



Members of New Zealand Association of Resource Management Inc

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Association of Resource Management held in the Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Waitangi, Bay of Islands on Wednesday 4 November 2009, commencing at 5.30pm.

Present: 25 NZARM Members.

Apologies: Lachlan Grant, Judy Lawrence, Judith Earl-Goulet, Alec Mackay, Ron Sutherland, Paul Smith, Mel Whiting, Julie Hagenson, Sarah Ries, Kevin Cash, Alan Campbell and Brian Handyside.

Bala Tikkisetty **moved** that the apologies be accepted, **seconded** Norm Ngapo, carried.

1 Confirmation of Minutes for 2008

Simon Stokes **moved** that the New Zealand Association of Resource Management take as read and receives the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the NZ Association of Resource Management Inc held in the Rutherford Hotel, Nelson on Monday 13 October 2008 commencing 5.05pm.

There being no comments, **seconded** Chris Phillips, carried.

2 President's Annual Report

Simon Stokes **moved** that his Presidents Annual Report be received and read his report (full report is in the 2009 NZARM AGM Agenda).

Presidents Report highlights:

1. The successful conference with Grasslands, thanks are extended to the New Zealand Grasslands Association Northland organising committee, particularly Laurie Copeland and Helen Moodie, and to Northland Regional Council, particularly Bob Cathcart and staff who have put this year's conference together.
2. Thanks to the new secretariat Groundworks and the higher level of professional accounting.
3. Thanks to Ross Abercrombie and John Whale for their management of the treasury and secretary portfolios.
4. The two McCaskill awards given in 2009; Clare Feeney and Matthew Taylor.
5. Efforts to resolve the CPRM situation.
6. The production and distribution of the Land Use Capability Handbook (3rd edition) to members and the awareness workshops around New Zealand,
7. Thanks to new Broadsheet Editor Tony Faulkner.
8. NZARM have a modern, colourful brochure which is more readable and presentable thanks to Julia Crossman and Barbara Stuart.
9. Thanks to Chris Phillips and Landcare Research who continue to host our website for nominal rates.
10. Thanks to the executive team for all their efforts and continued support over the last year.

Bala TikkiSETTY thanked Simon for his work as President of NZARM.

Clare Feeney thanked the Executive for her McCaskill Award.

Bala TikkiSETTY thanked the Executive on behalf of Matthew Taylor for the McCaskill Award and noted that Matthews's research into aluminum in soils is a world first.

There being no further matters arising, **seconded** Norm Ngapo, carried.

3 Treasurer's Annual Report

Ross Abercrombie **moved** that his Treasurers Annual Report for the 2009 financial year be received and read his report (full report is in the 2009 NZARM AGM Agenda).

Treasurers Report highlights:

1. Successful transition to Groundworks, NZARM's new secretariat; use of budget and accounting software
2. Income for the year was \$23,303; of which membership fees totaled \$11,740, term deposits was \$5,334 and Nelson conference was \$6,229.
3. Expenditure totaled \$23,946 with notable spending going on the 2008 Nelson NZARM Conference and two regional events around the country. The running costs of the Executive and Broadsheet are slightly up on past year.
4. Currently 239 NZARM members.
5. There has been a recent clean up of late annual fees payments. Non-financial members will now be dealt with individually in accordance with our constitution. New revisions of the constitution are to be discussed in this AGM to tidy up how we deal with late payments and membership fees.

Bala Tikkisetty asked why there was no income from the Northland conference. Ross explained that while NZARM had sponsored the pre dinner drinks it had no other costs as Grasslands had taken on the liabilities and therefore were entitled to any returns. Usually NZARM got about \$5,000 from conferences however this depends on whether members run the conference or whether professionals are involved and what sponsorship can be arranged.

Peter Manson asked for an explanation of the costs for Groundworks. Ross explained that the setup costs for having a professional secretariat were about \$7,000 however this is a one off and annual costs are now expected to be between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Julia Crossman and Simon Stokes thanked Ross for his work setting up the new financial accounting and reporting systems with Groundworks.

There being no further matters arising, **seconded** Simon Stoke, carried.

4 National Regional Coordinators Report

Shelley Washington **moved** that her National Regional Coordinators Report be received and taken as read (full report is in the 2009 NZARM AGM Agenda).

