



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of CIGRE Australia Ltd

MINUTES (DRAFT)

Friday 24th November 2017

Formal Proceedings 10:00am – 12:00 ACDT

Additional Reports & Business: 12:00 – 14:30 ACDT

Accor Pullman Hotel, 16 Hindmarsh St Adelaide

1. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

a) Apologies

Ashok Manglick, Marian Piekutowski, Ilya Budovsky, Philippe Reboul, Henry Kent, Stephen Clark, Garth Dibley.

b) Quorum & Other Business Items

There was a quorum of 48 attending members signed the attendance sheet.

Items of other business:

1. Mr Peter Dulhunty advised he would like to comment regarding AORC membership and participation.

c) Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the 2016 AGM had been circulated and amended. Mr Richard Joyce Moved they be accepted, Seconded Mr Peter Dulhunty – all were in favour accepted.

d) Remembrances

The Chairman advised that Remembrances are noted for Mr Paul Van Wyk of SGS Perth and Mr Neville Bardon a past active B1 member both passed away during the year.

2. OFFICE-HOLDER REPORTS

a) Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented his report. He advised his formal report had been circulated with the meeting notifications. His presentation of the report focused on the updated Strategy document and how it is evolving, the value that CIGRE brings to the engineering world and Australia and the Challenges for CIGRE that lie ahead in a changing world. He thanked the members for their support and enjoyed his time as Acting Chair. The report is in the end of year Annual reports the presentation will be made available via the member AGM documents.

There were no questions about the report.

Executive Manager's Report

The Executive Manager gave a presentation with an overview of the direction and membership growth and diversity within CIGRE Australia. He highlighted the growth in numbers mostly with students and individual members. He also noted that CIGRE is working on and beginning to attract 'non traditional' members. He gave a summation of the key seminars and successes throughout 2017 and where items could have improved. Notably, across all of the events and seminars presented by CIGRE during the year, we had 81 technical presentations delivered and almost 400 delegates and attendees, including several international speakers and attendees. Mr Killen further highlighted the success of the marketing and branding campaign over recent years with our In The Loop bi monthly email newsletter now having over 680 subscribers and our website consistently gaining high hit rates. LinkedIn followers are continuing to grow, (now over 700) and continues to provide a good medium to let interested stakeholders know what is happening within CIGRE. He presented a short view of the upcoming busy 2018 calendar year

which is a Paris session year an highlighted the success we have had in having 24 technical papers accepted for presentation at the Paris Session.

The presentation will be available to members via the member AGM documents.

Mr Joe Tusek asked about lobbying Governments & the CIGRE relationship with them and how this can be improved. Mr Killen advised this was ongoing and something we were keen to put some more effort into. Not to lobby, but to become known as a trusted, reliable technical source of information.

Questions on membership tracking were ask & Mr Killen passed these to Mr Williams to answer, Membership is tracked by category and reported regularly to the board. Student and Individual 2's who are at the end of their time are encouraged to take on full membership. To date the conversion rate from Student/young Engineer to full individual or collective membership has not been high, but it is happening.

a) Finance & Audit Reports

The Treasurer presented the finance and audit report. He explained the fluctuating cycles of expenditures associated with Paris & Non-Paris session years. He presented the overall financial position and made mention that whilst a deficit was being reported this year, it was largely due to abnormal expenses taken up during the year as well as a board supported decision to spend more on supporting technical activities that was originally budgeted. Mr Armstrong reiterated that the board indicated a period of deficits three years ago and that he was confident that we would return to surplus in the 2018 financial year as planned. He showed the new 2017-2018 Financial year budget which had been prepared and how a good deal of effort was injected to ensure ongoing tight fiscal control for members. He made the comment that overall CIGRE Australia was in a healthy financial position and looking to achieve a small surplus for end of 2017-18. Cash reserves remain healthy.

The Treasurer explained that there were funds still invested in Term Deposits but as the interest rates were low the Board was considering options for a slightly higher risk. This would be presented to members if considered worthy of a change.

Mr Armstrong presented the Auditor's report and advised that by changing auditors we achieved a more detailed review at a lower cost. The auditor has presented an unqualified report, finding no irregularities or concerns.

The budget for the year was presented and a close to breakeven surplus was advised. Mr Armstrong advised that in line with the resolution passed at the 2015 AGM, the board had decided to increase 2018 fees by CPI – 2%.

