

Minutes:

LakesWater Quality Society: Annual General Meeting: 2021

AGM MINUTES - LAKES WATER QUALITY SOCIETY INC.

4.00 pm – 3 March 2022
Hybrid Meeting due to Covid

PRESENT AT THE MILLENNIUM HOTEL:

John Gifford, Marcel van Leeuwen, Don Atkinson, Elizabeth Miller, Helen Creagh, Dr Ken Kennedy, Colin Jackson, Grant Wallace, Helen Wallace, Mary Stanton, Jim Stanton, Fisher Wang, Mark Gould, Andy Bruere, Doug Leeder, Margriet Theron, Louw van Wyk, Reina Engelen, Steve Chadwick, Fisher Wang, Diane Atkinson, Deniz Ozkundakci,,

PRESENT ONLINE (Via Zoom)

Stuart Corson, Mark Oliver Rowland Burdon, Mary Burdon, Kevin Winters Geoff Rice Ian McLean Troy Baisden, Dave Wilson, Tania Tapsell, David Hamilton, Stewart Edward, Dave Donaldson, Todd McClay, Desirae Kirby,

APOLOGIES:

Robyn Bridgman Bob Armstrong, Cynthia Armstrong, Craig Street, Nick Miller, Richard Amery, Christine Amery, Cr Lyall Thurston, Lesley Fitness, Hilary Prior, Warren Webber, Grant and Jill Cossey

Apologies moved and accepted Carried

John Gifford gave an outline of the rules for the meeting

- Meeting rules
- Covid
- Addressing the meeting – keep things brief

KARAKIA

- Ken Kennedy opened the meeting with a welcome and karakia.
- Acknowledgement of Steve Chadwick: her worship the Mayor of Rotorua
- Acknowledgement to Deniz Ozkundakci: Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chair in Lake and Freshwater Research.

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

- John Gifford welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 60th AGM – Which indicates just how enduring the Society has been over the years and acknowledged all the work that has been done over that time.

- John showed some recent images – demonstrating the weed harvesting at the lake front (Lake Rotorua) – we are investing a lot of money, but we still have a lot of work to do.
- Picture of an algae bloom on the edge of Lake Rotorua. – issues in the localised parts of the lake
- Cyanobacteria monitoring results – the increase of the level of red in some of the Rotorua Lakes indicating the increased presence of cyanobacteria blooms.
- Questioning what strategies need to be in place to minimise such events in the future.
- Acknowledgement of key people Steve Chadwick, Doug Leeder, Dave Donaldson, Kevin Winters, Deniz Ozkundakci, Ian McClean,
- Acknowledge committee members affected by covid – best wishes to those impacted by Covid.
- Presentation of agenda

MINUTES

- These were circulated before the meeting and presented on the LWQS website.
- They were accepted as presented.

Moved Don Atkinson, Seconded Marcel van Leeuwen, carried.

MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Chair presented his second annual report and the 60th annual report of the Society.
- Report was circulated ahead of the meeting and was available on the Society's website
- Key points covered:
 - Achievements of the Society
 - Reflection of the Society's strategic reset
 - An overview of the symposium and the main topics to be included in the event.
 - Overview of the current condition of the Lakes from a water quality and ecosystem health perspectives.
 - Acknowledgement of the contribution of the committee for their support.
 - Thanked the supporting organisations including as the Rotorua Lakes Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Lakes Community Board, Science Institutions
 - Thanked past committee members.

Steve Chadwick (Mayor of Rotorua)

- Find a place for the LWQS and a review of the Terms of Reference for the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group– would like to hear back from us on this.
- Response to Lakeweed – over reaction to a catastrophic incident – moving of the Weed harvester is a complex job – so it was good to be able to have it operating at the Lake front (Lake Rotorua) at relatively short notice after Cyclone Dovi.
- Lake Rotorua – higher priority.
- Welcome to the Lakes Chair, Assoc Prof Deniz Ozkundakci.
- Taken out 1000m³ of weed – big incursion and how do we manage these catastrophic events.
- Need the LWQS society - need to keep things moving and to maintain their advocacy role.

Moved that his report be accepted John Gifford – Seconded Colin Jackson
Carried

FINANCES

- The Financial Report was handed out at the meeting – this was for the year ended 30 September 2021.

