

MINUTES OF THE 68th FEDERAL CONVENTION WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

Held at the Virginia Palms International Motel Facility, Sandgate Road, Boondal, Brisbane, Queensland on Saturday 3 April and Sunday 4 April 2004

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NOTE: Comments on debates do not form part of the official minutes, but where included are for reference and information. Those reports and papers of greater importance presented to the Convention but which are not available as Conference numbered documents are noted as attachments to these Minutes.

The Agenda for the Convention is attached

.....See Attachment 1

OPENING:

President Ernest Hocking opened the meeting at 1105hrs.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting an informal discussion was held on the draft of a proposed agreement between the Wireless Institute of Australia and the current Divisions under the proposed national re-organisation plan. On the preceding afternoon other informal discussions with delegation were held canvassing views on documents concerning the nature and operation of a National WIA.

PRESENT:

Ernest Hocking VK1LK
David Pilley VK2AYD
David Jones VK4OF
Don Wilschefski VK4BY
Peter Naish VK2BPN
Gilbert Hughes VK1GH
Alan Hawes VK1WX
Terry Davies VK2KDK
Brian Kelly VK2WBK
Jim Linton VK3PC
Peter Mill VK3APO
Barry Robinson VK3JBR
Glenn Dunstan VK4DU
Ewan McLeod VK4ERM
Ron Smith VK4AGS
David Box VK5OV
Trevor Quick VK5ATQ
Trevor Ward VK6HTW
Phil Corby VK7ZAX

President
Director
Director
Director
Secretary
VK1 Federal Councillor
VK1 Alternate Councillor
VK2 Federal Councillor
VK2 Alternate Councillor
VK3 Federal Councillor
VK3 Alternate Councillor
VK3 Alternate Councillor
VK4 Federal Councillor
VK4 Alternate Councillor
VK4 Alternate Councillor
VK5 Federal Councillor
VK5 Alternate Councillor
VK6 Federal Councillor
VK7 Federal Councillor

David Wardlaw VK3ADW
Michael Owen VK3KI
Peter Norden ZL2SJ
Brenda Edmonds VK3KT
Ken Fuller VK4KF
June Fox
Brian Clarke VK2GCE
Chris Jones VK2ZDD
Bruce Bathols VK3UV
Graham Kemp VK4BB
Clive Sait VK4ACC

IARU Vice President

NZART President

Minute Secretary
WIA Head Office

Delegates, observers and visitors were introduced and the President expressed the thanks of all for the work of the WIA Secretariat and the VK4 Division in preparing the facilities for the Convention. Particularly thanked were June Fox of the WIA Federal Office, Ewan McLeod VK4ERM President WIAQ Council, and Ken Fuller VK4KF Secretary WIAQ.

President Hocking noted particularly the presence at the Convention of David Wardlaw VK3ADW Vice President of the IARU, Michael Owen VK3KI, previously IARU Vice President, and Peter Naish Region 3 Chairman. Peter Norden. ZL2SJ representing the NZART was welcomed with applause.

SILENT KEYS

The meeting stood in silence in memory of the silent keys of Amateur Radio in Australia.

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

President Hocking outlined two areas of special importance in this Convention, viz:

- The National WIA;
- The ACA decisions on entry level licences and the outsourcing of a wide range of functions from the ACA, including such matters as the issuing of licences, would require that the WIA be an effective and business-like organisation.

President Hocking noted that the Federal WIA had an official call sign, VK3WIA

1. CLARIFICATION OF THE POSITION OF OBSERVERS

It was noted by delegates that some of the matters raised in the Convention are about people and some Divisions may wish to have such discussions in camera. The Convention must have the right to defer matters to a closed session if any Division feels that is necessary to obtain a full and frank discussion.

Agreed on the voices.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2003 FEDERAL CONVENTION

Moved VK7, Seconded VK6

To accept the minutes of the 2003 Federal Convention held on 5 April 2003.

VK2 raised questions about the version of the 2003 minutes being voted on and asked if corrections forwarded had been made? The matter concerned the issue of file size under item 6, Future of WIA Publications. The Secretary made the required corrections as amendments to the issued text. (*June I haven't seen the VK2 Corrections KF*)

Moved VK1 Seconded VK7

That the minutes as amended be agreed.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 1. Federal office – Minutes of the 2003 Federal Convention as amended and agreed to be placed on the WIA Web site.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE 2003 MINUTES

3.01 AR Editor replacement.

This matter had been raised in 2003 but despite the urgency and several advertisements, no replacements had been identified. VK5 indicated that Colwyn Low had agreed that if no replacement could be found he would continue. President Hocking felt we had to work harder to get a replacement for Colwyn who had asked to be allowed to stand down as Editor after many years of good work. There had been some expressions of interest but no one was prepared to come forward at this time. A number of suggestions on how to proceed were made around the table but no solutions were offered. President Hocking asked Divisions to seek out volunteers for the position from within their own ranks. It was suggested by VK3 that the President take an oversight role in ensuring the Divisions responded positively to this method of approach; leaving it simply to the Divisions might result in nothing happening. President Hocking pointed out the Divisions should not need to have their hand held on such matters. Divisions had a task placed on them and they should get on with it.

Action 2: That Divisions seek an Editor for AR from within their resources.

3.03 Appointment of a new Federal Historian

This position is vacant. VK1 is looking at the situation. (See also later discussions on the Centenary of the WIA project.)

Action 3: VK1 to investigate the appointment of a Federal WIA Historian (see also Action 20)

3.04 QSL collection

No progress had been made on the possibility that the National Archive might store the collection. No progress had been made in obtaining more workers to assist in this very historically important activity. At present the Federal collection is about 1 million cards and besides the problems of workers to sort and assess the cards, the problem obviously existed about their storage. The intention is that the more significant cards will eventually be displayed at some suitable locations. In the meantime one suggestion is that the collection be split between the Divisions for storage.

Action 4: (a). VK1 (Allan Hawes VK1WX) to continue investigations regarding storage of the QSL collection.

(b). Council to further investigate sources of assistance to the manager of the collection.

3.05 Public Sale of AR

Presentations indicated the sale of AR on the newsstands continues to be a success contributing a net benefit income to the WIA (see also Action 17)

3.06 Job Descriptions for various Federal roles

Director Don Wilschefski VK4BY has sent out inquiries to Divisions and Federal office holders but no information has been received back. President Hocking asked for suggestions as to how this might be progressed. VK1 suggested that we restart the inquiries. Brenda Edmonds VK3KT suggested that extractions from an old Federal Handbook might be useful. for consultation purposes.

