

MEETING SUMMARY: 20th September 2023

The thirty sixth meeting (BM36) of WHA's Board took place on 20th September 2023 via virtual meeting.

Members of the Board are:

- Peter Bridgewater (Chair), Chair
- Cameron Bell (Deputy Chair), Funding Member, Agriculture Victoria
- Sharon Kolek, Funding Member, Office of the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer
- Michelle Campbell-Ward, Individual Member Representative elected by the Individual Members
- Andrew Pearce, nominee of the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- Three organisations elected by the Organisational Members:
 - Leanne Wicker, Wildlife Disease Association Australasia
 - Julien Grosmaire, Australian Veterinary Conversation Biologists
 - Nicola Craddock, Zoo and Aquarium Association
- Rodney Vile, Invited Member, Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- James Newman, Invited Active Observer (Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water).

As well as routine business, the board were updated on progress on the Marketing and Communications Plan, HPAI preparedness activities, First Nations Engagement and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Collaborating Centre on Wildlife Disease Risk Management (Indo-Pacific).

As part of WHA's transition from an incorporated association under the Associated Incorporations Act (2009) in NSW to a Public Company Limited by Guarantee, WHA has been developing a new constitution which is a requirement of the transition. The board endorsed the final draft of the new constitution, and noted that member information was being developed with a briefing session planned prior to the AGM.

The board endorsed the 2022 audited financial statement and auditors report and directed the WHA annual general meeting (AGM) to be called for 22nd November 2023. The AGM will be a virtual meeting. The new constitution will be presented to members for consideration at the AGM as a Special Resolution.

The board further discussed the Theory of Change, and a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for WHA – and recognised an opportunity for these to be considered alongside future strategic planning and that WHA should look to global goals to help shape its own long term strategic vision. The formation of a working group was agreed to be the best way to progress with the group's purpose to develop a transformative strategic plan to take WHA into the future.

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