



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### HELD AT:

FUNCTION ROOMS

GLENELG PIER HOTEL

HOLDFAST PROMENADE

GLENELG

ON FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 AT 5PM

### MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Drs M Altmann, G Amaechi, Y Amos, M Beckoff, P Charlton, A Edwards, D Janjua, R Lecons, S Lewis, N Lian-Lloyd, R McKinnon, S Martin, J McLennan, K Milne, P Rischbieth, J Rutzen, A Searles, D Senior, P Tideman, T Wood **and** E Ashworth, R Brandon, C Edwards, P Giddings, R Hampshire, C Ingram, N John, J Johnson, T Lehman, S Mann, B Marie, M McCulloch, L Poole, K Pym, V Sheedy, G Stephenson and B Trappel.  
**PROXY TO PRESIDENT:** Drs I Gartley and D Rosenthal.  
**APOLOGIES:** Drs B Alcorn, S Ballard, I Gartley, R Hawker, S Holmes, M Hoopmann, G Kokar, A Lane, T Leeuwenburg, T Lian-Lloyd, P Michelmore, S Norton, T Owen, H Robertson, D Rosenthal and K Wanguhu

T Wood opened the meeting at 5.15pm, delivered the acknowledgement of country and welcomed members and observers. Call for any further apologies.

- MINUTES:** T Wood called for a motion to adopt the minutes of the previous AGM held 13<sup>th</sup> November 2010. Moved P Rischbieth, second J Rutzen. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.
- PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS:**
  - 3.1 President – Tim Wood (report tabled). TW spoke about ACRRM conference, RDAA roots outlined and he touched on rural generalist pathway and its importance. RDASA awaits the funding model from CHSA and the implementation process for the pathway with anticipation. Most importantly rural doctors and RDASA members need to be strong advocates of the pathway to ensure that it is established in a timely manner and with the correct structure. RDASA acknowledges that the organisation is still not strong on advocating for female GPs and IMGs. We plan to set up/link up special groups for those doctors and welcome volunteers for that purpose.
  - 3.2 Vice President Industrial – Peter Rischbieth (report tabled). PR gave a brief overview of the contract negotiations including some of the gains that we think will be made in the next contract and some of the question marks still to be decided. PR stressed the importance of membership so that the industrial team and the Executive can continue to negotiate on behalf of rural GPs.
  - 3.3 Vice President – David Rosenthal (report tabled). David is an apology for the meeting
  - 3.4 Treasurer – Joanna Rutzen (report tabled). RDASA has a positive balance of \$9, 000. JR thanked existing members and encouraged those not a member to join so that we can remain a strong and relevant voice.
  - 3.5 Tim Wood called for a motion to adopt the Annual Report 2010/11. Moved D Senior, second S Martin. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.
- PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT:** (report tabled). Tim Wood called for a motion to accept the Audited Financial Statements for year ending 30 June 2011 and Treasurer's Report as detailed in the 2010/11 RDASA Annual Report. Moved J Rutzen, Second A Edwards. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.



## 5. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE:

- 5.1 President: tenure has further 12 months to run
- 5.2 President elect: Tim Wood called for nominations for a President elect who will serve 12 months in this role (2012) and 2 years as President (2013 & 2014). Scott Lewis nominates. Moved P Rischbieth, Second D Senior. Vote: Against – 0. Carried. The Executive congratulated Scott on his appointment
- 5.3 Vice President Industrial: tenure has a further 12 months to run
- 5.4 Vice President: tenure has a further 12 months to run
- 5.5 Vice President: David Senior nominates for a further VP position. Moved T Wood, Second P Rischbieth. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.
- 5.6 Treasurer: tenure has a further 12 months to run

## 6. RATIFICATION OF REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| • Clare/Barossa                  | Andrew Pols                                  |
| • Fleurieu Peninsula             | Tim Leeuwenburg                              |
| • Murray Mallee                  | Peter Rischbieth                             |
| • Mid North/Port Pirie           | David Martin                                 |
| • Lower South East/Mount Gambier | Peter Charlton                               |
| • Port Augusta/Far North         | Tony Lian-Lloyd                              |
| • Port Lincoln/ Eyre Peninsula   | Scott Lewis                                  |
| • Port Lincoln/Central Eyre      | Judith Degner                                |
| • Riverland                      | Joanna Rutzen                                |
| • Upper South East               | Hassan Mahmood (nominated subsequent to AGM) |
| • Whyalla                        | Buki Oloruntoba                              |
| • Lower Yorke Peninsula          | Vacant                                       |
| • Upper Yorke Peninsula          | Graham Morris                                |
| • Obstetrics                     | Jeff Taylor                                  |

Tim Wood called for a motion to ratify the regional representatives. Moved S Lewis, Second P Rischbieth. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.

