

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION  
OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED HELD AT THE VICTORIAN FARMERS FEDERATION  
BOARD ROOM 24 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE ON FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER  
1987.

The Meeting was opened at 10.40 a.m. by the President, Mr. J. Commins. Twentyfour members and twentynine visitors being in attendance.

APOLOGIES: were received from Mr. John Cook, Mr. Peter Cleeland, Mr. Alan Drash, R. Lott and B. Redpath.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The President Mr. J.A. Commins presented his 10th Annual Report. The President stated that through a very busy year the Association had improved public understanding of mountain grazing by providing information to students etc. He thanked the Associate members who had helped throughout the year with stalls, and congratulated them on the Bush Dance. The President recorded the death of Miss Lorraine Cole and spoke of her support for the Association over many years. Mr. Commins congratulated the Mansfield Branch on a very successful Get Together at Sheepyard Flat and mentioned the book Movement at the Station written by Bryan Jameson and launched by Professor Blainey. The President spoke of the work of the pricing panel set up by the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands and expressed the hope that finally a satisfactory basis for grazing fees would be established. In conclusion he thanked all those who had worked with him over the past 12 months and expressed the hope that the Association would go on to prove and demonstrate that well managed cattle, far from being merely tolerable, are a very valuable asset to help and preserve our natural mountain environment.

MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL MEETING: Moved Clive Hodge, seconded Doug Treasure that the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting as circulated be confirmed.

FEES 87/88: Moved Doug Treasure, seconded Terry Murphy that members subscription fees to the Association be the same as last year, i.e. \$50 per first 100 head, and \$25 per 100 or part thereof thereafter. Carried.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Stoney reported that 86/87 had been a very busy year. Mr. Stoney criticised the Alpine Planning Proposals assumption that the alpine area was 'proposed' National Park. He commented on other legislation being put forward by the Government which would affect the members of the Association and stated that the Association had reached a point where it needed to appoint a professional consultant. Mr. Stoney congratulated Mr. J. Commins and Mr. Ian Roper on their appointment to the Alpine Advisory Committee and stated that not only would they be stating the viewpoint in regard to grazing, but would have to consider all aspects of use of the area. The Association must retain it's vitality and credibility in the changing scene, and must address itself to the wider issues in the Alps. Mr. Stoney congratulated Bryan Jameson on the production of Movement at the Station which was launched at Sheepyard Flat Get Together. He thanked all those who had assisted the Mansfield Branch to make the



occasion such a success. Mr. Stoney thanked the Associate members for their work and particularly thanked Anne Whittam for her help in so many ways. He also thanked Sue and Russell Clay for their support of the Association and for the presentation of a petition of 9,000 signatures supporting the Mountain Cattlemen.

Moved Terry Murphy seconded Keith Whittam that the Executive Officer's Report be adopted. Carried.

TREASURER'S  
REPORT:

The Treasurer presented the Financial Statements for the year and stated that the Association had had a good year. Resolved that the Financial Accounts in respect of the year ended 30th June, 1987 be adopted. Moved David Treasure seconded Keith Whittam.

MARKETING  
OFFICER'S  
REPORT:

Mr. Ross Brown presented the marketing report and thanked all who had assisted during the year. He commented that Thomas Cook Boot & Clothing Co. catalogue featured the Mountain Cattlemen which was excellent advertising. Moved Jack Lovick seconded G. Connley that the report be adopted. Carried.

ELECTION OF  
OFFICE BEARERS  
1987/1988:

Mr. Clive Hodge took the Chair for the nomination of the following Office Bearers for the year 1987/88:  
President: Mr. David Treasure nominated by Mr. Jim Commins. Elected.

Senior Vice President: Mr. Jim Commins nominated by Mr. G. Connley. Elected.

2nd Vice President: Mr. Graham Connley nominated by Mr. G. Stoney. Elected.

The following nominations were declined:

Mr. Harry Ryder nominated by Mr. Bill Cumming.

Mr. Clive Hodge nominated by Mr. Jack Lovick.

Mr. Ken Heywood nominated by Mr. Don Kneebone.

Mr. Don Kneebone nominated by Mr. L. McCready.

3rd Vice President: Mr. G. Stoney nominated by Mr. Clive Hodge. Elected.

