



Bee Industry Council of Western Australia

MINUTES

General meeting held at Capilano Bayswater 10.00am Monday 17th September 2018

In attendance:

Present:

Tristan Campbell
Tiffane Bates
Leilani Leyland – Chairperson
Michael Bellman - Secretary
Brendon Fewster
Mat Welch
Wayne Ridley
Soren Houlberg
Eileen Stark (Observer)

Member Body represented

APC Beekeepers Committee
APC Beekeeping Committee
WA Farmers Beekeepers
WA Farmers Beekeepers
WA Farmers Beekeepers
WA Beekeepers Assoc Alternate
WA Beekeepers Assoc
WA Apiarist Society
WA Apiarist Society

Visitors:

Liz Barbour

Honey Bee CRC

Apologies:

Andrea Johnston- DPIRD, David Currey,

9.00 am – Ken Dodd's and the WAHRDG Marketing meeting met to discuss the Shanghai food show and attendance by BICWA in the WA Government stand. I-Lyn Chhon and a representative from the Ministers office were on hand to share their thoughts on the Meeting opened 10.55am

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting: 20th August 2018 - Moved by MW second BF

All agreed

2.1 BUSINESS ARISING AND ACTIONS FROM MINUTES 20th August 2018

Meeting Section	ITEM	WHO	ACTION	COMPLETED
	DBCA Apiary General Conditions	LL/ MB	Meeting held with DBCA Waiting for confirmation on changes	
	Importation of semen	AJ	Meeting 23/7 advised no decision yet	
	Biosecurity	MB	Letter sent to Catherine Clift to invite her to next BICWA meeting	Complete
	CRC clarification of specific projects	MB	Letter sent to Liz	Complete
	Conference speakers	ALL	Suggestions to be forwarded Committee formed Venue to be finalised Funding requests from WAFF	
	Clearing Permits	MW/ MB/ LL	Following up with DBCA Letter to be sent	
	Funding	TB/ MB	Meeting with APC	Complete

	Acronyms	MB	List to be sent	Done
	Imported Honey	LL	BICWA'S position	
	CRC Project 15 WAHRDG	MW	TA antibacterial testing	
	Training	DC	Feedback from attendees Best practice – C3/ C4	
	BICWA Newsletter	MB	Achievements	Sent to all for comment

3. REPORTS

3.1 CHAIRMAN REPORTS

Draft Strategic Plan date for review has been pushed back to this Wednesday 19th September, sorry to be pushing it along but if we leave it for too long it will never happen. Hopefully you have had a look through it and made some comments we will be going through this later in the meeting.

We have a full meeting today, 11.30 Veli-Matti will be attending to give us some insight into their company wishes to work with industry in using latest emerging tech to provide solutions for industry. They are looking to hold an event in October similar to the Honey Hackathon to pose problems and gain solutions, so they are chasing ideas.

1.30 Matt King will be joining us for a DBCA update, you would have all read Michaels report from when he and I attended DBCA to discuss issues. We just need to push forward with this, we met with Diane Evers last Thursday at Parliament and outcome was lots of questions with regards to the industry and Diane was going to go ahead and pose some questions during question time. She would like to see no FPC by 2023 which is when next plan is due for change.

I had a phone call from Ken Dodds re. progress in light of the Honey fraud and he updated me that a consortium has come together to look at NMR testing. Peter Brookes, CRCHBP, NMI Sydney and NMI Melbourne, Capilano looking to support in \$. Database is weak for Australian honey so looking to improve that. Linking in with Booker International (Germany company) and 3 international companies to make it stronger. NMR is not a regulated analytical technique, it is constrained by the database. It does have potential, so it is worth investigating. Luckily for us WA is already ahead with the Chemcentre monofloral honeys tested already underway.

He has some concerns re. Rosie and her UAF antioxidant certifications. She is not willing to become a certified distributor under the project (whether financially a problem he is unsure) but ultimately, she doesn't seem to be too interested in contributing to the industry.

CRCHBP opening is on Wednesday 26th September, I am unable to attend as am at the Show can somebody else be the BICWA spokesperson re. the training etc. 10am at Yanchep

Wayne has asked for some more transparency re. AHBIC so I will now include this with this report. As I've said before anyone can receive the AHBIC newsletter by going to the website and typing in your email. This will update you monthly with items being addressed.

Please note that I am on AHBIC not representing WA or WA Farmers but as myself. As long as you are a contributor to AHBIC you are welcome to nominate to the Executive at the AGM held in July each year, it is a 2-year term.

