



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 23rd June 2016 (Meeting #3)

Commencing 11:00 AEST

[NSW, VIC, ACT, TAS, QLD - 11:00; SA, NT – 10:30; WA – 9:00]

Distribution list: Nigel Andrew (President), Don Driscoll (President-elect; Director – Hot Topics), Raghu Sathyamurthy (VP - Research), Dieter Hochuli (VP - Student Affairs), Bek Christensen (Acting VP – Public Liaison & Policy), Jodie Cosham (Lia) (Secretary), Jason Cummings (Treasurer), Dustin Welbourne (Bulletin Editor), Michael Bull (Austral Ecology – Chair, Editorial Board), Gary Luck (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board), Ben Gooden (Ordinary Director), Romina Rader (Director - Early Career Research), Euan Ritchie (Ordinary Director), Kerry Bridle (Director - Tasmania), Jodi Price (Director - ESA16), Nikki Zanardo (Ordinary Director), Amy Hahs (Ordinary Director), Sacha Jellinek (Ordinary Director), Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer).

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1 Chairperson's Welcome and Introduction

1.2 Present and Apologies

Present: Nigel Andrew (President), Don Driscoll (President-elect; Director – Hot Topics), Raghu Sathyamurthy (VP – Research), Dieter Hochuli (VP – Student Affairs), Jodie Cosham (Lia) (Secretary), Jason Cummings (Treasurer), Dustin Welbourne (Bulletin Editor), Michael Bull (Austral Ecology – Chair, Editorial Board), Romina Rader (Director – Early Career Research), Euan Ritchie (Ordinary Director), Kerry Bridle (Director - Tasmania) – left early, Jodi Price (Director - ESA16), Bek Christensen (Ordinary Director), Amy Hahs (Ordinary Director), Gail Spina (Executive Officer).

Apologies: Bek Christensen (Acting VP – Public Liaison & Policy), Gary Luck (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board), Nikki Zanardo (Ordinary Director), Sacha Jellinek (Ordinary Director), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer).

Absent: Ben Gooden (Ordinary Director).

1.3 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (April 2016) – for ratification*

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Euan Ritchie

All in favour: Motion carried.

1.4 Minutes from Previous Executive Committee Meeting (May 2016) – for noting*

Noted.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Board & Executive Meetings*

Post-meeting action item table attached to minutes.

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 Treasurer's Report – Jason Cummings

Still in transition phase with new Finance and Membership Officer and finance system. Jacky has settled in well with all signatories and statement access complete. If any Directors want to access the ESA account statements online, please contact Jacky at finance@ecolsec.org.au. The profit loss statement to the end of June and draft budget were tabled with the agenda. The last profit/loss figures presented to the Board were in March; subsequent months have been done in new platform. Actual EOFY profit/loss not 100% confident due to transition to new platform but the expectation is that ESA will be in a profit position. In any case, there are cost-savings under the new arrangements with the conference to be audited alongside the rest of the ESA accounts, as well as staff cost savings.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Jun_16_3.1.1	Get shares performance update from Perpetual.	Jason	Next FGWG

3.2 Correspondence Report – Jodie Cosham*

Noted.

3.3 Working Group Report

Nothing provided.

3.4 Web Officer Report – Gail Spina*

May Web Officer Report tabled. Returning visitors to the website higher than new visitors for the first time with Hot Topics the biggest drawcard.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Jun_16_3.4.1	Provide meta data of visitors to Hot Topics to the Hot Topics WG.	Gail (Brigitte)	July Exec

3.5 Membership Report – Gail Spina*

Membership sitting at 1168 as at 20 June; higher than normal for this time of year. Brigitte has been sending out targeting emails and e-news messages.

3.6 Conference Report – Gail Spina/Jodi Price*

June ESA16 Conference Planning Report and current budget tabled. Scientific program complete, social program developing, new keynote added to program, incorporating the indigenous program more into the general program, sponsorship looking good – if no more sponsors are added we will need 540 delegates to break-even.

3.7 Ecosystem Science Council Report – Nigel Andrew

No report received.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS (Discussion and/or Voting)

4.1 IMPACT Funding Applications – Gail Spina*

Four applications have been shortlisted but only three can be submitted. Gail will organise an out of session vote for the top three.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Jun_16_4.1.1	Organise an out of session vote for the top three IMPACT applications.	Gail	ASAP

4.2 Budget Development Process – Jason Cummings*

ESA budget process and timeline tabled. This will become business as usual for budgeting for the next 12 months and beyond. All directors to review against any current and prospective grants, awards, projects etc. to ensure they are recognised in the budget. Final budget to be ratified at August Board. A couple of weeks ago Gail circulated a request for funds for the coming financial year. This is to be received by CoB 1 July to be considered at the July FGWG.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Jun_16_4.2.1	Review draft budget and provide feedback to Jason.	All	7 July 2016
Board_Jun_16_4.2.2	Provide any requests for funding for the next 12 months to Gail.	All	1 July 2016

4.3 Research Chapter WG TOR – Amy Hahs*

Terms of reference for RC WG TOR tabled. Amy discussed outcomes of the face-to-face meeting. First major focus will be to increase awareness of RCs - working on including RC event into conference. Support for individual RCs is the second major focus alongside increasing funding opportunities for RCs.

MOTION: That ESA accepts the Research Chapter Working Group Terms of Reference.

Moved: Amy Hahs

Seconded: Raghu Sathyamurthy

All in favour: motion carried.

4.4 Holsworth Wildlife Research Endowment – Nigel Andrew*

Request for ESA to manage the Holsworth Wildlife Research Endowment has been received. If there are no issues raised, FGWG will arrange the transfer of responsibility of the fund to ESA. Official recognition of Bill Holsworth contribution to ecology to be organised for the ESA conference.

5.0 OTHER BUSINESS (For Noting or Information Only)

5.1 Income Generation Opportunities – Gail Spina*

Current list of proposed opportunities for income generation tabled. Directors to provide feedback to Gail on any additional proposals/strategies and also feedback on how we can achieve the identified strategies (i.e. what can go in the ESA shop).

5.2 NSW Scientific Committee Nominees – Gail Spina

ESA were asked to nominate 3 potential candidates for a vacancy on the NSW Scientific Committee. The Executive Committee shortlisted applicants and nominations tabled for information.

6.0 LATE AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Bushfire 2016 Presentation Spots - Raghu Sathyamurthy*

Presentation spots still available for ESA members to present on fire ecology at Bushfire 2016. Please circulate through your ESA network.

6.2 ESA Media & Communications Officer PD – Euan Ritchie*

Draft Media & Communications Officer Position Description attached. Feedback to be provided to Euan Ritchie ASAP.

MOTION: ESA agrees to proceed with establishing a part time media and communications officer position, pending feedback from Board.

Proposed: Euan Ritchie

Seconded: Don Driscoll

All in favour: motion carried.

6.3 Call for Symposium Proposals for 2017 INTECOL Beijing Congress - Nigel Andrew*

Call for symposia tabled FYI.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Next Board Meeting – Thursday 25 August 2016.

Next Executive Meeting – Thursday 28 July 2016.

Meeting closed: 12:35PM AEST