

To RMSA members.

The meeting was held in the Burke and Wills Hotel in Toowoomba on Saturday 25 May 2019.

The meeting commenced at 1630 hrs.

Apologies: Antonio Vega Vega, Peter Hinchcliffe.

Present: Peter Hughes, Rob Gray, Nick Stephenson, Henry Hook, David Shaker, Graham Stewart, Matthew Stinson, Cody Fitzgerald, Richard Arnot, Steve Flecknoe-Brown, Geoffrey Chu, Shahadat Hossain, Adrian Aitken, Andrew Gordon and George Tucker.

Minutes of previous [inaugural] General Meeting ,in Canberra on 7 April 2018, accepted and confirmed.

The financial report for the year ending 30 June 2018, previously circulated, was accepted. Peter hughes reported that the Bank balance on 23 May was \$3,273.

Appointment of Auditor: Mr Rick Williams of Canberra was appointed Auditor.

Motion on Notice: Amendment of Constitution, moved by Peter Hughes:-

“That rule 52[c][ii] be amended by replacing the word “Secretary” by the words “Returning Officer” so that the Rule reads

“52. The officers and other directors of the Board shall be appointed in accordance with this Rule :

a. Where there is a vacancy on the Board for a director or directors the Board may appoint members to those positions and such directors may hold office only till the next AGM and then those persons may stand for election.

b. For election of directors at an Annual General Meeting the Association shall give a minimum of forty two (42) days notice to all Members calling for nominations;

c. All nominations of candidates for all Board positions shall be:

[i] in writing and signed by the nominee;

[ii] lodged with the Returning Officer at least thirty [30] days before the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place;”

The motion was passed unopposed.

2020 meeting of RMSA: to be in Orange on Saturday 16 May, convened by Henry Hook.

8. RMSA membership fees - to remain at \$100 per annum. Suggestion of stratified fees for registrars etc. by Nick Stephenson. Definite reduction in meeting fee was accepted but ongoing consideration of membership fee reduction for doctors in training required.

Discussion re a theme for meeting. Members agreed that a theme and presentations pertaining to that would be helpful. Adrian Aitken suggested “partnerships”. Further consideration of this in due course.

Speakers to be invited will include state and federal health ministers, local admin

and clinicians and other speakers as suggested by members in due course. Dean of the new rural clinical school in Orange might be a good speaker re rural recruitment and retention of specialists.

Adrian Aitken circulated a document and suggested a change to the mission statement of the RMSA. This document had not previously been sighted and several members expressed that any change of this nature would require greater notice and consideration. Therefore members are encouraged to read the original aims as set down in the constitution and read Adrian's document for discussion at a later stage.

Rob Gray pointed out that the RDAA seems to have very similar goals to our organisation. They already have corporate knowledge regarding lobbying the government and overall have a pretty reasonable structure and strategy. Perhaps members of the board may be able to make contact with their counterparts in the RDAA and discuss an aligned strategic approach. Probably way too early to discuss a "merger".

Adrian Aitken raised issues re exposure in the media and specifically re a media liaison. It was pointed out that the local ABC were present for the conference and interviews had taken place. A general sense of caution regarding precipitous press releases was apparent. Once again the RDAA seem to have this as part of their strategy and we may need to discuss this with them directly. The considerable expense of good quality media liaison would appear to be beyond our limited means at this time.

Meeting closed at 1650