

**THE STABLE FLY ACTION GROUP INC  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
23 September 2014**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT**

As per attendance register attached.

**APOLOGIES**

SFAG Members G & D Edgar, G Harley, V Beale, F Sibbel, P Dewar, A Stroud

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Confirmed.

**BUSINESS FROM MINUTES**

*Insurance –*

Secretary advised as follows :

“The Shire of Gingin is currently researching bulk Public Liability Insurance for community groups within the Shire to try to reduce costs.

The Shire has invited all community groups, including SFAG, to be part of this research, which is expected to take about 12 months.

SFAG has had further discussions with Shire Staff, and it is quite likely, due to the nature of SFAGs lobbying activities, our specific requirements will be different from other organizations and we may need to continue to insure independently.

It was suggested by Cr Kestel at last years AGM that SFAG approach Bendigo Bank for financial assistance with insurance. We recommend that this option be pursued this financial year.”

Meeting in favour.

*Shire of Victoria Plains inclusion in the SFMP –*

Chairman asked Dr McPharlin if the Shire of VP had applied to be included in the SFMP. Dr McPharlin responded that to the best of his knowledge, they had not.

**AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT**

Presented by Treasurer.

A typographical error was identified in the expenditure column which had escaped the notice of the Chairman, Treasurer and the Auditor, however the error did not alter the balance of the accounts, which was consistent with the bank statement.

Financial statement accepted as a true record. Copy attached.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Given by SFAG Chairman Bob Wilson. Copy attached.

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Conducted by S Camillo, Executive Manager Corporate Services, Shire of Gingin.

Nominations :

Chairman – B Wilson accepted nomination, elected unopposed

Deputy Chairman – B White accepted nomination, elected unopposed

Secretary/Treasurer – J Ottaway accepted nomination, elected unopposed

Committee :

A Sibbel, R Beale, S Pate, V Pate, P Jones, and J Longman elected in his absence.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Dr David Cook (UWA)

David gave comprehensive, informative report on the progress of the Stable Fly Research Project for the preceding 12 months. The project includes field and laboratory work on BioPrime and Digester trials, Mycoforce dikarya fungi investigations and trials, and the discovery of predatory beetles. A Masters student is assisting David with the research. Watering systems, particularly centre pivots, are also being investigated, and discussed with the vegetable industry, in collaboration with Dr McPharlin.

Dr Ian McPharlin (DAFWA)

Ian updated members on :

- Extension activities of the Stable Fly Research Project (three tiers of action, inform, communicate, prosecute)
- Stable fly signs have been erected
- Visits to growers continue
- Outcome of Regulatory Reference Group (RRG) SFMP review meeting (some shires have withdrawn and others have applied to be included, the word “eradication” has been removed from the Regulations, a representative of the livestock industry to be on the RRG, hay management to be further researched)
- New position, a Regulatory Co-ordinator, has been created at DAFWA, and will be advertised shortly
- Regulatory Co-ordinator will be responsible for compliance issues regarding sf breeding, including rpm transport and use

John Shannon, CEO VegetablesWA

John thanked the SFAG for the invitation to the AGM and to be a guest speaker.

- SF is the largest single funding issue for VWA
- VWA makes a substantial financial contribution to the Stable Fly Research Project, including an extra \$20,000 for walk through fly traps currently being trialled
- A concern for VWA is there is no contribution from the livestock industry, as livestock form part of the sf life cycle
- An agricultural engineer has been employed by VWA, working on new technology in farm machinery
- VWA is well aware of the vegetable industrys responsibility in managing sf breeding and is committed to practice change
- Vietnamese field officer is proving a great asset with communications
- VWA is not an enforcement agency and relies on DAFWA in this regard
- VWA will continue to collaborate with SFAG and DAFWA in minimizing the impacts of stable flies on livestock and the community

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

R Beale presented the following Notice of Motion :

*“That the Stable Fly Action Group make formal representation to the State Statutory body/dept responsible for the control and logging of the transport of waste to have the transport of prohibited substances, eg poultry manure (raw or treated) and such other forms of waste which may be used as fertilizer as per the BAM Act included as waste required to be reported and logged appropriately to enable unquestionable tracking of the supplier, the carter and the recipient whether it is being delivered to an area where that substance is prohibited or not approved or to an area not designated or prohibited by the BAM Act.”*

Motion seconded by M Greville.

Discussion ensued, including offer of assistance from Hon S Love, Member for Moore.

*Members voted. Motion carried.*

B McCarthy reported experiencing the worst sf season he had ever experienced, and asked Dr McPharlin how many people have been prosecuted under the BAM Act to date.

Dr McPharlin responded that :

- Reports to DAFWA have dropped from 1650 in 2013 to 122 this year, which indicated a dramatic reduction in sf infestations
- Two people have received warning notices

A number of attendees expressed concern that people had stopped reporting sf infestations as they had received no feedback and felt nothing was being done about their problem.

### **CLOSE**

Chairman Bob Wilson thanked guest speakers and members for attending the AGM, and announced that fees will remain at \$15 per person, \$30 per couple for the 2014/15 financial year.

Secretary thanked members for their longstanding support for the work of the SFAG, and reminded the meeting that membership fees were now due.

Meeting closed at 10 pm.

### **SUPPER**

Supper and informal discussions took place after the meeting.