

AGENDA

Apologies  
 Minutes  
 Business Arising  
 Financial Statement  
Correspondence.

Minutes

Mr. S.  
 Meeting  
 Melbourn

PRESENT

APOLOG

MINUTE

BUSINE  
ARISIN

Outward letters of thanks to Mr. Peter Bunning, Mr Ian Morton and Mr Ian Smith for their assistance with Annual Meeting.  
 Letter of appreciation to Mr. Tom Phillipson.  
 Letter of sympathy to Mrs. Kelly of Mansfield.  
 Shire Secretary Myrtleford enclosing donation for I. Swinburne presentation.  
 Letter to Mr. Peter Ross Edwards re article in Victorian Resources. - No reply.  
 Letter to Australian Heritage Commission & thie reply.  
 Letter to Dept of Crown Lands & Survey re Crown Land Leases & reply.  
 Letter to Minister of lands re blackberry sprays & reply.  
 " " " re Central Advisory Council on Vermin & Noxious Weeds.  
 " " " enclosing article on brumby problem written by J. Commins.  
 Letters to Branch Secretaries asking for up to date list of members.  
 Letter from D.C. Sexton Deputy Chairman of Vermin & Noxious Weeds Destruction Board advising they would be attending the Harrietville Meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Branch Reports & Resolutions as on Agenda of Annual Meeting  
 Executive Meeting resolutions as on Agenda of Annual Meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 4/10/76

Credit Balance as at 1/7/76 \$304.16

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions 54.00

\$358.16

EXPENDITURE

Donation Nuffield Foundation \$10.00  
 I. Swinburne Donation 5.00  
 Petty Cash 60.00

(Postages 28.84  
 (Stationery 14.59  
 (Duplicating 14.13  
 58.13

Bank Charges 75  
 Overdraft Fee 20.00

95.75

Credit Balance as at 4/10/76 as per Bank Statment \$262.41

FINANC  
STATEM

CORRES

MOUNTAIN DISTRICT CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Minutes of Central Council Meeting held at the Snowline Hotel Harrierville  
on Monday 4th. October 1976 at 11a.m.

Mr. S. J. Treasure, in welcoming all present, officially closed the previous Meeting which had been adjourned through lack of time and had been held in Melbourne on Friday 2nd. July 1976. Mr. Treasure then declared this Meeting open.

PRESENT: Messrs S.J. Treasure (Chairman), L. McCready, J. Commins, B. Fitzgerald, E. Weston, W. Ryder, W. Hicks, D. Kneebone, Douglas Treasure, J. Lovick Mrs. W. Ryder and Secretary Mrs U. Rossiter.

APOLOGIES: G. Connelly, J. Mulligan, J. Connelly, J. Bridle, C. Hodge, O Waller, David Treasure, J. Purcell, G. Stoney.

MINUTES: It was moved by B. Fitzgerald and seconded by W. Ryder that the Minutes as circulated be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING: Blackberries. Mr. McCready reported on the very successful Blackberry Symposium which had been very well attended. Mr. G. Douglas of the Vermin & Noxious Weeds Department would be giving information to the Meeting which he would be attending later in the day,

Get Together. After discussion it was moved by W. Ryder and seconded Douglas Treasure, that to avoid clashing with the opening of the duck season that the date for the get together should be changed by one week to 26th. February. Following the meeting it was found that the date should have been one week earlier and correct date should have been 12th. February. Would all Branches please note the change of date.

Applicants for Crown Lease. Mr. Commins, on behalf of Omeo Branch said that members were not happy about the suggestion that S.J. Treasure be approached regarding a report on prospective leasees. Mr. Treasure said this had been covered by a letter received from C. E. Middleton of the Dept of Crown Lands & Survey advising that his officers made enquiries regarding any prospective lessee and thought the Associations interests were being adequately safeguarded.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Secretary reported a Credit Balance of \$262.41. Receipts since previous meeting had been \$54.00. Expenditure \$95.75  
It was moved by B. Fitzgerald and seconded E. Weston that the financial statement be received.

CORRESPONDENCE

Outward letters of thanks to Mr. Peter Bunning, Mr. Ian Morton and Mr. Ian Smith for their assistance with Annual Meeting.

Letter of appreciation to Mr. Tom Phillipson.

Letter of sympathy to Mrs. Kelly of Mansfield.

Letter to Shire Secretary Myrtleford enclosing donation for I. Swinburne presentation.

Letter to Mr. Peter Ross Edwards re article in Victorian Resources - no reply

Letter to Australian Heritage Commission & their reply.

Letter to Dept of Crown Lands & Survey re Crown Land Leases and reply.

Letter to Minister of Lands re blackberry sprays and reply.

" " re Central Advisory Council.

" " enclosing article on brumby problem written by J. Commins. No reply

Letters to Branch Secretaries asking for up to date list of members and their addresses.

Letter from D.C. Sexton of Vermin & Noxious Weeds Department advising that he & Mr. Geoff Douglas would be attending the Meeting later in the day.

Letter from Nuffield Foundation acknowledging our donation and inviting a member of the Association to attend a Buffet Dinner on 8th. October. Secretary to write and decline on Association's behalf.

Letter from Tor Holth thanking members for their assistance and enclosing article which had appeared in a recent Womens Weekly.

CORRESPONDENCE; Letter from S.G. Dimmick of Lands Conservation Council asking  
(Cont) for details of Blackberry Symposium held at Myrtleford.

Correspondence from Natural Resources Conservation League giving details of Forum Programmes being held on October 16 & 30th and inviting members to attend.

Letter from Minister of Lands (delivered by Mr. Douglas) inviting the Association to nominate a member to be appointed to Central Advisory Council on Vermin & Noxious Weeds.

