

Minutes of the Mountain District Cattlemen's Association meeting held at Myrtleford on Thursday, December 1st, 1983.

PRESENT:

Dr. D. & Mrs. Kemsley (Chairman, Landminers & Prospectors Assoc.), Kevin Howard, Tom Fiedler (Save Vic. Campaign), G. Connley, J. Rogers, J. Treasure, J. Lovick. C. Hodge, S. J. Treasure, M. Chalwell, M. Blair, M. Hall, H. Ryder, W. Ryder, E. Fitzgerald, L. McCready, G. Stoney, J. Commins, C. Aston, I. HinchleyW. Cumming, D. Kneebone and D. Treasure.

APOLOGIES:

D. & J. Rogers, C. Mitchell. R. Blair.

Meeting commenced at 11.15a.m.

Chairman Mr. J. Commins welcomed all present and thanked them for coming and commented on the latest Final Recommendations.

Even though 70.3% of submissions received by the L.C.C. were not in favour of extending the National Parks, the L. C. C. has appeared to ignore the views of the majority of people and have not followed the due democratic process, but has carried out what it originally intended or was instructed to do.

The Council has shown itself to be a pawn of Government.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read.

C. Hodge commented on the figures quoted from Mr. Gunnison's speech and stressed that these figures should be made public. Clive feels the L.C.C. is taking no notice of the submissions received, especially when you look at the Final Recommendations. C. Hodge moved minutes be received. Seconded W. Cumming.

CORRESPONDENCE:

People asking for t-shirts, stickers and to become Associate Members.

Confirmation Order from Stokes Australia for badges.

Letter from J. Commins to Minister for Lands, Mr. McKenzie re charges for grazing land.

Letter from Mr. McKenzie saying "no decision would be made on alpine grazing without consultation".

Letter from E. Walker saying not possible to visit the alpine area in December. McKenzie and himself can visit later in the summer.

J. Rogers moved correspondence be received. Seconded C. Hodge.

TREASURERS REPORT.

Access Account \$488.23 Cr.

Investment Account \$7,534.48 Cr.

TREASURER'S REPORT CONT'd.

RECEIPTS.

	\$	\$	\$
Members Subscriptions		562.00	
Associate "		1,045.00	
Advertising		590.00	
Voice of Mountains		110.00	
Sale of Stickers		41.20	
" " T-shirts		2,128.00	
Interest		28.91	
Miscellaneous		3.60	
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		4,508.71	

EXPENDITURE.

Bank Fees	4.77		
Freight/Postage	537.93		
Copying/Duplicating	598.85		
Stationary	124.67		
Secretary Allowance	250.00		
Professional Advice	120.00		
Catering/Room Hire	244.00		
Stickers	480.00		
T-shirts	2,357.78		
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	4,718.00		
Balance at 30.6.83		2,499.89	
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Less expenditure		7,008.60	
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		4,718.00	
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		2,290.60	
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Less unrepresented cheques		126.80	
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		\$ 2,163.80	
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C. Hodge moved report be received. Seconded G. Connley.
 C. Hodge felt that with all the money held in the Investment Account we could finance a helicopter for the M.P.'s and thus ensure they do visit the alpine area.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Dr. D. Kemsley, Chairman of the Landminer's and Prospectors Association. The Eureka Flag has a pick and shovel on it, so please don't be confused by other phoney flags that are around.

I am not talking about the Mining Companies, but individual mining. The Miners Right had been untouched until 1975 when the Liberal Government "messed it up". The L.C.C. came along with their recommendations which threatened mining people. At our first public meeting there were 900 people and at public meetings since there have been similar numbers. There is now a 25m depth level and the Corporate Mining Companies can let you do the work and then come in under you. We are becoming unpaid slaves. Parliament is doing the things that the people do not want. They are not doing the things they need. It seems the party is committed to changing the land use of 100's of years. Any person who has the "Miner's Right document" becomes the "monarch". There was a proviso in the Constitution which very conveniently has been left out. The Constitution

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cannot be changed without proper voting procedures. If we can show by looking back into history that these leases were part of the system of land usage which was in existence in 1855 and I believe you could be standing on similar ground as we are and you could challenge it. The Crown Solicitor is now looking at it and he will get back to us and we will then go from there. We are going to have to look for support from the community both morally and financially. C. Hodge went on to say he agreed with Dr. Kemsley and he had been advised by Solicitors to form a Company of the M.D.C.A.V. and fight the Constitution.

J. Commins thanked Doug for the thought provoking address and agreed we have to look at the legal aspects. For reference try British Parliamentary papers at State Library, or look into early 1800's say 1852-1857 at a series of sets of papers called Papers relating to the Use of Crown Land in Victoria". Parliament can repeal the law but cannot change the Constitution.

Tom Fiedler, Save Victoria Campaign remarked on what Doug had to say and endorsed his words. This country is in the final stages of being softened up and mucked up. World Socialist Government, no room for monarchy, no private ownership, business or land etc. Closer Economic Relations between Australia and N.Z. are being introduced peacemeal. Brig. Gen. Jack Moore in a Press Release in the U.S.A. claims it is being mobilised for a no-win-war and that two super powers will merge. The world then will be governed by a World Government.

