

## MINUTES OF MEETING FOR



### THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SOCIETY OF AQUATIC SCIENTISTS 59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD on 29 June 2022 14:30 – 16:30

#### AGENDA

##### 1 WELCOME AND OPENING

Prof Richard Greenfield opened the meeting and expressed his appreciation for all the high-quality presentations by young researchers.

##### 2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and noted. Wynand Vlok, Wilmien Powell, Mark Graeme, Nelson Cairo, Allan Whitfield and Jackie King.

##### 3 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Water Research Commission was added under general.

##### 4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting from 28 July 2021 was presented. Richard Greenfield stated that any editorial comments could be emailed directly to him but any disputes which were not a true reflection could be raised. The minutes were approved by Victor Wepener and seconded by Nico Smit.

##### 5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 58<sup>TH</sup> AGM

1. None.

##### 6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Richard Greenfield highlighted the continued success of the society and that the members have proven to show clear continuation after the pandemic.

1. World Fisheries Society - - SASAqS was invited to the World Fisheries Society at a cost of 25¢ per member, the cost would therefore be approximately around R1000 per annum. He requested feedback from the floor. Nico Smit asked what the benefits would be to the society. Richard Greenfield stated it would open networks to other societies. Paul Skelton stated the alignment is with aquatic sciences, but the links can be forged through other means and this direct link was with Olaf Weyl and therefore it may not be of societal value. Victor Wepener stated it is a grouping of National societies under a world body umbrella and questioned whether there would be benefit. Prof Liesl van As requested more information before a call is made, and questioned why we don't investigate if more beneficial associations are not available on the African continent. Richard Greenfield stated he will respond that as a society, it was decided it is more something that can be done between individual research groups and people working in specific fields rather than society as a whole. Richard stated World Fisheries Council is holding a congress in

Seattle, in March 2024 and Mandla Magoro from SAIAB and himself are on the organizing committee for the international program.

2. COP26 - Richard Greenfield was requested to make comments and submit to Department of International Relations and Cooperation stating the society supports and encourages the President in the summit but received no feedback from government.
3. SACNASP - to nominate people to act as the professional advisory committee for the Aquatic Scientists. Wynand Vlok and Johan van Vuren have been in the position since 2014 and new people are needed. Tatenda Dalu and Byron Grant have been nominated but we await feedback from the council.

Greenfield invited Ryan Wasserman to present the Treasurers report.

## **7 TREASURERS REPORT**

SASAqS Financial report 2021/2, beginning of the year just over R96 000 but now we have R236 000 and the investment account has R253 000. Several payments for the conference still had to be made in terms of student travel grants and conference fees, an update would be given in the next meeting. Profits from 2021 conference was R41 000. Future student scholarships would depend on finances.

Membership numbers - 144 fully paid members and 45 members hadn't yet paid. Student members - 60 full paid students and 20 yet to pay. Full membership rates won't change unless NISC rates cost change since most fees go the NISC. Membership has therefore remained stable.

Some students paid non membership rates and the Exco was hoping to increase the fees to R100 per annum. Essentially any student attending becomes a member to the society as universities won't allow it to be paid separately. The finer details will need to be worked out. Challenges to be considered is it is R50 which is not a lot of money and students need to commit to remaining part of the society.

Leon Barkhuizen stated LOC and SASAqS committee arranged the meeting and Adri Joubert was an absolute star and thank you for all her hard work.

## **8 EDITORS REPORT**

SASAqS Editors report 2021/2022 – Nick Rivers-Moore presented his editors report. Impact factor up from 1.0 to 1.755, welcomed Josephine Pegg as a new associate editor. Victor Wepener thanked the editors on behalf of the society and noted the special issues really contributed to the increased impact factor. Richard Greenfield thanked Nick Rivers-Moore and Cate Brown for all their hard work with the journal. He stated Cate Brown will be stepping down and the society has requested new editors via email, after delegations the co-editor is Elliot Taylor. Cate was thanked for all her hard work and dedication on the journal for which the society is very thankful.

## **9 WEB MASTERS REPORT**

<http://www.riv.co.za/sasaqs> - Dr Michael Silberbauer was not present but had sent information to the President. Richard Greenfield stated that Mike indicated the social media platforms run by Kaylee have really assisted driving traffic to the website, Saisha will take over once Kaylee leaves.

## **10 COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

No country representatives.

## **11 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

No student representatives.

## **12 CONFERENCES**

### 2023 Conference –

Several people have indicated that they are interested to host but not in 2023, but there will be a conference and it will be in person.

## **13 AWARDS**

Richard Greenfield indicated awards will be handed out at the gala dinner.

## **14 HONORARIA**

The honoraria was increased by 10% per annum for co-editors and Adri Joubert.

## **15 BY-LAWS**

No changes.

## **16 CONSTITUTION**

Wynand Malherbe mentioned the constitution is currently outdated. The constitution can be revamped, and an expert has had a look at these and has proposed changes. The changes will be circulated for comment and if no comments are received it will be accepted and be presented at the conference in 2023. Richard Greenfield agreed it had not been updated in several years and will serve at the AGM in 2023 before coming into effect.

## **17 GENERAL**

17.1. Images used at conferences was brought up Liesl-, based on POPIA act. The photographer has been taking photos and consent is required by the society on what can happen with the images. Richard Greenfield stated the presentations from the previous year have been removed but we do need input from the society. Janine Adams stated an attendance register could act as an official consent as photos taken during the conference. Richard Greenfield asked whether anyone had any objections and if anyone took photos of a presentation, they need the authors permission. A suggestion was made to add to the conference registration form. A request was made for the edited photos to be uploaded to a Google Drive for registered attendees to access photos. Adri Joubert will send to everyone who is registered.

17.2. Water Research Commission – were approached for student bursaries but did not provide feedback. Suggestions were made to submit earlier applications via the society to include student training which aligns with the financial year of the WRC and ensure a clear line of communication is known and maintained.

## **17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

TBD

## **18 CLOSING**

Richard Greenfield thanked the society for their inputs and the LOC for all their hard work. The meeting was closed.