



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

AFFILIATED WITH
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' AND GRAZIERS' ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENT James A. Commins
SECRETARY Coral Aston

POST OFFICE,
ENSAY, VIC. 3895

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria held at Omeo on April 26, 1985.

Present: H. Ryder, L. McCready, G. and H. Stoney, C. Hodge, J. Lovick, Barry Fitzgerald, N. McCallum, K. Kelly, A. Jim Treasure, Tim Barker (VFGA) Getty Fitzgerald, C. Commins, K. Connley, K. Heywood, D. Kneebone, J. Rogers, Joanne Rogers, J. Commins, C. Aston, Jack Treasure, Jim Treasure, Tom and Graham Connley, D. Rogers, J. Gough.

Apologies: F. Ryder, G. Plunkett, W. Cymming, D. Treasure, C. Treasure, R. Treasure, T. Murphy, R. Brown and P. Monds.

Mr. Jim Commins, Chairperson declared the meeting open at 10.50a.m.

Tim Barker (Victorian Farmers and Graziers Association) presented a questionnaire which was passed around to Members to fill in so Tim could take it away and do some calculating while the meeting was in progress, then report back with his findings.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. B. Fitzgerald moved Minutes be received. Seconded J. Lovick. CARRIED.

Business Arising from Minutes: Invitations were extended to the Association to attend processions and Members have participated well. Moomba was well attended by Members and the public received them well. J. Commins thanked everyone, especially the sponsors for their contribution of funds. Sue Silvers has done a marvellous job and put in a lot of time. H. Ryder addressed Scotch College and felt it was well accepted.

Financial Report:

<u>Receipts.</u>	\$	\$
Member's Subs.		2,235.41
Advertising		1,070.00
Donation		1,178.00
Bank		174.80
Journal Sales		797.20
Misc. (Postage)		4.30
Sticker Sales		2,181.40
Associate Subs.		1,339.00
Badge Sales		223.00
Proceeds from Functions		4,571.10
		<u>13,774.21</u>

Expenditure.

Bank Fees	15.99	
Freight and Postage	504.00	
Copying and Duplicating	2,551.69	
Stationary	280.27	
Professional Advice	260.00	
Catering and Room Hire	1,613.72	
Allowances	1,026.00	
Advertising and P.R.	3,501.36	
Miscellaneous	<u>2,018.35</u>	
		<u>11,771.38</u>
		2,002.83

Financial Report cont'd:

	\$	\$
Brought Forward		2,002.83
Balance at 30/6/84		985.65
		<u>\$ 2,988.48</u>
Investment Account	\$2,534.48	
Access Account	\$507.88	

L. McCready pointed out that executives are putting a lot of their own money into the "cause" and they should be getting some return for it. K. Kelly moved Financial Report be received. Seconded. C. Commins CARRIED.

Get-together Report: Betty Fitzgerald reported the expenditure was very large but there was a profit of \$6,759. G. Stoney moved a vote of thanks to the Omeo Branch for an excellent get-together. Seconded L. McCready. CARRIED

Marketing Officer's Report: Joanne Rogers said a profit of \$3,500 was made on goods sold at Get-together. She is still waiting on money for Port sales. C. Hodge moved action be taken to have Joanne reimbursed for goods sold. G. Stoney to speak to S. Silvers and have it sorted out. Seconded G. Stoney CARRIED.

Correspondence: A letter of apology from Slim Dusty for not being able to entertain at get-together. R.S.L. advising Victorian Branch of their executive support the Association. Aust. Stockmans Hall of Fame pointing out they are unable to take sides on any political issues. R. Farrell (Aust. Eagle Ins.) advice on Insurance. C. Aston letter of resignation. J. Commins also pointed out he would like his position of office to be considered by someone by September. G. Stoney moved correspondence be received. Seconded D. Rogers. CARRIED.

General Business: Association for Protection of Rural Australia held a Conference in Bairnsdale, which unfortunately was not well-attended and tended to be addressing the converted. Miners and Prospectors Association at Castlemaine had a good attendance at their seminar.

H. Ryder attended a Debate at Scotch College against Janice Rice (Conservation Council). There were 200 year 10 boys as well as Masters and there was about an hour to put our case, followed by question time. Harry felt it was a case of talking to the converted and felt it is a pity all Melburnians are not like that.