It was moved by B. Fitzgerald and seconded W. Hicks that the correspondence be received.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

GENERAL

Mr. Treasure tabled nomination forms for the following as new members;-

L. G. Skoutarides & D.J. & M.E. Phelan (both of Gippsland Branch)  
It was moved by Mr. McCready and seconded J. Commins that these nominations be accepted.

Mr. McCready reported that after going through correspondence and records of the Association, he had been unable to locate the bulk of original nomination forms and also the original survey of the cattlemen's herds made by Mr. Diprose. It was moved by Mr. Commins and seconded D. Kneebone that Secretary write to T. Phillipson, former Secretary, to see if he has any knowledge where these documents are. It was suggested that Mr. Malcolm Lee, Dept of Agriculture be contacted regarding the copy of the survey.

As it has been pointed out by visitors to the Alpine country that there is no memorial to those pioneers who opened up and grazed the country in the 1900's. Following discussion by members it was moved by Mr. McCready and seconded Douglas Treasure, that with a view to perpetuating the name of these pioneers, it is suggested that Branches consider creating a fund to erect a suitable plaque on the High Plains listing their names.

Mr. McCready brought forward for discussion a scheme for export of cattle on the hoof. A firm by the name of Meridian from Hamilton was exporting sheep very successfully. Mr. McCready had interviewed members of the Meat Industries Employees Union, who had been most helpful, and had assured him that there was no ban by their Union on the export of cattle on the hoof. Members agreed that Mr. McCready should try and get further information to see if a feasible plan could be worked out which would benefit the cattle industry.

BRANCH REPORTS

North-East

Mr. Ryder reported all arrangements were going ahead for the get-together which would be held at Bennies on the 12th. February. It was left in the hands of that Branch to contact Mr. Ian Morton to arrange for Mr. John Henwood of the A.B.C. Country Hour to be present.

Members of the North East Branch suggested that this Association should have a representative on a Committee of the Soil Conservation Authority. Cattlemen control over 2 million acres of crown land and it is felt that they should be able to advise on general policy matters. Following discussion it was moved by Mr. Fitzgerald and seconded Mr. Ryder that Mr. Treasure approach Mr. Gilmore or Mr. Mitchell and discuss this matter with them.

Omeo

Mr. Fitzgerald tabled a report of a meeting held between members of Department of Crown Lands & Survey and the Soil Conservation Authority on Huts and Holding Paddocks. It was moved by Mr. Kneebone and seconded Mr. D. Treasure that copy of this report be sent to each Branch.

After discussion it was decided not to take any further action at present on a request to summarise the cost of administering the Bogong High Plain.

BRANCH REPORTS (cont)Mansfield

Mr. Lovick reported 100% membership for that Branch.

On the motion of Mr. Lovick, which was seconded by Mr. McCready, it was decided to ask all Branches to compile list of run-holders who are not members, and forward these to the Central Secretary, who will send a copy of this and also list of present members of each Branch to all other Branches. It was felt that this would be helpful to members attending sales etc to know who were members and may make it possible to promote the Association and obtain new members.

There being no further Branch Reports the meeting reverted to

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Kneebone brought forward for discussion the increase from 55¢ to \$1.50 of the Meat Board Levy. It was felt by members generally that this too big for the Association to tackle.

Mr. McCready reported that he was now on the mailing list of the Bureau of Agriculture Economics and information provided by the Bureau would be of interest to all members.

Mr. Treasure then introduced Mr. Geoff Douglas and Mr. David Sexton of the Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board and thanked them for attending the Meeting.

Mr. Douglas handed letter to the Secretary from the Minister for Lands, Mr. W. Borthwick inviting the Association to nominate a member for appointment to the Central Advisory Council. the next meeting of the Council would be held in Melbourne on the 17th. November. Mr. McCready nominated Mr. S.J. Treasure this was seconded by Mr Commins. There being no further nominations Mr. Treasure accepted this nomination.

Mr Douglas expressed his appreciation of the assistance of the Association at the recent Blackberry Symposium at Myrtleford and told the meeting that the board had been allocated extra funds of \$600,000 as a result of this Symposium.

Mr. Douglas also spoke on the Dingo and Wombat problem, which would be discussed at the November Central Advisory Council. It had been broadly agreed that the Wombat remain vermin in the eastern part of the State and protected in the western part of the State. The Dingo problem was much more complex and despite several research programmes, at this stage, there was no agreement between the conservationists and other parties.

Mr. Douglas, then introduced Mr. Sexton who gave details of a suggested plan for the Board to purchase weedicide at tender price add a small on cost and then sell direct to the land holder. A scheme similar to this had been operating in Western Australia since 1954 and in Queensland since 1920, and he had recently spent time in both these States studying these schemes. It was expected that there would be strong opposition to this from many quarters, including the trade reseller, and Mr. Sexton suggested that members lobby wherever possible to try and assist where possible to get this plan in operation.

Mr. Sexton also spoke on research being carried out on biological control of noxious weeds.

As Mr Douglas and Mr Sexton's time was very limited, Mr Treasure thanked them for their attendance and the assistance and cooperation they were giving the Association.

Before closing the Meeting Mr. Treasure asked for some direction from members on the Dingo question that would arise when he attended the meeting of the Central Advisory Council, after discussion it was generally agreed that the best we could hope for at this stage was to suggest that the cross bred dog was the biggest problem and if some way could be found of keeping the true dingo well back in the mountains it may be possible to come to some agreement with the conservationists.

It was decided that the next meeting will be called by the Executive and all Delegates will be notified. Meeting closed at 4.30p.m.