



*The Australian Rangeland Society*

## **MINUTES PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday 11 January 2017

6.00 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time  
By Teleconference

1. Ron Hacker opened the meeting and welcomed members at 6.00 pm. He advised that Ken Hodgkinson had decided not to accept an extension following termination of his appointment on 31 December 2016.
2. **Present:** Ron Hacker (Chair), Paul Novelly, David Eldridge, Noelene Duckett, Andrew Ash, Don Burnside, Wal Whalley (joined at 6.17 pm)

**Apologies:** Camilla Osborne, Amber Marshall, Jocelyn Davies, Carol Ireland

3. **Additional items for general business:**  
Complimentary Memberships for 2017
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** Motion: That the minutes of the Publications Committee meeting held by teleconference on 23 November 2016, be accepted as circulated.

Moved: Paul Novelly;  
Seconded: David Eldridge  
Carried.

5. **Matters arising from previous minutes (not listed as separate agenda items):**  
No matters arising

### **6. The Rangeland Journal**

#### 6.1. Report from Editor-in-Chief (verbal)

Issue 5 has been sent out. Issue 6 is complete, with 9 papers, but there is a slight delay in printing in India. It will be distributed in 2-3 weeks. The 2016 issues (Volume 38) now completed and total 618 pages.

Issue 1, 2017 is ready to go, with 10 papers, 5 of which have early online viewing.

Issue 2, 2017 has one paper ready to go and there are 24 other papers in various stages of review and revision.

Steve McLeod has been appointed as Associate Editor, following Council endorsement. Advisory Editors have come back with names to be considered for new Associate Editors. Paul and Ron will work through candidates before sending to the PC for consideration.

Ann Waters-Bayer, currently an Advisory Editor, has now retired and is willing to be an Associate Editor. Ann is strong in socio-economics. The PC is happy to support the possibility of Ann being both an Advisory Editor and Associate Editor.

**Action:** Ron and Paul to follow-up on possible Associate Editors and send a list to the PC for comment. Ron to follow-up specifically with Ann Waters-Bayer.

## 6.2. Special issues

(a) Mongolian plateau (Jocelyn Davies) - Jocelyn not present to report.

(b) Restore, Regenerate, Revegetate (Wal Whalley) - Signed contract is now in place. Major plenary and keynote papers are now in. Wal is working through abstracts to see what might be best fit for a Special Issue.

(c) Northern development (Andrew) – Andrew has put together a list of possible papers to which both Ron and Ian Watson have provided input. List to be finalized by end of January. Andrew is working with Allan Dale to see if some keynote speakers can address some of the Special Issue topics at the 2017 Developing Northern Australia conference. Sponsorship for the Special Issue will be sought from the Office of Northern Australia though CSIRO has expressed willingness to support the Special Issue if no other sponsors can be found.

## 6.3. New publishing contract

(a) Progress - supplementary information compiled by Ron in response to questions from intending tenderers has been distributed to four companies.

(b) Sub-Committee for tender evaluation. As decided at the last meeting all PC members will be able to comment on the various tenders which will then be considered by a sub-committee. Council has indicated that David Phelps will sit on the Sub-Committee. The sub-committee will comprise Ron, Paul, Wal, Don and David Phelps. Ken Hodgkinson will be co-opted to the sub-committee if he is willing to participate.

**Action:** Ron to commence Sub-Committee process once all tenders have been received at the end of February 2017.

## 7. Range Management Newsletter

### 7.1. Report from the Editor (verbal)

Little to report at present – the next issue is due in March 2017. The issue raised at the last meeting that some institutional members are not receiving RMN email alerts has not yet been resolved with Annabel Walsh.

**Action:** Noelene Duckett to follow-up with Annabel Walsh to resolve this issue.

## 8. ARS web site

### 8.1. Report from the Editor

Camilla provided a short report which Ron will circulate.

8.2 Camilla is putting arrangements in place to be more responsive this year. Ron will review the situation at the end of June. Camilla has agreed to forego part of her 2016 Honorarium to allow Noelene to be paid to upload all back issues of the RMN to the website.

Uploading the Biennial Conference Proceedings might be a significantly larger job than anticipated. Ron will work with Camilla to determine what is involved. In the interim a link can be provided to the Global Rangelands site where past conference papers are already available. Council and PC Minutes will be uploaded as provided.

8.3 Information on web site advertising. Don has put together a paragraph on the process for advertising and that is now on the web site.

**Action:** Ron Hacker will follow up with Camilla Osborn about the process for uploading Biennial Conference Proceedings.

## 9. Social Media

### 9.1. Report from the Social Media Editor (verbal)

Amber was not present to report. The Council accepted the proposal for Heidi Wright to provide one Twitter post and one Facebook post per week for the next 12 months. Some of Amber's honorarium is being directed to Heidi for this new arrangement.

## 10. Other items of General Business

10.1. Vacancies on the Publications Committee (*vice* Steve Blake and Ken Hodgkinson) Ken Hodgkinson has provided some suggestions – Jen Silcock, Dionne Walsh, Robyn Cowley, Heather McGuinness. In the first instance Ron will approach Jen, Dionne and Robyn to gauge their interest. Ken also suggested some potential overseas members but it was agreed this would not be appropriate. PC considered that while international representation is essential among Associate and Advisory Editors it is not required for the committee which simply handles the administration of the Society's publications.

**Action:** Ron Hacker to approach Jen Silcock, Robyn Cowley and Dionne Walsh to determine their interest in joining the Publications Committee.

10.2 Complimentary membership. Don has put together a list of complimentary memberships for 2017 that has been circulated to the PC. Membership renewal notices have been sent to all members including Associate Editors who receive complimentary membership. Paul Novelly can advise Associate Editors that they do not need to renew membership.

**Action:** Paul Novelly to advise Associate Editors that their complimentary memberships will be renewed and that they do not need to take any action to renew their membership.

## 11. Date of future meetings if required (two weeks before Council Meetings)

March 15;  
May 3 (if required prior to AGM);  
No further dates yet available.

The meeting closed at 6.55 pm.