



New Zealand Farm Forestry Association
Oranga Rākau Aotearoa

National Council Meeting
Held at Sopheze Tearooms, Caroline Bay Hall, Timaru
Friday 31 March 2023

Item	Agenda Item	Notes
8am meeting opened 1	<p>Chairman's Welcome to Council Meeting</p> <p>Apologies Malcolm McKenzie - Waitomo</p> <p>Roll Call Tim Forde - Hawke's Bay Julian Bateson - Wairarapa & Indigenous Peter Berg - Lower North Joy Coulter Mid North Garth Coulter Mid North Hamish Levack - Wellington Philip Alloway - Nelson Michael Orchard - West Coast Christine Pedersen - Northland John Pedersen - Northland Michael Higgins - Nelson (observer) Dave Forsythe - Waikato Neil Cullen - South Otago Eric Cairns - Farm Forestry Timbers Dougal Morrison Wellington (observer) Brian Dixon - Central Canterbury Patrick Milne - Cypress Development Group Eric Appleton - Patron John Greenslade - Ashburton Ian Jackson - South Canterbury Fiona Lomax - South Otago Graham Milligan - Southland George Shallcrass - Marlborough Nick Pollock - Gisborne Vaughan Kearns - Wellington (observer) Lynne Wallace - Forest Investors Action Group Chris Dawkins - Marlborough Gary Fleming - North Canterbury & NZ Oaks & Eucalypt Action Group Laurie Bennett - North Canterbury (observer)</p>	



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	<p>Rob Webster - Sequoia Action Group Angus Gordon - Middle Districts Kees Weytmans Gisborne/East Coast Graham West - National President & Bay of Plenty Don Wallace - Acting Treasurer/Secretary Liz Chamberlain NZFFA Administrator</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the 4 November 2022 Council Meeting & 7 July 2022 SGM</p> <p><i>Patrick Milne moved that previous minutes found to be true & correct; Kees Weytmans second. Motion Carried.</i></p> <p>Actions reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● ACTION Tim Forde to send out how to (be a great branch) list <i>ongoing</i>● ACTION Peter Berg to summarise FGR Committee role to send out to members - Peter hasn't found anyone to fill his roles yet. <i>ongoing</i>● Council engagement encouraged on website user group <p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● New Patron - Welcome to Eric Appleton	
3	<p>Obituaries to be acknowledged at the NZFFA AGM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Derek Rooney - Central Canterbury● Alan Myer - Ian Jackson● Tom Corbett – Angus Gordon● David Hammond - Angus Gordon● Ingleby Cox – Mid North	
4	<p>Election of Officers</p>	<p>Don Wallace</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● National President - Neil Cullen● One North Island National Executive Member - Michael Gravatt● One South Island National Executive Member - Patrick Milne● One At Large National Executive Member - Les Dowling ● 4 vacant positions and 4 nominations so an election is not necessary.● Graham West thanks Neil Cullen for stepping up into the role of NZFFA president.	
5	<p>President's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Graham West spoke to slides – highlights● Graham West suggested a change to political, official & pan sector representation.● Angus Gordon How long do you see the tenure of that role? Should there be remuneration?● Hamish Levack President already taps other people to represent NZFFA on committees; do we need past president to be council chairperson?● Julian Bateson How does current president create relationships if past president still on those committees. Graham West Work with current president to transition● Angus Gordon Exec as collective work together to provide services/skills that a CFO/CEO would● Lynne Wallace Does a NZFFA representative have to have a title; &● Branches /Action groups need to look within themselves to find more NZFFA representatives● Don Wallace No requirement for changes to the Constitution. Council can decide to appoint their Council chairperson.	Graham West



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- Peter Berg continuity & leadership is important however this should be discussed within the Exec
 - Graham West Exec have already discussed
- Lynne Wallace can we have a Zoom council meeting once new Exec have had a chance to meld
- Egon Guttke as vice president hasn't been appointed yet this needs to go back to Exec before Council can decide
- Neil Cullen happy with Graham West's proposal for governance. How this is carried out should be decided at the next Exec meeting.
- Angus Gordon if Council wishes to change the rules of how Council operate, how much notice is required?
- Don Wallace important that Council can appoint its own chairperson in presidents & vice-president's absence however appropriate motion would have to be brought to the council if a change to the constitution is required.
- Angus Gordon NZFFA needs to be more dynamic if organisation is going to move forward
- Howard Moore requires the Exec to state that they are happy for Council to run their own affairs
- Hamish Levack talked about the role of Council

Angus Gordon Motion that Council amends the Constitution so that Council can appoint their own Chairperson. Kees Weytmans Second. Motion Carried; two opposed.

Angus Gordon Motion that a Council meeting be held in (as soon as possible) 42 days. George Shallcrass Second. Motion carried.

- Angus Gordon if Graham West is prepared to step up, the Council needs to take action.
- Graham West this is an attempt to lighten the load for the new president. Governance & operations



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Julian Bateson if Council meets more regularly, Council Chairperson reports back to Exec.● Peter Berg this can be done by immediate past president without giving person a title● Nick Pollock Council hasn't worked for years. Plan would work well.● Angus Gordon organisation needs shake up – roles need to be spread out and shared	
6	NZFFA Patron Eric Appleton spoke to the Council Meeting	Eric Appleton
7	Update Projects for Operations - Graham West presented slide presentation on Project Updates	Graham West
8	<p>Promotions and communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● National Field Days – Vaughan Kearns gave an update. Next National Field day is happening in June 2023. Set up cost last year was significant but assets will carry over to this year's field days● Kids grow a tree competition; feedback that competition not required but giving out trees was an effective promotions.● Angus Gordon is there talk of primary sector hub? Need to support each other.● TUR extension seminars<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hamish Levack & Dougal Morrison gave a progress report○ Angus Gordon need for representatives from local rural experts	Graham West, Vaughan Kearns & Hamish Levack



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Howard Moore an example of using external funding, using external contractor and hopefully making a profit ● Billboards discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Peter Berg importantt to maintain signs for wear & tear ○ Graham West branded billboards should be consistent.o 	
9	<p>Next Conference & next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conference 2024 – Hawkes Bay? To be discussed in AGM ● Council Meeting - November 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Zoom meeting to be set for mid year 	All
10	<p>Remit - Eligibility for the role of the President</p> <p>It is proposed that the NZFFA Constitution be amended to widen eligibility for the role of President. To do this, it is proposed that rule 11 (b) (iii) which currently reads: <i>Every nominee for President should have completed a minimum of one year on the Executive.</i> be altered to read: <i>Every nominee for President should have completed a minimum of one year on the Executive or be a current Branch or Action Group President, Secretary, Treasurer or Councillor.</i></p> <p>Michael Orchard Motion to accept remit to constitution. Angus Gordon Second. Motion carried. Three opposed.</p>	Don Wallace
11	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Role of council Graham West presents slides 	All



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eric Cairns. Survey questionnaire. Training. Please complete a questionnaire to fulfil our obligations for funding.• Fiona Lomax gave thanks to Graham West for his time as president.• Vaughan Kearns Husqvarna sponsorship – potential Stihl sponsorship. Stihl representative coming to Conference 2023 Awards dinner.	
12	Close of Meeting	

Rule 16 (a) of the NZFFA Constitution and rules states: Only Councillors and members of the Executive shall attend council meetings, but the Chairperson may invite others to attend if, in his or her judgement, those so invited possess special knowledge likely to be of help to the council in reaching its decision. As a number of non-councillors have registered for this meeting, they will be invited to attend in the interests of facilitating more broadly base discussions than are possible at the AGM.