- Change in reporting structure and need to meet Tier 4 report to the Charities Services.
- Total income for the year was \$12,917
- Total Expenditure \$11,968
- Surplus (Deficit) for the year \$949

Current sum in back accounts \$107,460

Moved that the Finances be accepted Marcel van Leeuwen– Seconded, Ken Kennedy:
Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman – Don Atkinson took over the Chair role- John Gifford was elected as Society Chair
The following members were elected to the committee.

Secretary – Lesley Fitness

Treasurer – Marcel van Leeuwen

Committee – Stewart Edward, Stuart Corson, Ken Kennedy, Mark Oliver, Craig Street, Reina Engelen, Richard Lang.

Reina briefly introduced herself to the meeting. Will be representing the Lake Rotoiti community.

Richard Lang is the new representative for Lake Okareka.

Moved that the Committee is confirmed. John Gifford– Seconded Eliz Miller.

CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:

Changes to Clause 20

From:

- **20. AUDIT**

The Executive Committee shall prior to the Annual Meeting of the Society in each year have the books and accounts of the Society duly audited by one or more suitable persons appointed for that purpose, and the report of the auditor shall be attached to the Annual Report and shall be presented to the Annual Meeting of the Society.

To:

- **20. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Executive Committee shall prior to the annual meeting of the Society in each year have the books and accounts of the Society prepared under the Reporting Standards required by Charities Services without an audit or review unless required for funding purposes. These reports are prepared by an independent Chartered Accountant

Moved: John Gifford Seconded: Don Atkinson Carried:

Changes to Clause 14

From:

- **MEETINGS**

Society Meetings

At the Annual Meeting of the Society to be held not later than 15th February of each year, the following business shall be transacted:

To:

- **MEETINGS**

Society Meetings

the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held not later than 31st of March of each year:

Moved: John Gifford
Carried

Seconded

Margaret Theron

GENERAL BUSINESS

Presentation to Don Atkinson as a retiring member from the Committee

- Presentation to Don
- Don was recognised as a life member of the Society.
- Don presented to the Meeting:
 - Been a strong passion of his over the years.
 - Arrived in Okawa Bay in 1999.
 - Wanted to respond to the blooms in the Lake.
 - Thanked Ian McClean for his foresight and input into the LWQS
 - Great working relationships with Regional Council and RLC.
 - Frank discussion has been important.
 - Allowed the society to bloom.
 - Has assisted in improving the lakes.
 - Pleased that Diane was recognised.
- Comments from Guests:
- Steve Chadwick
 - Enjoy working with the LWQS.
 - Thanked Don for all his input.
 - Need to come out in a boat and see what is happening in the Lake.
 - Emphasised that the Society needs to keep up the good work.
 - Role of community groups is important.
 - Need to keep trying.
 - Mihi to Ian McClean – barded into office and made progress.
 - \$273 million into the lakes.
 - And we are still not there.
 - There will be system challenges.
- Doug Leeder
 - Acknowledgment to Ken, Steve
 - LWQS does a great job.
 - Ian McClean has a good track record.
 - We have achieved what we have because of the Society.
- Helen Creagh