Associate Committee Report: Sue Silvers supplied a written report read by G. Stoney. Any decisions made by Committee are dealt with by Sue, Graeme and Jim. The Moomba ride had a great effect and T.V. gave us full coverage by all stations. Peter Evans was given a bag of horse manure for his garden and we received great mileage on his show. 1,000 sets of information were handed out and it was an expensive exercise (approx. \$7,684 in costs). It is planned to hold a Bush Dance for the family to be held in June featuring The Cobbers. Invitations for Members to be sent by Coral. The profit to be allocated towards a specific cause (e.g. plaques). Posters and material have been sent to metropolitan libraries and hopes for country areas as well. L. McCready moved Shire Councils and country libraries be sent a package of information and poster. Seconded J. Lovick. CARRIED.

Sue would like a list of approved Safari Tour Operators from the Association so pamphlets can be distributed which would ensure people interested in Tours would be given the correct information and be educated by Operators on side with the Association. L. McCready moved the Assoc. Committee be authorised

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to circularize pamphlets of those alpine tour operators approved by the cattlemen executive, as competent to explain the cause of the mountain cattlemen to the public and that they be either Members or Associate Members. Seconded T. Connley. CARRIED.

Sue has been doing some research and found little information on costing of the extension of the park. C. Hodge moved Sue's report be received, and a letter of thanks be sent. Seconded D. Kneebone. CARRIED.

Land Protection Council Interim Committee has G. Stoney as a representative for all land use in the Alps. It is a very important committee and Graeme feels it is a great honor to be on the committee. Graeme has attended two meetings.

La Fontaine (Sec. of Timber Industry Task Force) said we should apply to the Federal Govt. under the Heritage Act to be protected because in some ways we qualify. If we approach the Govt. under the Cultural Heritage through legal channels.

K. Connley moved a deputation to Joan Kirner include a woman and Christa Mitchell has agreed to go. Seconded L. McCready. CARRIED.

Fees: Tim Barker explained the formula doesn't need to be complicated. If you agree with the concept, I can argue it and then we can add other things. All cattlemen feel the cattle are doing a good service and that they should be being paid, or at least given a discount. In a good year you may not want to stock the land, but there is no incentive given. J. Commins feels the land should be stocked even sparsely, because it keeps it in good condition. G. Stoney moved we ask T. Barker to proceed with a formula for fees along the lines we have suggested. Seconded. C. Commins. CARRIED.

H. Ryder said the site for the plaque for Bren Fitzgerald has been knocked back but the general feeling is to push for where the family wants it. C. Hodge moved a letter from the main committee to P. Lawson to support where the family wants the plaque to be put. Seconded H. Ryder. CARRIED.

Jack Treasure feels Aboriginal Land Rights are a very serious thing here. The United Nations want to have control. The cattlemen have not got the strength to stop them. 38% of Australian country is under the control of the U.N.

Graeme Connley feels a seminar like APRA's at Bairnsdale would be better done in Melbourne. A suggestion of a video being made which could be used anywhere.

G. Stoney feels a P.R. person is not really viable. Jim Treasure feels G. Stoney should be paid for his job. Graeme would do the job as is and accept out-of-pocket expenses, but not a salary. J. Commins should also get expenses. Jim Treasure moved the President and Liaison Officer be allowed a budget for expenses of \$2,000 each per annum. D. Kneebone moved an amendment to \$3,000 for Liaison Officer and \$2,000 President. Motion lapsed. Jack Lovick moved a sub-committee comprising Coral, Don and himself be formed to discuss with Liaison Officer and President on their expenses for the current financial year. Seconded B. Fitzgerald. CARRIED.

G. Stoney feels we need to compile a list of those runs that are being left vacant and that they should be taken up by someone else just so we can keep them. Every run that is not used only weakens our stand. Jim Commins feels runs should be advertised for Tender to gauge what people value them at on a proviso that they are stocked. H. Ryder suggested the Alpine District Advisory Committee should have some weight on this issue and knowledge of the areas.

A new book by Tore Holth based on pioneering women of the high country is being launched on May 15th at Albury.

Jeff Burrowes, the Producer of The Man From Snowy River is working on a new film called "Cool Change".

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