



The Australian Rangeland Society

Council meeting No. 214 – 17 March 2010

MINUTES

4pm Queensland Time by Teleconference

1. **Present:** John Taylor, Carolyn Ireland, Graeme Tupper, Peter Johnston, Annabel Walsh and Larissa Lauder
Apologies: Kate Masters and Peter Marin
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** 20 January 2011 Council Meeting were approved – Moved Graeme, Seconded Larissa, Carried.
3. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - Honoraria. Completed.
 - Professional Affiliation and Alliance Opportunities, Peter J to write to them.
 - Publications Committee submitted some "Guidelines for Advertising" for the consideration of Council. Importantly, this noted that the Journal Publisher might handle the administration of this rather than the Secretary. Council noted the report and submission from the Publications Committee, noted that the advertising pricing and policy could be linked to future publisher and that we need to resolve this before we can agree on this and further recommendations. Carolyn to report back to Ken that Council cannot make recommendations on this until a decision is made about Publishers. Moved Carolyn, Seconded Peter J. Carried.
 - Global Rangelands Repository. John recorded a conflict of interest but gave an update from the Billings SRM Meeting. He made the following recommendations.
 1. Council notes this report.
 2. Council recognizes that there is mutual benefit in the Global Rangelands (GR) Project, with easier access to international range resources the major benefit to ARS members, and greater international exposure to Australian research, education and extension the major benefit to the ARS.
 3. Council raises any issues for clarification – either ASAP with the GR Project Leader, or at the May meeting of the GR Project Team. Issues might include (but are not limited to):
 - ARS access to the scanned Proceedings?
 - Estimates of the cost of extracting/formatting TRJ abstracts/first page of an article, and, if any, who should pick up this cost?
 4. When such outstanding issues are clarified, Council should provide a formal/written response confirming the ARS's willingness to participate, and outlining the terms of participation. Also, to avoid confusion, this should clarify that the ARS and Rangelands Australia are different entities, making different contributions to this initiative.

Council agreed with the recommendations, Moved Annabel, Seconded Graeme, Carried. Council also noted that there is a need to involve Ken and Wal. Council agreed that John is to forward this approach at the May Meeting of the GR Project

team and that Members of Council should talk to US people at the IRC. Action: Members of Council to comment directly to John and Carolyn ASAP – Carolyn to send out an email to this effect.

- New 12 month contract for CSIRO Publishing – completed. Potential new publishers after July 2012 need to be investigated by the Publication Committee. Leave on Agenda.
- Website requirements – after the IRC John will feed Rangeland Alliance links to Ken Hodgkinson for the website once he has checked back with Rangeland Alliance.
- WA Conference Proposal. The Organising Committee have submitted a revised proposal and a “Health, Safety and Risk Management Plan”. Larissa reported that the Organizing Cttee seem to be on track and operating well. Larissa has been invited to be Treasurer but will not be in WA for most of the period. Council however recommended that the Treasurer be based in WA but Larissa to continue as the Council Rep on the Organising Committee. Larissa will convey this to the Organising Committee. The Organising Committee seeks Seed Money of \$30,000. John to contact Paul Novelly to thank them for the information and declining to make a decision at this point. John to ask Paul Novelly for details about the successful PCO and about other costs. John, Carolyn and Annabel to meet with Paul and Don Burnside at the IRC to discuss.
- IRC in Argentina. We apparently have a shared Trade Booth for ARS/RA/CSIRO Publishing. We have volunteers from amongst the membership attending to take their turns at the booth. John and Carolyn will work out a roster on arrival in Rosario.
- Review of Membership and Company memberships and discounts for attendance at the Rangelands Conference. Graeme reported that there is no consistency across any other organisations. He reported that we have only nine active categories and recommended reducing our categories to those nine. Moved Carolyn, Seconded Annabel, Carried. Council also noted the current membership fee and wished to seek comment from the Financial Officer for the need to increase this, however, the preference of Council is to leave it as it is. Council has always tried to keep fees as low as possible. Council recommended that fees be held at the current rate subject to financial analysis and a report on our position by Peter Marin. Moved Larissa, Seconded Annabel, Carried. Council recorded its appreciation to Kate and Graeme for their work.
- Nominations of new Fellows. John declared a conflict of interest because Wal was his PhD supervisor and he worked in the same organization as Ken. Council decided that this was not a conflict of interest. Both Ken Hodgkinson and Wal Whalley meet all of the requirements for the nomination. John put Wal Whalley's case for nomination, all in agreement. John put Ken Hodgkinson's case all in agreement. Council unanimously accepted the nominations of Ken and Wal. Moved Graeme, Seconded Annabel, Carried. Next steps: John to write letters to both, announcement at the AGM, 200 word summary to RMN and Website and finally the award at the Kununurra Conference. John remarked that this was a very happy occasion for Council to be able to acknowledge the outstanding and long service of both Ken and Wal.
- Changing articles to reflect the timeframe for calling meetings (currently 6 weeks) and advertising meetings on the website or by email. Hold this item over until we have other items for an Ordinary Meeting,
- SRM Meeting in USA. A report was submitted to Council by John which was noted. Carolyn thanked John on behalf of Council for his efforts on behalf of the Society.
- Proposal from CSIRO to list a paper by Gary Bastin in an Institutional Repository. Wait for a recommendation from Publications Committee.

4. General Business:

4a. Membership – Graeme Tupper:

Membership 203 active members, 110 still to pay making a total of 313. Have received 18 membership applications which have not paid. Five new members since Nov 2010.

