

AAT GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 25 MAY 2008, THE GRANGE CAMPBELL TOWN

Present

M Stevens (Chair), T Byard, R Dax (RD), R Butler, D Edwards, T Lambert, B McKinley, M Caminada, N Pinkard, G Davis, N Payne, C Bicanski, D Young, P Hazelwood, T Horan, J Fulton, P Geddes, S Jackson, J Broomby, P McKendrick, H Stewart

Apologies

S Bax, A Hope, A Taylor, T Williams

Meeting opened at 10.00am

Minutes of last meeting

A correction to the attendance list – add D Young.

Matters arising

All items will be covered in the current meeting agenda.

Correspondence in:

Letters received since 3 February 2008 circulated to the meeting for information only: Department of Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts, The Fly Fishers' Club of Tasmania Inc, Devonport Anglers Club Inc, Minister for Primary Industries and Water.

Financial Report

Interim report as at 25 May provided by Treasurer R Butler. Please note, an adjustment (in excess of \$10,000) is yet to be made allocating payments to the relevant Grant accounts.

Executive Officer's Report

An Executive Officer Activity Report was provided. All items to be covered in current agenda.

Grants report:

Didymo – brochure, posters, stickers, keytags produced to raise awareness of Didymo and keep it front-of-mind. Information to be placed on as many websites as possible including any clubs who are interested - contact Helene. Main issue is still the international entrance points to mainland Australia. Discussion followed on ways to ensure Federal Quarantine Officers are aware of threat of Didymo and have a consistent approach. Suggested bushwalkers and deer shooters should also be aware of dangers.

- Advise bushwalker and deer shooter clubs of the danger and actions to prevent Didymo

John Diggle IFS arrived 10.30am

Junior Angler program – a trailer has been acquired, primarily for Junior Angler use but also Didymo awareness etc. Will be 'refurbished' and stocked with tackle and documentation to assist Clubs in delivering junior angler programs. First draft of fact/activity sheets will be ready in June for input.

Signs and brochures/ river access – Neil Morrow IFS is making good progress with this project.

Implementation of marketing plan – In June there will be a decision on the marketing/'club' name.

IFS Report by John Diggle

Powerbait – discussion on the use of 'powerbait'. Issues to be circulated to members for comment.

Highland roads – working with Central Highlands Council and the CHC Economic Plan. AAT to keep pressure on DIER to seal roads.

Bag limits – proposed new limit, 5 per bag. No more than 2 over 600mm. Minimum size changes from 220mm to 300mm. Also a 5 bag limit on 'rivers under stress'. More info to be provided by IFS.

New code – AAT requests the IFS provide a one page summary of the new code/regulations so members can place on their own website to broaden exposure/education.

- J Diggle to provide a summary of the 'powerbait' issues for comment by AAT members
- J Diggle to provide information on new bag limits etc for circulation to AAT members
- J Diggle to provide a summary of the new regulations for inclusion on websites

11.10am morning tea / Dr A Harradine arrived 11.30am

Alan Harradine on 'Drought-proofing Tasmania'

Brochure distributed "Drought-proofing Tasmania – Tasmanian Irrigation Development Projects' (more copies available from Helene). Good discussion took place and our thanks to A Harradine.

IFS Report by John Diggle ... continued

JD advised that there are many IFS regulations which need reviewing. AAT would be happy to review and comment on these.

- IFS will send a summary of regulations requiring review to AAT for comment.

IFS are considering a promotional campaign to encourage license sales and have met with Red Jelly advertising agency.

To remove focus from the 3 big lakes currently under stress (Arthurs, Great Lake and Woods) IFS are stocking other lakes to encourage more widespread fishing.

Recreational Boating Fund

Longford club are lodging a submission to fund a boat ramp upgrade at Pumphouse Bay. Letters of support (to MAST) appreciated. Also appreciated any comment on the proposal. AAT to follow up with MAST, Hydro and Recreational Lakes Committee on behalf of Longford, and will also provide a letter of support.

