

Minutes of the 55th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Hydrological Society

(Inc.) Napier Convention Centre

Wednesday 29th November 2016, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

1. Welcome/Apologies (President - Joseph Thomas)
Richard Hawke, Matt McGill-Brown, Sarah Mager, Mike Thompson, Martin Doyle, John Bride, Charles Pearson

Proxy votes:

FROM:	TO:
Matt McGill-Brown	Emily Diack
Sarah Mager	Emily Diack
Richard Hawke	Joseph Thomas

2. Minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting (copies available at the NZHS website at this URL (http://hydrologynz.org.nz/images/2016_54th_AGM_minutes.pdf) now and will also be available at the AGM in Napier (Joseph Thomas)
Motion: That the minutes of the 54th AGM be approved. Moved by MS Srinivasan, seconded by Hugh Thorpe. Motion approved without opposition.
Matters arising: none.

3. President's Report (Joseph Thomas)

Key highlights: Queenstown was a successful conference, positive feedback from attendees, the Rivers group and the Australians. We launched the book Advances in Freshwater Sciences. 50/50 share with Freshwater Sciences. The Society is keen to encourage students, project grants and travel grants. The Toebes scholarship was advertised this year but applicant withdrew at the last minute so fund is still available. Workshops – compliments to the technical hydrologists for their workshops throughout the year, 3 this last financial year. Systems are in place with OnCue for organising and registration. If you have an idea for a workshop bring it to the Society – we are keen to support workshops. Conference here has gone really well, thanks to Stephen Swabey and the committee. The Society is financially in very good health which enables us to undertake projects.

4. (a) NZHS Financial Statements for the 2016/2017 year (copies available at the NZHS website now at this URL (http://hydrologynz.org.nz/images/AGM/Annual_Report_31_March_2017.pdf) and will also be available at the AGM in Napier (Treasurer - Mike Ede)

Slides presented by Mike Ede

Annual Accounts 2016/17

How did we go?

- \$21,414 Surplus – More than Budget
- Members Funds - \$163,440
- Good returns
 - Queenstown Conference \$6,124
 - Technical Workshops \$6792

- Memberships \$6K increase
- Project Fund \$11,364 committed
- Subs stay the same

2017/2018 progress

- Budgeting for a break even
- On track
- Project fund allocated

Investments

- Little or no return from on call accounts
- \$37,422 of committed project funds need to be accessible
- Current
 - Westpac 2 year 3.7% \$75,834
 - BNZ 1 Year 3.55% \$39,953
 - On call - \$78,443
- Proposed
 - Westpac 2 year 3.7% \$75,834
 - BNZ 1 Year 3.55% \$39,953
 - Two additional term deposits of \$20K each on a 6 month term offset by 3 month
 - Remainder on call

\$21000 profit. Not about making money, about growing our science. \$163000 of assets. Growing membership numbers, increase in subs revenue. Subs to stay the same with our current surplus. This year budgeting for a breakeven – on track. Project fund allocated again this year. What to do with the money? \$32000 need to have available for if all projects were finished and had to be paid out.

Motion: That the Financial report be approved. Moved by Jack McConchie and seconded by Stefan Beaumont. Motion carried.

Mark Rodgers commented showing approval for the lowered conference costs following feedback from last year. Mike noted that we didn't do the discount for small agencies with multiple attendees, but instead lowered the early bird fees.

(b) Society's core reserve/asset Management (Mike Ede)

(c) Appointment of Auditor for financial statements for 2016/2017 (Mike Ede)

Motion: That we reappoint Crowe Horvath to continue with the auditing duties.

Moved by Pete Davidson and seconded by Clare Houlbrooke. Motion carried.

5. Election of Officers – (Joseph Thomas)
 - Secretary
 - Editor
 - 3 Executive Members

Secretary - The President called for nominations. One nomination was received from the floor. Paul White nominated Raelene Mercer and Clare Houlbrooke seconded. MS moved that nominations be closed. Raelene Mercer was elected as Secretary unopposed.

Editor – The President called for nominations. Richard Hawke was nominated (prior to the meeting, by nomination for) by Joseph Thomas and seconded by Martin Doyle. Jack McConchie moved that nominations be closed. Richard Hawke was elected as Editor unopposed.

