

Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Hydrological Society (Inc.)

University of Otago Ōtepoti / Dunedin

Wednesday 7th December 2022, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

1. Welcome/Apologies (President - Joseph Thomas)

Apologies:

Greg Barkle, Andrew Fenemor, Rebecca Morris

Richard Hawke joined online.

2. Minutes of the 59th Annual General Meeting

Matters arising: no

Moved: MS

Seconded: Pete Davidson

Passed

AGM minutes are now finalised.

3. President's Report (Joseph Thomas)

21/22

A few interruptions, but we were able to run 60th anniversary conference with success.

Compliment to the conveners and to Richard for getting the orange book out.

We are in a really good financial position.

Published our minimum 2 E-Currents.

Support from members has been fantastic.

No questions from the members in the audience.

4. Financial update (Treasurer - Mike Ede)

(a) NZHS Financial Statements for the 2021/2022 year- including financial position and profit loss for 21/22 operational year.

Legal requirements for signoffs have changed.

Loss of \$12.5k, which was budgeted (for orange book, and drink bottles and extra celebrations in Wellington last year).

\$10k - \$15k loss from conference last year.

Tech Workshop \$1,7k Loss Transferred to 2023.

Society funds sits at 182k on 31 March 2022.

Full report is available online.

Motion: Accept this year's financial report

Moved: Adam Martin

Seconded: Stephan Beaumont

Passed

2nd motion: Motion: Reappoint auditors for next FY

Moved: Helen Rutter

Seconded: Louise Weaver

Passed

Small sub increase to be discussed next year.

(b) Changes to Incorporated Society Act.

Hiring dinner venue for this year's conference dinner – we had to prove that we had \$2M dollars public liability insurance it covers the society, for when we run events and also covers the Executive in case of litigation.

Insurance cost: 600 NZD excl. for timeframe Nov 2022-Nov2023 (ongoing).

Anti-money-laundering: we have to prove to the bank that we are a real entity and bring our constitution in line with new legislation.

Services performance targets in annual report

Service performing targets

Finance reporting must have.

We have to show performance against these each year.

4 proposed targets:

- To host annual conference
- To host annual technical workshop
- To publish 2 journals a year
- To publish 2 electronic newsletters per year (E-Current)

Targets don't need to be ratified at the AGM each year.

Question from the audience: What happens if we don't meet the targets- Response: It doesn't matter; we have to report on it; they are achievable targets.

Question from the audience: Do they need to be approved by anyone? – Response: They don't have to be approved by anyone but have to be provided to auditor.

(c) Society Insurance

Covered above.

(d) Administration Contract

We still have admin contract with onCue which costs us around 18k a year.

We're currently renewing this contract every year, Mike proposed moving to an indefinite contract instead, with each party being able to cancel it with a year's notice. This will make things easier in the future.

(e) Appointment of Auditor for financial statements for 2021/2022 (Mike Ede)

See above.

5. Sub review (Mike Ede):

See above.

6. Society administration – update (Mike/Joseph/Conny)

See above.

7. Election of Officers

Large numbers of proxies this year.
5 positions coming up every year.

President

No nominations.

Louise suggested that, as Joseph did such a great job over the last 12 years, what we need is someone who would be mentored by him for a while.

Richard supports this approach as he'd like the same as editor.

Louise Weaver proposed
Helen Rutter seconded

Motion to close nominations for president for Joseph Thomas: Clare Houlbrooke
Seconded by: Helen Rutter
Elected unopposed

Treasurer

Nom: Mike Ede;
Nom by: Joseph Thomas
Seconded by: Pete Davidson
Elected unopposed

No other nominations for treasurer.
Louise closed nominations.

3 x Exec members

Nom: MS Srinivasan
Nom by: Channa Rayanayaka
Sec by: Charles Pearson

Nom: Louise Weaver
Nom by: Charles Pearson
Sec by: Evan Baddock

Nom: Helen Rutter
Nom by: Clare Houlbrooke
Sec by: Roland Stenger

Nom: Lee Burbery
Nom by: Laura Banasiak
Sec: Mike Stewart

Roland Stenger closes nominations.

Election as we have 4 nominations for 3 roles
Charles Pearson has 9 proxies
Channa Rayanayaka has 1 proxy

Result: MS Srinivasan, Louise Weaver and Lee Burbery are elected as NZHS Exec officers.
Joseph thanks Helen for her services to the society.

8. Editorial Update: Current/Journal/books (Richard Hawke – Editor)

First issue of journal is out this year focussing on covid response.
Second issue is on sw-gw interaction and GW quality.
Current newsletter has been out regularly.
Richard thanks all of the contributors and reviewers.
Thanks also to Laura Keene and Joe Dickson.
Richard encouraged all members presenting papers at the conference to publish papers.

9. NZHS award nominations: reminder to membership for nominations (Joseph Thomas)

2 parts:

- Reminder that we have updated awards category and we would appreciate if members nominate their peers for the awards that are available
- Life member ship has to be put to AGM

Motion to AGM:

Proposing to give live membership to the society to Barry Fahey

Nom: Richard Hawke

Sec: Mike Stewart

Passed

Royal society awards

Louise Weaver, as the society's representative in the Royal Society (RS), highlighted the RS's eagerness to see more applications for their awards from our society's members. She clarified that the nomination process differs from the NZHS nomination process and asked members to explore the RS website for the various awards that become available primarily in January. The website's medal search tool can be used to find relevant awards. One specific award mentioned was the Rutherford medal, which, while popular among university people, is open to other science sectors as well.

If you have any suggestions/potential nominations: contact Louise or contact the society and it will be forwarded to Louise.

RS can support us with the nomination process, but the entire process may take up to a year (with referees etc).

The exec is thinking of nominating someone this year.

10. 2023 & 2024 Conference (Joseph Thomas)

NZHS technical workshop:

28-31 March 2023

More info coming out next week.

Next year's NZHS conference:

Joint Australasian GW & NZHS conference

27 Nov – 1 Dec 2023 in Auckland (we tagged the whole week for now and will in discussions with the IAH decide on conference days (SIG meetings are usually on the Monday before HydSoc).

We received government funding: 15k from Tourism NZ to promote the conference.

Joseph will meet with the Chair of the NZ IAH soon.

Joseph nominated Conny Tschritter as representative of the NZHS Exec in the conference committee.

It was mentioned that the next NZHS conference might be held in Melbourne in approximately two years.

Potential considerations: Concerns were raised about the remaining 200 individuals who typically attend HydSoc but might not be able to participate in the Melbourne conference, given that only 100 might be going.

Other business

11. Royal Society Membership – NZHS members encouraged to make nominations for fellowships etc.

Louise gave an overview on the services Royal Society can provide for NZHS.

Matters arising

Brian Kouvelis raises: Finances looking in good health: would it be a good idea to do a special publication again, e.g., Freshwater
We will discuss this at an Exec meeting.

Lee Burbery expressed interest in gaining knowledge about the local hydrology or hydrogeology of the locations where conferences are held.

Motion to close AGM

Motion by: MS

Seconded by: Graeme Horrell

Meeting closed 18:12 pm

Conny Tschritter
Secretary