The presentation and finance report will be available to members via the member AGM documents.

Questions:

Mr Ken Ash: Sought a better way of dealing with travel expenses using a per-diem method. Mr Armstrong advised the Board is happy to consider options, however when we last looked at it, the per diem methodology would likely result in a higher cost to current practices.

Mr Mark Miller: With a large balance in investments can those funds be put to some project which would yield a long term result for CIGRE members. Mr Armstrong replied that the board is happy to consider suggestions, but would need to be convinced of a worthy return prior to committing funds.

Mr Tony Armstrong commented that ANC is not-for-profit and should be primarily concerned with capital preservation.

Mr Killen (Executive Manager) supported Mr Trevor Armstrongs comments and added further that even at todays low term deposit interest rates, the return received from invested funds was the equivalent of approximately fifty Collective 1 members.

Mr Doug Aberle commented on the investments & costs as ANC is not-for-profit and needs to ensure it remains as such.

Mr Richard Bevan: Commented on the balance sheet and the influence the Paris sessions have on the accounts and there may need to be a better way of normalising costs across the Paris and Non Paris years.

3. ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

Mr Trevor Armstrong moved an ordinary resolution for the appointment of the new auditors, Pilot Partners. The motion was seconded by Mr Kerry Williams and the motion was unanimously approved by a show of hands by members present.

4. CONFIRMATION OF UPDATES TO CONSTITUTION

Mr Ed Wilson presented a notification that the ANC Constitution had been updated. Past approved resolutions approved had now been included along with changes in line with the CIGRE head Office Statutes and to amend the document to reduced gender specific references. He called for any comments, objections or questions on the updates. There being none, he asked for a show of hands that the updates be accepted, and the new constitution be issued. Passed unanimously.

5. NEXT MEETING

The Chairman proposed the 2018 AGM be held in one of the following cities: Hobart, Darwin or Townsville. A show of hands suggested the members were evenly divided and so the Board would make a decision and advise members early in the New Year. There were no objections.

CLOSE of Formal AGM Proceedings.

The formal proceedings of the AGM were closed by Mr Ed Wilson at 12:00.

6. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Company Secretary Mr Kerry Williams advised that the Board elections had taken place. Mr Nino Ficca being the Immediate Past Chair & Dr Stephen Jay being mid term in his role did not require election and continue as board members.

All other positions were declared vacant. Mr. Williams advised that the following Uncontested nominations were received:

Chair: Mr Trevor Armstrong – Elected

Deputy Chair - Mr Edward Wilson – Elected

Treasurer – Mr Anthony Armstrong – Elected

Chair of ATC – Mr David Bones – Elected

The General Director nominations were received from 7 Nominees and votes were tallied from the on-line voting, mailed votes and votes handed to the Company Secretary on the morning of the AGM.

In accordance with the Constitution the following persons were elected as General Directors:

Mr Kenneth Barber

Professor Simon Bartlett

Mr Stephen Clark

Mrs Angela Klepac

Mr Philip Southwell

Those nominees who were thanked for their application but were unsuccessful were
Dr Thomas Smolka
Mr Garth Dibley

Mr Williams welcomed the new Board and handed the Chair to Mr Trevor Armstrong.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

b) Other Business

Mr Peter Dulhunty spoke about his long term role with the AORC (Asia Oceania Regional Council) and that this was coming to an end for him and that he encouraged others to continue to support AORC activities in the region.

8. CIGRE Australia Activities & Reports

- a) Awards:
An award plaque was presented to Mr Doug Aberle for services to CIGRE and he was invited to give a presentation of the work being done internationally on rebranding CIGRE on a global scale.
- b) Outstanding Academic Achievement Award: This was presented to Professor Tapan Saha of University of Queensland. Professor Saha was then invited to give a short presentation on his achievements which led to the successful nomination for the award.
- c) The outgoing Panel Convenors were presented with a commemorative plaque for their services. They were: A1 Peter Wiehe, B1 Richard Joyce, B3 Angela Klepac, C6 Ken Ash, C2 Mark Miller, B5 Ian Young.
- d) NGN Report: Ms Alexander Price presented the annual NGN report

CLOSE of Meeting for the Day

The meeting closed at 2:30pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

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CHAIRMAN

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Dated