Executive Members - Three Executive positions were up for election. Abigail Lovett, Clare Houlbrooke and Sarah Mager. Clare indicated that she is not seeking re-election and is stepping down.

The President called for nominations.

Sarah Mager was nominated by Emily Diack and Jessie Loft (prior to the meeting using the nomination form)

David Leong was nominated by John Hadfield and seconded by Adam Martin

Abigail Lovett was nominated by Magali Moreau and seconded by Mike Stewart

Pete Davidson moved that nominations be closed.

As three nominations were received for the three Executive member positions no election was required. Sarah Mager, Abigail Lovett and David Leong were duly elected as Executive members.

6. Editorial Update

- Current (update from Mike Thompson presented by Joseph Thomas) electronic format is working well, with IT support from OnCue. Mike to step down from compiling Current and the transition and handover is being worked on.
- Journal (Editor - Richard Hawke, presented by Joseph Thomas) Issue one is NZ papers. Issue 2 not far away, special issue with the Koreans. Discussion being held regarding a potential special issue on sediment transport. Hopefully have an outline for the next AGM. The perennial plea from Richard is that we need more manuscripts to be submitted.
- “Advances in New Zealand Freshwater Science” Book sales to date – (Richard Hawke/Joseph Thomas) update, nearly half sold. E copies will only be available once the hard copies are sold.
- Website pages for journal downloads – update on repair (Secretary – Raelene Mercer) The website journal page not currently functioning. This is a very old piece of software and support for it no longer exists. We are getting quotes for an upgrade. In the meantime if you need articles you can contact the administrator. It was previously requested that presentations from the conference be made available online – being worked on.

7. NZHS award nominations: reminder to membership for nominations (Joseph Thomas). We haven't given out many awards lately. Happy to receive nominations at any time. Think about your colleagues, need resume and 2 referees.

8. 2018 Symposium – Christchurch (Joseph Thomas) Next year joint with NZHS and Metsoc. MS Srinivasan is the Chairman of the organising committee. 2019 maybe New Plymouth.

Other business

9. Society awards - possible student thesis award and other award related to field diploma (Sarah Mager) The exec are also looking at potentially creating some new awards, possible student thesis award and other awards related to field diploma. Still being worked on.
 10. Acknowledgment of KWRA's 50th Anniversary celebrations (Joseph Thomas). MOU with KWRA, 4 members here this year. Joseph has written to them as congratulations.
 11. Matters arising
 - President of KWRA, wanting to host NZHS in Brisbane 2021. Spring time, end of winter. Exec to consider and communicate with the President. Awareness that a good portion of the society wouldn't be able to go as overseas trip.
 - Paul White – comment on the journal. Papers taking a while to get back from the reviewers, problem with reviews that people are getting. Main issue with the return of submitted copies to authors. Suggestion to ask Richard if open to the idea of an editorial board, assistance to him, diversity of papers. Joseph to raise with Richard.
 - Earl Bardsley – commented that it would be great if the end of year issue could come out before December so that they can be counted for the university PPRF. Can more to be done to get on the citation indices?
 - Jack McConchie – bottom line, people asked to review are busy people. Need a quality review, people need to be more upfront about whether they can or can't make the deadline. Need for a broader base of people who are prepared to review. Editorial pool?? Need to have quality reviewers.
 - Daniel Collins – asked how the reviewers are chosen. Said he would be one years ago but never contacted.
 - Jon Williamson – keyword linkage,
 - Chrissy Bright – asked about the timing of when journals become available online. Helen Kinaston replied that the intention is that they will be available shortly after the journal is posted to members.
 - Mike Stewart – stated that the Editor learns who are reliable reviewers and would usually have a preferred list.
 - Deborah Maxwell – suggested that authors could suggest potential referrers for their paper
 - Dennis Jamieson – need to do the work to get it upgraded and online. Let's do whatever we can to support Richard and get it done.
 - Bethanna Jackson – technological solutions can improve systems, could be an option.
- Motion that the meeting be closed. MS Srinivasan, seconded by Daniel Collins
Meeting closed at 5.51pm 70 people present

Signed as a draft by Joseph Thomas, Chairperson NZHS
4th May 2018