

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
NATURE FOUNDATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC**

**Held on Monday 22nd October 2018 @ 6.15 pm  
Holden Street Theatre, Holden Street, Hindmarsh**

**1. Welcome**

The President Mr. Bob Lott opened the meeting at 6.25 and welcomed some 110 members and supporters to the 37th AGM of Nature Foundation SA. (refer Attachment 1)

**Apologies.**

Some 50 apologies were received (refer Attachment 1)

**Returning Officer**

The President introduced Ms Megan Dyson, Honorary Legal Adviser to the Foundation and Returning Officer, and advised that she would assist and advise on any relevant matter at the AGM.

**Proxy votes**

Ms Dyson briefly advised the process for voting. Members holding proxy votes had been advised of the number of proxy votes they held. For lists of the proxy votes lodged, see Attachment 1.

**2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th October 2017**

Minutes of this meeting had been distributed.

It was moved by Dr Baden Teague, seconded Mr Mervyn Lewis “that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record.”

*Carried*

**3. President’s Report**

The President read the Report as printed in the Annual Report which included reference to activities of the Nature Foundation over Mr Lott’s term of Presidency and specific activities of NFSA in 2017-18 year including:

- Ongoing funding from Mining and Resource sector through SEB (vegetation offset) grants;
- Increased Member numbers;
- Increased Water for Nature watering program with Commonwealth funding;
- Success of the Kids on Country partnership;
- Purchase of a conservation site in Kersbrook;
- Changes to the Nature Foundation’s Committee Structure.

The President advised that he was stepping down from the Office Holder role of President.

It was moved by Dr Baden Teague and seconded by Dr Bob Inns “that the President’s report be accepted.”

*Carried*

**4. CEO’s Report**

The CEO Mr Hugo Hopton commenced his annual report by encouraging those present to share with others their love of nature and their enthusiasm for Nature Foundation.

Mr Hopton identified some highlights from his report as presented in the Annual Report:

- Challenges facing nature in South Australia and globally
- The very significant importance of Witchelina and Hiltaba in conserving species in SA
- A year of significant achievement right across the organisation – science grants, on-ground works, engaging communities, partnerships, budget and governance.

Mr Hopton thanked Nature Foundation Members, members of Council, committees, outgoing committee members and staff, as well as Rotational Managers and volunteers for the dedication, generosity and achievements which allows the Nature Foundation to continue to expand its influence.

It was moved Nicholas Newland AM; seconded Jan Ferguson OAM that the CEO's report be received.

*Carried*

## **5 Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2017.**

The Treasurer Mr Douglas Ransom presented the Financial Statements in the Annual Report, by showing a graph of the financial position of the organisation, and an overview of the financial situation of Nature Foundation over several years, noting:

- The better than budget financial result for the 2017-18 financial year;
- The improved position of reserves, members assets and between expenses and income;
- The support of members of the Finance Committee and staff;

Following questions from Members and responses from the Treasurer and further comment from the President, it was moved by Mr Nic Edwards and seconded Ms Angela Hazebroek "that the Financial Statements be accepted."

*Carried.*

## **6. Special Business**

### **Motion on Notice**

Proposed by Dr David Hansman, Seconded M Hansman:

"NFSA Councillors, other Office Holders and staff may not use official occasions of the Foundation including the Annual General Meeting to further their business interests or those of their families or associates."

In commenting on this motion, the CEO Mr Hugo Hopton advised that the Council was bound by and followed the conflict of interest provisions in the Constitution, and that he believed that any promotion of a private business would be addressed by such existing provisions.

In speaking to his motion, Dr David Hansman stated that the Foundation should have high ethical standards in all it does. He was aware that the Nature Foundation has a Constitution and extensive rules of governance, yet sometimes a problem can slip through.

Mr Nicholas Newland AM proposed that the motion be amended to add the words "... without the unanimous approval of Council". Dr Hansman did not agree with the amendment to the motion. The amendment lapsed for want of a seconder.

Following further discussion, the vote was put.

Returning Officer and Foundation Legal Adviser Megan Dyson advised, following the counting of votes (by a show of hands, slips and proxy forms) that the Motion was NOT Carried.

*Not carried*

## **7. Election of Council Members**

The President advised that there were four vacancies on the Council, two from existing Council members whose terms have expired (and are re nominating) and two from members who have resigned: Tony Sharley (resigned March 2018) and Prof Chris Daniels resigning at the 2018 AGM.