We have been having a fortnightly phone hook up to discuss various issues with our next face to face 23rd October in Melbourne. Strategic Plan and progressions of contributions received, the implementation of a payment portal on the AHBIC website.

ILO Training in Melbourne ran and paid for by AG Victoria. This was represented by Stephen Fewster and Dave Leyland (as rep for Disease committee) total 17 reps from all states. It is now up to industry to implement the same type of training here in WA with Ag Dept WA to get more representatives of industry trained up. When Andrea back from hols we will follow up with her.

Melbourne detection discussed. The Ship's captain investigated, and the bees found were dead. The sea containers were cleaned, unloaded re-checked. DAWR determined fine to relocate. No positive samples found in any sentinel or private hives. Stephen Fewster and Ian Zadow went to assist the incursion of Asian bees in Darwin. DNA showed came across from Cairns in a motorhome. Ballooned every afternoon, No sighting of bees whilst there, some native bees. Will use existing hobby beekeeper hives and sentinel hives for management. Not a lot of freight unloaded at port.

Vegan honey (not from bees) complaint as being sold in shops. With the ACCC currently but they aren't interested, don't see it as a problem

Resources workshop proposed to be held next year possibly April. Application has been forwarded to Agrifutures to apply for funding.

3.2 DPIRD – Andrea Johnston

There was no report from DPIRD

3.3 TREASURER Balance of account \$ 5264.62

- Further funding to be discussed within Strategic planning

3.4 WA HONEY PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

No correspondence – discussion on opportunity for funding for conference via money held for honey promotion

3.5 WAHDRG UPDATE - Matt Welch

Tracking as normal, progressing

Rosie – One Foods is not providing funding

Intelligent hive pod- RFUF – from Hive to Plate- \$25000 – Simon Green to head this up, with Neil Fewster to assist.

Has to be related to packers that have contributed + has hives

Antioxidant UAF maybe not going ahead – check with ED

TA results - reproducible with NMI maybe ready this year (similar to peroxitest)

UWA finished assay – to be published.

3.6 DBCA

Matt and Caz

- No waiver for prescribed burns/ logging – director general only way to change policy-Matt to come back
- Minister may need to get involved
- Site fees may increase again
- DPIRD not come back with proposed changes.
- What does our industry cost/ what can we do better to assist?
- Clearing permit – letter for DER – Matt to come back
- BK authority to help in bush – getting relationship with district guys
- Criteria for unissued sites
- Green card for dieback sites, maybe for all BK in south west
- State forest – passive recreation – must be open to public – Matt to provide
- BICWA would like to see some areas closed off to public
- FMP review – BICWA to write
- BICWA to submit an environmental approval to get into National parks – similar to Mining in FMP
- Number of BK affected by native title
- Drone use – no approvals required in forests
- Code of conduct- update from BICWA
- WALGA site approval – DBCA to look at it again – BICWA looking at

3.7 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

No intake from respective committees

- MB/ LL

Honey Festival – Gidgegannup small farm field day in conjunction

Discussions on the plans for next year's conference– 3-day event

We need a conference team with BICWA to lead

Possible venues: UWA, Showgrounds, Conference centre

Structure, Topics t.b.a.

Suggested speakers

- Dr Katja Hogendoorn – planting melliferous plants
reply - Thanks for the invite - I'm flattered! It depends a bit on when, and whether you will refund flight/accommodation and conference registration.
I need to make the money work for the research, and the funds I have for the revegetation project need to be spent in SA...
- Canadian BK – Ian Stepler Definitely consider but anticipates No as unfortunately not best time for him in May
- Agronomist to talk on pesticides - Graham Laslett (Mark Rhodes suggested) Confirmed Yes will attend
- NZ speaker – Varroa -
- DBCA district Officers to be invited, a meet and greet (rather than present)
- CSIRO
- CIBER
- Neil Bennet – MWB – Climate change
- WA Co-op person
- Queen talking
- Bee Venom
- Royal Jelly

3.8 TRAINING UPDATE David Currey

David did not attend, however forwarded an email for the meeting

Soren gave feedback on how it can be improved

Yanchep acoustics not really good enough

More practical bee stuff required – with hands on training required.

3.9 NATIVE TITLE UPDATE

The team met with 2 policy advisors in Alannah Mactiernans staff on 1st of August. We initially understood this was to be an opportunity for us to brief the advisors as a prelude to discussing the issue with the Minister herself. Unfortunately, we have been advised verbally that the advisors have not taken the issue directly to the minister but have rather tried to suggest alternative solutions.

