

Minutes of Meeting held at Holmes Plain Get-together on Saturday  
February 4, 1984.

Chairman Jim Commins opened the meeting.

APOLOGIES:

The Secretary, Coral Aston lost somewhere in the Wonnangatta.

PRESENT:

Approximately 30 members and friends attended.  
Lyle McCready.

FINANCIAL:

Voice of the Mountains monies need to be followed up and collected.  
\$1,000 sub due to V.F.G.A.

ALPINE GRAZING FEES:

Jim Commins, Graeme Stoney, Tim Barker and Hayden Cook (VFGA) met  
Rod McKenzie the Minister on the issue of Alpine grazing charges.  
The Minister agreed to the proposal of a formula to calculate the  
charges. This formula to take into account the special costs  
involved with Alpine Grazing.

The VFGA has circulated a questionnaire which must be answered promptly.  
Members are requested to return the form to the VFGA quickly and  
include all costs, including losses due to mismustering. Until the  
issue is resolved, the Minister has directed his departments to level  
last years charges plus 10%.

POLITICIANS TRIP:

A very successful trip was conducted between Mansfield and Dargo with  
Ministers Walker and McKenzie and several other politicians from  
all parties. Also Nationals Parks, Forest Commission, Victorian  
National Parks Association and Soil Conservation Authority officials.

The Howitt Plain issue was raised on site and the cattlemen strongly  
made the point that in their opinion, the L.C.C. report was in error  
in listing damage, tourist conflict and water shortage as reasons to  
recommend the phasing out of Howitt Plain for grazing.

On Dargo the Treasure family put forward an alternative for the Park  
boundaries in that area.

David Evans, MLC is following up the Howitt issue with Minister Walker.

G. Stoney moved we write to David Evans thanking him for his letter  
(see file) and asking for his continued interest in the matter. Also,  
that we write to the appropriate Liberal Minister informing him of  
the Howitt issue (see Evans letter) and asking if he would be prepared  
to jointly discuss the matter with the National Party.  
Seconded C. Hodge. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter was received from Minister McKenzie thanking cattlemen for  
December trip and mentioning the proposed Nunnion Trip later this  
summer.

Letter from Myrtleford Shire and submission strongly supporting cattlemen.

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G. Stoney moved we write to Myrtleford Shire thanking them for support and asking them when the submission was sent. Seconded J. Lovick  
CARRIED.

MARKETING:

Joanne Rogers has set up a tent and has a good supply of stock to sell.

Urgent need for money from Voice of the Mountains sales. Members urged to send any on hand in. Newsagents monies to be collected. Who does that??

Alan Drash from Bendigo invited a group of cattlemen to Bendigo to lead Easter Parade and carry Cattlemen's Banner. Harry Ryder to organize anyone interested. Please contact Harry as soon as possible.

Tas Bell and Harold Gay promised \$50 each towards Bendigo trip.

T. Murphy moved that \$30 be given to Josef and Jan for films and developing of weekend (films to be used for press releases and future Voice of the Mountains). Money to be sent to G. Stoney who will organize the pics. Seconded D. Treasure. CARRIED.

G. Connley moved that the next meeting discuss all aspects of the Cattlemen Cup including eligibility, closing date for entries, etc, so willing cattlemen don't miss out because of late withdrawals  
Seconded G. Stoney. CARRIED.

Bill Hicks raised the issue of plaques for deceased cattlemen, namely Bren Fitzgerald and Bernie Lawler.

It was resolved to ask North East Branch to arrange at their discretion as MCAV has approved the concept.

Letter was received from John Mitchell offering help in compiling an economic submission for retaining Alpine Grazing.

Letter should be sent to Mitchell thanking him for this letter and for speaking and offering condolences to his family on death of Tom his father.

G. Stoney to write Press Release on M.P. weekend for papers, T.V. and Radio around the Alps and send next week, including a photo taken by Jan and Josef.

Apology from Lyle McCready who has missed his first Get-together due to ill health of his wife but he sends his regards and best wishes.

*Minutes confirmed, 26/3/89.*  
*J. Berumen*