- 7. **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:** Tim Wood called for a motion that WHK Audit Services of 35 Bookpurnong Terrace Loxton SA 5333 be appointed as auditor for following financial year. Moved J Rutzen, Second S Martin. Vote: Against – 0. Carried.

- 8. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Tim Wood called for other business.

Jenny Johnson (RDAA) invited all RDASA members to speak with her over the conference or at any other time re rural doctor issues, especially those that require addressing at the National level. She sees the major issues as; 1. The possibility of a National advanced rural skills training pathway. There will be a discussion paper on this out soon which will be presented to Minister Roxon. RA classification also significant and RDAA is keeping it in the media and in front of the federal government. Jenny also outlined the other work of RDAA and committee work with Medicare, PIP advisory committees, training committees.

Tim Wood (RDASA) spoke about RDAA President, Paul Mara, being passionate about the RA classification scheme and a Medicare item number for rural medicine. Tim also spoke about contract negotiations and the inadvertent hold up by the AMA due to a paperwork oversight.

Peter Rischbieth recapped contract negotiations. Even though RDASA signed off on and recommended the last contract, we were not entirely satisfied with the contents. RDASA signed it as a good start and have tried to build on the contract since then – better IT access, safe work hours, and point of care testing. Peter thanked Phil Tideman for the work he has done on point of care testing. RDASA is working on something that we can issue to members – there will be nothing drastic in this. CHSA would



prefer for rural doctors to be committed to as much as they can negotiate out of the industrial committee. The committee is focused on getting the balance right between rural doctors' private business, public obligations and their procedural work. There were some questions from the floor about a lesser rate for those not on the after-hours roster. RDASA strongly proposes a straight C&B rate to encourage people to stay on the roster and to continue to practice rurally. Minister John Hill has been quite clear with RDASA that he recognises his responsibility to have a doctor on call at his hospitals. RDASA wants that on call commitment to be recognised and appropriately compensated. CHSA have asked to delay the negotiations for a couple of months but RDASA has not agreed to this proposal. Peter Rischbieth thanked members who provide us with valuable information. He also recognised Graham Morris and David Senior for their role in the contract negotiations. RDASA regrets that there is no document to provide to members at the moment. Tim Wood added the requirement that if you are supervising in a country hospital then you need to be in a contractual arrangement with CHSA. If the current one expires, then that relationship just rolls over but if you have not previously signed a contract then you cannot supervise until you do so.

Nes Lian-Lloyd asked when specialists are getting an on call payment. Peter Rischbieth advised that RDASA have been speaking with John Hill on this very topic because RDASA does not believe that having everyone on different packages is healthy. We have been promised that when contract negotiations are complete, they will begin discussions on the specialist situation. We are also advocating strongly for succession planning for specialists.

Richard McKinnon asked about poor IMG representation and membership numbers. IMGs make up 35% of the SA rural workforce. He suggests a different and proactive strategy such as personal phone calls and practice visits. RDWA have been proactive in getting IMGs on their board to increase representation. Richard also suggested a reduction in fees – both for IMGs until they get their fellowship and also overall such as the AMA is doing to attract membership. Tim Wood posed the question to the audience “how do we attract IMGs?”. There was no answer from the floor. Peter Rischbieth advised that we are in talks with John Hill about IMG access to Medicare and access to education.

Martin Altmann thanked RDASA Executive and Management Committee for their volunteer time and hard work.

Phil Tideman echoed his great support for the work being done by RDASA.

Peter Rischbieth also spoke about negotiating for a higher rebate fee for every consult when you do after hours, provide A & E, aboriginal health care and mental health care in the rural setting.

Tim Wood stressed to the audience that RDASA is here for rural doctors. We are interested in comments re contract negotiations, teaching obligations, safe working hours, access to appropriate IT and other supports at CHSA hospitals, etc. We support all rural doctors, all of the time. That is the message that RDASA wants to send to the audience and have the audience convey throughout the state.

9. **DRAWING OF RDASA PRIZE FOR AGM ATTENDANCE:** Dr A Edwards drawn by Dr P Tideman. Congratulations to Alison and thanks to all members that attended the AGM.
10. **MEETING CLOSED:** Tim Wood declared the meeting closed at 5.50pm. Tim Wood invited all members and observers to join with the RDASA Executive and Management Committee for refreshments.