



Sydney Weeds Committees

• Sydney Central • Sydney South West
• Sydney North • Sydney West – Blue Mountains

Sydney Weeds Committees Incorporated

ABN 32 801 615 966

SWC Board Teleconference Wed 9th Dec 9.30 AM

Teleconference minutes

Via Chorus call	
Present	Gareth Debney, Matt McNaughton, Steven Smith, Jonathan Sanders and Mick Pattison
Agenda	<p>1. Apologies Chris Stanfield. Alex Burgess Buxton</p> <p>2. Audit Report The Executive Officer explained aspects of the audit report received yesterday from the accountant.</p> <p>It was noted that the financial report had included provision for a disputed account with the previous accountant.</p> <p>Recommendation: The Board agreed to accept the audit report for presentation at the AGM.</p> <p>Action 2.1. EO to draft letter to Mr Frank Cherry re the disputed account and seek the advice of the accountant before sending.</p> <p>3. 9.45 AM GLLS Regional Weed Committee – Next Steps Mr Robert Adam joined the teleconference to share his reflections on the four (sub) regional weed committee meetings he had attended and discuss next steps.</p> <p>He advised the Board that he had found attending the meetings productive and useful. He now had a sense of preference for Councils in terms of representation on the LLS RWC and also had a collective list of public land managers for consideration to seek to engage as part of the RWC.</p> <p>He noted that there was a need to keep numbers on the RWC manageable and that it had been decided to focus on inclusion in the committee of the</p>



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major corridor managers – Sydney Trains, Roads and Maritime Services and possibly Ausgrid. LLS would seek to engage others that had been identified via some other means, as part of developing the strategic weed management plan (e.g. workshops, education and engagement programs). It was discussed that it would be useful for SWC to continue to encourage operational engagement with public land managers, alongside strategic engagement in the SWMP.

Robert advised that development of a Memorandum of Understanding with Sydney Weeds would be a useful next step to formalize the understandings that had been reached re:

- SWC providing representation through the Chairs of the four sub-regions on the GSLLS RWC
- SWC continuing to function in the medium term as a network to support GSLLS in the transition to the new arrangements
- Both parties benefiting from a future review of functions and roles.

Given that SWC will be providing a useful role and that it is a membership organization with business costs, it was discussed that the RWC may consider resourcing SWC in the future.

In this context Jonathan Sanders advised that he felt it important that RA understand that SWC currently runs at a loss. He explained that this was because the SWC did not have a “critical mass” of activity (since the change in WAP administrative arrangements) as it had been set up originally to run the WAP as well as the sub-regional network. He advised that SWC had sufficient funds to continue to run the network for the next two years with no change to current operational levels, but needed to investigate future options. Options that could be considered included increasing membership fees, seeking external funding (e.g. RWC, GSLLS, other), and/or potentially ascribing the realistic sub-regional coordination costs back to the WAP (as this continues to rely on the sub-regional network).

Mr Robert Adam left the meeting.



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4. Other business

Future Board arrangements

JS advised that he was not going to continue on the SWC Board but would be happy to provide advice in the future on invitation. He was pleased to see some new faces and return of others and felt that future prospects for SWC were good.

SWC resourcing

Jonathan suggested that Environmental Trust grants should be investigated as a matter of priority, particularly in the area of education, as they could supplement SWC operations. Steven Smith agreed with this and noted that SWC focus should not be on the Weeds Action Program but all other options should be investigated. It was also suggested that efficiency measures such as running joint meetings to reduce costs should be considered.

Vote of thanks

Steven Smith advised he would not be able to attend the AGM and wished to express a sincere vote of thanks to Jonathan for all his dedication and hard work over many years. This was supported by all present.