Action 5: It was agreed that Don Wilschefski VK4 BY would try again to obtain information about the job descriptions for the various Federal roles.

3.07 Examination system redesign

Deferred until Education report.

3.09 Remuneration.

President Hocking identified this as a complex issue because of the difficulty in defining the work to be carried out. This is in the process of being resolved.

Action 6: Secretary WIA to resolve the definition of work to be carried out by WIA staff

3.10 Awards Committee

Action completed. The Federal *Thank you* awards scheme has been introduced.

Director David Jones had asked Divisions to advise what awards they were bestowing and the criteria being used. VK2 commented on its procedures of handing down awards at its AGM but there is no VK2 awards committee as such.

Action 7: Divisions to be contacted again to provide information so that a clear picture of the totality of the awards procedure across the Divisions and Federally can be obtained.

3.10.05 Future of e-copy of AR

A three month trial of e-copy of AR by VK3 had been decided on at the 2003 meeting with the intention of determining the number of people who wanted an e-copy of AR so that the costs of e-copy could be determined for a full service. VK3 gave the approach a longer than 3 month trial and has sent the results of an email survey to Council and the Directors. This matter will be raised again in the discussion on Publications.

3.10.03 Council to publish a CD of technical material from AR and the Executive determine a realistic cost

No Progress

Action 8: 2003 decision to publish a CD of technical material from AR to be given further consideration.

03.09.02 Motion for the removal of CW as a qualification following the Article 18 decision.

This was a successful lobbying operation by the WIA. David Wardlaw VK3 ADW spoke of the debate in the IARU and ITU and the success in the IARU meeting of introducing the change, mainly due to the activity of the Finnish delegation.

Action: No further action required.

3.10.01 Establishment of the task force for the WIA Centenary celebrations

In response to questions, particularly from VK2 and VK3, President Hocking advised that there had been discussions on this matter and several expressions of interest in progressing the matter had been received.

Action 9: Establish a task force to plan significant celebrations to mark the centenary of WIA in 2010 in the terms agreed in the 2003 Federal Convention.

3.10.02 Use of special call signs prefixes during the WIA Centennial year.

The ACA is not interested in this issue at this time. It is a matter which might best be finalised closer to the event in 2010.

Action 10: Continue to include the matter of special WIA Centenary call sign prefixes on the agenda of discussions with the ACA.

03.09.01 Implementation of an entry-level licence.

This matter is deferred until discussion under Item 8 of the 2004 Agenda "Options for the introduction of a Foundation Licence".

REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR 2003: MATTERS ARISING

03.04.01 Macau

The matter of Macau as an entity had been raised with the ACA but the WIA had been advised that this was a matter for Foreign Affairs interests and was complex involving a range of other matters in that region. VK3 agreed this is a difficult situation and we might simply regard the matter as closed.

VK5 drew attention to the ACA Press release on reciprocal licensing released in December 2003. ACA are working on this issue.

Action: Issue of Macau closed.

16.03 IARU Region 3 Report.

Discussion deferred for later consideration

16.21 AMSAT

Discuss in the context of the 2004 Report of the Australian Coordinator for AMSAT.

17. Silent Keys.

Discussion took place on the difficulty of developing a consolidated list of silent keys to ensure the memory of our past members was remembered. VK1 commented that better contact with the Amateur Radio Community would lead to a better reporting. VK3 advised some families prefer to maintain privacy and in the past there had been difficulties with inaccuracies. VK3 reports at its AGM the names of the Silent Keys for the past year and asks people to add names that might have been missed. VK4 sends a condolence card on behalf of the Council as well as listing the names at the AGM. VK5/VK6 news broadcasts allow the identification of Silent Keys. VK7 sends condolences. In discussion it was commented that the Federal Council might consider identifying some SK's requiring special notice.

Moved VK7 Seconded VK6

That at each AGM of the WIA that those Silent Key amateurs who have served the Federal organisation be specifically named and their memory honoured in addition to any general honour accorded to all deceased amateurs

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 11: Federal Office to arrange that at each AGM of the WIA that those Silent Key amateurs who have served the Federal organisation be specifically named and their memory honoured in addition to any general honour accorded to all deceased amateurs

Other matters raised in 2003 AGM**Trophies**

A question of the logistics and safekeeping of trophies is being investigated by Director David Jones. Some trophies had been located. VK2 noted the need for a secure location for these historically value objects.

Action 12: Directors to continue the investigation of the logistics and safekeeping of trophies.

21 Any other Business

President Hocking attended the Annual Convention of the NZART held at Masterton on 30May to 2 June 2003. NZART had given a great welcome to his participation in the Conference. There are differences in the in the operation of WIA and NZART and there were some lessons in the operation of, for instance, the AGM that we might learn.

(June, President Hocking, is there a visit report that might be attached to these minutes. I don't know what the lessons are that we might learn?)

Action 13 Council to consider lessons of the NZART operational procedures

The Convention adjourned for Lunch at 1230hrs and reconvened at 1330hrs

4 Election of WIA President and Directors

The meeting agreed to a secret ballot being conducted for these positions and appointed Ewan Mcleod VK4ERM as returning Officer and David Wardlaw VK3ADW as Assistant Returning Officer.

It was agreed that the vote for President would be carried out by a vote marking either the call sign of the preferred candidate. – Either **VK1 LK** (Hocking) or **VK2YC** (Corbin). Each ballot paper was prior countersigned by the Secretary.

The voting elected Ernest Hocking VK1LK as President. The returning officers destroyed the ballot papers after the vote had been received by the Convention

A discussion on the need for the lodged Special Motion 04/01 regarding the election of a Director aged > 72 years led to a deferral of the election of Directors pending advice about the current laws.

Item 4 deferred

5 ELECTIONS OF OTHER OFFICE BEARERS

Election of Federal Officers was decided on a show of hands voting on the published list of 'Nominations for Federal Office AGM 2004' with all agreed except the ACA Liaison Committee for which a secret ballot was requested Moved VK2, Seconded VK7.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously.

A Secret Ballot was held in the manner adopted for the Convention

Those nominated are listed below. Those elected are highlighted and underlined.

Peter Naish VK2BPN
Gilbert Hughes VK1GH
Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM
Peter Mill VK3APO
 Brian Kelly VK2WBK
Glenn Dunstan VK4DU

Item 4 revisited.

