



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 26 September 2007

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:20pm.

Present: Rob Comer, Tim Johns, Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Howard Perry, Prue Borschmann, Ken Wellard.

Apologies: John Toll, Shaun Quayle, James Williams, Tim Barden, Lindsay Cail, Georgie Sims, Adam Sims, Louise Wellard, Paul Turnbull.

Motion: "That the apologies be accepted." Moved HP. Seconded PB. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 22 August 2007

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held at the Raywood Hotel 22 August 2007, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved RC. Seconded KW. Carried.

3 Business arising from previous minutes

<i>Issue/Action</i>	<i>By Whom</i>	<i>By When</i>	<i>Status</i>
Improved adherence to timeliness of meetings	NUFG members	Ongoing	Ongoing
Send letter regarding issues with accessing EFARMER including infrastructure to relevant authorities	TJ	26/09/07	Complete.
FF Toolbox V5 – Andy Warner CDs not in yet. Training to be delivered when CDs in.	-	-	Active
Dan Murphy/ Mhrinral Brahve – NUGF partners in salt tolerant acacia project.	-	-	For information.

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ Amanda McClaren – Jigsaw farms open day.
- ♦ Peter McGauran – Kamo stage 3 funding \$80K.
- ♦ Andrew Lang – Workshop/ Smarttimbers AGM. Ian McClelland (Birchip cropping group) keynote speaker.
- ♦ Dept of Agriculture, Fishing & Forestry – Partners in sustainable production NUGF article.
- ♦ Ben Kroker – Natural environment strategy, the Green Plan 2.
- ♦ Austimber 2008 – International conference and exhibition for the forest industries, Mt Gambier 3 to 8 March 2008.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ 100 copies of Kamo DVD to various stakeholders.
- ♦ James Williams – FF2 tour report.
- ♦ Invoice – Kamo 2006/07 3rd Quarter to NCCMA.

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

6 Reports

- ♦ President's report – Ian Rankin described his and Leanne's attendance at the Vic Landcare awards. NUFG received a show bag, but no win for their entrance in the Communities section of the awards. Ian participated in a telephone hook-up regarding chippings and thinning project – looks like \$2K a day possible. Ian received an invitation to Plantation eucalypts for high value timbers, 9-12 October 2007 and will be attending. Rowan Reid has put it to NUFG to run an MTG program through the group.

Motion: That the NUFG look further into running a MTG course. Moved KW. Seconded IR. Carried.

- ♦ Treasurer's report – Rob Comer reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 26 September 2007.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 26 September 2007 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded PT. Carried.

- ♦ Social Secretary's Report – not present – report on FF tour submitted.
- ♦ Kamarooka Project Report – As a follow-up to the DVD launch Mal has distributed some 300 copies to various stakeholders, has participated in an article by the Weekly Times and was involved in a radio interview with the ABC. Mal has spoken with Daniel Murphy regarding NUFG's involvement in and support for a Wettenhall foundation research project into salt tolerant acacias. Mal provided Kamarooka & Climate change imagery to Nadeem Samnakay, Knowledge and Adoption Officer - Landscapes, Land & Water Australia. As well he hosted a variety of visitors to the Kamarooka site and project as well as conducting aerial photograph of the site.
- ♦ Kamarooka ground water - Phil Dyson reported that following the very dry conditions, all the ground water systems are falling. Phil noted that temperature measurement of the groundwater in the part of the system closest to the surface has a high temp in the middle of the year and lows during summer, that is, a 6-month lag. This is evident in deeper groundwater, though much less pronounced.
- ♦ Climate change Project – Tim reported that EM38 measurement has had to be abandoned due to the increased cost of drilling. A sub-committee meeting was held prior to the general meeting ensuring the budget and project were on track. Information sheets are being developed for participating farms in the project.

7 General Business

- ♦ RC – Elmore field days making it a goal to become carbon enutral. There may be room for NUFG to be part o this. Rob also went to the Sustainable and Renewable energy conference in Bendigo recently and reported back to the meeting.
- ♦ IR – 27 October 98 was 1st NUFG meeting. Are we to have a 10yr celebration? Committee to be formed.
- ♦ IR – Elmore field days, request for volunteers to assist in DPI tent for NUFG.
- ♦ PD – T-Shirts with hats and logos for NUFG. IR to get some quotes.
- ♦ HP – would like eFARMER password and username.
- ♦ MB – eFARMER training #3 to be conducted after the next NUFG general meeting.

8 Meeting closed: 9:45pm. Next Meeting: Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 24 October 2007.