In attendance were

I-Lyn Loo – Principal Policy Advisor, Minister for Regional Development

Craig Huxtable – Policy advisor, Minister for Regional Development

BICWA subcom reps: Tiffane Bates, Mat Welch, Josh Welch

Summary

In the meeting we highlighted that DBCA is forcing beekeepers to negotiate an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) with Native Title Corporations (NTCs) in the absence of any framework or precedence. There are several serious problems with this proposal.

- i) Cost: Legal advice obtained from DLA Piper indicates potential costs of directly negotiating ILUAs with NTCs upwards of \$200,000.

Even if BICWA can negotiate industry wide ILUAs with each NTC this will be prohibitively expensive.

- ii) No negotiation framework or arbitration/circuit breaker

Unlike ILUA negotiations undertaken in the mining sector, there is no requirement for NTCs to enter negotiations with other industries in good faith and no “umpire” if negotiations break down. This means that even if we could initiate an expensive negotiation, the NTC could at any time walk away or simply cut off communication without any recourse.

- iii) Opens the door to cash incentives from external sources (investors, opportunists etc) to secure access to floral resources circumventing existing apiary tenure.

Beekeepers with existing tenure of apiary permits in areas under Native Title Determination will lose sites if they cannot negotiate an ILUA, opening the door for unscrupulous third parties recognising the value of the apiary permits in these regions to swoop and offer cash incentives for access.

Additionally, we pointed out that it’s likely there are a number of other industries affected by this and that it’s therefore in the states interest to try and formulate some framework for the negotiation of conducting low-impact activities in areas under Native title.

Since this meeting.

Craig responded on the 23rd August with a suggestion that we speak to David Lanigan who is the Native Title Support Manager at Goldfields Land and Sea Council. He has had significant experience in NT negotiation in the past.

This response is completely inadequate and is simply suggesting we initiate negotiations with NTCs or seek advice to do so. For the reasons already explained above, we feel this is not the correct course of action and we would still like to engage the minister to see if she would support us in raising this issue with the DPC more broadly and potentially investigate the development of some kind of negotiation framework or arbitration process for low impact industries that have operating budgets less than 1 million.

There is a real risk of apiary resources in these areas being sold to the highest bidder. With potentially more Native Title claims to come, this could be absolutely disastrous for the industry. Additionally, DBCA is just about to notify all beekeepers with apiary permits in areas affected by Native Title they have 2 years to negotiate an ILUA or lose the apiary permit. Things are going to get very messy. It would be great if the govt would engage with BICWA, so we can try to negotiate a solution that is fair and equitable for all affected beekeepers

There is still the potential that reforms to the Federal Native Title Act may finally settle the issue of carrying out low impact activities in determined areas, however this could be many years away and once tenure or sites is lost after the 2-year period granted by DPAW it may be too late.

I propose we reengage with Craig and I-Lyn in Alannah Mactiernans staff and ask them to reconsider this issue for the reasons I've outlined above. We are only going to get one shot at negotiating a deal for WA beekeepers and if it goes wrong we won't get another.

4 Correspondence IN / OUT	20 mins
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ACTION

DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY WHOM
21/08/18	Various emails Roy 'Spud' Murphy (Cert IV and diploma WHS) Trainwest (RTO) contact to run a Cert 3 training course in addition to existing, not completion just aligned. AHBIC has forwarded the training content to Trainwest	FYI He is happy to work with BICWA holding courses in Yanchep and DC does in South.
	LB Confirmation cc that Michael Bellman will be BICWA contact for Project 4 Ben White. Requested detailed presentation	FYI
	Julie Dinsdale comments on recent Cert 3 course undertaken. Basic training still needs tweaking. Value for money. Great benefit	FYI
	RAS response to my request to be contact person for any Honey competition notices	Received
	Emails between LB TC and MB re. release of data	Tristan to contact LB
23/08/18	Email from S Strachan re. Cert 3 course,	Fwd to DC with next start date
	EHB update from James Sheehan Clarification ONLY not opportunity for amendment.	Fw to committee 25/08 any comments?
	Advice from Cherry BICWA draft running behind schedule	FYI
	Craig Huxtable ref contacts for Native Title	MW
	I-Lyn link to grant \$500k could be used for NT approval application	Closes 19 th October Interested?
27/08/18	Draft Strategic Plan fwd to all members for review	ALL
	Capilano District visits	ALL
28/08/18	Email Update to committee upcoming meeting with Peter Dans DBCA	FYI
	Information on Cert 3 training now up on BICWA website	FYI
29/08/18	BICWA newsletter converted to Word	Where are we with this?
30/08/18	Email fwd to all MB update to all on meeting with DBCA 29/08/18	FYI
31/08/18	List of Acronyms	FYI
	MB email to FPA Jess/Beth re. where to re. DBCA meeting follow	
	LB notice of CRCHBP AGM 26 th Sept 10am Yanchep fwd 11/9/18	Who can go for BICWA please?
02/09/18	MW notice \$3,000 transfer to APC completed.	FYI
03/09/18	FFTI - Agricultural snapshot information sheets	FYI
04/09/18	Invitation to CRCHBP Official opening day	Emailed all
	Phone contact Katherine Clayton Ignia re. working with industry	Invited to meeting 17/9
	Soren able to attend Focus on Forests workshop	Advised to register
	Simon Green re. media announcement Fraud honey	Fwd to Shannen
07/09/18	LB CRCHBP Fraudulent honey and analysis of same.	Fwd email 09/09 to all
10/09/18	Prospective beekeeper employee's MB emailed	FYI
	CRCHBP letter to all beekeepers re. data required	FYI advised to see if APC can send out
	FFTI Board of Management position	Fwd to all
11/09/18	Invitation to Matt King to attend meeting next week	FYI