Advice having been received that it was not now necessary to move a Special Motion regarding the election of Directors aged > 72 years,

Moved VK1, Seconded VK7

That the **Special motion 04/01 be withdrawn**

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously.

The meeting was asked of its preference for the method of balloting for the remaining 3 positions of Director (the President is also a Director). It was agreed that ballots would be held for each individual position. The secretary advised that an abstention in this instance would be taken as a No vote. Ballot papers were provided and distributed to delegations in the manner of previous ballots at this conference.

Those nominated and the decisions of the ballot are as follows:

David Pilley VK2AYD Approved
Don Wilschefski VK4BY Approved
 David Jones VK4OF Not Approved.

The appointed Directors were asked how they wished to proceed to the election of the final Director. It was considered that this matter might be revisited later in the meeting. This is a most important matter especially at a time when a new WIA organisation is being developed

A listing of all Directors and Office Holders elected is attached.

.....See Attachment 4

'Thank you' Certificates

A scheme of 'Thank you' Certificates has been developed by the WIA and was presented by President Hocking to those recipients at the Conference. A complete list of recipients is at attachment to these minutes.

.....See Attachment 5

6 DIVISIONAL INITIATIVES

VK1 Division

Emphasis has been placed on increasing the visibility of the VK1 Club. Open nights at the shack as have been successful as have daytime open periods.

Communications with the wider community have been expanded with the further development of the email news that is now sent to amateurs and non-amateurs, members and non-members.

WICEN has come to the fore after the ACT Bushfires and the EFS asked for assistance with AR operators. Several are now in training. The participation of Amateur Radio operators in support of the EFS is an important breakthrough. It is to be appreciated that an advantage of the EFS training and inclusion of AR people in their system is that it gives such people insurance coverage.

VK2 DIVISION

Not much is being done except for managing assets. The WIANSW Council meeting at Wagga Wagga took a great deal of effort. The Bookshop sales are increasing but the cost of imports has risen which is an offsetting difficulty. The Bookshop management and operation is a problem. It is hard to get good volunteers.

On the issue of the facility at Parramatta it's thought that if rented it could support scholarships. Alternatively the Dural facility could be developed to satisfy participation of amateurs who may not have property access. Options are still under discussion.

VK3 DIVISION

Membership recruitment is on track and active amateurs are being targeted rather than approaching people simply because they are in the call book. Also there is an emphasis on approaching people who are reactivating.

2 or 3 Councillors are attending each Hamfest.

Communication with existing members is being stimulated and news distributed.

VK4 DIVISION

Visits to VK4 Clubs and groups has been a feature of the year.

Features of the year have been a scheme of awarding grants to meritorious Club projects, development of knowledge about town planning issues, improving communications with members and developing better liaison with WICEN and Emergency Services.

Of major advantage to VK4 Amateurs is the QTC Newsletter that is sent to all Queensland members in the AR magazine or by post or by email. Another major advantage is the Q News broadcasts, which are not only networked all over Queensland but also in other States and other countries.

VK5 DIVISION.

The Federal Convention in Adelaide in 2003 was a major event for VK5.

Membership had suffered a slight fall from 460 to 447 members. Members are participating in CFS training. A program of Club speakers had been arranged. Advertisements about Amateur Radio were placed in newspapers after CW was removed as a qualification.

AR participation in community activities including car rallies continued during the year. Sunday news broadcasts are continuing including the re-broadcasting of the Queensland based Q News.

There is some concern about the expenditures on Repeaters.

VK6 DIVISION

The Division assists with repeater costs on a \$ for \$ basis.

The VK6 Examination system is being developed and the issue of insurance is under review. The VK6 Council meets once a month.

VK7 DIVISION

Costs are being reduced to keep subscriptions the same. However there is a creep up in expenses. The 3 Branches in the State have had a good year with a good program of speakers. There has been a decline in member numbers due mainly to the decline in older members. As part of our program we have involved marine operators to expose them to aspects of AR. A Certificate of Appreciation has been recently developed.

Communication with the AR community has included the development of a web site.

General Discussion on Agenda Item 6 included consideration of the value of putting the news out on CB bands also. Some examples were quoted.

7.WIA FINANCIAL REPORTS.

11.ADOPTION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORTS.

It was agreed that Agenda items 7 and 11 would be joined.

The "Wireless Institute of Australia –2004 Budget" tabulation was distributed (see attached)

.....See Attachment 6

In the discussion on the Budget it was noted that a decision had been taken to wipe out a number of longstanding debts – cases where it was not profitable to take further action.

VK2 suggested that from an examination of the budget it might be worth looking at the issuing of the call book as the 12th issue of the AR magazine or issuing it free to members

Moved VK4, Seconded VK7

That the Budget plus Accounts be accepted.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried unanimously

Action 14 Federal office to arrange for the Budget and Financial statements to be placed on the WIA Web Site.

The Convention adjourned for Afternoon Tea at 1530Hrs and reconvened at 1610Hrs

8.OPTIONS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A FOUNDATION LICENCE

President Hocking advised that this item had been included in the expectation that the ACA might have made a decision at this time but no information is available. While the impression is that the ACA will probably favour Outsourcing and a Foundation Licence there is no impression about how the ACA feels about other issues such as type or class licencing. It had been understood that the ACA wanted to issue a set of decisions on these and other matters later in the year for implementation early in 2005 and it may well be that a meeting of WIA Council might need to be called for later in 2004.

Proposed

That the President's comments be noted.

Agreed on the voices.

Action 15: to note the possibility of a WIA Council meeting to be called later in 2004 re ACA decisions

9. FUTURE OF THE WIA PUBLICATIONS

The attached paper "Briefing note: Call Book 2004" by John Nieman was distributed.

Brenda Edmonds VK3KT, asked by President Hocking if she wanted to continue as Call Book Editor, indicated she would be happy to do so.

A number of questions were put to the Convention aimed at determining the preferred options for producing the call book in future years.

Question: Do we wish to see a full call book in alternate years? Yes 5 for

Question: Do we wish to see call sign listings only in alternate years? No 6 against

Question: How many would like to see a Call Book published each year? Yes 6 for

Question: Do people buy the Call Books annually or once every two years? President Hocking said this was a matter known only to Divisions since the Call Books are sold through them.

Question: Does anyone want the Call Book produced early in the year? No

Question: If it is wanted produced later in the year, when? From discussion it was **agreed** that it should be produced and available to Divisions and members by 1 November each year.

