



Northern United Forestry Group

Monthly Meeting. Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 28 November 2007

1 Welcome and Apologies

President Ian Rankin declared the meeting open at 8:03pm.

Present: Rob Comer, Tim Johns, Phil Dyson, Ian Rankin, Mal Brown, Darren Kerr, Ken Wellard, Darren Bain, Andy Hay, James Williams, John Toll, Shaun Quayle,

Apologies: Louise Wellard, Trevor Barker, Stuart Ayson, Georgie Sims, Amanda McClaren, Adam Sims, Mal Johnson, Prue Borschmann.

Motion: "That the apologies be accepted." Moved DB. Seconded AH. Carried.

2 Minutes of previous meeting held 24 October 2007

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held at the Raywood Hotel 24 October 2007, be accepted as a true and accurate record of what took place at the meeting."

Moved JW. Seconded AH. Carried.

3 Business arising from previous minutes

| Issue/Action | By Whom | By When | Status |
|---|---------------|-------------------------|---------|
| FF Toolbox V5 – Andy Warner CDs not in yet. Training to be delivered when CDs in. SQ to run through with V4 if V5 not ready | Shaun Quayle- | Decide at next meeting- | Active |
| MB has met with Geoff Park regarding running a MTG course. Melb Uni can help with funding plus Rowan Reid. Budget has been put together by Mal. | MB | | Ongoing |
| Quotes from Centre Vic Clothing for hats/t-shirts. More quotes sought | IR/MB | Next meeting | |

4 Correspondence In

- ♦ Rhonda Day – Campaspe Landcare get-together Wed 5/12/07 @ Rochester sports club 6pm RSVP 30/11/07.
- ♦ Trevor Barker – Land for wildlife open property '07 at Bringaloyalong, 540 Harris Rd Marong, Friday 30/11/07 at 11am – RSVP Miles Geldard 0428 130 562.
- ♦ Jacinta Allan per Theo Theophanous – Reply to NUGF letter – re issues with eFARMER. Gave reply on what is available wrt broadband & CIP for aerial imagery.
- ♦ Simon Bryant per Helen Coonan – due to Federal election no help on eFARMER issue.
- ♦ Jeremy Chandler per Mark Vaile – forwarded issues to Helen Coonan.
- ♦ Rod Shaw per Peter McGauran – NCAS/NAMS for imagery – forwarded the broadband issue to Helen Coonan.
- ♦ Dept of Ag, Fisheries & Forestry – remittance advice for 30% of Climate change project funding.
- ♦ Amanda McClaren – NLP sustainable practices grants – guidelines have changed, now open & close 25/2/08.
- ♦ Darren Bain DPI - \$3000 grants available
- ♦ Australian Forests & Timbers Magazine Issue 7, Vol 16.
- ♦ Australian Forest Grower, Vol 30, #3.

5 Correspondence Out

- ♦ NCCMA invoice – Q1/Q2 3rd year of Kamarooka project.

Motion: “That the correspondence be accepted.” Moved JT. Seconded MB. Carried.

6 Reports

- ♦ **President’s report** – Ian Rankin informed the meeting that NUFG have been gifted a saltbush seeder from Dave Millsom for use by community groups. Thanks Dave..

- ♦ **Treasurer’s report** – Rob Comer reported on NUFG’s income and expenditure as at 28 November 2007.

Motion: “That the Treasurer’s report at 28 November 2007 be approved and that accounts received be approved for payment.” Moved RC. Seconded AH. Carried.

- ♦ **Social Secretary’s Report** – Sunday 16th December to be NUFG Christmas function at the Rankin’s, starting 12 midday. Ranx to send invitations.

Motion: “That Andy provide a lamb for the Christmas function, refer costs of preparation to NUFG.” Moved MB. Seconded JT. Carried

- ♦ **Kamarooka Project Report** –Mal discussed the photo points showing the marked differences between the project site between photos taken in 2004 and 2007. Will Dalton (consultant) has given 4 copies of the final financial report to the group. “Thinking Bush” has highlighted an article outlining the Climate Change project being undertaken by NUFG. A fence was installed to protect the monitoring equipment at the Kamo site (evap pan and loggers). Sap flow monitors ordered for the Climate Change project.
- ♦ **Kamarooka ground water** - Phil Dyson reported that the rainfall in November (to date) at Kamo was 23.8mm and the total for spring 35mm. Phil made the comment that rainfall is down about 150mm pretty much everywhere around Central and Northern Victoria. The groundwater system is following rainwater trends and after slight rises previously all the groundwater falling pursuant with low rainfall.
- ♦ **Climate change Project** – Sub-committee met 7/11/07 for a successful meeting at Dingee. Evap pans have been developed to roll-out stage in the format they are in. eFARMER training will take place on 12 December 2007 at 5:30pm and will include a meal. Training to be conducted at East Loddon P-12. Drilling at Leichardt to hopefully start soon using McNabbs (sub contracting for Watson’s).

7 General Business

- ♦ PD – Richard George visited Kamo site with Dan Mudford. Site fits well with their work. Understorey pasture plants put forward as good fit for Kamo site between rows of saltbush. May be some developments in the future.
- ♦ MB – Mal has been appointed chair of the Natural Resource Management Committee for the NCCMA. IR congratulated Mal on his appointment and the meeting gave Mal a round of applause.
- ♦ TJ – Participants at International Salinity Conference confirmed as Phil, Andy & Tim.
- ♦ PD – Tour for International Salinity Conference will likely come through central Victoria and have indicated a trip to Kamarooka will be part of the tour. This will be on Tuesday 25 March 2008. Phil has been asked to be a guide for this area.

8 Meeting closed: 9:30pm. Next Meeting: Raywood Hotel, 8pm Wednesday 23 January 2008.