

Meeting	2020 Annual General Meeting
Date	Tuesday, 17 November 2020
Location	Level 3 CDU, Kitchener Drive, Darwin Waterfront
Attendees	<p><b>Board</b></p> <p>Chair – Alistair Shields, Public Officer – Ray Hall, Finance and Audit Committee Chair – Kate Peake; Directors – Bilawara Lee, ,Jane Munday, Rick Fletcher Steve Rogers</p> <p><b>Members</b></p> <p>Shar Molloy, Kirsty Howie - Environment Centre; Fiona Peake – Northern Land Council; Dominic Nicholls – Mimal Land Management; Kate Stevens – Land for Wildlife Garden for Wildlife Alice Springs; Madonna Wuttke – Landcare NT; Jade Leask City of Darwin; Jeremy Hemphill and Heather Boulden - Friends of Fogg Dam; Dr Clare Taylor – CDU; Jaemie Page – Thamarrurr Development Corporation;</p> <p><b>Guests</b></p> <p>Clare Martin</p> <p><b>TNRM Staff</b></p> <p>Chief Executive Officer – Karen May; Business Manager – Ann Palmer (minutes)</p>
Apologies	Ben Lewis - Firestick Pty Ltd; Paul Blore - Outback Helicopter Airwork; Liz Bird – Centralian Land Management Association; Clare Obrien - Roper River Landcare Group; Paulin Cass – Friends of Fogg Dam; Bill Lowe - Lowe Ecological; Alice Beilby- Savanna Solutions

Meeting opened at 4:45pm, Meeting closed at 5:21pm

## **Item 1: Welcome, introduction and apologies**

### **1.1 Welcome**

The attendees were welcomed by the Chair, Alastair Shields.

### **1.2 Introductions**

The Board Members introduced themselves to the attendees.

### **1.3 Apologies**

The following apologies were received from TNRM Members and their delegates: Ben Lewis - Firestick Pty Ltd; Paul Blore - Outback Helicopter Airwork; Liz Bird – Centralian Land Management Association; Clare Obrien - Roper River Landcare Group; Paulin Cass – Friends of Fogg Dam; Bill Lowe - Lowe Ecological; Alice Beilby- Savanna Solutions

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## **Item 2: Tabling of previous minutes**

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*2019 TNRM Annual General Meeting Minutes accepted*

Unanimously accepted

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## **Item 3: Adoption of Agenda**

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*Adoption of the 2020 TNRM Annual General Meeting Agenda accepted*

Unanimously accepted

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## **Item 4: Reports**

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### **4.1 Chair**

Clare Martin as the immediate past Chair delivered the Chairs Annual Report as follows:

This is sadly my last report to a TNRM Annual General Meeting. I finished as Chair last month after six years in the role and would like to introduce you all to our new Chair Alastair Shields. I'm delighted to be handing over to Alastair and will get him to introduce himself to you all at the end of my report.

This last financial year was certainly one that one of us could have predicted. For the first half of the year, we were moving ahead strongly with our suite of projects that had been funded under the Regional Land Partnerships of the second National Landcare Programme. Projects, partnerships and finances were all in a very healthy position and our reputation as a facilitator of important natural resource management projects was growing.

March 19 was the day the Ruby Princess arrived in Sydney. The next day our international borders were closed. And the day after the Territory borders. Our national and Territory world changed in a flash. Workplaces closed and we adapted to working from home and holding virtual meetings. The new narrative was Jobkeeper; Jobseeker; grants and loans for business survival, along with the grim daily media of the latest Covid infections and very sadly the number of deaths. Thank heavens for streaming services, home deliveries from our favourite restaurants, visits to Bunnings, exercise – and having the great fortune of living in the Territory.

TNRM moved quickly into the new Covid mode of operation. Staff numbers were trimmed; staff worked from home; projects were put on hold; Jobkeeper applied for, successfully. Thankfully, the Australian government decided that our project payments would continue, even though the agreed outcomes couldn't be achieved because of the closure of Aboriginal lands and pastoral stations. Of course it is on Aboriginal land and pastoral stations where the majority of our projects were taking place.

