



## **Mid Lachlan Landcare Annual General Meeting Minutes 2021**

**7 December 2021**

**Present:** Lawrence Balcomb, Scott Hickman, Andrew Wooldridge, Margie Crowther, Tracee Burke, Peter Davis, Anna Hickman, Marion Mitchell, Wendy Bowman, Sharon Lewis, Stephen Lewis, Shaley Allen, David Wrenford, Ruth Workman, Jayden Gunn, Karene Kiddle, David Marsh, Corey Tatz, Will Johnson, Rob Watt, Karen Rhodes, Ray Rhodes, Matt Pearce, Megan Rowlands, John Rowlands, Jono Saunders,

**Apologies:** Jan Diprose, Sue Johnston, Bron Newman, Andrew Naylor, Steph Cooke, Jane Atkinson, David Coote, Stuart Tait, Stuart McDonald, Erin wise, Phil Wise, Ash Wright, Wendy Friezer, Su Mackay,

Meeting commenced 5.10pm

### **Item 1 Minutes from 2020 AGM presented**

Accepted minutes from 2020

Moved Lawrence Balcomb seconded Andrew Wooldridge. Carried

### **Item 2 Treasurers report presented by Shaley Allen**

Financial report accepted

Moved Tracee Burke seconded Wendy Bowman. Carried

### **Item 3 Chairpersons Report presented by Lawrence Balcomb**

Firstly, I'd like to welcome everyone to the AGM tonight. It is very gratifying to see the numbers we have here. It was quite a surprise when Tracee told me the number of people who had sent in an RSVP. It is far cry from the AGMs held in the meeting rooms at Woolly's office in Cowra six or seven years ago.

This level of engagement makes me think we are on the right track. A lot of this can be put down to the solid governance structure underpinning Mid Lachlan Landcare. I'd like to thank the people who volunteer on our various boards. Your guidance and ideas are invaluable in keeping what we are doing relevant. It's that relevance that is spreading our sphere of influence ever wider.

I'd also like to thank all the support staff employed by MLL. It's your energy and drive that gets the punters in. It was hoped that 2021 would see a return to normality. COVID had other ideas so once again there were disruptions to aspects of their work. However, the lessons learned in 2020 allowed some work to continue on. Once there was the chance for group activities to recommence Tracee had the protocols in place to allow it to happen.

A very big thank you to Tracee. Adding COVID, Landcare NSW reporting, and sorting out our incorporation status to her already full timetable has been a monumental task. As always she does it with a smile on her face and a laugh.

This year for a change I actually had to do some work. Landcare NSW wanted to corporatize their governance structure. There was a wide-ranging review carried out followed by online consultation meetings. A proposal was put to all member groups last week at their AGM and it was passed unanimously.

On the ground there will be little change for MLL. The main reason for the change was to allow Landcare NSW to continue to be a conduit to disseminate funds from the state government to provide regional and local landcare support officers. At the regional level the loose affiliation of local chairpersons that was the Central Tablelands Landcare network will move to become an incorporated body and host the regional landcare coordinator position. One person will also be nominated to be the Central Tablelands representative at meetings of Landcare NSW.

To finish a short comment on the magnificent season we are continuing to enjoy. Good old Mother Nature can really turn it on when she wants to. If only she had a better sense of moderation. From heatwaves and fires in September of 2019 to floods and not a day above 30° in November 2021. If she stacks a third wet winter on the district Woolly will be able to recycle all his old dry land salinity presentations again.

Compliments of the season to everybody. I hope you get to have a break and to catch up with friends and family over the festive season.

See you in 2022.

#### **Item 4 Staff Reports**

See attached staff reports.

Growing the Grazing Revolution – Scott Hickman & Peter Davis

Soils for the Future – Lawrence Balcombe – First part of on farms completed. This project has been delayed due to COVID & now harvest.

Local Landcare Coordinator – Tracee Burke

#### **Item 5 Election of Office Bearers**

Lawrence Balcomb declared all positions vacant.

Motion moved to carry out elections as a block with all office bearers happy to continue in their roles for this year.

Moved Andrew Wooldridge seconded Scott Hickman. Carried.

All office bearers re-elected and accepted.

Chairperson: Lawrence Balcomb

Vice Chairperson: Margie Crowther

Treasurer: Shaley Allen

Secretary: Anna Hickman

Public Officer: Shaley Allen

### **General Business**

- Thanks to Tracee Burke for newsletter.
- Official welcome to Jayden who has moved back to Cowra and taken up a role with Birdlife Australia in the Birds on Farms project
- Wendy – questioned when welcome to country is appropriate and what it should look like for different situations. Draw up a policy after talking to relevant stakeholders (Isabelle Coe)
- We require another signatory to the account for making payments online. Shaley current signatory. Margie Crowther agreed to be additional signatory. Moved Lawrence Balcomb Seconded Wendy Bowman
- Wendy Bowman finishes her time with LLS board in 2023 and would be interested to do more with MLL after this time.

Meeting closed 5.40pm