The CD version was causing some problems because it was not economical for it to be produced to run on every computer and every operating system. The CD is designed to run on Windows 2000. There is no intention to produce a CD only call book – investigation has shown very clearly that members need a printed version.

The "Report on Call Book Production" presented by Brenda Edmonds (attached) contains two recommendations, viz:

1. We continue the current system of production of the Call Book for one more year, with a serious effort directed towards increased efficiency and reduced costs; and
2. If the system cannot be made to work to the expected standard, alternative paths be explored.

These recommendations were **agreed on the voices**

.....Attachments 6 &7

Action 16 (a).Brenda Edmonds VK3KT is to be Editor of the Call Book for 2004/5

(b) The Call Book is to be produced annually and be in the hands of Divisions and members no later than 31 October of each year.

(c).the present system of production of the call book to continue for a further year with serious effort to increase efficiency and reduce costs, but if the system cannot be made to work to the expected standard alternative paths be explored.

In further discussion on the Call Book, the Secretary suggested that further work might be put into seeking overseas sales. The problem of reading the Call Book with older versions of PDF was raised and it was noted that these readers might be downloaded from the Internet.

Action 17 Investigation to be carried out to seek overseas sales of the AR magazine.

10 THE WIA STRATEGIC REVIEW AND THE FUTURE OF THE WIA.

Brian Clarke VK2GCE gave a review of the work of the Strategic Review Team including Submissions to the ACA. During their work they had access to previous WIA reviews. Brian gave particular recognition to the work of Chris Jones VK2ZDD who from his joining the team in September 2003 had been energetic in support of its work and had provided invaluable links to the widest network of interested people.

The Strategic review had quickly identified the national model as the most appropriate and a high level of support for this concept was found in discussions with clubs groups and individuals.

A new discussion paper “How can we manage the transition” (attached) had been placed on the Web. The consequence of the Review is the conclusion that not to proceed to a national model will result in fragmentation and a reduction in status of the organisation. On the other hand, if the WIA proceeds to the national organisation the review concludes it will stand to gain significantly in the eyes of the amateur community and Government. WIA services can be expected to increase significantly.

President Hocking commented a great deal of work had been done and in a very short time. The results of this Review are far more advanced than anything done before.

Item 4 Revisited

President Hocking reminded Delegates of the need for suggestions about who might fill the vacant Director position.

From the floor suggestions were made of

- Neil Penfold VK6NE,
- Brenda Edmonds VK3KT.

The Chairman noted the suggestions and asked Divisions, Councillors and Officers to consult and continue to advise him on the matter.

Action: See Action 24

12. WIA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

It was recommended that the current rates remain as they are in line with last year's decision.

Moved VK7 Seconded VK6

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 18 maintain membership subscriptions at current rates.

In view of the timing of events in the agenda the Chairman decided at this time to skip item 13 'MOTIONAS AS RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 18' and move onto Items 16 and 14.

It was noted that item 04.09.01 had been withdrawn: advised by VK3

It was noted that item 04.10.03 had been withdrawn. advised by VK4

16.REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2004 **14. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A number of reports listed in the Agenda had not been received and were not addressed by the Convention.

Moved VK6 Seconded VK1

That the Federal Coordinators as reported to Council be thanked for their work during the year.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 19 : Federal Office to advise Federal Coordinators of the thanks of the Convention

14.3 Federal History Expression of Interest

John Laws VK5EJE had expressed an interest in developing a History of the WIA in the context of the bicentenary. Volunteers are called for to join in the proposed publication.

Moved VK1 Seconded VK7

That it be agreed that the proposal expressed by VK5EJE was a reasonable approach and should be adopted.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 20: Directors to implement the proposal for the development of a history of the WIA in the context of the WIA Centenary in 2010 in consultation with VK5EJE (see also Action 3)

14.4 Belconnen Naval Radio Station – Update on current situation.

It was reported that there had been discussion about radio groups taking over the site. It is no longer required for Defence purposes, some dismantling has commenced and it is believed likely the site will be handed over to the ACT Government. Parts of the site are likely to heritage listed and there are restrictions on the use of the land outside the transmitter area. There are many historic items on the site.

It is possible that the Belconnen Naval Radio Station offers a site for WIA activity. It has been suggested that one of the occupiers of the site might be for a Defence Signals Museum.

The cost of maintaining the site to required standards might be expensive

It is considered that the WIA should continue to maintain a watching brief, paying particular attention to issues of on-going costs.

Approved on the Voices

Action 21: Directors to maintain a watching brief on the development of options at the Belconnen Naval Radio Station bearing in mind the issue of on-going costs.

17. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Moved VK7, Seconded VK1

That Harmons be reappointed as Auditors.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 22: Federal Office to advise Harmons of the decision.

The Convention adjourned at 1735hrs Saturday 3 April

The Convention reconvened at 0840hrs on Sunday 4 April

SPECIAL RESOLUTION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE.

The VK4 Delegation advised that several Divisions needed more time to refer back to members on some substantial issues and therefore asked that the special resolution be deferred.

VK3 asked that the meeting be closed to only the Executive Federal Councillors and the Minute Secretary.

The Chairman ruled that the matter raised by VK4 had precedence. Special resolutions had to be handled carefully. Article 25 of the constitution allows the meeting to be adjourned with respect to the special resolution.

Moved VK4 Seconded VK1

That the meeting adjourn its consideration of the special resolution for 4 weeks meeting in Sydney on 1 May 2004.

For : VK1, VK2, VK3 VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Agreed.

Action 23: Federal Office and Directors to arrange meeting in Sydney on the Special resolution.

Resignation of Director and Treasurer

The Chairman advised that he had received a letter from David Pilley resigning as Director and as Treasurer to the WIA. David Pilley in his letter had praised the achievements of David Jones VK4OF in working for Amateur Radio and the WIA and felt he could not continue in the positions of Director and WIA Treasurer after yesterday's result of the election for Directors. David Pilley felt he had to show his feelings about that result.

The Chairman advised the meeting that in the circumstances he was able to co-opt additional Directors as well as allowing a resigning Director to continue until a replacement had been obtained. However David Pilley had advised that he did not favour the latter option of continuing,

Action 24: President Hocking to consult and action appointment of 2 Directors and a Federal Treasurer

14.1 IARU Report

David Wardlaw VK3ADW spoke to the report and brought greetings to the Convention from the IARU.

