

DIVE SUB-COUNCIL AGM MEETING
Wednesday August 16, 2017

Minutes

The Chair, Paul Richardson welcomed members present, thanked them for giving up their time and recognised the passing of Paddy Maguire.

Attendance;

S Anning, R Burdon, B Cobbing, M Debnam, J Denny, b Denny, M Florence, J Gasparinatos, B Gray, N Harris, J Dale, M Gleeson, B Lesser, D Lisson, J McKibben, G Moroney, C Pepper, B Ransom, B Rex, B Richardson, P Richardson, R Searle, M Steane, G Woodham

Apologies;

B Wilson, T Chadwick, R Baillie, P Pyke,

Minutes of previous meeting:

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting Tuesday July 25, 2017 were accepted as a true record.

Business arising from previous meeting:

Discussed as General Business.

General Business:

Dive questionnaire

There were 73 responses to the questionnaires', with no specific trend in the answers from each sector, FLAD owners and or divers. The majority voted for no change.

Motion:

There be a Moratorium on the transfer of FLAD's until the issues of re-structuring the harvest sector have been addressed

moved by Ben Cobbing seconded by Bryan Denny

The Minister initiated the Knuckey/Sven Report, which found there was 'no market failure' and did not recommend any changes, a cross section of the industry were interviewed including the Department who had minimal input.

Discussion;

The industry needs a viable harvest sector that nurtures the fishery. Now is the time for change – the industry only needs 80 working divers for the amount of quota.

Options put to the Minister by Joey and Dean for the Furneaux Units and a Buyback received negative response.

Various options were discussed including any ramifications, also suggested a SWOT analysis by Felmingham or Knuckey.

A Motion put to the 2014 AGM by Greg Woodham and Mathew Florence, for consolidating licenses, 'A' and 'B' class is to be looked at again.

Over 10 years, all current licenses start as a 'B' and cannot be leased out. If the owner purchased a second 'B' licence, the (2) licenses together would create an 'A', and would then be a consolidated license.

Beau Lesser, Greg Woodham, Chris Pepper, Ben Gray, Jesse Gasparinatos, Bryan Denny and Byron Ransom, to form a working group to put up a proposal based on the options for rationalisation noted in the Knuckey review

FRAG #3 quota for 2018:

The Primary Producers Food Safety Act – 25 divers were not on the specific mailing list, now this has been rectified will be required to pay the \$271 to be certified. Processors are required to have a copy of the certification.

The Department has been asked, and will be providing a breakup of the income generated. Commercial divers are not required to pay the fee, as abalone is a nominated species for biosecurity.

There will be an overall TACC reduction of 10% in 2018.

The Central Western Zone will be deleted with these blocks moving into the Northern and Western Zone.

There was discussion on the date of Zone openings, and the reasons why April 1 and May 1 were chosen.

Election of Dive Sub-Council Chair

Paul stood down and CE Dean asked for nominations for Dive Sub-Council Chair.

Paul Richardson was nominated by Chris Pepper and seconded by Byron Ransom, Paul accepted the nomination.

As there were no other nominations Paul was elected unopposed

Meeting closed 4.31pm