5. GENERAL BUSINESS**5.1 Strategic Plan**

Discussed – changes made to document to be sent to Cherry

5.2 Data Management sensitivity meeting update and email to APC

The BICWA committee authorised support for Tristan to access CRC data for his project. (details below)

5.4 UWA/ CRC: Liz Barbour

- AGM 26th September – reps from all stakeholders – Notice of meeting – draft document presented.
- All updates on projects at AGM
- BICWA Conference – at UWA?
- Bushfire CRC –
 - o Justification value land
 - o Changing policy
- Follow up on Kingsley Dixon
 - o Friday 9.30 University club
 - o
- Summary of project and Ben White to be invited to next meeting
- Discussion on project 15 with Chem Centre– meeting on how to optimise it – ensure deliverables
- Adulteration- quality of product- (NMR health issue—disease, pesticides) NMR/ Chem centre. Agree on guidelines total, honey database, should be held at NMI, access.
- Committee set up – NMR – Funding
- Apimondia should take lead.
- UWA/ Chemcentre – discuss project 15

5.6; Industry News

Invited Guests - IGNIA

Elliot Wood and Veli Vanamo

Mining etc AI solutions – cameras and sensors

Hackathon- bee industry – October 19th – Yallingup –

what technology is required

- Connectivity
- Invasive diseases
- Open source solution
- Real world challenge
- Connected farm
- Satellite – honey flow

Opportunities

- Sound
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Weights
- Varroa mite detection
- Identification for finding the queen bee
- Power generators
- Hive security

Actions

General Conditions – Apiary sites - DBCA

Letter to Director General – re meeting and concern of lack of action on change of conditions

Who: MB Deadline: 30/8

Biosecurity

MB to do up letter of invite to Catherine Clift to next BICWA meeting

Who: MB Deadline: 30/8

Conference

Conference Committee to be formed

Venue to be finalised

Conference speakers- suggestions

Funding request from WAFF

Who: Everyone Deadline: 30/08

Funding

APC request for funding, confirm changes to legislation and request for meeting

Other funding options

Who: Tiff Deadline: 30/8

Clearing Permits

DBCA to draft letter, meeting with DER

Who: MB Deadline: 17/09/18

Funding

BF/ MB to approach WAFF re honey promotions committee funding to assist with conference

Who: MB/ BC Deadline: 20/8

Imported honey

BICWAs position on imported honey – letter to support for Australian producers

Who: Leilani Deadline: 30/9

AHBIC representative in WA to change from WAFF to BICWA

Members to take back idea to groups, feedback for next meeting

Tell all members about AHBIC newsletter.....

Who: All Deadline: 30/9

CRC – project 15

Meeting to have with Chem Centre on how we can deliver the Testing and other requirements.

Who: MW Deadline: 30/9

Training

Feedback from attendees – Survey Monkey?

Best practice – Cert 3/ 4?

Who: MB

Deadline: 30/9

BICWA – Newsletter/ Achievements

A 1 x page newsletter to be distributed by all supporting groups to members listing BICWAs achievements and plans.

Feedback from all

Who: MB/ LL

Deadline: 30/9

Next Meeting: Monday 29th October

Meeting Closed at 4.15 pm
17th September 2018