David will this year retire from Vice Presidency of the IARU. He has had a distinguished career being involved since 1957 in Federal WIA matters, several years as President WIA. He is an inaugural member of Region 3 of the IARU.

David pointed out to the Convention that without the IARU Region 3 we would not have the access we have now. It is an important element in the maintenance and development of our access to the bands. Working closely with the ITU has been invaluable.

The IARU is a member of the Radio Communications Sector of the ITU. The Study Groups of the ITU have a wider representation than simply the government administrators of telecommunications.

In recent times the achievements of the IARU include harmonisation of the 7MHz Band, modification of the CW requirement, Earth Exploration Satellites, regulation including of the use of bands including 2 metres and 10Mhz. A lot of effort is involved not only by their experts but also by the Secretariat Detailed negotiations are required in complex issues such as the consideration of the compatibility of the band plans of different regions.

It should be appreciated that in the face of apparent decreasing numbers of Amateurs across the world we should appreciate that China for instance is as yet a non-amateur radio country.

Support is needed of the international effort in support of Amateur Radio. Although governments (particularly the USA) fund the international secretariats, the delegates and expert groups are funded by amateur groups with some support by governments.

03.04.21 ITU Conference and Study Group Calendar year 2003.

WRC (03)

The major activity of 2003 was the completion of preparations for and attendance at the ITU's World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC). In the Conference held in Geneva 9 June to 4 July 2003. The WIA was represented by two members of the Australian delegation: David Wardlaw VK3ADW (funded by IARU) and Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM (funded by WIA)

The outcome of WRC03 include, in summary:

- Formation of call signs-allowing some relaxation in the regulations;
- Article 25 – allowing the removal of the mandatory imposition of Morse Code assessments and allowing individual administrations to lift some restrictions on 3rd party traffic;
- 7Mhz harmonisation- a difficult issue with opposing views that were resolved in a way not wholly satisfactory for Australian amateurs. The implementation of the agreement reached is that the broadcasting allocation will be moved up 100Hz to occupy the band 7200 - 7450Hz, the change taking place in 2009. There may be restrictions imposed on Australian amateurs use of the 7 MHz bands and perhaps there will be a need to reconsider our approach and perhaps seek allocation of a secondary allocation in the 5MHz Band;
- the Earth Exploratory Satellite Service (EESS) access has been nominated for secondary allocation in 432 –438 MHz.

WRC 07 preparations have commenced with the formation of an IRAC preparatory Committee including the WIA representation of David Wardlaw VK3ADW, Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM and Gilbert Hughes VK1GH

President Hocking in commenting on the report noted the value of the WIA Delegation attending and participating in the WRC and IATU Conferences .It was stressed that the Australian amateur radio community benefits greatly by the long-term involvement of our skilled and energetic representatives.

Moved VK7 Seconded VK1

That the report be accepted

For :VK1, VK2, VK3 VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Agreed

Action: No Action proposed.

04.04.03 Region 3 IARU Liaison Officers Report for 2003/4

This report prepared by Neil Penfold VK6NE, WIA Region 3 Liaison Officer, included details of the Region 3 meeting held in February 2004 in Taiwan. The WIA delegates to that meeting were Jim Linton VK3PC, Brenda

Edmonds VK3KT and Neil Penfold VK6NE. Aspects of the work of the delegation were touched on in the overview of IARU at 14.1 above.

The report recommended that

“The WIA propose that: the number of Directors of the Board of Region 3 be increased by one, taking the total to 6 Directors. This recommendation is to have the matter discussed and with input from the new Chairman Peter Naish to enable a decision to be made”

Jim Linton advised that an article had been written on the meeting for the AR magazine and gave a good coverage of the work done by the delegation. It is felt that some times the WIA members underplay the importance of participation in International for a.

Regarding the recommendation in the Liaison Officers report the consensus was that no decision should be made at this time and more information sought.

Moved VK3 Seconded VK5

To accept the report and defer action on the recommendation to allow consultation and a future report.

For :VK1, VK2, VK3 VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Agreed

Action 25 WIA IARU Delegation to consider the recommendation of the Liaison Officers IARU Report for an increase in the number of Region 3 IARU Directors..

04.04.01 President's Report.

A number of the issues raised in my report are covered under other items of this Convention.

Other matters include:

- Commercial pressure to cede part of the 420-430Mhz band is continuing. One of the WIA aims is to seek a primary allocation for Amateur Radio.
- Broadband Power Lines, (BPL) transmissions are an issue affecting the HF bands with significant potential for interference. A group known as the Spectrum Access Group has been formed to ensure BPL does not impact on any HF user in Australia. The Group has membership from Government, including Defence, Business and Amateur Radio.

The WIA made a significant submission to the ACA Review of the Amateur Service taking into account a wide range of views from the amateur radio community and WIA policy developed at its meetings. President Hocking said the Submission was a compromise taking into account a wide range of issues.

VK3 expressed concern that the WIA submission did not give adequate recognition of the VK model for the Foundation Licence.

VK4 expressed the strong view that its opinions were not taken into account in the preparation of the final submission by the Federal Office.

President Hocking reiterated his view that the Submission was a compromise with a range of views.

In response to the VK3 assertion that the Submission did not reflect the true views of the WIA, President Hocking objected: he felt the report truly reflected the views of the WIA . It was a difficult balancing task and it allowed many options to be considered. President Hocking found it objectionable to suggest that he had

favoured the UK model and had biased the report. The footnotes in his report were designed to allow for the wide range of views put forward in the various meetings.

Moved VK1 Seconded VK7

That the Presidents report be accepted.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action: No Action required

03.04.12 Federal Education Coordinator

In discussing his report, The Education Coordinator, Ron Smith VK4AGS expressed great appreciation of the effort that people put into discussing the directions that the education program might take. There had been a wide and healthy diversity of views expressed in the discussions.

It is important to have a vision about the education and examination system. A person should have their licence in their pocket and legally using their amateur radio on the way home from the examination.

The examination system is now working better than it ever has but it is still not good enough: it is not acceptable in today's society to have the present delays in obtaining an exam result –it was acceptable in the past but not now. At present the average time taken to process the exam results in Federal office is about 15 days with an average time to pass the material to Federal office from the exam centre is about 5 days.

