



MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting
held on Tuesday 9th November 2021
in the Members Area, Boating Industry Association (WA)
1 Camfield Drive, Burswood.

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 4.30 pm and welcomed members. He acknowledged those Board members present and Recfishwest staff.

Members Present:

Craig Bibra	Matt Howard
Stuart Bowman	Stewart King
Tim Carson	Frank Prokop
John Cramer	Bert Rowland
Mike Donnelly	Laurie Smith
Amanda Ellis	Rhyss Whittred
George Holman	

Board Members:

Tim Bray
Geoff Ellis
Liam SurrIDGE
Emma George
Ian Sampson

Recfishwest Staff:

Andrew Rowland	Mike Minutillo
Leyland Campbell	Aaron Moses
Tim Grose	Danielle Plater
Vanessa Abbott	Zach Relph
Sam Bock	Sam Russell
Sedin Hasanovic	Ruth Sprague
James Florisson	Steph Watts

Non-Members Present:

Nola Smith

2. **Apologies**

Board Member Apologies:

- Westport program and Recfishwest input to ensure fishing values in Cockburn Sound are capture and recognised;
- Cockburn Sound Seagrass and the Seeds for Snapper and Snapper Guardians programs;
- Fish in the Burbs event at Austin Lakes and hopes for a barramundi suburban stocking program;
- Artificial reef progress including North Metro deployment, the Thevenard Island works, Rio Tinto Dampier Reef;
- State-wide FAD trial;
- Fish stocking activities - Yellowtail Kingfish, the release of the 1 millionth barramundi into Lake Kununurra, marron stocking activities with 50,000 marron released into the dams of Harvey, Waroona and Logue Brook;
- Safe Fishing program.

Questions were invited from attendees.

Frank Prokop enquired: The CEO works at a national level on matters impacting on fishing and animal welfare is an emerging issue. Please discuss the work being done in this regard.

In response, the CEO advised animal welfare is one of the largest challenges of the recreational fishing sector. From a legislative perspective, fish welfare remains covered under the State's Fisheries Act following a recent review of the State's Animal Welfare legislation. Recfishwest believes this is the most appropriate arrangement. He advised Recfishwest had provided input to Government regarding the section of the Fisheries Act related to fish welfare to ensure standard fishing practices are protected. Recfishwest will continue to promote best-practice fish-handling techniques. This is an area regularly attacked by anti-fishing groups and something we must continue to pay close attention.

4.1 Acceptance of Annual Report and Financial Statements

The CEO reported on Recfishwest's financial position, referring members to the audited financial statements, as presented by In Focus Accounting Pty Ltd which provided auditing services to Recfishwest this year.

The CEO discussed the allocation of expenditure as shown in the pie chart on page 56 of the Annual Report. The CEO reported Recfishwest had achieved a surplus and attained the funding levels required to maintain the reserves policy.

Members were asked for comments and questions regarding the Annual Report including the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report. No questions were asked.

Proposed Resolution: "that the Financial Statements for the financial year ending 30th June 2021 tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted".

Moved: Frank Prokop
Resolution passed.

Seconded: Bert Rowland

Proposed Resolution: “that the Annual Report tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted”.

Moved: Liam SurrIDGE
Resolution passed.

Seconded: Mike Donnelly

4.2 Appointment of Auditor

The Recfishwest Board has recommended that Recfishwest retain the services of independent auditor In Focus Accounting Pty Ltd.

Proposed Resolution: “that In Focus Accounting Pty Ltd are appointed as Recfishwest’s Auditor for the next twelve months”.

Moved: Stewart King
Resolution passed.

Seconded: Craig Bibra

5. Elected Directors

5.1 Elected Directors

The Chairman advised that there were three Director vacancies for two-year terms. The Chairman acknowledged the Director nominees; Geoff Ellis and Liam SurrIDGE. The number of director nominations received did not exceed the number of director vacancies to be filled. In accordance with Section 9.9 of the Recfishwest Constitution the director nominations received will be deemed to be elected with effect from the conclusion of the AGM. The two directors deemed to be elected, incumbent directors Geoff Ellis and Liam SurrIDGE, will hold office for a term of two years.

Proposed Resolution: “that the two directors deemed to be elected, incumbent directors Geoff Ellis and Liam SurrIDGE, will hold office for a term of two years”.

Moved: Stuart Bowman
Motion Carried.

Seconded: Stewart King

The Chairman welcomed the returning Directors.

Geoff Ellis – 2-year term
Liam SurrIDGE – 2-year term

5.2 Recfishwest Life Member

At its October 2021 meeting, the Recfishwest Board passed a resolution that

“Ian Sewell be awarded Life Membership of Recfishwest at the 2021 AGM”.

Ian has been involved in advocating for the interests of WA recfishers for more than two decades – starting as a member of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee, which gave way to Recfishwest.

Ian first joined the Recfishwest Board in 1999 and has since held multiple positions across four different terms, the most recent being in 2014-15 when he was Deputy Chair.

He also served as a member on multiple Board sub-committees during his time as a director.

Since leaving the Recfishwest Board in 2015, Ian has continued to represent fishers' interests through his role as Chair of the Recfishwest Freshwater Fishing Reference Group.

Ian has run countless Recfishwest fishing clinics over the years and still remains a senior fishing clinic instructor.

Ian Sewell was an apology due to family commitments.

A pre-recorded video was played of Ian Sewell accepting the award as well as interviews with Andrew Matthews, Frank Prokop and Andrew Rowland.

All in attendance applauded.

6. Close Formal Part of Annual General Meeting

The Chairman thanked the Board and staff of Recfishwest for their efforts over the past year.

The Chairman congratulated Recfishwest and said the Board's job is to support the Recfishwest team and they have been very successful in doing so.

The Chair advised it was his last AGM as chair and recalled his past experiences with Recfishwest and how he was witness to the changes in the organisation. He thanked Recfishwest for the privilege of being part of the organisation.

Members were asked for comments and questions.

Frank Prokop thanked the chair, Tim Bray, for his time over the years. The Recfishwest Board is entering its 25th year. It is about the great outcomes Recfishwest has achieved with the money available and the fact that the interests of fishers are better understood at the highest level of Government.

George Holman said he was happy to see what Recfishwest has achieved and liked seeing how happy the staff are to be working with Recfishwest. He thanked the Board and staff.

The Chairman declared the formal part of the meeting closed and thanked all of the members for attending and invited them for refreshments at the bar.

Meeting closed: 5.36 pm