4b. Finance – Carolyn Ireland reported for Peter Marin:

In terms of the current financial situation we have a total of about \$262,000 across the three bank accounts. The breakdown is \$11,306.30 in the operating account, \$19,590.52 in the conference account and \$231,243.90 in the Business Online Saver Account.

4c. Publications Committee

No report tabled.

5. New Business:

- Editor-in-Chief of TRJ. A report was received from Ken Hodgkinson, Chair of the Publications Committee. Council noted and endorsed documents. Moved Graeme, Seconded Peter J. Carried. Carolyn to email Council's thanks Ken for the Publications Committees efforts.
- A new laptop for the Subscription's Manager was considered and approved "out of session". Council ratified this decision.
- Associate Editor Concessions. At the moment we are offering them a free subscription for their work for the Society. It might lure potential overseas Editors. But going forward not retrospective. John to write to Neil McLeod about no retrospectivity.
- ARS Bookkeeper position. Peter Marin has agreed to renominate as Finance and Audit Officer and Company Secretary for the next four years with the condition that a bookkeeper be hired to do the everyday work. Difficult to proceed with this as Peter has not put a formal case and was not at the meeting. Defer consideration of this. Carolyn to email Peter for his proposal. May need to consider out of session.
- Bourke Conference Final Report – item for noting only. The final report will be considered at the next Council Meeting on July 28. Council needs to be comfortable with the PCO and this may have ramifications for the Kununurra Conference. Larissa to send around conference comparison that she has compiled. John to circulate Russell's emails and the draft report. Peter Marin to comment on where the \$30,000 profit is in our accounts. To remain on the agenda.
- The AGM will be held on May 16, 2011. The AGM Notice of Meeting and Agenda have been sent to Noelene Duckett for publication in RMN and to Ken Hodgkinson for placement on the website. Ken has also offered to send an email reminder to members early in April. Nominations have been sought from John Taylor, Peter Marin, Graeme Tupper and Annabel Walsh. Peter Johnston will resign which will mean that Council has one vacancy unless another nomination is received by April 10, 2011. Graeme will send Notice of meeting by post to those members who have no email address.
- Website Manager. Ken Hodgkinson has proposed that Russell Grant be appointed as the new Website Manager. Russell will also join the Publications Committee in that capacity. All members of the Publications Committee support this proposal and recommend to Council that Russell be appointed for 12 months and to the Publications Committee if he so desires. Ken will conduct an induction session with Russell. Council approved this appointment to include the Honorarium. John Moved, Carolyn Seconded, Carried.
- Sponsorship of the Stipa Conference. Annabel spoke to this topic. They are seeking sponsorship for their conference. Annabel asked if we have criteria for this sort of thing. Annabel then declared conflict of interest. Discussion ensued - Is this part of our role? Is there a precedent? Is there value for us in sponsoring these sort of opportunities? Council decided to take this issue on notice. John and Larissa to

consider the notion of sponsorship of other events by developing a policy which reviews our Articles of Association and how Sponsorship may benefit the Society.
 Moved Larissa, Seconded Graeme, carried.

6. Correspondence:

INCOMING

25-Jan-11	Email	Peter Marin	re Copyright Issues
27-Jan-11	Email	Wal Whalley/Peter M	Exchange of emails re ARS registered address
04-Feb-11	Email	Brandon Bestelmeyer	Acceptance of reappointment to Associate Editor
08-Feb-11	Email	Murray McGregor	Thanking John for his appointment to Publications Com
08-Feb-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	Advertising in ARS Publications
09-Feb-11	Email	Peter Marin	re ATO and Late BAS
10-Feb-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	Re new Editor-in-Chief of TRJ
03-Mar-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	Re: Recommendation of Russell Grant as Website Mgr
04-Mar-11	Email	Gary Bastin and others	Nomination of Wal Whalley as Fellow of ARS
07-Mar-11	Email	Russell Grant	Re Conference Final Report and Financials
08-Mar-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	Recommendation of the Pub Com re Advertising
09-Mar-11	Email	Carolyn Ireland and others	Nomination of Ken Hodgkinson as a fellow of ARS
14-Mar-11	Email	Paul Novelty	Items from Kununnarra Conf Committee

OUTGOING

28-Jan-11	Email	Graeme Tupper	From Peter Johnston re payment of Honoraria
28-Jan-11	Email	Noelene Wotton	From Peter Johnston re payment of Honoraria
28-Jan-11	Email	Peter Marin	From Peter Johnston re payment of Honoraria
28-Jan-11	Email	Ken Hodgkinson	From Peter Johnston re payment of Honoraria
28-Jan-11	Email	Wal Whalley	From Peter Johnston re payment of Honoraria
03-Feb-11	Email	Brandon Bestelmeyer	From John Taylor re reappointment to Associate Ed
03-Feb-11	Email	Neil Macleod	From John Taylor re reappointment to Associate Ed
04-Feb-11	Email	Murray McGregor	From John Taylor re appointment to Pubs Com
09-Feb-11	Email	Noelene, Graeme, Ken, Wal	From Peter Marin re payment of Honoraria
10-Feb-11	Email	Chris Anderson	From John Taylor re 12 month renewal of contract
15-Feb-11	Email	Russell Grant and Daryl Green	From John Taylor re Conference report and Financial Statement

7. Next meeting –

The next meeting will be the AGM to be held at 37 Pioneer Crescent, Bellbowrie, Queensland, 4070 and also by teleconference on Monday 16 May 2011 at 5 pm Queensland time.

The next meeting of Council will be held by teleconference on 28 July 2011 at 4 pm Queensland Time.

Meeting closed at 6 pm, Queensland time.