There had been a noticeable increase in the number of examinations. A rise from 449 in 2002 to 855 in 2003. It was noted that Ron Bertram VK2DQ of the Radio Electronics School had reported an increase in entrants to his courses with the abolition of the CW qualification requirement

In discussions on the report VK1 asked about lobbying to increase government support for Amateur Radio and increasing its educational role. The consensus was that there should be a multiplayer approach; all had a part to play in lobbying local politicians as well as the WIA approach at the national level.

On the issue of CW examinations it was agreed that these should continue as a service to members both because of a continuing interest in the qualification and because it was still a qualification recognised in some other countries.

Brenda Edmonds VK3xxx suggested that it would be of value to carry out a statistical analysis of the wide range of examination data held in the Federal office. It was agreed this would be beneficial but at present there were no resources available for that task.

Turning to the recommendations of the Education Report, it was moved VK1 seconded VK4

that the report and its recommendations 4.2 and 4.3 be adopted. Recommendation 4.1 was withdrawn

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 26 Federal Education Co-ordinator and the Education Group proceed to implement Recommendation 4.2 A Strategy be developed to significantly improve the perception of amateur radio in the wider community . This has become more pressing than the organisational detail in education. And Recommendation 4.3 Federal and State politicians be informed and lobbied on the importance of amateur radio in the national science and engineering initiatives.

04.04.14 AMSAT

The Convention considered the report by Graham Ratcliffe, AMSAT Australian National Coordinator.

VK3 noted that this is an important activity and strong support should be given to the recommendations of the report regarding support, viz:

- \$1000 to support the Amateur Satellite Service in Australia;
- a donation of \$5000 to AMSAT DL (Germany) Phase 5E project replacing AMSAT_OSCAR-10 and 40.
- A donation of \$5000 to AMSAT NA (North America) ECHO project replacing UoSAT-OSCAR-14.

The convention recognised the importance of these projects for the AMSAT community and recommended that Graham Ratcliffe write to all Divisions seeking financial support.

Moved VK7 Seconded VK6

That the report be adopted and WIA give serious consideration to the recommendations.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 27: Directors and Divisions seriously consider the recommendations of the report for financial support of the Amateur Satellite service in Australia, the AMSAT DL Germany) and AMSAT NA (North America) projects with a view to providing financial assistance.

04.04.15 Videotape Library

There were no particular recommendations in the report but it is a vexatious matter and needs attention. VK2 will seek clarification as to what needs to be done.

Moved VK7 Seconded VK6

That VK2 discuss and present a report to the next Federal Council meeting about what is required and what might be done.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 28 VK2 to continue its investigation and report to Council on what action should be taken to settle this future of the Videotape Library.

04.04.22 ACA Liaison

Difficulties have been experienced in liaison with some elements of the ACA. The ACA Staff are overloaded in some areas making it impossible for them to maintain the previous good information flow. Nowadays some contacts are limited to email replacing the previous face-to-face contacts. Certainly the review of Amateur Service, amongst other things, has engaged the effort of the ACA. Communication is not a difficulty across all parts of the ACA, the Spectrum planning group are very helpful. The Department of Defence has also been helpful, allowing some Amateur activity in some of its bands.

There is a close relationship between the Liaison Committee and the Spectrum group on the issue of the clearance of the 420-430Mhz band especially in Victoria where the State Government has a total requirement for the band in contrast to the needs of the NSW Government which are relatively modest. However there is an exclusion of all new amateur operations in the 420-430Mhz band in VK1, VK2, VK3. The situation in VK4 is at present unclear, the Queensland State Government not having given any indication of its intentions although

it is noted with surprise that some of the decisions of the Qld ACA regional office have been abrupt and with little notice.

Revised plans to enable Amateurs to operate realistically in the more crowded spectrum have been developed with the cooperation of the Spectrum planning group.

In discussions David Wardlaw VK3ADW noted that there were opportunities for Amateurs to gain a toe hold where there were unused primary sections of the bands.

It is clear that Amateurs need to check on the availability of frequencies to ensure that there is no conflict between amateur radio activities and the primary user of any band. The WIA band plan is a guideline and it is important that Licences be aware of any change in allocation by the ACA.

VK2 and VK3 commented that they keep a strong control over allocation of frequencies for amateur services

Moved VK3 Seconded VK1

That the report be adopted

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action none on this item.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE 2004 CONVENTION**Motion 04.09.02 Policy Review**

Moved VK3 Seconded VK2

That the outcomes of WIA policy making and the effectiveness of this activity be reviewed and reported to the WIA Federal Council in the short term, preferably within 3 months after the WIA Federal Convention 2004

VK3 spoke to the proposal stressing the importance of good practices in policy development and implementation in a representative body such as the WIA. It was of the view that the proposed review should be part of all WIA AGM's. David Wardlaw VK3 ADW recalled that this kind of review and reporting had been part of the WIA policy and enabled an updating of policy on a regular basis.

President Hocking expressed concern that the motion failed to identify who would carry out the work of preparing the data base and review of policies. It was identified in discussion that there were electronic copies of Federal Decisions back to 1997. VK1 offered to develop a database of WIA policy decisions over recent years. This offer was accepted.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 29: VK1 to develop data base, including preliminary review of policy outcomes, and distribute it to the Council for consideration within 3 months.

Motion 04.10.01 Outsourcing

After preliminary discussion the proposing Division, VK3, withdrew the motion because of the influence on the issue of other matters before the Convention.

Motion 04.10.02 WIA /ACA Liaison Review

Proposed by VK3

That the effectiveness of the WIA Liaison with the ACA be reviewed and the findings of that review be reported to the WIA Federal Council in the short term, preferably within 3 months of the 2004 Federal Convention.

Delegates noted that this issue had been raised in the previous reports section of the Convention. There was strong support for the review but with events occurring which will impinge on any review it was felt that the motion should be amended by deleting the words after *preferably* so the motion would now read:

That the effectiveness of the WIA Liaison with the ACA be reviewed and the findings of that review be reported to the WIA Federal Council in the short term.

The issue was further discussed and the feeling developed that the ACA Liaison group should continue its development of its relationships with the ACA and that a reflector should be set up within the ACA Liaison group to provide advice to Federal Council and others who might need to be kept informed. Glenn Dunstan VK4DU agreed to take on this task.

With the agreement of the Convention VK3 withdrew the proposed motion so as to give the proposed reflector approach an opportunity to develop. **Motion 04.10.02 withdrawn**

Action 30: ACA Liaison group member Glenn Dunstan VK4DU to act as a reflector for the group providing advice to the Council and other interested persons about ACA Liaison matters.

