



## Northern United Forestry Group

### Monthly Meeting. Raywood Golf Club, 8:00pm Wednesday 24 September 2008

#### 1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:05pm.

**Present:** Darren Kerr, Tim Johns, Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, James Williams, Rob Comer, Malory Weston, Andrew Wall,

**Apologies:** Penny Wall, Mal Brown, John Toll, Lindsay Cail, Darren Bain, Amanda McClaren, Robyn McKay.

Motion: "The apologies be accepted." Moved MW. Seconded JW. Carried.

#### 2 Minutes of previous meeting held 27 August 2008

Motion: "The minutes of the meeting held at Raywood Hotel 27 August 2008, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved RC. Seconded AW. Carried.

#### 3 Business arising from previous minutes

Discussions were held regarding issues around payment for the NUGF 10 year anniversary celebrations.

Motion: "For the October 25, 2008 NUGF 10 year celebration, lunch and bus travel to be paid for from NUGF consolidated revenue. Members to pay for their own evening meal and any drinks." Moved TJ. Seconded RC. Carried.

A short discussion was held on the trees at Kamarooka.

Foliage removal at pruning. Resolution to this issue is that a management plan needs to be developed describing how the plantation is pruned and managed. Sap-flow monitoring should be included in this management. Overall agreement that, only trees selected with good form to be pruned for sawlogs, approximately 1 out of every 4 to 5 trees. Rest to be left to remove groundwater until thinning.

#### 4 Correspondence In

- AMcC – Chainsaw course being offered at Costerfield, to be held 10 November, cost \$93, 8:30am to 4:30pm, contact Richard Lilley on 5833 2814.

#### 5 Correspondence Out

- PD – Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, revised agreement for funding CC2 at new lower funding level.

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

#### 6 Reports

- **President's report** – Ian Rankin reported that on Thursday 18 September, GM Water conducted an expo at East Loddon P-12. NUGF took part. Many exhibitors were present. The day went very well and was well received. The NUGF saltbush seeder was hired out to a landholder in the Logan/ Burke's Flat area. IR & JW went to Creswick on behalf of NUGF regarding the formation of FFGV (Farm Forestry Growers Victoria). This group is being formed to take up the cause of farm foresters as it is seen that the farm forestry movement need to have a stronger voice and representation. It is being formed in membership from the existing serious farm forestry groups in Victoria. Membership of this group will cost \$100.

Motion: "That NUFG participate and support the formation of FFGV, including contribution of \$100 from NUFG consolidated revenue for the first 12 months. Moved IR. Seconded MW. Carried.

♦ **Treasurer's report** – Rob Comer reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 24 September 2008. The issue of auditing the CC1 books after payment of final accounts was also discussed.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 24 September 2008 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved RC. Seconded BB. Carried.

Motion: "That MGR be contracted to audit CC1 books and produce a short report on this audit for dissemination to relevant authorities at a cost of ~\$400. Moved TJ. Seconded PD. Carried.

♦ **Social Secretary's Report** – Not present (apology).

♦ **Kamo/CC2/SPG Report** – Phil reported that for September only 4mm of rain has fallen on Kamo site. This compares to 63mm for July and 45mm for August. The earlier 2 months were above average, but September well below. Watertables haven't moved for September due to low rainfall. The bore results at RC's have been analysed and are showing a fairly large aquifer. The response to rainfall has been interesting. Sap flow - larger e.cladocalyx using more water, e.occidentalis using less water but better growth. Smaller e.cladocalyx using less water and shutting down around 10am.

## 7 General Business

1. MW – MTG course was great. Lots to take in. Good knowledge held within course participants as well as the course operators. Has provided feedback to IR on the course.
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2. PD – Mrinal Bhave (Swinburne) research on salt tolerance of trees and shrubs looks likely to happen.
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8 **Meeting closed:** 9:53pm. **Next Meeting:** Raywood Hotel 22 October 2008, starting at 8pm.