TNRM did find alternative ways to deliver some components of projects and Karen will go into more details on that in her CEO report. But it is amazing what few all learned to achieve through virtual meetings, social media, targeted videos and lots of phone calls.

All the NRMs across Australia were enormously grateful for the Australian Government's decision to continue our payments even when it was impossible to complete work. We have Environment Minister Susan Ley to thank for that assisted by the effective lobbying from the NRM Chairs and our CEOs.

While this financial year 19/20 was severely disrupted over its final quarter, TNRM as an organisation has made good progress. 2019 for TNRM has been a very positive year in all aspects of our performance.

Again a most successful conference, with numbers attending over the three days the highest ever, especially for the awards dinner. One aspect of the three days that was most satisfying was the number of Aboriginal participants, both presenting and participating in conference sessions.

Clair introduced newly appointed Chair Alastair Shields.

Alastair Shields addressed the meeting outlining his experience and qualifications, and defining his interests and hopes for the organisation in the coming year.

#### **4.2 Chief Executive Officer**

Karen May summarised the year's activities and achievements identifying expectations for the coming year.

#### **4.3 Finance and Audit Committee Chair**

Kate Peake gave Finance and Audit committee report and presented the audited financial statement as follows: (Copy of the Finance and Audit committee Chair report attached)

It has been a remarkable year for TNRM's finance staff and the Finance and Audit Committee. The transition to a new funding model has 'been bedded down, the organisation has transferred to MYOB, and staff have managed the budgetary impacts of COVID-19. Despite all these overlapping change processes and interruptions to scheduled works the organisation barely skipped a beat, largely due to the vigilant work of Karen, Ann and Raj.

As per its obligations, TNRM has had its 2019-2020 financial records independently audited. The Special Purpose Financial Report prepared by KPMG is available to members. This audit incorporates some complications due to national changes in accounting policies (outlined in the Notes), but zero qualifications have been identified by the auditor. Under the difficult circumstances presented in the financial year this is a testament to the careful management of the organisation.

One significant challenge in the transition to the new funding model was managing a shift to payments in arrears. The new payment method is now established and any risk associated with payment delays is offset by TNRM cash reserves. TNRM has also been successful in diversifying income by attracting grants. The Finance and Audit Committee can happily report to members that TNRM's financial position is steadily strengthening and its project portfolio is expanding.

This is my first and final report as Finance and Audit Committee Chair as my term on the TNRM Board expires soon. My thanks to fellow Finance and Audit Committee members - Sally Sullivan, Clare Martin and Rick Fletcher.

Chair Report, Chief Executive Officer Report and Finance and Audit Committee Chair Report accepted

*Moved by Shar Molloy (member delegate)*

*Seconded by Dominic Nichols (member delegate)*

#### **Item 5: 2019-20 TNRM Annual Report (including 2019-2020 financial reports)**

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*2019-2020 TNRM Annual Report (including 19-20 financial reports) accepted*

*Moved by Dominic Nicholls*

*Seconded by Jane Munday*

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## **Item 6: Election of Directors to board positions**

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### **Deputy Chair**

Director Jane Munday nominated to hold the Deputy Chair position.

No other nominees.

*Moved by Director Alastair Shield*

*Unanimously accepted*

### **Finance and Audit Committee Chair**

Director Rick Fletcher expressed interest in taking the position of Finance and Audit Committee Chair

No other nominees.

*Moved by Director Alastair Shields*

*Unanimously accepted*

### **Public Officer**

Director Stephen Rogers confirmed his interest in holding the Public Officer position.

No other nominees

*Moved by Chair Alastair Shields*

*Unanimously accepted*

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## **Item 7: Election of Members to Director Selection Panel**

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### **Member Representation – Pastoral Sector**

In the absence of nominations for a pastoral sector representative to sit on the Director Selection Panel the meeting elected to co-opt a representative from TNRM members in due course.

### **Member Representation – Indigenous sector**

Northern Land Council delegate Fiona Peake, expressed interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Fiona Peake confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Indigenous sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

### **Member Representation – Conservation sector**

Environment Centre delegate Shar Molloy expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Shar Molloy confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Conservation sector on the Director Selection Panel*

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*Accepted Unanimously*

**Item 8: Other Business**

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No other business put forward.

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