04.10.04 Proposed by VK2

That Direct debit be introduced for the renewal of membership.

VK2 argued that the use of direct debit would help remove a continuing problem of people simply forgetting to renew their memberships and would help avoid the need for follow up correspondence. The matter of cost was of concern to some Divisions but it was recognised that its use by members was voluntary. However it was noted that there were other forms of electronic payment including Bpay. After some discussion on the issues the motion was amended to read:

That VK2 Investigate Direct debit and other forms of electronic payment for the renewal of membership and it be introduced Federally if financially viable.

Moved VK2 Seconded VK1

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6.

Abstained VK7.

Carried

Action 31: VK2 to investigate and report to Council for possible introduction of electronic payment options.

04.10.05 Membership ID Card

Proposed by VK2

That a membership ID card be introduced –at the forthcoming Federal Convention.

A example card was shown by VK2 and various mechanisms for its introduction discussed. VK2 quoted cases where in trading operations it was important that membership could be identified in some positive way. It was thought the card could be issued as part of the receipt for membership. The motion was amended to read:

That a membership ID card be investigated and reported by VK2 to Federal Council at an appropriate time

The amended motion was moved VK3 Seconded by VK2

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 32 VK2 to investigate and report on the WIA

membership ID Card.

19 PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND TROPHIES

RON WILKINSON AWARD

It was moved VK7 seconded VK3

That The Ron Wilkinson Award be bestowed on Rex Moncur VK7MO

Rex Moncur has been outstanding in his demonstration of the true spirit of amateur experimentation and in imparting his knowledge and enthusiasm to many others for the greater enjoyment of amateur radio.

Rex is recognised by his peers particularly for his work in Australia in weak signal digital modes on the higher bands.

Rex has actively worked in his field in several DX expeditions where he has achieved remarkable contacts with troposcatter and meteor scatter. He is currently the holder of 6 grid square distance records.

Rex has been active in writing and disseminating the knowledge gained from his experimentation. He is a regular contributor to the AR Magazine's VHF-UHF 'An expanding world' column. He has been an active contributor to the CQ-VHF magazine and has participated in the GippsTech technical conference in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

As well as a distinguished career as an Amateur, Rex during his working life held many important positions and achieved recognition. He was for 10 years the Director of the Australian Antarctic Division and in 1998 was admitted as a Fellow of the University of Tasmania.

Rex has been an active supporter of the VK7 Division being at times the WIA VK7 FTAC Officer and the Technical Officer for the Southern branch of the VK7 Division.

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 33 Federal office to prepare Ron Wilkinson Award material. Council to make arrangements for the formal presentation of the Award to Rex Moncur VK7MO.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

It was moved VK3 seconded VK4

That John Martin VK3KWA be awarded Life membership of the WIA

Over the last ten years John has been chairman of the Victorian Technical Advisory Committee (VTAC) and has brought the Committee together and revitalized the activity. John has been associated with ACA Liaison group and it has benefited greatly from his strength and ability.

Passed by Acclamation

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

Action 34 Federal Office to put into effect the decision to grant Life membership to John Martin. Council to make arrangements for the formal presentation of the Life membership

20. TRANSACTION OF SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE ACT OR THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

No Business was required to be transacted under this item.

21. VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

VK1 offered to host the 2005 Convention of the WIA at a date to be decided.

Action 35 Federal Council to advise VK1 of the acceptance of its offer to host the 2005 Convention

Meeting adjourned to Saturday 1 May when it will reconvene at 0900hrs at the Parramatta Offices of the WIANSW

ATTACHMENT xx

LISTING OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE 2004 FEDERAL CONVENTION

- Action 1:** Federal office arrange for the minutes of the 2003 Federal Convention as amended and agreed to be placed on the WIA Web site
- Action 2:** Divisions seek an Editor for AR from within their resources
- Action 3:** VK1 to investigate the appointment of a Federal WIA Historian (see also Action 22)
- Action 4:** (a). VK1 (Allan Hawes VK1WX) to continue investigations regarding storage of the QSL collection.
(b). Council to further investigate sources of assistance to the manager of the collection.
- Action 5:** It was agreed that Don Wilschefski VK4 BY would try again to obtain information about the job descriptions for the various Federal roles.
- Action 6:** Secretary WIA to resolve the definition of work to be carried out by WIA staff
- Action 7:** Divisions to be contacted again to provide information so that a clear picture of the totality of the awards procedure across the Divisions and Federally can be obtained.
- Action 8:** 2003 decision to publish a CD of technical material from AR to be given further consideration.
- Action 9:** Establish a task force to plan significant celebrations to mark the centenary of WIA in 2010 in the terms agreed in the 2003 Federal Convention.
- Action 10:** Continue to include the matter of the special call sign prefixes on the agenda of discussions with the ACA.
- Action 11:** Federal Office to arrange that at each AGM of the WIA that those Silent Key amateurs who have served the Federal organisation be specifically named and their memory honoured in addition to any general honour accorded to all deceased amateurs
- Action 12:** Directors to continue the investigation of the logistics and safekeeping of trophies.
- Action 13:** Council to consider lessons of the NZART operational procedures
- Action 14:** Federal office to arrange for the Budget and Financial statements to be placed on the WIA Web Site.
- Action 15:** to note the possibility of a WIA Council meeting to be called later in 2004 re ACA decisions
- Action 16** (a). Brenda Edmonds VK3KT is to be Editor of the Call Book for 2004/5
(b) The Call Book is to be produced annually and be in the hands of Divisions and members no later than 31 October of each year.
(c). the present system of production of the call book to continue for a further year with serious effort to increase efficiency and reduce costs, but if the system cannot be made to work to the expected standard alternative paths be explored.
- Action 17:** Investigation to be carried out to seek overseas sales of the AR magazine.
- Action 18:** maintain membership subscriptions at current rates.
- Action 19 :** Federal Office to advise Federal Coordinators of the thanks of the Convention
- Action 20:** Directors to implement the proposal for the development of a history of the WIA in the context of the WIA Centenary in 2010 in consultation with VK5EJE (see also Action 3)
- Action 21:** Directors to maintain a watching brief on the development of options at the Belconnen Naval Radio Station bearing in mind the issue of on-going costs.
- Action 22:** Federal Office to advise Harmons of the decision.
- Action 23:** Federal Office and Directors to arrange meeting on the Special resolution
- Action 24:** President Hocking to consult and action appointment of 2 Directors and a Federal Treasurer

Action 25 WIA IARU Delegation to consider the recommendation of the Liaison Officers IARU Report for an increase in the number of Region 3 IARU Directors..

