

# Minutes of the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Hydrological Society (Inc.)

Energy Events Centre

Queens Drive, Government Gardens, Rotorua 3010

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 5:00pm – 6:00pm**

1. Welcome/Apologies (President - Joseph Thomas)  
Apologies received from: Andrew Fenemor  
Martin Doyle  
Richard Hawke
  
2. Minutes of the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (copies available at the NZHS website at this URL [click here](#) now and will also be available at the AGM in Rotorua (Joseph Thomas)
  - a) Moved MS Srinivasan
  - b) Seconded Christian Zammit  
No matter arising  
passed
  
3. President's Report (Joseph Thomas)  
Available [here](#)  
Noted successful conference with Met Soc. Thanks to MS and conference team. Small profit made, Met Soc pleased to receive. Compliments from Met Soc reiterated.  
Technical workshop in Blenheim was successful and a highlight. Well patronised – close to 130 attendees. Privilege to present some awards to members of operational hydrology team.  
Kees Toebes Scholarship – family are to be invited to 2021 conference as thanks.  
Thanks to Peter Blackwood and rest of the team for their efforts on this conference – all going well to date.  
Contract administration situation working well to date – having someone on the end of phone and handling emails has added to the professional appearance of the society.  
Current is going well – just published largest edition to date – thanks to Sarah Mager and Laura Keenan for their work on these. System is working well. Reminder to members to continue to submit to Current and Journal also.  
Budgeted breakeven – 1800\$ loss for the year. This is due to the policy changes within the USGS about how they fund overseas travel.  
Subs – same membership as last year.  
Approx. \$7000 out of ChCh conference and \$5000 from technical workshop
  
4. (a) NZHS Financial Statements for the 2018/2019 year – including financial position and profit loss for 18/19 operational year. (Copies available on the NZHS website now at this URL [click here](#) and are also be available at the AGM in Rotorua (Treasurer - Mike Ede)  
(b) Society's core reserve/asset Management (Mike Ede)  
(c) Appointment of Auditor for financial statements for 2018/2019 (Mike Ede)

Motion to accept financial report

- a) Moved Graeme Elley
- b) Seconded Malcolm Taylor

Passed unanimously

Motion to retain current auditor:

Moved: Pete Davidson  
Seconded: Adam Martin

Passed unanimously

5. Society administration – update (Mike/Joseph)

6. Election of Officers – (Raelene Mercer)

Secretary:

Nominations: Raelene Mercer by MS Srinivasan and Joseph Thomas

Moved to close nomination: Clare Houlbrooke

Editor:

Nominations: Richard Hawke - nominated by John Hadfield and seconded by Graeme Elley

Moved to close nomination: MS Srinivasan

3 officers:

Nominations:

Earl Bardsley by Martin Taylor and Al Keane (from floor)

Connie Tschritter by Abigail Lovett and Magali Moreau

Sarah Mager by Tim Kerr and Clare Houlbrooke

Mitch Green by BoP Corporate and Magali Moreau

Adam Martin by Helen Shaw and Hamish Graham

Moved to close nominations: John Hansford

Election result: 1. Connie Tschritter

2. Sarah Mager

3. Adam Martin

7. Proposed updates to and reduction in the number of membership categories

Need to consider increase in general costs, ability to continue to support the Kees Toebes Scholarship, overseas membership and postage etc, auditor costs are increasing. The membership fees have been held as status quo for a number of years.

Not asking for a decision today, but will look at constitutional changes to amend categories to simplify and will propose a small increase in fees next AGM.

8. New website (J Thomas)

Finally live as of Monday – thanks to Sarah and some of her students that tested and “ground-truthed” it. Looks great.

9. Editorial Update

a) Current (Raelene/OnCue) –Journal/books (Editor - Richard Hawke)

- Update on progress of special publication for 60th anniversary.
- Sediment publication is under way – still on track to be published next year.  
Acknowledge the efforts of volunteers in working on this and other publications like it.

b) Richard’s report: scope of special publication for 2021 – earlier timeframes and greater expectations about delivery dates etc so less stress closer to the time. Plan is for 100 page document. Theme leads: Technology in the field: Surface Water– C Pearson;

Technology in the Field: Groundwater– Leanne Morgan; Technology in the Field – climate – G Elley; The Office & Lab – MS Srinivasan; Water Management – A Fenemor; People – Mike Ede; the Society – J Thomas. Work has begun on the content – call to members to get in touch if they wish to contribute. Will include why not just how, opportunities taken and missed – focus on last 10 years, but not limited to.

10. NZHS award nominations: reminder to membership for nominations (Joseph Thomas)  
Reminder to nominate people – all required info on the website and looking forward to 2021. Have a chat to the Exec if members are unsure how to proceed.

11. 2020 Symposium – Invercargill (Joseph Thomas)

1 – 4 Dec 2020 – is booked. Karen Wilson from Env. Southland is Chair. Lots of volunteers for the committee. Plan early to get there. Similar format to usual with opportunities for workshops on the Monday.

2021 – Wellington (60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Joseph Thomas)

Confirmed venue in Wellington Te Papa – still working on dinner – Mike Thompson and Richard Hawke.

2022 top of SI

2023 NP?

#### **Other business**

12. Proposed joint 2024 Gold Coast conference with Australian National Committee on Water Engineering (Charles Pearson)

13. 2024 – Charles: proposal to have joint conference in Australia with Institute of Engineers – Hydrology and Water Resources. They have contacted us a number of times, so would like to respond positively. Ideas are being presented to NZHS committee and discussions are ongoing. Looking at ways to make it easier for NZ members to attend. Likely to be the Gold Coast. They do their conferences in a similar fashion to us. Would consider having a joining science people with a technical workshop in NZ in 2024 to provide an event for those who are not able to attend in Australia.

14. Noted that there is a workshop booked for limit setting using modelling in July 2020 – broad focus, will be looking at case studies. Programme will be coming out in late March. Numbers will be limited due to space availability – first come, first served.

15. Thanks to Exec for their efforts this year, especially those who are standing down.

16. Hugh Thorpe – having a little bit of trouble hearing the speakers at the conference this year – please remember to consider your audibility when speaking.

17. Paul White – follow up on editorial board idea possibility raised. JT response is to ask Richard to reply directly to Paul.

#### **Matters arising**

None

Meeting closed:

5.58PM

Raelene Mercer

Secretary

Encl: **Annex: NZHS Subscriptions**

## Annex to Agenda: NZHS Subscriptions

The Executive are about to reconsider the Society's subscription categories and rates. The challenge we are seeking to address is due to several things. We have 8 different subscription categories, the lack of clarity between the different categories cause confusion for current and new members, and the difference in cost of these categories is not large:

Retired Member	Associate/ Individual Member	Overseas Associate Member	Student Member	Overseas Student Member	Honorary/ Comp Member	Life/ Corporate Member	Overseas Corporate Member
\$50.00	\$70.00	\$85.00	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$130.00

Finally, the current subscription income does not cover the Society's fixed expenditure, which is not surprising as subscription rates have not changed for 10 years. The Society has had a longstanding principle of ensuring subscription income covers the Society's fixed expenses so that book, conference, sponsorship etc income can be used for discretionary activities such as travel grants, project grants and books.

The Executive believe it is timely to review the rates and categories, rather than just look at changing the rates. The plan is to prepare options for changes in early 2020 and include a proposal in Current in early 2020. Following feedback, the Executive intend to put a proposal to the Society's 2020 Annual General Meeting.