



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Golf Club, 8pm Wednesday 25 October 2006

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:22pm.

Present: Rob Comer, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Tim Johns, Andy Hay, Ken Wellard, Phil Dyson, John Toll, Ian Rankin, Rhonda Day.

Apologies: James Williams, Darren Bain, Lindsay Cail, Mal Johnson, Zoe Toll, Stuart Ayson, Don Brown, Louise Wellard, Judy Sens, Tim Barden.

Motion: "That the apologies be accepted." Moved John Toll. Seconded Andy Hay. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 27 September 2006

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held at the Raywood Golf Club 27 September 2006, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting." Moved Ken Wellard. Seconded Mal Brown. Carried.

3 Business arising

- ♦ Chainsaw operators course. Course to be conducted November 4/5 2006, Karl Liffman via Inglewood Community Centre to conduct the course. Venue is Andrew Wall's plantation starting 9am. Eight takers for the course from meeting attendees. Enrolment forms to be filled in to allow course to run.
- ♦ Sign for Leichardt – has been erected on fence. Also, story added on the web regarding Mal's plantation. The site can now log if people are visiting the site due to viewing the sign, and there has been some significant response to the web site both as a result of the sign and the recent International LandCare conference.

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ VFF member raffle. Moved by Mal Brown that \$20 be spent by NUFG to purchase all tickets. Seconded John Toll. Carried.
- ♦ River red gum forests inspection VEAC.
- ♦ Australian Forest Growers magazine.
- ♦ Swan Hill seedbank – Ian Rankin complementary membership.
- ♦ AFG/ Shaun Quayle – Pruned stand certification. Mal Brown stated that he was interested in undertaking the course. He will attend.
- ♦ Karoline Klein – Bendigo based carbon credit scheme. Mal Brown has sent a reply e-mail with some questions to be answered.
- ♦ Ken Wellard – bad press for tree growers in Bendigo region.
- ♦ Wildlife ethics committee – approved blood sampling for Kamo project.
- ♦ Phil Dyson – Approval for \$144 for 150MB for NUFG website.
- ♦ Inglewood Community Resource Centre – "Recognise Plants"/ "Collect, Treat and Store Seed" courses.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ Application for 2nd generation LandCare grant - \$300 for VFF towards up-skilling members. \$900 - tour of member plantations.
- ♦ 3rd quarterly report for Kamarooka project to NCCMA.

Motion: "That the correspondence be accepted." Moved Phil Dyson. Seconded Rob Comer. Carried.

6 Reports

- ♦ President's report – Ian Rankin gave a reprisal of his presentation to the International LandCare conference, and gave a brief run-down of events at the conference. Phil Dyson also gave a run-down of his presentation at the ILCC on ground water processes at Kamarooka.
- ♦ Treasurer's report – Rob Comer reported on NUFG's income and expenditure as at 25 October 2006.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's report at 25 October 2006 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment." Moved Rob Comer. Seconded Darren Kerr. Carried.

- ♦ Social Secretary report – not present.
- ♦ Kamarooka report – Mal Brown gave a report including items from the ILCC, hits on the website since the ILCC and inclusion of signage and also notified the group of Richard Rettalick's species counts at the Kamarooka site. The species counts were conducted from 9 locations over 2 hectares of the site including visual and acoustic measurement. Phil Dyson presented an update on what is happening with groundwater on the Hay family property.

Motion: "That the reports be accepted." Moved Andy Hay. Seconded John Toll. Carried.

7 General Business

- ♦ Ken Wellard mentioned the front-page article from "The Age" newspaper, which was rather negative toward tree growing in the Bendigo region (amongst others struggling with water issues). The discussion centred on what, if anything should be done to answer any questions people might have in response to this type of negative publicity. It was decided that Phil Dyson and Ken Wellard had already generated material in various e-mails on the subject, which could be used to create a position statement to be placed on the NUFG web site.
- ♦ From "Correspondence In", Phil Dyson requested \$144 of NUFG funds for 150MB of space on the NUFG web site. Moved Ken Wellard. Seconded Tim Johns. Carried.

8 Guest Speaker

Rhonda Day – LandCare co-ordinator for the Campaspe Shire (based at Kyabram) gave a presentation on her work history, role within the Shire and up-coming activities within the Campaspe shire of note for NUFG members.

9 Meeting closed: 10:02. Next Meeting: Raywood Golf Club, 8pm Wednesday 22 November 2006.