

ROYAL ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICES SOUTH WEST BRANCH

MINUTE S OF COMMITTEE MEETING 12TH JUNE 2015

Meeting Commenced: 13:00 in Court Room 4, Bunbury Courthouse

Presiding Officer: Senior Vice President, Trevor Slater

Members Present: Trevor Slater, Tim Lee-Steere, Kevin Coote, Graham Edwards, David Rees, Monica Potter, Marilyn Ryan, Ross Croft, Peter Newland, Geoff Wilks, Pierina Frisina.

Apologies. Chris Mills,

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting, having been electronically circulated, were accepted with one ammendment. (Tim Lee-Steere to be entered as present at the April Meeting.)

Moved, David Rees, Seconded, Peter Newland. **Carried**

BusinessArising:- Graham Edwards asked that Tim Lee-Steere be included as present at April meeting, (as shown above.)

Minutes of previous meeting made no reference to RAJWA Councillors Report on the Hancock matter and the letter to be written by Graham Edwards.

Correspondence :- Due to Chris Mills being absent overseas, there was no inwards correspondence available.

Trevor Slater made mention of the letter written to Veronica Wilkes thanking her for her past services, commenting that he thought the letter was most acceptable.

Treasurers Report : The Treasurers report for the period 1st April to 31st May showed income of \$87.35 and expenditure of \$0.50. Statement balance of \$6,015.29

Moved Graham Edwards, Seconded Peter Newland that the Treasurers report be accepted. **Carried.**

RAJWA Councillor Report:- Association going well. Regarding the Hancock affair, a motion has been put to have Hancock removed from the register, this has now reached the appeal stage and Hancock has co-opted a solicitor to represent him in this matter. As to whether RAJWA will engage representation ins unknown. Councillor Lee-Steere stated that the whole affair has been wasting a lot of the executives time and has had an impact on the association moving forward. There has also concern that the affair is having an impact on membership within the association.

There has been a request that court be held on Saturdays at the Central Law Courts, it is assumed that this will need to be organised through the association.

The letter written to the association by committee member, Graham Edwards regarding action on the Hancock affair was well received and Councillor Lee-Steere felt that more members should perhaps write to the association voicing their concern.

A question from Marilyn Ryan regarding the current status of the proposed 5 year tenure for Justices.

Councillor Lee-Steere replied that the matter was still under consideration. Marilyn Ryan commented that no reply or acknowledgement of the letter written by her had been received.

Bunbury JP Rooms Report: Kevin Coote presented the report from the Bunbury Signing Centre, statistics were circulated among members. April stats were down, attendance at signing centre were stable. The 1 hour roster was still working well. Although not overly concerning, there were 19 non attendances at the 1hour sessions.

Justices on roster are very obliging and there is always someone who will step in at short notice.

The new policies have been introduced and continue working well.

Kevin advised that he would not be standing for committee at the forthcoming A.G.M. Kevin suggested that perhaps 2 or 3 committee members could be appointed to manage the signing centre rosters, statistics and general operations.

In rounding off, Kevin suggested that a pre Christmas get together was a great way of getting together and offered his premises as a venue.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Peter Newland on behalf of the committee and carried by all present.

Collie Report: Geoff Wilks presented the report from the Collie signing centre. Collie is doing 130 to 140 documents per month. Three new Justices have been sworn. Collie looking to increasing the attendance to three days per week.

The signing room is conducted at the Senior Citizens Centre, free of charge to the Justices. The photocopier, owned by the Senior Citizens and used by Justices, has become unserviceable. Geoff requested that the committee give consideration to purchasing a replacement unit similar to that purchased for Busselton.

Moved Kevin Coote, seconded, Tim Lee-Steere that the committee allocate funds up to the value of \$250 to purchase a photocopier for Collie. **Carried.**

ROYAL ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICES SOUTH WEST BRANCH

At his request, Geoff Wilks to purchase the unit from a local firm in Collie.

Busselton Report: Graham Edwards present the Busselton report. Three new members assigned to the roster. Attendance at signing centre very reliable. Statistics show that documents executed for the period January to May were slightly down on last year.

The Busselton centre is generally running well with no complaints.

The Presidents Report: Trevor Slater presented his report to committee.

The Superintendent at the Bunbury Regional prison is looking for Justices to undertake duties as a Visiting Justice. If members of committee know of anyone who may be interested, could they contact the Superintendent at the prison.

Trevor asked the committee their views on him currently standing in as the acting President. The general consensus was that the status quo should remain until the A.G.M.

Trevor made mention that at his last sitting, the penalty file at Bunbury was somewhat outdated. After some discussion, it was ascertained that this had since been rectified.

General Business: Marilyn Ryan suggested that a letter of apology be sent to Roy Kjellgren for the way the February meeting was conducted. Discussion followed.

Moved Marilyn Ryan, seconded Monica Potter that a letter be sent to Roy Kjellgren, thanking him for his past service and inviting him to return to the court and signing centre roster. **Carried.**

Marilyn Ryan suggested that we may need to procure a computer for the Secretary and Treasurer. These items can be obtained through the Bendigo Bank.

Kevin Coote stated that the committee needs to consider procuring a computer for the signing room as most people are computer literate and statistics could easily be recorded using this medium.

It was resolved that Geoff Wilks obtain the application forms from the Bendigo Bank.

Marilyn Ryan voiced her concern regarding the voting at the A.G.M. Marilyn felt that there were many people who were ineligible due to not being financial members of RAJAWA or RAJWA (SW). Discussion followed, during which several ideas were suggested.

- Appointment of a membership officer.
- Obtaining a list of financial members for RAJWA office
- Changes need to be made to constitution prior to A.G.M. before enacting any changes.

Marilyn stated that she had developed a matrix for recording membership and this would be sent electronically to Ross Croft and Trevor Slater. Marilyn also offered to maintain the members database if someone would do the initial data input.

Marilyn Ryan stated that many people who are attending the Signing Rooms are not attending training.

David Rees informed the members present that he would be shortly leaving the Bunbury district.

Apologies were tendered for the next meeting from Graham Edwards, Kevin Coote, Pierina Frisina and Marilyn Ryan.

Next meeting scheduled for 14th August 2015 to commence at **1:00pm**

Meeting closed 2.22pm