Members whose terms expire at this AGM, and who are seeking re-election with the support of Council:

Ms Susie Herzberg OAM	Nominated Philip Weinstein, Seconded Jan Ferguson OAM
Ms Millie Nicholls	Nominated Douglas Ransom, Seconded Jan Ferguson OAM

Members who have been nominated in accordance with clause 12.4.1 of the Constitution:

Ms Angela Hazebroek	Nominated Jan Ferguson OAM, Seconded Millie Nicholls
Mr Mervyn Lewis	Nominated Graeme Tonkin, Seconded Greg Bannon

The President advised that in line with the Constitution s. 12.4.3 and as there are the same number of nominations as there are vacancies, no election would be necessary. He declared each of those persons nominated to be elected to the position of Council Member.

The President introduced the newly elected members to those present and asked the meeting to congratulate the elected Council Members.

The President advised that the following persons will continue to serve on Council:

Mr Nic Edwards  
 Ms Jan Ferguson OAM  
 Mr Bob Lott  
 Mr Doug Ransom  
 Mr Chris Reed  
 Ms Suzanne Ridding  
 Prof Phil Weinstein

The President acknowledged the significant contribution of retiring Council Member Professor Chris Daniels as a former Vice President and as Chair of the Science Committee.

## **9. Recognition Awards: Certificate of Appreciation**

The President advised that Council had voted to award Certificates of Appreciation to the following people:

**Eugenie Law-Smith** for wise and influential guidance on behalf of the Law-Smith family in the management of the Para Woodlands restoration project. (Note Eugenie was an apology)  
**Rick Fisher** [on behalf of Sporting Shooters' Association of SA] for assistance in control of goats and other pest animals which cause incredible damage to native wildlife and destroy habitat.

**Graeme and Sally Tonkin** for their contributions on the Nature Foundation's Reserves in wildlife monitoring, tourism support and catering, property management and safety systems. (Note Graeme was an apology due to commitments interstate)

**Inara Powell** for support as a Rotational Manager for catering at Nature Foundation events, and in the development of the Nature Drives on Hiltaba and Witchelina.

**Subbu Conley** for contribution of outstanding photographs of wildlife on Nature Foundation reserves. Requests are often received to use his NFSA wildlife images in external publications.

**Rebecca Clark** for outstanding and consistent volunteering support at the office and events and supporting Nature Foundation in so many ways to Save Protect and Restore.

#### **10. Award of Medal for Academic Excellence from the Professor Mike Bull Research Fund for Emerging Young Nature Scientists**

The President reported on the sadness of Nature Foundation at the untimely death of a great friend and partner of Nature Foundation, Professor Mike Bull, whose research into lizard biology was of international renown. The President advised that Mike's family, colleagues and friends have banded together to ensure that his legacy —such as nature science and conservation of the Pygmy Bluetongue— can continue. They have established the Professor Mike Bull Research Fund for Emerging Young Nature Scientists.

Mrs June Bull, and Mike's son Mr Nick Bull together with the President awarded Ms Jess Clayton with the inaugural Mike Bull Fund Medal for Academic Excellence and a cheque to assist in future research. Nick spoke about his father's passion for research, researchers and seeing species such as the Pygmy Blue Tongue prosper. Ms Jess Clayton in response expressed her gratitude to all involved in awarding this medal and cheque.

#### **11. Other Business.**

As there was no other business, the President thanked members for their attendance.

#### **12. Resignation of President**

Members noted that on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018, the President (Mr Bob Lott) had announced his resignation from the position of President, effective from midnight following the 2018 AGM, and that Council has endorsed the President's recommendation to appoint Ms Jan Ferguson OAM to the Casual Vacancy of President until the 2019 AGM.

Ms Jan Ferguson acknowledged the work of Mr Bob Lott as President of Nature Foundation emphasising his significant contribution to the Nature Foundation, his business thinking and entrepreneurial approach and the support he had given to her.

Ms Ferguson presented Mr Lott with a framed photograph of the Willouran Range at Witchelina.

The meeting acknowledged the retiring President with acclamation.

**The Meeting was closed at 8.06 pm.**

**Susie Herzberg OAM  
Honorary Secretary NFSA Inc  
1 November 2018**

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Following the AGM, Council Member Prof Phil Weinstein introduced Bonnie Derne, Lucy Clive & Carmel Maher who have all received NFSA grants and then introduced Mr Alex Nankivell and Ms Jessica Clayton.

**Bonnie Derne, Lucy Clive & Carmel Maher, *Flinders University*** spoke to members of their research at Tiliqua—“Setting the course for pygmy bluetongue conservation: translocations and transcriptomics”

**Alex Nankivell**, NFSA Conservations Programs Manager presented briefly on the Raptor Research Project undertaken at Witchelina recently with assistance of donors to that project.