National Regional Coordinators highlights:

1. Thanks to all the regional coordinators for their efforts this year; sought, collated and written articles for Broadsheet, updated membership information for their regions and promoted membership.
2. The event 'Soil Conservation – Taupo Revisited' was held during the weekend of 21-23 November 2008. Thanks to Ian Cairns who with NZARM support played a key role in organising the celebration of 40 years of soil conservation in the Rotorua/Taupo area.

There being no matters arising, **seconded** Norm Ngapo, carried.

5 Auditors Report/Election of Auditor

Ross Abercrombie tabled three documents from Mark Campbell, Chartered Accountant of Campbell & Campbell Accounting Consultants of Hamilton:

1. A Review of the financial statements of NZARM for the year ended 2006.
2. A Review of the financial statements of NZARM for the year ended 2007.
3. An Audit Report of the financial statements of NZARM for the year ended 2008.

Ross Abercrombie **moved** that the three reports be received and be made available to NZARM Members as attachments to the NZARM AGM 2009 Minutes on the NZARM Website www.nzarm.co.nz.

There being no matters arising **seconded** John Whale, carried.

Ross then noted Clause 14.4 of the NZARM Constitution states *“An auditor must be elected by members at each Annual General Meeting, for the following year”*.

Ross Abercrombie **moved** that the auditor of the financial statements of NZARM for the year ended 2009 be Mark Campbell, Chartered Accountant of Campbell & Campbell Accounting Consultants of Hamilton. **Seconded** Simon Stokes, carried.

6 Notice of Motion

John Whale introduced the Notice of Motion that had been previously circulated with the AGM Agenda as required by the NZARM Constitution.

Essentially the change to Clause 15.3 is to clarify the date by which a member is obliged to pay their NZARM membership fee.

The change to Clause 15.6 is to remove the need for non-financial members to pay previous years fee arrears because:

1. **The equity issue**; under Clause 15.4 a non-financial member would not be entitled any of the member privileges described in Clause 8 yet the association is seeking to make members pay later for something they would not have received.

2. **Unforeseen circumstance**; the member may be non-financial due to circumstances beyond their control such as illness, administration error etc., and
3. **Impediment to member retention**; faced with the requirement to pay arrears a non-financial member may opt to resign, and
4. **Executive Decision**; if the Executive Committee decides to terminate a membership under Clause 11.2 of the NZARM Constitution, then that should be the end of any fee payment liability against an ex-member.

There being no further discussion, Simon Stokes **moved** that the New Zealand Association of Resource Management **adopts** the Notice of Motion attached to the AGM Agenda and **confirms** the changes to Clauses 15.3 and 15.6 of the New Zealand Association of Resource Management Constitution as recommended in that Notice of Motion, being that:

Clause 15.3 is changed to read:

'The annual fee is payable from 1 April of each year and must be paid by 30 September of that year.'

And Clause 15.6 is changed to read:

'Where any member is more than two consecutive years in arrears in respect of annual fees, and has been notified twice to that effect, the member may cease to be a member of the Association in accordance with Clause 11.2. Termination of membership under this clause is not any bar to that person or corporation reapplying for membership.'

seconded Norm Ngapo.

Simon Stokes called for a show of hands in favour of the motion and called on Peter Manson and Malcolm Todd to confirm the count. The motion was carried by a unanimous show of hands in favour.

7 NZARM Annual Fees

John Whale spoke to the tabled recommendation NZARM Annual Fees and noted that Clause 15.2 of the NZARM Constitution says that every member must pay an annual membership fee and that the Association shall decide from time to time in an Annual General Meeting the annual fee for all classes of members. Clause 15.3 (as amended by the Notice of Motion) says that the annual fee is payable from 1 April of each year and must be paid by 30 September of that year.

John Whale **moved** that the New Zealand Association of Resource Management confirms that the Annual Membership Fee payable under Clause 15.3 of the NZARM Constitution for:

1. An ordinary member and a corporate member is \$70, payable on 1 April each year, and that the fee is discounted to \$50 if paid by 1 July each year,
2. A retired member is \$10 payable on 1 April each year,
3. An honorary member is no annual fee.

There being no further discussion, **Seconded** Peter Manson, carried.