- PC 10
- Science review
- Sees issues around the lakes.
- Acknowledged the Lake weed issue and algae blooms.
- Focused on implementing the programme.
- In 60 years hopefully will see some changes.
- Big changes in the land use
- 230 ha in the Lake Okareka catchment has undergone land use change.
- Lake Rotorua is a real challenge.
- Changes on the land will hopefully improve the outcome for the Lakes.
- Todd McClay
 - Highlight the role of technology.
 - Acknowledge to the LWQS and getting to hold the AGM.
 - Highlighted the enjoyment the lakes provide to the Rotorua Community.
 - Good progress being made.
 - Focus on solutions.
 - Keep up all the good work.
 - Acknowledgement of Don
 - Acknowledgement of Ian McLean
 - Acknowledgement of Steve Chadwick
- Colin Jackson
 - Update on the Wallaby control programme
 - John Gifford responded and provided an update on the Dama Wallaby Community Coordination Group.
 - Wallabies need to be controlled.
 - The strategy is centred around the Containment approach.
 - Updated on the installation of the wallaby fences – north and south.
 - Establishment of baiting
 - The strategy is around containment – the challenge open to the community is addressing if containment is going to be enough.
 - Doug – The funding regime was through the Job for Nature. Current estimate is that there are at least 1 million – ultimate aim should be eradication.
- Kevin Winters
 - Wallaby programme \$27 million nationwide. Surveillance, finding populations in areas where we thought they weren't
 - Wallabies are a real pest.
 - Lake Okataina – there is real problem.
 - The use of the lakes over the summer. Harbour Master report – 40% increase in the patrol and monitoring of the lakes
 - Regional Council is increasing the level of surveillance of the Lake.
- Ian McLean
 - Acknowledgement to Don
 - Stirred up the Lakes Weed Committee
 - Acknowledgement of Steve
 - Welcome to Deniz
 - Proposition and a question
 - Started to get involved 20 years ago.
 - Did not know what is happening in the lakes – e.g., algae blooms the TLIs are not dropping, and global warming may be a new influencing factor
 - What is the pathway ahead?
 - PC 10 may have an effect. But there are 10 other lakes.
 - The pathway ahead
 - Suggest – review of the pathway and involved Deniz and David Hamilton and others.
 - Emphasised the need to look ahead for 10 years.
- John Gifford

- Society is taking a long-term view – still see a lot of challenges.
- Will TLI be sufficient.
- What other parameters should we be using.
- Need to consider catchments.
- All lake issues can start with the catchments.
- Ultimately need to look in this area.
- Scope to work collaboratively and beneficial to continue the journey around catchment management – critical pathway.
- Troy Baisden
 - Ian asked the right question.
 - We have worked on this.
 - Did not review the catchment issues.
 - Happy to help people to work on issues.
 - Understand the use of alum.
 - Look at land and water issues.
 - Get in touch.
 - Acknowledgement of Deniz Ozkundakci.
- Don Atkinson
 - Issues with algae in Lake Rotoiti
 - Alarm bells went up – people played in the toxic zone over the summer period.
 - The bay should have been dosed with Alum.
 - Concern about orange status and the impacts that this has on using Okawa Bay
 - The role of forest harvesting
- David Hamilton
 - Emerged from the flood waters.
 - The deluge was a significant event in Queensland – emerged from a 1 meter of rainfall.
 - Deniz is aware of some of these issues.
 - Lending support to Deniz
 - Deniz has a big job ahead of him.
 - Acknowledgement of Don and work he has done.
- Ian McLean
 - Need to act.
 - Move a motion invite LWQS committee to review the programme for all the Lakes with a forward-looking view over the next 10 years.
 - Steve – need to review the term of reference for the Strategy Group - -have not revisited the terms of reference need to do more than just talk to the programme.
 - Don – two issues
 - Review of the work that is required and Terms of Reference for the Strategy Group
- Motions:
 - Review – undertake a review of the programme and science – Moved John Gifford, Seconded Marcel van Leeuwen, Carried
 - Recommendation sent to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group that the Terms of Reference be formally reviewed as it was a long time ago that this group was established and it was in the context of the settlement related to the management of the lake beds Moved John Gifford, Seconded Reina Engelen Carried.
- Mary Stanton
 - Concerned about lake weed. The weed is causing odour issues.
 - Algae blooms – alum dosing we are getting there but it is slow.
 - Concern about forestry and climate change
 - Concern about pollen
 - Loss of the white-bait resource in the Ohau Channel and no more koura
 - Problem with the catfish
 - Deteriorating water quality in the channel

○

Deniz Ozkundakci – Guest speaker

John Gifford – wrap up.

- Thanked Deniz Ozkundakci.
- Can we be sure that the current actions will ensure the long-term sustainability of the lakes.
- Thanked the meeting participants.
- 25 people online and 20 in the room – had our normal number – much appreciate peoples participation.
- Acknowledgement to Steve – always had an open door – always get a good hearing
- Sign the register.
- Thank you to the AV team – loss of connection to the slides
- Our work is not done.
- Requires perseverance.
- Science is an important component – appreciate the links to the science community.
- Feedback on the hybrid meeting format.

Ken closed the meeting and blessed the kai

Meeting was closed at 6.10 pm

Signed by Chair (John Gifford):

Date: