



# ***WATER RESOURCES RETIREES' ASSOCIATION INC.***

**MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>H</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014**

**CLUB CENTRAL  
84 WILLIAM ST, BRISBANE, QLD 4000**

<b>Opening:</b>	<p>The meeting was opened at 12.15pm by the Chairman, Geoff Eades.</p> <p>Geoff welcomed members, their guests and our Co-Patrons, Dan Hunt and Peter Boettcher</p>								
<b>Present and Apologies:</b>	<p>The list of attendees and apologies is attached</p>								
<b>Memorial:</b>	<p>The Chair noted that a number of our members, family of members and non-member work colleagues had passed away during the year</p> <p>A moments silence was observed in memory of:</p> <table><tr><td>Bob Kimber</td><td>John Cantor</td><td>Des Foster</td><td>Bevan Faulkner,</td></tr><tr><td>Shirley Beattie</td><td>Ian Chalmers</td><td>Darrell Butel</td><td></td></tr></table>	Bob Kimber	John Cantor	Des Foster	Bevan Faulkner,	Shirley Beattie	Ian Chalmers	Darrell Butel	
Bob Kimber	John Cantor	Des Foster	Bevan Faulkner,						
Shirley Beattie	Ian Chalmers	Darrell Butel							
<b>Address by Co-Patrons:</b>	<p><b>Dan Hunt, D-G, Dept of Energy and Water Supply</b></p> <p>The following is a summary of Dan's address:</p> <p>Dan has held the position of D-G, Dept of Energy and Water Supply for 7 months. He has held various roles in the Queensland Public Service since the 1980s, the most recent being the D-G, Dept of Natural Resources and Mines.</p> <p>DEWS has a total of about 241 staff, 111 in Energy and 130 in Water Supply.</p> <p>The State's 30 Year Water Strategy is close to release. It is being reviewed for alignment with The Queensland Plan which foresees 50% of the state population living in the regions.</p> <p>SEQWater did excellent work in the Wivenhoe and Somerset optimisation</p>								

studies looking at how the dams could be best operated to minimise downstream flooding. Thousands of flood scenario models for Wivenhoe-Somerset Dams were undertaken. The acceptance that the low-level Brisbane River crossings could now be inundated earlier and the acceptance of increased rural flooding has given much more flexibility in managing flood storage capacity in the lead up to a flood event. An increased flexibility will enable better optimisation of the outcomes for very large flood events.

Not surprisingly, the media picked up on the discussion of the approx. eight dam-sites in SEQ and the option of raising Wivenhoe by 8m. This section represented only a very small part of the overall report.

The means of best using the alternative sources of water that have been constructed in recent years (desalination and recycling plants) is also under consideration. Presently, the policy is that these alternatives should be “turned on” when the storage in the dams falls to 40% capacity.

There were 12 submissions from SEQ on the proposed ‘levels of service’ strategy - to which SEQWater is responding. This may amend the operating policy for the alternative sources.

DEWS still manages 24 dams and weirs that are ‘non-commercial’ (and which didn’t go over to SunWater). DEWS is looking to call upon the dam management expertise in Sunwater to assist in meeting its responsibilities.

The Government policy is that State won’t be building dams anymore. This will be left to the private sector. It poses the question as to how DEWS will maintain an appropriate skills base to meet its responsibilities and to respond to future requirements of Government.

**Peter Boettcher, CEO, Sunwater**

Peter’s address is summarised below:

2013 was a tumultuous year for SunWater. It included the significant flood damage to Paradise Dam (and the necessary repairs); it also included the proposed move to Ipswich (this has since been rescinded).

Based on the Commission of Audit’s findings, SunWater is proposed to be restructured to align it with the outcomes of that audit. It will divest itself of the ownership of pipelines (subject to government decision post election) and of local irrigation management areas. Its future primary function is expected to be the management of 19 dams and 53 weirs.

The realignment of SunWater’s functions, and the changed market conditions as the mining boom slows, necessitates that SunWater rationalises its numbers.

	<p>Recently there was a reduction of 100 FTEs. The current staff number is 407, however, in future this could drop to as low as 150 if the proposed divestments proceed.</p> <p>Dam safety will continue to be a key issue. Eungella Dam review is scheduled for completion in the coming year.</p> <p>The Ayr office has been closed – but a new office managing CSG field water pipelines has been opened in Chinchilla.</p> <p>The Woleebee to Glebe Weir pipeline is nearing completion. This has come in \$60M under budget.</p> <p>Financially, SunWater anticipates showing a \$40 million profit for the year. Next year, its budget is expected to be around \$280 million and will yield a profit of around \$63 million and a payment of dividend and tax equivalents of around \$60 million.</p> <p>The coming year will see completion of the investigations of Boondooma Dam leading to the preferred solution to address damage which occurred during the 2012/13 wet season. Upgrade of Kinchant Dam will be completed.</p> <p>The Government has a strong commitment to local management and is being clear on what is and is not the role of Government. SunWater is working to ensure that it is able to respond to future Government decisions on its charter and structure – whatever that decision.</p> <p><b>Thank you to our Co-Patrons</b> The President, Geoff Eades, thanked Dan and Peter for their presentations. Members appreciate the time Peter and Dan put aside to attend and the openness in their presentations.</p>
<p><b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM:</b></p>	<p>The draft minutes of the previous AGM had been made available to members before the meeting. The minutes were taken as being read.</p> <p>Moved Peter Jones, Seconded Pat McCourt, that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted as a true record of the meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>Carried</u></b></p>
<p><b>Business Arising from the Minutes</b></p>	<p>There was no business arising from the previous minutes.</p>
<p><b>Reports:</b></p>	<p><b>(a) President’s Report</b> The President, Geoff Eades, presented his report to the meeting. A copy of the Report is attached.</p>

	<p>Moved Peter Jones, Seconded Terry Loos that the Presidents Report be received. <b><u>Carried</u></b></p> <p><b>(b) Treasurer’s Report</b>  Ross Stewart presented the Treasurer’s Report and the audited statement of accounts. A copy of the Report is attached.</p> <p>Moved Ross Stewart, Seconded Hein van der Heide, that the Treasurer’s Report, statement of expenditure and receipts and the Auditors report be accepted. <b><u>Carried</u></b></p>
<p><b>Amendment to the Constitution:</b></p>	<p>The Management Committee has proposed the following amendment to the Constitution (forwarded to members with the notice of the AGM):</p> <p>that Clause 18 (2) which currently reads:  “(2) At its first meeting after each annual general meeting, the management committee shall appoint a bulletin editor who shall be an ex officio member of the management committee.”  be amended to read:  “(2) At its first meeting after each annual general meeting, the management committee shall appoint a bulletin editor and a web master who shall be ex officio members of the management committee.”</p> <p>The Secretary outlined the reasons for the proposed change.</p> <p>The Web Master is in a similar position as the Newsletter Editor as they are both part of maintaining our public profile and a source of contact/information for our members. As a Committee member, the Web Master could maintain knowledge of upcoming events and activities to keep our web site current for our members. Further, the Web Master will be able to provide technical advice direct to the Committee on IT related matters and ways in which our Association may make better use of the web site.</p> <p>The motion was opened for debate, but there was no comment forthcoming from the floor.</p> <p>Moved Peter Jones, Seconded Geoff Eades, that the proposed amendment to the Constitution be agreed to <b><u>Carried unanimously</u></b></p>
<p><b>Election of Office Bearers:</b></p>	<p>The President, Geoff Eades, stood down from the Chair and was replaced by the Immediate Past President, Hein van der Heide. All positions were declared vacant.</p> <p>All office bearers from 2013/14 had indicated their willingness to serve again in the coming year. As no nominations had been received, nominations for all positions were called for from the floor.</p>

	<p>The Chair moved, Seconded Errol Beitz, that each office bearer was willing to serve again in 2014/15 and declared that all committee members be elected to their 2013/14 positions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>Carried</u></b></p> <p>Office bearers for 2014/15 are:  President – Geoff Eades  Vice President – Brian Shannon  Treasurer – Ross Stewart  Secretary – Peter Jones  Committee Members (2)  Pat McCourt  Terry Loos</p> <p>The President, Geoff Eades resumed the Chair</p>
<b>Co-Patrons:</b>	<p>Both current Co-Patrons, Dan Hunt (DG DEWS) and Peter Boettcher (CEO SunWater) have indicated their willingness to continue in the roles.</p> <p>Moved Brian Shannon, Seconded Terry Loos that Dan Hunt and Peer Boettcher be elected our Co-Patrons</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>Carried</u></b></p>
<b>Auditor:</b>	<p>Ray Sutherland has indicated his willingness to continue as the Association's Auditor.</p> <p>Moved Ross Stewart, Seconded Jim Uhlmann, that Ray Sutherland be elected as the Association's Auditor</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>Carried</u></b></p>
<b>General Business:</b>	<p><b>(a) Increased use of internet and email for communication with members</b></p> <p>The Secretary outlined the proposal from the Management Committee to increase the use of internet and email as the standard means of communication with our members.</p> <p>For some years now, the committee has been attempting to increase the use of these means for communication with members. The Association is reliant on the good will of our Co- Patrons to support our mailouts through printing and postage. With increasing pressure on departments and agencies to reduce costs, it is incumbent on us as an Association to assist in this regard. The committee has proposed that where ever possible, these electronic forms of communication be used.</p> <p>The following points were raised in the subsequent discussions:</p>

- Some country areas may have poor internet facilities and this could pose problems;
- The number and size of attachments attached to each email should be limited to prevent download problems – Greater use of our web site for posting larger document may ease difficulties from sending large files by email
- Members should be asked to respond if there are circumstances where they really need a hard copy; and
- Full use of these electronic means be introduced initially for city members.

The Committee will take these comments into account in further considering this proposal and will give members prior advice to it being implemented.

**(b) Contributions to the Newsletter and Web Site**

The Secretary outlined the importance of both the newsletter and web site as the primary means of communication with members and news of our colleagues.

While the newsletter editor often has sufficient editorial material for each addition, of late he has received little news of members to publish. We are all interested in hearing of our colleagues' activities and successes, but without feed from members such news remains unknown.

Similarly, the web site offers the opportunity for members to share memories and photos of our members and activities, be they current or of our past. For example, photos with a short summary/description of the story behind them are excellent content for the web site. Our web master, Jon Henry, will scan the photos to put on the site and will happily return the photos and a digital copy of them back to you – all you need to do is to give him the photos, the story around them and a memory stick and he will take care of the rest.

One member commented that, where the photos could be of a personal nature rather than photos that may be of a general nature or already in the public arena, it would be desirable to clear them with the individual concerned.

**(c) Succession Planning**

The Secretary indicated that it is in the interests of the Association to look toward a continually refreshing of the management committee. Such an approach brings new ideas forward and avoids the work of running the Association remaining with the same people for too many years. Preferably, this “refreshing” should occur progressively rather than a large proportion of the committee changing in any one year.

Throughout the coming year, members may be approached to determine if

	<p>they are interested in serving on the committee in coming years.</p> <p><b>(d) Next Function</b></p> <p>The Association's next function is the annual mid-year lunch to be held on Thur 19 June. Details will be circulated shortly.</p> <p><b>(e) Building a relationship with SEQ Water</b></p> <p>Hein Van der Heide asked on progress by the Association to build a relationship to SEQ Water. This organisation was a potential source for new members.</p> <p>Brian Shannon explained that he had spoken to SEQ Water at a senior executive level. The concept of a closer relationship and increasing SEQ Water's staff awareness of our Association had been taken forward to their executive committee. As SEQ Water was in the process of appointing a new CEO, it has been their decision to defer any action until that appointment is finalised.</p> <p><b>(f) Planning for 2013/14</b></p> <p>The President advised that the program for events for the coming year will be finalised at the next management committee meeting in May.</p> <p>He would welcome any thoughts from members about functions/activities they would like to see – either this year or in coming years.</p>
<b>Closure:</b>	The Meeting closed at approx 12.30pm at which time members moved to lunch.



# ***WATER RESOURCES RETIREES' ASSOCIATION INC.***

**30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014**

## **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
<b>Members</b> Geoff Eades Ross Stewart Peter Jones Hein van der Heide Brian Shannon Terry Loos Pat McCourt Ian Pullar Jon Henry Ian Ferrier Jim Uhlmann Eric Davis Errol Beitz Chris Robson Darlene Newlove	Denis Gilbard Carol Davison Nev Ablitt Russ Robson Tony Cleary Gary Corbet Peter Phillips Don Gardiner Daryl Brigden John Morse Norm White Lee Rogers Garry Grant Kev Devlin Ray Sutherland
<b>Guests</b> Peter Boettcher Dan Hunt Karla Henry	

**Water Resources Retirees' Association**

**Annual General Meeting 24 April 2014**

**President's Report 2013 - 2014**

**Water Resources Retirees Association Inc**

**Annual General Meeting, Thur 24 April 2014**

**President's Report 2013/14**

**DRAFT**

## **Water Resources Retirees Association**

### **Annual General Meeting 24 April 2014**

#### **President's Report 2013-2014**

##### **Report**

It is with pleasure that I present this report for the year 2013-2014, to this 30<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association.

This year the Association has continued to carry out its objectives of promoting social interaction among members, in particular, by our newsletter and, increasingly, through our website. Our newsletter was first issued in September 1989 and continues to be an important source of information.

This year our former colleagues at SunWater have been significantly affected by the implementation of government policy resulting from the Commission of Audit report of February 2013. SunWater is now in the process of converting to an entity that is limited to owning and managing bulk water assets in regional Queensland. Parts of the business are now in the process of divestment. This has led to a number of staff redundancies as the corporation focuses on its new role. We wish our former colleagues well in this new role of the organisation.

##### **Membership**

The membership of our Association is currently 204, an increase of 5 compared to last year. The membership comprises 100 ordinary members, 47 country members, 26 paid up members (over 75 years) and 31 widowed spouse members.

Eleven new members joined during the year. They are Ross Walduck, Kev Devlin, John Ridler, Gary Corbett, Garry Grant, Terry Roos, Peter Hodgkinson, Rolf Rose, Ros Kimber, Wendy Faulkner and Warren Shallcross. We warmly welcome these new members to the Association.

Membership of the Association is open to retired or presently serving employees of what was the former Water Resources Commission and its succeeding bodies. These are now primarily the Department of Energy and Water Supply and SunWater, but employees of other water agencies are also welcome.

Maintaining membership numbers is an ongoing issue particularly as responsibility for water management is increasingly fragmented among government agencies. The recruitment of new members has been a focus of the outgoing committee and no doubt will continue to be so for the incoming committee. I urge all members to assist in identifying potential

members and either invite them to join the Association or refer their names to the Secretary. As you know, membership fees are minimal.

We extend our condolences to the relatives and friends of those members who passed away during the year. Where possible, these were acknowledged in our newsletters and we have again remembered them earlier in today's AGM.

The Committee appreciates early advice to the Secretary from friends or relatives, of the illness or passing of a member. A phone call or email will help the Secretary with the timely distribution of such information, so that where possible members have an opportunity to support the family at this time.

### **Functions**

It was a big year for social functions. Seven were organised with attendance as follows:

April 2013	AGM and Lunch at Club Central (24 members and friends)
June 2013	Mid-year luncheon at COTAH (34 members and friends)
August 2013	Bowls day at Aspley Bowls Club (17 members and friends)
September 2013	Site Visit to Paradise Dam (23 members and friends)
October 2013	Presentation on Coal Seam Gas (26 members and friends)
November 2013	Christmas Lunch at COTAH (55 members and friends)
February 2014	Lunch at Club Central (19 members and friends)

It was very pleasing to the committee to see the high level of interest in these functions. The mid-year and Christmas lunches at COTAH were popular as always. But the good numbers for the trip to Paradise Dam and the CSG presentation indicate that members are also keen to keep abreast of new developments and technology. Suggestions for next year's program are always welcome. Functions for 2014-15 will be finalised at the next management committee meeting and will be announced soon after.

Terry Loos has again provided challenging and enjoyable trivia quizzes at our COTAH Luncheons and by popular demand, they are planned to be included again this year.

### **Newsletter**

We are indebted to Ian Pullar for his excellent job in producing a further 3 issues of our Newsletter. This year Ian has had a good response for articles of interest and hopes this continues. However the last issue did not contain any member news and Ian would very much like readers to send in news of members and former colleagues for the remaining issues this year. Therefore send a note to Ian as soon as you see, hear or read something that may be of interest to others.

The Newsletter is the glue that binds our country and city members because few of our country members can participate in our social functions. Also some of our older city members are finding it increasingly difficult to attend. DEWS, DNRM and SunWater staff members are notified of new issues of the Newsletter through internal emails. Ian, thanks for a job well done!

## **Website**

Our website has been operational since July 2010. We are indebted to Jon Henry (as our Webmaster) for the ongoing maintenance of the site. It receives an average of about 80 unique visitors per month and the number of pages accessed is about six times the number of visits. This indicates that most visitors stay on the site for a while and shows we are reaching the desired audience.

The web site is a convenient location where current and past issues of the Newsletter can be viewed. You are encouraged to visit the website from time to time, and make contributions to the Webmaster when you have some appropriate material for publication.

This year our website was linked to the DEWS website, thereby providing direct access to prospective members. The Committee believe our website will become increasingly important in future as more members gain access to the internet.

As we have done in previous years, the Minutes of the AGM and the President's & Treasurer's Reports, will be posted on our website, in the coming weeks.

## **Finance**

The Treasurer will report that our finances continue to remain sound. Our target of running our functions at or near cost has substantially been achieved with a small surplus overall.

It is proposed that membership subscriptions remain unchanged, while the Association continues to receive its current level of support from SunWater and DEWS.

I would like to acknowledge the many years of service of former Treasurer Bevan Faulkner whose passing last year was a big loss. I would like to thank Ross Stewart for taking over the Treasurer's job this year.

## **Management Committee**

The Management Committee met for 5 formal meetings during the year. Committee members also met on other occasions to arrange the mailouts for the flyers and newsletters.

My thanks go to Brian Shannon, our Vice President, and to Hein van der Heide, our Immediate Past President, for their support and advice to me and the Committee during the year, and in particular for taking over the running of meetings when I have been absent over the last 12 months.

Committee Members have also readily undertaken the duties of Secretary and Treasurer, when Peter Jones and Ross Stewart were absent.

My thanks also to our Secretary, Peter Jones. Peter ably carries out the day to day running of the Association and the organisation of functions and meetings.

Thanks also to our committee members Pat McCourt and Terry Loos who capably supported the committee with their time and participation.

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks are due to the support of our co-patrons, Mr Dan Hunt the Director General of Department of Energy and Water Supply, and Mr Peter Boettcher, CEO of SunWater for their continuing strong support of the Association.

We would like to thank Peter Boettcher and SunWater staff for their support in the printing and mailing of our Newsletter and providing a meeting place for our management committee over the past four years and look forward to the continuation of our relationship with SunWater .

Our thanks go out once again to our Auditor, Ray Sutherland for undertaking the important task of ensuring that our financial statements are compliant with the legislative requirements, placed on an incorporated association such as ours.

**Geoff Eades**  
**President**

DRAFT

**Water Resources Retiree's Association Inc.**  
**Annual General Meeting, Thur 24 April 2014**  
**Treasurer's Report – 2013/14**

I have pleasure in presenting to Members a report on the financial affairs of the Water Resources Retiree's Association Inc. for the 2013 – 2014 year. This is my first report.

The Association's Financial Year runs from 1 April to the following 31 March.

The 2013-2014 Financial Statement shows that the Association has an excess of income over expenditure for the year of \$1,042.29, which is an excellent result.

One of the Association's major sources of income is Membership Subscriptions. Membership Subscriptions received this year (\$585.00) is lower than subscriptions received last year (\$1,037.50). This decrease is due to a larger number of members whose membership was due for renewal in the 2012-2013 financial year.

Interest on the Suncorp Term Deposit (\$649.97) is the other major source of Income.

The Association's operating expenditure each year is minimal comprising reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses to the President, Secretary and Treasurer, other operating expenditure and the cost of the lunch following the Annual General Meeting (\$277.20 in April 2013). Operating expenses associated with the ongoing operation of the Association's website (\$204.40) is a cost effective way of communicating with the Members.

A summary of the major expenditure and income of the Association is in the attached Statement of Receipts and Payments.

All other functions of the Association are planned to be self funding with those Members attending paying for the cost of the function. The Mid-Year Luncheon this year incurred a loss of \$96.98 and the Christmas Luncheon made a significant profit of \$461.01 due to the caterer revising downward the luncheon cost at the last minute.

The Bundaberg bus tour of the Regional Water Infrastructure made a small profit of \$195.00. This indicates that your Committee's planning and pricing for these functions is good.

**Term Deposit with Suncorp:**

The Term Deposit has been renewed as required at the best available interest rate for periods less than 12 months.

The Term Deposit will be next renewed on 25 June 2014. It is currently invested for a term of 7 months at an interest rate of 3.90%.

**2013-2014 Membership Subscriptions:**

The 2013-2014 Membership Subscriptions are due for payment by 30 April 2014. A total of 28 Membership Renewal Invoices were sent out with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. To date, payment has been received from 7 Members. A large proportion of these Members have taken advantage of the opportunity to pay four years of Membership Subscriptions at the one time as has been requested in their subscription notice.

Membership is currently 204 comprised of 47 Country members, 100 Ordinary members (Brisbane and surrounding regions), 26 Paid up members aged over 75 (Country and Ordinary), and 31 nonpaying Spouses.

**Auditor:**

Ray Sutherland has been the Association's Auditor for a number of years. I thank Ray for auditing the Associations accounts again this year.

Ray is available to be appointed as Auditor for 2014-2015 and I recommend the Annual Meeting confirm this appointment.

**Secretary:**

I thank the Association's Secretary Peter Jones for his cooperation and assistance in my first year in the job and assisting me in keeping my "Membership Billing Spreadsheet" in sync with the Association's Membership Database thus ensuring that the "Annual Billing List" is correct.

**Thank You:**

I thank President Geoff Eades and the respective Committee Members for their friendship, assistance and advice during the year.

Recognition has to be made of the fine work Bevan Faulkner performed as Treasurer for the Committee over many years as my predecessor and his passing late last year is a big loss. Bevan was a good friend and colleague to us all.

Ross Stewart  
18 April 2014

DRAFT