8 General Business

8.1 NZARM Resource Management Certificate Discussion Document

John Whale introduced the NZARM Resource Management Certificate Discussion Document '**Background and Recommendations of the Meeting to consider NZARM Resource Management Certification**' that had recently been ratified by the NZARM Executive. The document had been released by the Executive for the information of members following research and recommendations of the subcommittee set up by the Executive to find a way forward on the matter of providing a professional certification for NZARM members.

The Executive have agreed that NZARM should have a professional certification and because the Certified Practising Resource Manager (CPRM) system is dysfunctional and no longer giving service or confidence, NZARM should go its own way.

The Executive charged the subcommittee to assess the Resource Management Certification (RMC) provision in Clause 10 of the NZARM Constitution and report on whether it can deliver the professional certification needed for NZARM members.

The discussion report from the subcommittee confirms that a Resource Management Certificate can be achieved using Clause 10 provisions and recommends that NZARM establish a Resource Management Certification Board to assess members and make recommendations the Executive for the issuing of Resource Management Certificates. It is proposed that previously issued CPRM certificates will be grandfathered into the new Resource Management Certificate system.

The discussion document is to be made available on the NZARM Website www.nzarm.co.nz and the Executive welcomes feedback on it from members.

Bob Cathcart noted that there have been discussions around setting up one overall certification for all primary industry practitioners.

Don Sherman asked that with 230 members how many would pick up on the proposed Resource Management Certificates and was it worth it. John Whale replied that yes the numbers were not high, currently only seven NZARM members have CPRM, however this was perhaps a case of the certification system not being promoted or seen as attainable or worthwhile. There is also the obligation in the NZARM Constitution to consider; section 10 of the constitution obliges the NZARM Executive to appoint a Resource Management Certification Board who in turn are obliged to set up a resource management certification system and the manage applications for the certificate.

Simon Stokes noted that organisations do place value on professional certifications and a well run system of certification would be a real benefit for members and may attract new ones. Some NZARM members have noted that they would only remain with NZARM while it has a viable certification system. Simon also noted that organisations like MAF were keen to see professional certifications made available and in the future there may be the opportunity to align the NZARM Resource Management Certification with NZQA.

8.2 NZARM Outstanding Contribution Award

Clare Feeney and Brian Handyside are this year's recipients of the NZARM Outstanding Contribution Award. Norm Ngapo outlined the background to the awards and said that the award can be conferred on any member of the Association in recognition of any special contribution to resource management in New Zealand. The contribution should be consistent with the objectives of the Association, and be of significance in that it promotes the philosophy, science or practice of resource management.

Unlike the Honorary Membership conferred on a member for significant service to NZARM, the Outstanding Contribution Award recognises the significance of a particular contribution that the recipient has made.

Norm said that The Outstanding Contribution Awards were presented in recognition of the development and delivery of the erosion and sediment control training programme for earthworks developed by the recipients in conjunction with the Auckland Regional Council.

Since 1995, Clare and Brian have trained hundreds of consultants, local and regional council staff, and earthworks contractors on how to plan and undertaken

earthworks operations while minimising the adverse effects on the environment. While Auckland has led the way, their training programme has had a flow-on effect that has resulted in a quantum leap in the standard of earthworks throughout the whole of New Zealand, leading to the reduction in the deposition of sediment from earthworks in our streams, estuaries and harbours.

Clare replied on behalf of herself and Brian who was unable to attend. She noted that while they accepted in terms of the training programme and its delivery, the content stemmed from the combined efforts of many in Auckland Regional Council who had the foresight to create the standards and methods set out in the ARC erosion and sediment control documents.

8.3 Honorary Member

Simon Stokes **moved** that Bob Cathcart be appointed an Honorary Member of NZARM for his dedicated service to the Association over the last 40 years.

Simon noted that Bob has given outstanding service to the philosophy, science and practice of resource management, particularly in Northland. Bob has been a mentor to many in soil conservation and resource management over the years and his appointment as an Honorary Member also recognises the legacy of keen people he has started off in the business.

Lee Whiley **seconded** the appointment and spoke in support of the motion which was carried unanimously.

Bob commented on his elevation to Honorary Member of NZARM and thanked Simon, Lee and the NZARM members.

AGM Closed: 6:40pm