



NEW ZEALAND GRASSLAND ASSOCIATION Inc

Minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting held in the Castle 2 Lecture theatre, Otago University, on Tuesday 14 November 2006, starting at 5:35 pm.

Present

Warwick Catto (President)
Anders Crofoot
Pat Garden
Greg Lambert
Jeff Morton

John Caradus (Vice President)
Alison Popay (editor)
Ants Roberts (Chair, Audit Committee)
David Shepherd (Chair, LOC)
Bruce Thorrold

And 27 members of the Association.

In Attendance Ross White, Executive Secretary,

Apologies

Apologies were received from Donn Armstrong, Derek Charlton (lateness), Jim Crush, Nelson Cullen, Ross Duder, Gavin Sheath and Derek Woodfield.

Moved: that the apologies should be accepted

Lambert/Stewart - **Carried**

Minutes of the last AGM

Moved that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on October 12 2005 having been circulated be taken as read and accepted as a true and correct record.

Carradus/Thorrold- **Carried**

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

President's Annual Report

Warwick Catto welcomed members and life members, and spoke to his annual report, which was tabled.

Appointing a permanent full-time secretariat has led to improvement in administration. It has also enabled the Association to broaden the income base – NZGA administered the highly successful APBC conference, for example.

The creation of an Audit Committee has increased transparency and provided prudential oversight. The previous year's deficit has been turned into a modest surplus

He noted that the 2005 conference was extremely successful in terms of attendance and financial management and congratulated Louis Kuriger and the 2005 LOC.

He acknowledged the support given to him by Ballance Agri-Nutrients Ltd and by his wife over the 16 years he had been involved with NZGA. He also noted the support of sponsors, employers and families of all executive members, and paid tribute to the efforts of retiring members Jeff Morton and Ian Valentine.

He concluded by thanking the current executive for its contribution and support, and thanked AgResearch for its continuing support.

Moved: that the President's report be adopted

Catto/Caradus – **carried with acclamation**

Finance report

Ants Roberts spoke to the finance report which had been tabled. The audited results showed an after-tax surplus of \$2,852 compared with a deficit of \$24,344 the previous year.

The year had been notable for the resolution of a number of legacy issues, and the appointment of independent auditors means that members can be assured that effective systems are in place.

Moved: that the Financial Report be received and the Annual Accounts be adopted

Roberts/Carradus – **Carried**

Notices of motion:

MOVED: That the Rules of the Association be amended by:

- 1) Amending rule 4(a) by deleting the words "(1 April)"
- 2) Amending rule 17 by inserting the following paragraph:
"The financial year shall end on 31 July each year."

Catto/Thorrold - **Carried**

MOVED: That the rules of the Association be amended by inserting in rule 10 the following clause:

5. The executive shall have the power to co-opt one additional member for a period of one year.

Moot/Garden - **Carried**

MOVED: That the rules of the Association be amended by deleting in rule 11 the words "by post", and by deleting in rule 12c the words "in writing".

Crofoot/Sutcliffe - **Carried**

Appointment of Auditor

MOVED: That Clarke Crow of Dunedin be appointed auditors

Caradus/Crofoot – **Carried**

Election of officers

Warwick vacated the chair in favour of the Returning Officer, Ross White.

The Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of President for the 2006/7 year. There being no other nominations, John Caradus (Catto/Charlton) was duly elected with acclaim.

The Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of Vice-President for the 2006/7 year. There being no other nominations, Pat Garden (Caradus/Thorrold) was duly elected with acclaim.

The Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of Executive Member as a result of Bruce Thorrold's retirement by rotation. There being no other nominations, Bruce Thorrold (Garden/Lambert) was duly re-elected with acclaim.

The Returning Officer called for nominations for the position of Executive Member as a result of Warwick Catto's retirement. There being no other nominations, Jacqueline Rowarth (Caradus/Roberts) was duly elected with acclaim.

The Returning Officer vacated the chair in favour of John Caradus.

Grassland Trust Report

Brian Guy gave a report on behalf of the Trust. He noted that the report was contained in the Proceedings of the current conference, but that the significant awards were:

Levy Student Scholarships	Nicola Bradstreet (Massey) Alice Allsop (Lincoln)
Farming Awards	Kevin & Jackie Honeyfield (New Plymouth)
Grassland Regional Award	John Young, Taranaki
Ray Brougham Trophy	Mark Ulyatt (Tauranga)

He reported that Deric Charlton had retired as a Trustee.

The Trust and NZGA had jointly funded a new edition of Pasture & Forage Plants of NZ, which was available at the conference.

The Trust continued to manage its funds wisely, with capital being reinvested and some income used for the purposes of the Trust. The Trust was seeking a closer relationship with NZGA in the future.

Conference 2007

Ants Roberts introduced Mark Cunningham, Chair of the Taupo LOC. Mark said he had assembled a committee and that the 200y conference will be held in mid-November at Wairakei. John invited delegates to re-assemble then.

Conference 2008

The 2007 conference will be held in Blenheim.

Conference 2009

To be decided – possibly Northland or Gisborne.

Conference 2010

The 2010 conference will be held in Christchurch in association with the Agronomy societies of Australia and New Zealand.

General Business

Martin Hawke asked if there was any news of the IGC/IRC conference in 2008. John noted that Gavin Sheath was in China during the conference and would report on progress.

John Caradus spoke of Warwick Catto's service the Association over a number of years and thanked him on members' behalves.

There being no further general business, John Caradus thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 6.22 pm.