Executive Officer: Mr. G. Stoney nominated by Mr. J. Commins. Elected.

Marketing Officer: Mr. Ross Brown nominated by Mr. Doug Treasure. Elected.

Special Projects Officer: Mr. L. McCready nominated by Mr. Don Kneebone. Elected.

Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs. S. Silvers nominated by Mr. Ross Brown. Elected.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. A. Whittam nominated by Mr. G. Stoney. Elected.

AUDITOR:

Moved G. Stoney seconded R. Brown that William G. Crump be appointed auditor for 1987/88. Carried.

FIXING OF  
HONORARIUMS:

President. On an amendment moved by H. Ryder seconded Doug Treasure that the President's Honorarium include expenses it was moved by Mr. L. McCready, seconded Mr. T. Connley that the Honorarium for the President be \$3,000 plus expenses. Carried.

Executive Officer: Moved Bill Cumming seconded Keith Whittam that the Honorarium be \$3,000 plus expenses. Carried.

Marketing Officer: Moved Jim Commins seconded Don Kneebone that the Honorarium be \$750 plus expenses. Carried.



Secretary/Treasurer: Moved David Treasure seconded Keith Whittam that the Honorarium be \$5,000 plus expenses. Carried.

Assistant Secretary: In view of the amount of work done by Anne Whittam assisting Ross Brown and Sue Silvers it was moved G. Stoney seconded Don Kneebone that an Honorarium for the Assistant Secretary be \$750. Carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mr. Clive Hodge announced the formation of the Alpine Tour Operators Association. President Clive Hodge, Vice President Jack Lovick and Secretary Tim Barker. Mr. Hodge expressed the hope that the Association could work closely with the M.C.A.V.

Mr. Don Kneebone, as President of the North East Branch of the M.C.A.V. thanked Jim Commins for his ten years of service as President to the Association.

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr. David Treasure, as elected President took the Chair and thanked the Association for the confidence it had shown in him and said he felt that he had a lot to live up to.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:** Mr. G. Stoney put forward the proposals of the Policy Consultants to offer their services to the Association. These are to include political and policy monitoring service, to attend meetings (2/3 per year) apart from meetings timed to coincide with other events, undertake minor tasks resulting from such meetings (exception being any project which took more than one full day which would then be regarded as special and a separate fee charged); the right to re-negotiate by either party if thought necessary; fee for this service to be \$4,000 per annum; disbursements and travelling fees to be extra; agreement to be reviewed after the first 6 months. After discussion regarding the need for a more professional approach and more assistance on various matters, it was moved G. Stoney seconded Clive Hodge that the Policy Consultants be appointed to assist the Association at the fee of \$4,000 the situation to be reviewed in six months. Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12.45 p.m.

**RESUMPTION:** The meeting resumed at 1.30 p.m.

Mr. Jack Lovick had to leave the meeting and congratulated David Treasure on his election as President, and thanked Jim Commins for his ten years of dedicated service.

Mr. John Lovick asked leave to address the meeting. He stated that he had recently been involved in a Court action involving the R.S.P.C.A. He thanked the members of the Association, its friends and Executive Committee for the support given to him and to Geoff Burrowes during that time.

**VISITOR:** Mr. Jim Commins introduced and welcomed Mr. Richard Condon, former Chairman of the Western Lands Council for New South Wales, B. Ag.Sc.; F.A.I.A.: O.A. etc. Mr. Condon gave a most interesting address on the



attitudes of conservationists, and spoke of his work on Rangeland management both in U.S.A. and Africa. He made the point that scientists often develop false conclusions to help their case. He discussed the role of fire in management, and spoke at length on the concept of holistic resource management and hoped that with greater knowledge, Governments would come to see the errors of their ways in the management of public land.

Mr. Doug Treasure proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Condon for the encouragement given, and added that more research should be undertaken on behalf of the M.C.A.V. He thanked Mr. Condon for his time and most interesting address.

Mr. Simon Cubit from the newly formed Tasmanian Mountain Cattlemens Association addressed the meeting and thanked the M.C.A.V. for its support and encouragement for the T.M.C.A. to achieve its aims.

CLOSURE: The meeting closed at 2.25 p.m.

Confirmed as a correct record:

.....Chairman.

