

WESTERN ROCK LOBSTER COUNCIL Inc.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

WAFIC Offices, Osborne Park

9:00am Tuesday 22nd September 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ATTENDANCE: DEXTER DAVIES, ANDREW WINZER, JAMES PARATORE, TERRY PARISH, IVAN SPALDING, TERRY MOUCHEMORE, DARREN MCTAGGART, GARY PARKER, MAL MILLARD, PETER HAMMOND, VICKY KERR.

GUESTS:

APOLOGIES: STEVE MCLEARY, JOHN FITZHARDINGE, BOB STONE, ANTHONY PIRROTINA

1. Welcome

The Meeting was declared open at 9:25 by the Chairman.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting on the 3rd August 2009 were accepted as true and correct

Moved: Terry Parish; Seconded: Mal Millard; Carried: unanimously

3. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

All matters arising from the previous Minutes are to be addressed as Agenda Items

4. 1 Financial Report - For Action/Approval

The Financial Report was accepted

Moved: Darren McTaggart; Second: Terry Parish; Carried: All in favour

4.2 Congress expenses

(Attached) – The Congress where done very cheaply compared to the previous one. Vicky did a simplified spreadsheet which showed that the congress costs where just under \$50,000 but at no loss to the council.

National South Australian Congress

There was little support from WA fishers at the Congress compared to the Rocklobster fishermen from NZ who was well presented at the congress. James Paratore represented WA Fishers and did WA very proud. He was part of the Young Leaders along with Jason Barrett and they were very prepared and did it extremely well. There was an overwhelmingly strong feeling by the young people that they don't want to get caught up in all the problems. Andrew gave a presentation on alternative fuels. Dexter presented the situation as factual, which didn't seem too

bright. He gave straight numbers as to what is happening. Compared to the rest of the country, WA's management fees are the lowest. The next congress will be held in NZ in 2011 in Queenstown.

4.3 Licence fees

In terms of funding, the Council board will write to the industry, to ask the Minister to keep the pot levy going in order to keep the Council operating. The Council won't have enough funding to keep going in the long term as the Minister wants to give DBIF money to only one Council and if that happens it will only be to Wafic.

Motion: In light of probable funding reduction and licence fees and decrease of income to Council \$3 pot levy fee annually to fund Council. Should funding should be forth coming, the levy fee will be reduced. Maintaining funding through pot levy will make the Council independent.

Moved: Peter Hammond Seconder: Mal Millard All in favour

5. Research Updates

See attached (research update 09.doc)

6. General Business

- Election update
Elections are well on the way and we are getting a good flow of responses back
- AGM update
A Proxy form for the MFL holders will go out with the AGM information pack.
- MSC update
MSC audit will be taking place in the first week of November. Cost recovery hasn't gone up by much. MSC helps with the EPBC act that needs to be met, in order to export. It is easy to knock, but you have to keep an eye on it.
- Marine Parks
WAFIC has taken the reign on this and some progress has been made, but not enough. The Greens are very well organised and they are picking off group by group. We have made a stance that we won't blink until they tell us what their compensation package will be, as well as what it means, who gets it and what it represents.
- Input vs Output Discussion
The Input vs Output discussion is at a very interesting stage if you read all the stuff available to you.
Dexter's opinion of where the Minister is with it at this point is if anyone can show him how it can be done he will produce it. If you manage either system and drive it well any one of the two systems will work. We need to start with proper advise and take the time to get it right, because once it is set there is no way back. The allocation of quota needs to be done properly.

There is value in quota and there is value in the certainty of input. The Minister has indicated that he will take a vote into consideration. Dexter suggest that as a group the Council should come together and debate that if there was a Quota, what would be the best one. One suggestion is to fish 20% lower than predicted catch for the next 3 years, that way breeding stock will go through the roof.

Bottom line is that we have to fish smarter, whether it is by an input or output system.

- WAFIC restructure
- Pot Registering
MOTION: Write to Stuart Smith need to create a non fishing MFL and pay a once off fee, for licence holder to say who owns what.
Moved: Peter Hammond seconder James Paratore All in Favour

7. Next Meeting Date & Close

Meeting closed at 5:30 with the next meeting being the AGM on Thursday 29 October 2009