Action 26 Federal Education Co-ordinator and the Education Group proceed to implement Recommendations 4.2 A Strategy be developed to significantly improve the perception of amateur radio in the wider community . This has become more pressing than the organisational detail in education. and

Recommendation 4.3 Federal and State politicians be informed and lobbied on the importance of amateur radio in the national science and engineering initiatives.

Action 27: Directors and Divisions seriously consider the recommendations of the report for financial support of the Amateur Satellite Service in Australia, the AMSAT DL (Germany) and AMSAT NA (North America) projects with a view to providing financial assistance.

Action 28 VK2 to continue its investigation and report to Council on what action should be taken to settle this future of the Videotape Library.

Action 29: VK1 to develop data base, including preliminary review of policy outcomes, and distribute it to the Council for consideration within 3 months.

Action 30: ACA Liaison group member Glenn Dunstan VK4DU to act as a reflector for the group providing advice to the Council and other interested persons about ACA Liaison matters.

Action 31: VK2 to investigate and report to Council for possible introduction of electronic payment options.

Action 32 VK2 to investigate and report on the WIA membership ID Card.

Action 33 Federal Office to prepare Ron Wilkinson Award material. Council to make arrangements for the formal presentation of the Award to Rex Moncur VK7MO.

Action 34 Federal Office to put into effect the decision to grant Life membership to John Martin. Council to make arrangements for the formal presentation of the Life membership

Over the last ten years John has been chairman of the Federal Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC) and has brought the Committee together and revitalised the activity. John has been associated with ACA Liaison group and it has benefited greatly from his strength and ability.

Passed by Acclamation

For VK1, VK2, VK3, VK4, VK5, VK6, VK7.

Carried Unanimously

20. TRANSACTION OF SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE ACT OR THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

No Business was required to be transacted under this item.

21. VENUE AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

VK1 offered to host the 2005 Convention of the WIA at a date to be decided.

Action 35 Federal Council to advise VK1 of the acceptance of its offer to host the 2005 Convention

The Chairman adjourned the meeting in accordance with the decision 04.10.06 to Saturday 1 May when it will reconvene at 0900hrs at the Parramatta Offices of the WIANSW

Note: On 29 April 2004 the Chairman gave notice to the Federal Council that pursuant to Article 25 of the Articles of Association he had further adjourned further consideration of the Special Resolution until 14:00 Sydney time on 16 May 2004 by way of a Teleconference.

**The Minutes of the Further Adjourned Annual General Meeting conducted by way of Teleconference,
May 16 2004 2PM Sydney time.**

:

Call of Divisions present on 16 May 2004

The Chairman Ernest Hocking conducted a roll call of Federal Councillors and Office Holders present for the Meeting.

VK7 Phil Corby VK7 Federal Councillor

VK6 Trevor Ward VK6 Federal Councillor

Neil Penfold Alternate VK6 Federal Councillor

VK5 David Box VK5 Federal Councillor

Trevor VK5ATQ Alternate VK5 Federal Councillor

VK4 Glenn Dunstan VK4 Federal Councillor

Ewan McLeod VK4ERM Alternate VK4 Federal Councillor

VK3 Jim Linton VK3PC VK3Federal Councillor

Peter Mill VK3ZBP VK3APO VK3 Alternate Federal Councillor

Barry Robinson VK3JBR VK3 Alternate Federal Councillor.

VK2 Chris Flak VK2QV Federal Councillor

Michael Corbin VK2 Alternate Federal Councillor

VK1 Gilbert Hughes VK1GH VK1 Federal Councillor

Michael Owen VK3KI

David Jones VK4OF Director

Don Wilschefski VK4BY Director

Peter Naish VK2BPN WIA Secretary

Ken Fuller VK4KF Minute Secretary to the Convention

WIA Secretary Peter Naish certifying that a quorum was present the Chairman declared the reconvened meeting open at 1405hrs

Introductory Remarks by the Chairman President Hocking

President Hocking outlined the purpose of the reconvened meeting to be the dealing with the Special Resolution and that this was the only business to be discussed before the close of the meeting. Federal Councillors were reminded of the terms of the Special Resolution, viz;

“Proposed by VK1 Seconded VK4

Resolved to adopt the Constitution tabled at this meeting and initialed by the Chairman for identification in substitution for the Memorandum and Articles of Association”

The Chairman said that he believed the question was straight forward and initially he would poll each Division in turn on the Constitution before them.

VK7 The Final Draft of the Constitution has been circulated and the VK7 Councillor has been given a voting instruction.

VK6 No observation to make

VK5 Happy with the Constitution

VK4 Ready to move ahead

VK3 Nothing has changed, still awaiting Solicitors advice.

VK2 The Draft Constitution has been circulated and VK2 will vote in the affirmative.

VK1 Ready to proceed

The Chairman indicated that he was now ready to proceed to put the Special Resolution to the meeting.

The Secretary reminded the Federal Councillors that for the Resolution to pass 6 affirmative votes were required and that in voting Divisions could only vote YES/NO/ABSTAIN

The Chairman Polled the Divisions in turn with votes as follows:

VK7 Yes

VK6 Yes

VK5 Yes

VK4 Yes

VK3 No

VK2 Yes

VK1 Yes

The Secretary reported to the meeting that there were 6 Votes Yes and 1 Vote No and accordingly the special Motion was declared carried.

Chris Flak VK2QV given leave to make a statement commented that as VK2 Federal Councillor and President of the VK2 Division of the WIA he believed that it was in the interest of VK2 to support the motion. He had a mandate from the WIANSW members and had voted in accordance with their wishes and in the interests of radio amateurs both in VK2 and nationally. Now was the time to work as a team and get the National WIA going.

All matters remaining before the Convention having been completed the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1425 hrs and thanked all for their participation and support.

In dealing with other matters concerning tasks facing the WIA Council:

- It was requested by Michael Owen, President Elect of the proposed national WIA, that the WIA Council recommend to the Board of the National WIA that the circulated Code of Ethics be adopted.
- Don Wilschefski asked if the proceeding of the Conference should remain Confidential. The Chairman indicated he saw no reason for the decisions not to be widely circulated.
- Michael Owen, President Elect of the national WIA thanked the Councillors for their support but recognized the enormity of the task being faced by the WIA and asked that all support the new organisation. Agreed on the Voices.