J. Commins thanked Tom for his enlightening talk.

Meeting closed for lunch.

Kevin Howard, Deputy Chairman of N.E. Tourist Authority says we have their support in any area we may wish to persue. Kevin went on to say that "subliminal advertising"(which is banned in Australia) whereby a message is flashed on the T.V. screen and you are not aware it is happening but your subconscious records it is being used on cassettes and records and it is being fed to our children. The time for talking is gone and it is time to get moving because we are heading for disaster.

TOUR OF INSPECTION:

J. Lovick advised a tour is being organised for M.P.'s on 8, 9 and 10 December on Holmes Plain, Mansfield area. C. Hodge felt the Association could pay out for the cost of fuel. D. Treasure moved the Association pay reasonable fuel costs for those who have to take their own vehicle. Seconded G. Connley. G. Stoney pointed out that there has been an undertaking that any discussions are going to be private, no press or radical type persons to be present.

DISCUSSION OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

C. Hodge felt we could emphasize the fact of the drought situation and what the cost would have been to the Government and to the consumer. G. Stoney made some amendments to the Press Release to incorporate these points. The Press Release should be sent to as many newspapers as possible and let the people know. J. Lovick moved the Press Release be sent out. Seconded D. Kneebone.

d On the surface the recommendations look in our favour, but what it is in fact is a tightening of the net to stop us completely.

HUTS:

ution J. Commins read out a letter G. Stoney sent to Mr. McKenzie with regard

to the MDCAV attitude on ownership of huts. A copy of a letter from McKenzie was read out. J. Treasure suggested we lock our huts and stop visitors from using them. D. Treasure moved a letter persuing the issue be sent. Seconded H. Ryder.

L. McCready reported National Parks and Forest approached about using natural boundaries. Finalize tie-up with VFGA as soon as possible. G. Stoney moved a letter to to VFGA to prepare a supporting submission in respect of fees for grazing. Seconded L. McCready.

ALPINE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

W. Cumming reported a working party had a look around Howit Plain area. The National Parks Rep. Mike Gardner felt that if people went to their local rep. then they would give them a good hearing to change boundaries. Also approach Forest Officer and talk about effective burning for the Autumn. The fees for the grazing runs must be kept to a minimum. J. Hall had an increase of 20 times and he complained. They are negotiable and you can approach them. Agistment is worked out on a dry sheep equivalent. D. Treasure suggested that we pay the same rate as last year or add on 5% and by the time they sort it out, we will have gained time. As soon as we pay what they are asking, we are saying we agree with their price. D. Treasure moved the Association Members only pay last years amount until the issue is properly resolved, and also advise their local lands officer or forest officer what they are doing. Seconded J. Rogers Secretary to write to Branch Secretary's to advise their branch members immediately.

L. McCready is still waiting on information from members to present on boundaries.

STICKERS:

D. Treasure moved we get 2,000 stickers and see if we can beat Margro down on price. Seconded G. Stoney.

G. Stoney reported the heritage image has taken off and is romantic and exciting compared to quoting facts and figures. The Sawmillers Assoc. are in favour of having a demonstration but the meeting felt rather than join up with other groups, we could have a series of "rolling demonstrations" You don't have any control over the crown and you don't know what the other groups may do. This could create adverse publicity.

Secretary to arrange more copies of Petition Forms and forward to branches. Secretary to ring Joanee and advise her to contact Branch Secretary's to let them know of what shops are in their area for distribution of Voice of the Mountains.

GET-TOGETHER '84:

Cattlemen's Cup to be restricted to 13 contestants. D. Treasure moved Secretary write to Branch Secretary and advise they can enter two contestants and host Branch (Gippsland) can enter 4 and they are to be members or member's employees. Seconded C. Hodge. J. Lovick moved an amendment that there be three from branches with an option of four from host branch. Seconded C. Hodge. CARRIED.

G. Stoney moved we circularise invitations to every member to the get-together and enclose 2-3 for friends. Seconded D. Treasure.

Prices approx. \$15 adult and \$5 child. General feeling that entrance fee is too dear. Meeting decided it is branch prerogative how it

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organizes Get-together and to carry on their own way. D. Kneebone felt the problem of Total Fire Ban Days should be considered.

G. Stoney moved we write to H. Stephenson and thank him for his valuable input to the production of Voice of the Mountains. Seconded L. McCready.

J. Commins moved a donation of \$20 go to Miss Cole, United Landholders and Citizens Assoc. Seconded D. Kneebone.

G. Stoney moved we write to Miners and Prospectors Association and ask them to keep us informed on their research on the Constitution and enclose a donation of \$50. Seconded J. Hall. J. Treasure moved an amendment that we also write to Save Victoria Campaign and send a donation of \$50. Seconded J. Lovick.

Letter from VFGA in support of stock crossing on the freeway in the Hume Highway.

Meeting closed at 5.30p.m.

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