

## MEETING SUMMARY

The Twelfth meeting of WHA's Committee of Management (Board) took place on 14<sup>th</sup> March via a face to face meeting.

Members of the Management Committee (board) are:

- Mark Schipp, Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer (Chair)
- Hume Field, individual member elected by the Individual Members (Deputy Chair)
- Charles Milne, CVO VIC, Nominee of the Animal Health Committee
- Three organisations elected by the organisational members:
  - Pam Whiteley, Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria.
  - Andrew Peters, Wildlife Disease Association Australasian Section Chair
  - Chris Bunn, Australian Veterinary Conservation Biology, a special interest group of the Australian Veterinary Association

This was a routine quarterly meeting of the board and included WHA staff: Rupert Woods (CEO), Karen Magee (Administration Manager/Public Officer).

- An update was provided by the CEO on the transition to a new, cost-shared funding model for WHA. All Australian governments have now committed to the model except one. The board has directed that future strategic opportunities with non-contributing states will not be pursued, and there will be withdrawal of services to any non-contributing states.
- The board identified the importance of strategic engagement with Australian universities and considered potential future avenues for their involvement and contribution to Australia's biosecurity system. An initial scoping paper will be developed and brought back to the Committee for consideration.
- The importance of culture was also discussed and recognised by the board. WHA employee culture, board culture, and the culture of WHA as an organisation and its stakeholders needs to be better understood. Culture will be further discussed at the next meeting of the board and be included as a regular recurring agenda item at future meetings.
- In preparation for the inclusion of new funding partners from 1<sup>st</sup> July this year, the WHA National Coordinator was directed to develop a standard template and process that could be used for quarterly reporting of wildlife health information and intelligence to the Chief Veterinary Officers (CVO). A template has been developed in consultation with the Chief Veterinary officer appointed Wildlife Coordinators (WHA Coordinators) and feedback will now be sought from individual members of the Animal Health Committee themselves.

For more information on the meeting please contact your representative on the Board, the CEO (0438 755 078) or WHA Public Officer, Karen Magee (02 9960 6333).