**Jessica Clayton**, Mike Bull Medal recipient presented on her work on the pygmy blue tongue lizard and past PhD research.

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### Attachment 1

#### 2018 AGM Attendance

Emily Bird	Jan Ferguson OAM	Robert King	Lange Powell
Carol Blessing	Georgie Fiedler	Greg Kirk	Douglas Ransom
Sally Boxall	Rick Fisher	Gretta Koch	Chris Reed
Trevor Brettig	Kerry Fisher	Mervyn Lewis	Maria Reed
June Bull	Christine Franklin	Jill Lewis	Joy Robins
Nick Bull	Mike Gardner	Bob Lott	Anita Robinson
John Carter	Clinton Garrett	Carmel Maher	Shirley Rowe
Mandy Carter	Tom Gray	Bronwyn Mart	Verity Sanders
Graham Chilman	David Hansman	John McEntee	Andrew Sih
Rebecca Clark	Bec Hardy	Patrick Mentzel	Melanie Sjoberg
Ann Clarke	Natasha Harper	Amanda Milne	Erinne Stirling
Wally Clarke	Colin Harris PSM	Bronte Moran	Baden Teague
Jessica Clayton	Alison Hastings	David Moyle AM	Kathy Teague
David Clegg	Angela Hazebroek	Alex Nankivell	Michael Tingay
Lucy Clive	Kaz Herbst	Caroline Nefiodovas	Sally Tonkin
Phil Cole	Zen Herzberg	Nicholas Newland AM	Bruce Trebilcock
Val Collins	Susie Herzberg OAM	Millie Nicholls	Bart van der Wel
Subbu Conley	Jennifer Hiscock	Robert Nicholson	Vilis Vasilerskis
Daniel Crathern	Allan Holmes	Graeme Oats	Don Vivian
Colleen Cross	Paul Hoopman	John Ovenden	Phil Weinstein
Mandy Culpepper	Hugo Hopton	Vivien Owen	Jo Whitelaw
Chris Daniels	Mark Hutchinson	Harry Owen	Trevor Whitelaw OAM
Bonnie Dern	Rhonda Hutchinson	Eric Payne	John Whitford
Megan Dyson	Amy Ide	Tony Pearce	Jan Whitford
Nicholas Edwards	Rob Inns	Dianne Pearce	Richard Williams
Tony Everett	Pat James	Emily Pennisi	Richard Willis
Nancy Fahey	Daniel Jarding	Katie Perry	Craig Wood
Chris Ferguson	Coral Johnston	Inara Powell	Jane Wright

#### Apologies

Deirdre Adamek	Jan Cotton	Christine Herapath	Suzanne Ridding
Marti Andrew	David Crawford	Diana Jeanes	Judith Rischbieth
Brenton Arnold	Nicole Crawford	Tony Judd	Vicki Shearer
Nanette Arnold	Di Davidson AM	Margaret Killick	Natalie Stalenberg
Sue Barker	Julie Doddridge	Eugenie Law-Smith	Graeme Tonkin
Frances Bedford MP JP	Minnie Dunlop	Margaret Lee	Fred van der Heiden
Melody Boxall	Keran Foale	Stephen Marlow	Petra van der Heiden
Brian Brock	Bronwyn Forward	Rob Marshall	Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP
Melanie Champion de Crespigny	Peter Forward	Adam Matthews	Ric Williams
Robert Champion de Crespigny AC	Athol Frances	Suzanne Matthews	Julie Wilson
Anne Clark	Vanessa Greenslade	Bruce Munro	Andrew Wilson AM
Peter Collins	Miriam Hansman	Judy Munro	Pamela Yule
Dene Cordes PSM OAM	Graham Henley	Geoff Pollard	

#### Members lodging their Proxy votes    key    \*\* vote remained with Proxy

Eliza Bagley	Dianne Gray	Graham McGowan	Anna Pannell
Kent Beard	Thomas A Gray	Bruce Muro	Betty Pederick
Anne Brown	William Hardy	Judy Munro	Margaret Piper
Kathleen Cain	Christine Herapath	Frank Nicholls	Suzanne Ridding
Alison Cleland	Bruce Herraman	Frank J Nicholls	Sally Tonkin **
Bruce Eastick	Zen Herzberg **	Kylie Nicholls	Graeme Tonkin
Gillian Flitcroft	Skip Lipman	Judy Obst	Marianne Young