Bothwell club is making a submission for a solar powered navigation light. Support letters sought also.

- RD to prepare letters of support and contact MAST, Rec Lakes Ctte and Hydro

Tasmanian Anglers Guide

Copies due for delivery early June.

Fishing competitions

Westbury, Devonport and Longford clubs are joining together to take responsibility for the clean up of Brushy Lagoon. The proceeds of a fishing competition will be used to develop a disabled access ramp.

Insurance

AAT will be able to offer club insurance at \$4 per member, including member to member cover and professional indemnity of \$1 million. T Byard suggested checking for property cover ie if equipment in a meeting room gets broken etc. Need to ensure the insurer can provide documentation to individual clubs so they can show evidence of the insurance cover. RD awaiting proposal and will advise asap.

- RD to check for property cover and ensure documentation can be provided to all clubs.

Commercial value of the recreational fishery

Would be useful, particularly when dealing with Government, to have some idea of the value in \$ of the fishery to the Tasmanian economy

- All clubs please provide to RD what value you think your club brings to the Tasmanian economy

TVS statistics

Stats summary distributed. Good increases in fishing related activities.

Maydena project

Forestry Tasmania is continuing work on this project which includes providing access into the Upper Styx.

Upper House Select Committee

RD represented AAT

Newsletter – AAT Action

AAT communication to members will continue to be primarily via email and the AAT website, however, on occasions it is necessary to post information and this will on most often be in the form of the AAT Action newsletter – a short, simple, concise communication, ultimately still directing members back to the website for detailed, current information.

2008/09 AAT committee

Request that all committee members give consideration to the make-up of the committee for 2008/09 prior to the AGM on 28 September 2008.

D Young suggested a check of the Constitution – if the position of Chair is to be elected from the committee members, the Executive Officer cannot stand for election.

- Constitution to be checked re Chairman election process

Habitat Fund

A recommendation for use of the Habitat Fund monies was distributed, requiring AAT to approve the submission.

Motion: 'To accept the Habitat Fund submission'

Moved: T Byard

Seconded: D Young

Carried

Sorell and Crescent outcome

A 'vote of thanks' to Richard Dax and 'his team' for their part in the positive outcome in the Sorell/Crescent situation.

Code of Practice

Move to accept Code with a minor addition – add to No. 13 “ Always wear your PFD”.

Meeting representation

If representation at meetings continues to grow and pressure is placed on meeting costs ie catering, visitors offered to pay their own costs.

Rubbish

Suggestion to organise 4 clean-up days per year with several clubs per water. Will look at incentives including a competition for most rubbish collected.

Clarence Anglers annual raffle

To purchase tickets contact N Pinkard.

Tahune access

Management at Tahune Airwalk will allow fishers access as requested.

Salmon hatchery

Yet another hatchery is being developed – can we oppose hatcheries in small rivers?

- Research Government to see what regulations surround the set up of a hatchery

Recreational Vehicle Working Group

RD attended workshop and following the results of this workshop can see no value in attending the meetings of this group in future.

Meeting with Minister

RD and H Stewart met with Minister Llewellyn regarding Lakes Sorell and Crescent.

Red Jelly and IFS

RD attended a meeting with advertising agency Red Jelly, IFS and Tourism Tasmania regarding a marketing program to sell more licenses and attract people to the fishery. IFS will direct mail all people who have not renewed their license and will also advertise using banners and signage.

Member's annual subscription

Transfer for discussion at next meeting following a review of Constitution to better understand why an annual subscription is required.

Other business:

Jonah Bay toilets – Hydro have taken over responsibility of Jonah Bay from PWS. They have advised they will advertise for someone to look after the toilets on an annual contract. Under development is a map of rubbish dump locations, toilets, camping grounds, blackwater dump locations etc.

T Byard expressed his appreciation of the good turn up to meeting and the ongoing good communication which was benefiting all.

Next meeting

Sunday 27 July 2008

Venue is the IFS office at New Norfolk and will include a tour of the hatchery.
Tour commences 11.00am and meeting 11.30am.