

MEETING SUMMARY

The third meeting of WHA's Committee of Management (Board) took place on 30 October 2015 via teleconference.

Members of the Management Committee are:

- Mark Schipp, Australia's Chief Veterinary Officer (Chair)
- Hume Field, individual member elected by the Individual Members (Deputy Chair)
- Ian Roth, CVO NSW, Nominee of the Animal Health Committee
- Three organisations elected by the organisational members:
 - Andrew Peters, Wildlife Disease Association Australasian Section Chair
 - Chris Hibbard, Zoo Aquarium Association Executive Director
 - Pam Whiteley, Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria

The meeting included WHA staff and participants: Rupert Woods (CEO), Karen Magee (Public Officer/Minutes), and Bill Matley and Jesse Evans from Crispin and Jeffrey (Chartered Accountants).

The primary focus for this meeting was to conduct business associated with the Wildlife Health Australia annual general meeting, which is to be held on Tuesday, the 8th of December, 2015. As guided by the Associations Incorporation ACT 2009 and the WHA Constitution, the Board are required to approve the calling the annual general meeting, including consideration and endorsement of the audited financials and special resolutions.

The auditors engaged to conduct the WHA audit are Crispin and Jeffery, and representatives of this organisation attended the meeting to provide guidance and information to the committee. The committee endorsed the audited financials for tabling at the annual general meeting. The Management Committee also endorsed the Wildlife Health Australia 2016 budget. This included allocations for an additional project officer and increased investment in marketing and communications.

The Management Committee have identified a number of areas within the constitution that required review and amendment to assist in the smooth running WHA. The key areas include:

- Removal of redundant clauses
- Amendments to allow WHA to establish a gift fund and take up deductible gift recipient (DGR) status. Applications go to the Australian Department of Environment for assessment and then consideration by the Minister twice a year.
- Amendments enabling the MC to govern more effectively, and addressing issues around consensus decision making.
- Amendments to areas requiring clarification

The Management Committee discussed amendments to address these areas. They approved the tabling of a special resolution incorporating these changes, which will be considered by members at the AGM.

The Management Committee directed the public officer to call the 2015 annual general meeting for Tuesday, 8th December, 2015 to be held at the Chowder Bay facility at Mosman, Sydney NSW and encourage any WHA members available to attend and hear about developments this year. The AGM will also include an invited speaker, Dr Michelle Power from Macquarie University, who will discuss a hot topic: Antimicrobial Resistance in Australian Wildlife.

As the committee members will be present in Sydney for the AGM, the committee also agreed to meet at a morning session prior to the AGM to consider long term strategy development for Wildlife Health Australia.

There was a large number of new membership applications received following the Wildlife Diseases Association (WDA) international meeting, which is a great outcome for WHA and shows the value of the close relationship that has been developed between WHA and the WDA, which benefitted from assistance with marketing and media provided by WHA for the conference. A variety of organisations are applying for membership, including a number of people from the Department of Environment, and this was seen as a very positive step. The Management Committee endorsed all new applications.

For more information on the meeting please contact your representative on the Board, or contact the WHA CEO or Public Officer, Rupert Woods (0438 755 078) or Karen Magee (02 9960 3386) respectively.