



THE STABLE FLY ACTION GROUP INC
MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 20 September 2016

PRESENT

33 attendees as per attendance list, including Shane Love, Member for Moore.

APOLOGIES

D Bennit (WA Horse Council); Hon D Nalder, Minister for Agriculture; M Aldridge MLA; G Izett, Bugs4Bugs; B Milne, City of Swan; and SFAG Members R Cooper, G & D Edgar, S Farmer, W West, M Nixon, P Dewar, L Fullarton, P Murphy, S Grant, H Leach, B Leeson, T Coussens

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AGM 2015

Copies available to meeting.

Confirmed by G McAlpine, 2nd B White

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

Copies available to meeting.

Moved correct by B White, 2nd P Jones. Accepted.

Treasurer thanked Shire of Gingin for their support with PL Insurance.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Presented by Chairman Bob Wilson. Copy attached.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Conducted by Shire President Cr David Roe.

Chairman – B Wilson accepted nomination, elected unopposed

Deputy Chairman – A Sibbel accepted nomination, elected unopposed

Secretary/Treasurer – J Ottaway accepted nomination for one more year only, elected unopposed

Committee :

B White, P Jones, G McAlpine, M Carlton, and J Longman elected in his absence.

Chairman Bob Wilson advised the meeting that new Committee members are always welcome.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Secretary advised she had spoken to R Kestel about support for insurance premiums from Bendigo Bank should the Shire of Gingin decide not to provide insurance support for community groups in the future.

R Kestel had advised SFAG can apply to the Bank via its usual community support programme.

Secretary congratulated Sam Camillo (Shire of Gingin) on the Shire's latest stable fly brochure *Stable Fly Management in the Shire of Gingin* which was sent to all residents and ratepayers with their 2016/17 firebreak notice. S Camillo agreed to make the brochure available to the City of Swan and other Shires and Cities covered by the SFMP.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Kevin Chennell, Executive Director Biosecurity & Regulation, DAFWA

Kevin spoke firstly on DAFWA Biosecurity policy and how DAFWA protects the state of Western Australia against invasive species, and secondly on DAFWA's strategy for stable fly management and control in the Shires covered by the SFMP.

He then took questions from the floor.

As a result of input from the meeting, he undertook to :

- Provide a full time DAFWA inspector for three years, starting this year. The inspector will work with local government and be responsible for all participating Shires
- City of Swan is included in the participating Shires
- Target hotspots (these are known to DAFWA)
- Warn known recalcitrant offenders in advance, advising them of DAFWA's stable fly strategy and the process leading to prosecution
- Recover costs from offenders after the second visit if necessary

Paul Cassidy, Compliance Officer, DAFWA

Paul explained the legal process required to take a case to prosecution, emphasising the difficulties faced with the burden of proof.

Don Telfer, DAFWA

Don spoke on work being done in the field with entomologist Dr David Cook. He also encouraged livestock producers to be part of the solution by drenching livestock with Ivomectin products on a regular basis, and spraying cattle in confined localities such as feedlots to reduce stable fly numbers.

Treated or semi composted manures need to be compliant with DAFWA's 'approved process' under the SFMP.

The next Regulatory Reference Group meeting will be at DAFWA on 27 September to review the SFMP.

Dr David Cook, Entomologist, DAFWA

David gave presentation and update on the current stable fly research project funded by DAFWA, participating Shires and the vegetable industry.

Trials include compaction of soil, mouldboard ploughing to a depth of 45cm, both of which were promising, and spalangia wasps in cattle feedlots. Further trials will be carried out this season.

As a result of questions from the floor, David commented that spraying cattle for stable fly control could only be used in confined locations such as feedlots, had very short term effectiveness, and there were very few suitable chemicals available.

He agreed the most effective solution is still to treat the problem at its breeding source.

He has produced a booklet (Title to be provided) which he will make available to participating Shires and the SFAG website.

Sam Camillo, Shire of Gingin

Sam spoke on the Shire of Gingin's stable fly strategy for the coming season. The Shire will

- Be the eyes and ears for DAFWA
- Provide groundstaff
- Maintain a list of hotspots
- Two more inspectors have been trained, making a total of 5
- Central Reporting System notifications go firstly to DAFWA, who pass them on to the Shire of Gingin
- Shire of Gingin will respond within 24 hours to those reports received from DAFWA
- Continue a system of cold calling and warnings
- Have a greater presence, and continue to work with the community

Good feedback had been received from the community regarding the latest issue of the Shire's stable fly brochure.

CLOSE & SUPPER

Chairman Bob Wilson thanked all guest speakers for their valuable contribution, and thanked those present for their attendance. Special thanks were extended to Member for Moore, Shane Love, for his support of SFAG.

Meeting closed at 10.05 pm. Supper and informal discussions took place after the meeting.

