



## Northern United Forestry Group

### Monthly Meeting. Raywood Golf Club, 8:00pm Wednesday 25 February 2009

#### 1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:10pm.

**Present:** Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Rob Comer, Tim Johns, Mal Brown, Darren Bain, Darren Kerr, Robyn McKay, Greg Akers, Carl O'Donahue, Frank Love, Jo Stavrakis, Ken Wellard, Trevor Barker, Andy Hay, John Childs.

**Apologies:** Lindsay Cail, Stewart Ayson, Meg Ayson, Louise Wellard, Barbara Lindemann, Malory Weston, James Williams, David Millsom, Lynda Cartwright, Shaun Quayle

Motion: "The apologies be accepted." Moved DB. Seconded RMcK. Carried.

#### 2 Minutes of previous meeting held 28 January 2009

Motion: "The minutes of the meeting held at Raywood Hotel 28 January 2009, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved PD. Seconded RC. Carried.

#### 3 Business arising from previous minutes

1. Motion: "That the \$60 from Campaspe Shire for questionnaire go to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal." Moved MB. Seconded RMcK. Carried.
---

#### 4 Correspondence In

- ♦ GM Water – 4 Bore permits.
- ♦ E-mail – "Residues to Revenues", use of small diameter wood for biofuels.
- ♦ FFGV – Stock and Land article, Graeme Stoney.
- ♦ Bob Richardson – Mechanical thinning, machine to attach to a FE loader.
- ♦ Forest & Timber mag Feb 2009, Issue 1, Vol 18.
- ♦ Jeroen Van Veen – Wedderburn CMN 16,000 trees on 20 ha.

#### 5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ TJ – G-M Water Bore Permits paperwork (again, again).

Motion: "That correspondence be accepted." Moved PD. Seconded DB. Carried.

#### 6 Reports

**President's report** – Ian Rankin informed to group that FFGV had its first general meeting. David Fiskin is the chair, Graeme Stoney the Secretary. FFGV is an incorporated body. A survey is to be conducted regarding plantation areas in each group. The group is setting up contacts with government departments. Andrew Lang meeting Minister Bourke re: CFOC application criteria. There was a variety of other information regarding the recent bushfires, 350,000ha damaged so far. Greens ready to launch PR exercise re; no burning in forests.

- ♦ **Treasurer's report** – Rob Comer reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 25 February 2009.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 25 February 2009 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded AH. Carried.

- ♦ **Social Secretary's Report** – Trivia night to be run. Venue and date to be provided. Interested members please contact Robyn with your thoughts.
- ♦ **Kamo/CC2 Report** – Phil presented 2003/2004 history of the Kamo site, Salinity mid 50's, 50ha project site, 12ha planted in 2004, 8ha in 2005, saltbush on saline land, watertable within a metre of the surface and salinity  $\frac{3}{4}$  that of seawater. In 2007,

watertable dropped below 2m level, where woody vegetation was present. Christmas 2007 ~ 130mm rain in 24hrs, watertable rose then steadily declined, has now fallen to more than 5m below NUFG plantation. Black Saturday data from site showed relative humidity 5% and temperature 46°C. Trees started to use water at about 7am and by 10:30am reduced transpiration by 50% to survive the conditions. Phil gave a run-down of the data from Drummartin, Milloo, etc. He also showed a diagram of the profile of the soils at Milloo and where the aquifers sit.

## 7 General Business

1. MB – Tang Tang Swamp project proposal. Mal presented the current, more developed proposal to the meeting and went through all the elements.
2. TB – Significant change stories, Little lake Boort 24 March, 10am. Invitations to Loddon LC dinner 4/5/09. Weed control strategies for 16 weeds.
3. PD – Farm Ready Industry Grants Round 1. Phil has applied, worth ~\$80k per year.
4. GA – Stock containment areas, DPI/NCCMA \$15K per area. Further info through Penny Wall.
5. AH – Bushfires. Are monitoring instruments at Kamo insured? Should we look at insuring them?
6. TB – LC group at Arnold. PD doing a presentation for them shortly.
7. PD – 27/4/09, Tony Misson visit to Kamo.
8. DB – funding from DPI has dried up. Whole Farm planning now being done, Now called Farm Plan 21. Interested parties please contact Darren.

**8 Meeting closed:** 9:45pm. **Next Meeting:** Raywood Hotel 25 March 2009, starting at 8pm.