

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION OF VIC. IN.
HELD AT V.F.G.A. 24 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.
MONDAY 7th APRIL, 1986.

Mr. J.A. Commins, President, M.C.A.V. was Chairman.

The Meeting opened at 10.10. a.m.

PRESENT: J.A. Commins, G. Stoney, J. Lovick, G. Connley, R. Brown, W. Cumming, C. Hodge, K. Heywood, L. McCready, H. Ryder, B. Fitzgerald, S. Silvers, B. Jamieson.

APOLOGIES were received from: W. Hicks, D. Kneebone and D. Rogers.

The Chairman opened the meeting with a report on a meeting held on 12th March 1986 with the Minister for Conservation Forests and Lands, Mrs. J. Kirner. He advised that the Minister wished to negotiate on the Park - however she stated that the Park was still to be contiguous, but that boundaries were negotiable.

The Cattlemens three alternatives are:

1. Oppose the extensions to the Park on the grounds that the Park is already large enough.
2. Consider the possibility of a State Park.
3. Redraw boundaries so that the Park is contiguous but no larger than at present.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Government intends to wipe wire netting boundary subsidies. This will affect members.

Associate members have expressed the desire to offer more input into Cattlemens problems. To be discussed later in the meeting.

The Chairman reported on his speaking to the Young Nationals at Harrierville on the 6th April 1986.

Mr. C. Hodge moved that the minutes from the last meeting be held over until the next meeting. Seconded G. Stoney. Carried.

Mr. G. Stoney moved that the Association endorse J.A. Commins' letter regarding having the Government maintain the subsidy on the netting boundary fences and copies be forwarded to the Minister for Conservation Forests and Lands, and Opposition spokesmen and the Press. Seconded L. McCready. Carried.

The meeting addressed the fees issue and the tendering system suggested by the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands. The Meeting was advised that all branches were against the tender system. The meeting drafted a document which set out the objections and the comments the Association had to the tendering system as a discussion paper for the Meeting with the members of the Department due later in the afternoon.

Mr. Bryan Jameson reported on the progress of the Book. He advised that the timing would be - book finished at the end of June 1986, and to be released at the Get Together in 1987. Mr. Jameson has been paid \$1,000 per month until January 1987. Mr. J.A. Commins and Mr. G. Stoney will see the finished document.

2.

The meeting was advised that the Association will receive 50/50 royalties with Mr. Jameson. There was some discussion on the thrust of the book and Mr. Stoney stressed the need for strong words on the background of the A.C.F. and its political affiliations.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding a discussion paper which provided an alternative to the Alpine National Park, by the creation of a multi-use park type concept. Members at the meeting voiced their concern regarding certain sections of this discussion paper and certain amendments were agreed to. The meeting agreed that the paper be presented to the V.S.A. and the Opposition on a strictly confidential basis and some input be sought. The paper would then be discussed by the Executive when amendments and further input had been completed. L. McCready moved that the discussion paper be taken forward for discussion with relevant parties. Seconded J. Lovick. Carried.

Mr. R. Brown reported to the Meeting that Thomas Cook Pty. Ltd. were marketing the Association windcheaters and shirts and were using the Association logo on a royalty basis of \$1.00 per unit. He reported cash in the Marketing Account as follows

Received from Omeo: \$730.00
 Received from Heyfield \$1,176.00
 Received from Catherine Station \$11,400
 Received from Dargo \$2,400.

He reported that Akubra Hats are interested in using the Association logo at \$1.00 per unit. As yet this matter has not been finalized.

Mr. C. Hodge moved that \$6,000 should be put on interest bearing deposit from the Marketing Account to leave \$1,000 in the cheque account. Seconded W. Cumming. Carried.

The Chairman introduced Mr. D. McKittrick, Deputy Director, State Forests and Lands Service, and Mr. Bob Smith, Director Mr. Tim Barker, V.F.G.A. also joined the meeting at this stage. After an extremely lengthy discussion between all parties and consideration of the Associations paper regarding objection to the tendering system, a modified system was proposed whereby Applications for runs would be considered on three points:

1. Criteria to be set out for people eligible to apply.
2. A system of evaluation of applications, and
3. an adjudicating process of three persons, to be decided.

A draft of this modified system to be provided by the Department for consideration by members.

After Messrs. Smith and McKittrick had left the meeting Mr. G. Stoney thanked Mr. Barker for his time and trouble over the issue and said that the Committee appreciated the work Mr. Barker had put into the resolving of this problem.

The Chairman then asked Mr. H. Ryder to report on the Get Together.

Mr. Ryder reported that the Association had made \$25,000.

3.

Mr. Ryder called upon Mr. Ken Heywood to report further. Mr. Heywood said that one of the problems the North East branch faced was that \$15 entrance fee to the Get Together appeared to be somewhat expensive, however after consideration it was decided that \$10 was the entrance fee, and that the extra \$5 would be considered as a donation. He pointed out that after all, the Association set out to make money out of this event. He also pointed out that handing the catering over to the local Lions Club had greatly reduced the problems. The Lions Club undertook the catering, the bar, and the soft drinks. The M.C.A.V. then agreed to take 10% of that profit. \$5,000 was made on the catering. He explained how the system for collecting at the gate worked, and noted that the gate was manned for most of the time during the weekend. The Chairman congratulated the branch for the splendid effort. Mr. G. Stoney moved that the North Eastern Branch be congratulated on the best ever Get Together, seconded G. Connley. Carried.

Mr. G. Stoney reported to the meeting on the new film Cool Change which depicted the Cattlemens struggle with the Conservation movement. He reported that 50 riders attended the premiere in Melbourne on Sunday 6th April 1986, and told the meeting some of the highlights of the premiere and the movie.

There was general discussion on the role the Associate members play in the Association, and the fact that their support is of great benefit. Some Associate members have felt that greater input by themselves would perhaps have some value.

Mr. C. Hodge moved that the Executive Committee invite 2 representatives from the Associates to attend meetings in the future. Seconded L. McCready. Carried.

Nominations for these 2 positions will be called for in the Newsletter to be circulated to all Associates and Members in late May or early June. Committee to then decide on the 2 representatives from the nominations received.

Mr. Stoney informed the Meeting that the 1987 Get Together was the responsibility of the Mansfield Branch. He stated that the Mansfield Branch had very few members, and such as they are, would be unable to cope with the enormous task of putting the Get Together on. He asked the Meeting to consider whether it would agree to allowing Associate Members to join with the Mansfield Branch in order to stage the 1987 Get Together.

Mr. L. McCready moved that the Mansfield Branch be allowed to ask support from Associate members. Seconded C. Hodge. Carried.

Mr. G. Connley advised the meeting that he had been approached by Mr. K. Twitchett who has a banner he would like to be able to display at Cattlemens Get Togethers etc. It is an advertising banner. Mr. Twitchett is a strong supporter of M.C.A.V. and has donated a substantial amount to funds. Mr. G. Stoney moved that the M.C.A.V. pay \$25 towards the cost of Mr. Twitchett's banner. Seconded R. Brown. Carried.

The meeting closed approximately 5.30 p.m.