting and has been unable to make the alterations to points 4 and 5 from the paper submitted by John Virtue.

Action – SL to alter wording of points 4 and 5 and circulate to the council members for discussion at next meeting.

6.2. Itinerary of Dr Carla D'Antonio. Dr D'Antonio's mother is unwell and she is still to confirm that she is able to travel to Australia in August. Victoria and Queensland are eager to host a visit from Dr D'Antonio.

Action – SL to maintain contact with Dr D'Antonio and advise other societies when the visit (and its length) are confirmed.

6.3. SL will not progress the submission for CAWS to support a visit by Doria Gorden to a conference in South Africa.

6.4. Website redevelopment. SL circulated a link straight to the new CAWS website. The frame work is well established and the format looks good. Many of the actual attachments are not embedded as yet however, the link for the 2010 conference is connected and working

Action – All committee members are urged to visit the site.

6.5. 18th Australasian Weeds Conference, Victorian progress. MH reported that there had been no progress since the last meeting. Currently looking at potential conference providers.

6.6. RS had suggested that CAWS delegates submit a short CV for circulation to the rest of the committee. This would also be useful for state society secretaries.

Action – Delegates to submit short CV to AD. AD to compile and circulate to the state society secretaries.

7. Reports from member Societies.

Note – the state society reports have been combined into a separate document circulated with these minutes.

7.1 South Australian Report.

Report tabled by DH.

DH had included in the SA report that they are compiling an event register. Other committee members felt that a register of society events would be of value to other societies and is something that could be added to the CAWS website.

Action – Event registers to be circulated to Newsletter editors of state societies and to AD for inclusion in the CAWS website.

7.2 Victoria.

Report tabled by MH.

7.3 New South Wales.

Report presented by WF.

SL has been contacted by Bridget Verbeek asking if it was possible for CAWS to waive the registration fee for a delegate to the 17th AWC, as part of an award. SL explained that it was up to the hosting society (NZ) to take this action.

Issues raised by NSW regarding CAWS sponsorship were discussed.

Applicants must have been a member of an affiliated society for 12 months.

SL would like to leave the wording as prefer that the applicants are members by not a requirement.

CB suggested that if it was restricted to members only then this could reduce the number of applications received.

WF has had some international students that have received state awards and they have then left the state/country (and did not retain membership).

Action – delegates discuss the issue with their state societies and return for full discussion at next meeting.

Support for visitors to meetings that are not associated directly with a CAWS affiliated society.

WF a state society should be involved in the meeting (not necessarily hosting the meeting) to be eligible for CAWS sponsorship.

If a speaker is sponsored by CAWS to a non-weed conference this would get weeds on the agenda as well as increase the profile of CAWS.

Action – delegates discuss the issue with their state societies and return for full discussion at next meeting.

7.4 Western Australia.

Report tabled by AM.

7.5 New Zealand.

Report tabled by IP.

2010 Australasian Weeds Conference.

NZ just starting to get sponsorship list together. Some field trips are already planned. The management committee is hoping that the economic downturn does not affect the number of delegates too much. (Encouraging that the Prime Ministers of Australia and NZ are discussing the ease of movement between the two countries).

Action – Please send suggestions for keynote speakers or hot topics to Ian Popay and Trevor James.

7.6 Tasmania.

Report circulated prior to the meeting.

7.7 Queensland.

Report tabled by DE.

7.8 Northern Territory

No report tabled.

8. General Business

8.1 2009 Student and Young Weed Scientist Awards

Further to the discussions earlier in the meeting regarding CAWS sponsorship and awards it was decided that as submissions for these awards need to be lodged with the Sec/Treas by the 1st of May that we would retain the current wording of the guidelines (i.e. The Awards will be open to anyone residing in Australia or New Zealand, but members of Societies affiliated with CAWS may be given preference), at this time.

Action – commence advertising the availability of the awards as soon as possible.

8.2. 2009 Weed Wise Nursery Award (WWN)

2008 was the final year for the WWN award, re-approval will be required if CAWS wishes to continue with this award.

SL has not progressed the paper addressing potential changes to the award as yet.

Action – SL to circulate a copy of a report on the most recent recipient of the award that appeared in the Australian Hort. Magazine to state secretaries.

Motion # 03/09 03. TJ moved that CAWS continue the weed wise nursery award for another ten (10) years to be reassessed at that time. Seconded SL

The vote on this was not unanimous and discussion followed.

RS how much support is there from the NIA for this award?

Robert Chin has supported this award but most nurseries are not weed wise.

RMcF 'Grow me instead' is being encouraged. This is gradually being 'rolled out' in other states, with the draft WA brochure currently being circulated.

CAWS and NIA should be promoting the award to nurseries.

Vic, Tas and NZ have had consistent levels of nominations.

IP need to keep this award going.

WF difficult to implement the selection process if a committee member needs to generate the nomination. (NB. This criterion was changed in 2008 and now anyone can nominate a WWN).

It was suggested that the NIA could perform the pre-selection of WWN submissions and present CAWS with a short list, working through Robert Chin (NIA National level) or his replacement (Robert Prince). However, there are limited numbers of staff attached to the NIA and even few if go down to the state level.

Should be a single National award. Although state level awards would increase the level of contact between weed people and nursery people.

It is up to each state to decide if they wish to present a state award.

AM currently there is flexibility for each state to make an assessment here.

Motion # 03/09 04. TJ moved that CAWS continue the weed wise nursery award for another three (3) years to be reassessed at that time. Seconded SL

The vote on this was unanimous.

11. Next meeting.

Teleconference: 4th June 2009. 9am Western Australian Standard Time (Aus.)

Meeting closed 10.35 am

President.....____/____/2009