



Annual General Meeting of BirdLife Australia, Western Australia Branch
 23rd February, 2015 Tamala Hall, Floreat

AGENDA		DRAFT MINUTES	
No.	Issue/Topic	Points of Discussion/Details (motions/decisions in bold italicised type)	Action required and Time Frame
1	Welcome, Introduction and Apologies	Meeting started 1935 hrs. Attendance: X members as listed in the attendance book and X visitors. Apologies: Sue Mather, Matthew Pudovskis, Wes Bancroft, Stephen Davies, Vicky Bilney, Ross Marshall	
2	Confirmation of 2013 Minutes	<i>Motion: That the minutes from the 2014 AGM be accepted.</i> <i>Nominated: Tegan Douglas, Seconded: Annette Parks. Carried.</i>	
3	Matters Arising from the Minutes	No matters were raised.	
4	Chairman's Annual Report	See report in the next edition of WA Bird Notes and on the BirdLife Australia website. Main points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nic Dunlop thanked three retiring EC members, including Lorraine Marshall for her role as Vice Chair, Wayne Merrit and Marion Massam as Secretary for their assistance and hard work. • A special thank you went to Wayne Monks for his enthusiasm and considerable effort and hard work. Events such as the South Coast Festival of birds would not have been able to occur without his efforts and pioneering work. He has been instrumental in engaging with country branches. His strong views of advocacy were not shared with all members of the EC or membership. WM was passionate in his efforts to obtain core funding to keep the GWW programme going, however the EC decided core funding should be spent on core operations of the branch. WM resigned from committee and stepped down as Treasurer. • Thanks to Frank O'Connor for stepping in as treasurer. Thanks to all EC members for their involvement in the last year. • ND looks forward to staying on the EC and assisting new chair Mike Bamford, possibly as vice treasurer. With an increase in levels of activity and funding for BirdLife WA, exciting times are ahead! • There are two main issues the EC faced this year: • 1. It is clear that we don't understand where we sit as a branch within BirdLife Australia. One fundamental change is that we are no longer an incorporated body (rather, an unincorporated branch). Understanding our functions within that context is still progressing. • 2. The other issue is a level of disappointment from members, general committee and members of EC in terms of where we stand in terms of advocacy. Complaints were received about 	

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		<p>perceived lack of action on issues such as ground parrots, western rosellas, hooded plovers, forest clearing, cockatoo conservation, and potential clearing. The answer is sometimes the EC does write submissions, but does not tend to get heavily involved in the political process.</p> <p>Based on these issues, two points need to be decided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do we have the capacity to do? With so many possible causes to be involved in, where do we focus our energy? 2. Where as an organisation do we want to sit on the spectrum between organisations that collect data and liaise with 'soft media' vs serious advocacy (e.g. heavily lobbying ministers). <p>A decision needs to be made so the next EC has an understanding of what their expectations and capabilities are.</p>	
4.1	2013 Rosalind Denny Volunteer Awards	Nic Dunlop presented awards to Ken Monson, Frank O'Connor, Marcus Singor.	
4.2	Presentation of 25 year membership badges	Nic Dunlop presented certificates and badges to 'survivors and contributors': Mel Berris, Gordon Elliot, Toni Webster, Judith Voutsinas, Verna Howell, John Lauri, Angela Sanders, Martin Reeve, Peter Sandilands, Elizabeth Spoor, Maureen Francesconi, Lawrence Frizzell, Mary Vaughan, John Stewart, Mavis Norgard, Gwen Goodreid, Donald Carter, Hilda Price, Richard Shore, Katherine Mathwin	
5	Treasurer's Report	<p>Presented by Frank O'Connor, who was thanked by members for 'the best explanation of the branches financial matters for some time'</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total income: \$198,021.61 (\$81,449.48 of funds income). • Total expenses: \$188,416.37 (\$102,211.08 of project expenses) • Surplus: \$9605.24 <p>FO'C noted that you may now donate directly to BirdLife WA as a tax deductible donation. Thanks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norma Avins \$5000 • Brian Bloton \$850 <p>Thanks to Mark Henryon for his work with the bird watch events that are run each year (long association with Birdlife Australia). Rio Bird watch will no longer happen at Parabadoo in 2015.</p> <p>Projects: WA is doing a lot of work compared to other state branches, such as the Great Cocky Count, PHCC rivers to Ramsar, LotteryWest-cockies in crisis.</p> <p>Decreased interest has had an impact on funds. There are also unresolved issue with NO (discrepancies between the number of subscriptions to WA bird notes and money received from NO).</p> <p>Conclusion: The branch funds are in a stable position, but a deficit is expected for the next 2 or 3 years. Can carry \$40000 over the next few years based on previous surplus'.</p> <p><i>Motion: That the treasurer's report for 2014 be accepted.</i></p> <p><i>Nominated: Clive Nealon or Napier?, Seconded X. Carried.</i></p>	
7	Election of New	Mandy Banford declared all positions vacant, and those standing for the	

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	Office Bearers	<p>Executive Committee elected unopposed.</p> <p>Chair: Mike Banford</p> <p>Vice Chair- Proposed two Vice Chair positions due to travel and potential conflict of interest issues that may arise: Sue Mather and Nic Dunlop</p> <p>Treasurer: Frank O'Connor</p> <p>Secretary: Kathryn Napier</p> <p>General committee members: Mark Henryon, Graham Wooller, Matthew Pudovskis, Sandra Wallace, Nic Dunlop, Sue Mather, Paul Netscher, Vicky Bilney</p> <p>Note 1 spare position on the EC, call for any interested members.</p> <p>Handover to new chair.</p>	
6	Twitchathon 2014	John Graff presented prizes, and reported participation was up (a little) on the previous year. Wes Bancroft and Stuart Ford to organise in 2015.	
8	General business	<p>IOC Names Working Party proposal by Martin Cake</p> <p>After obtaining separate species status on genetic grounds, the white-naped honeyeater (among others, such as the quail thrush and western whistler) needs a new name! MC proposed a call for members for an IOC names working party, which he is happy to head.</p>	
		Meeting closed at 2020 hrs.	
8	Speaker	Allan Burbidge Talk on 'Recent developments in the conservation of threatened species in south-west Australia'	