Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

of the

Small Ruminant Chapter

Of the

Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

3 June 2018

The meeting commenced at 11:00 eastern standard time by teleconference

**Present**

Sandra Baxendell (President)

Robert Suter (Treasurer)

Kym Abbott (Secretary)

Diane Ryan

Bruce Allworth

**Apologies**

Kylie Greentree, Roy Butler

**Election of Office Bearers**

After calling for nominations the current President and Treasurer were nominated and elected thus retaining and continuing their positions. Kylie Greentree was nominated and elected Secretary, taking over the role from Kym Abbott. The position of Science Week Convenor remained vacant.

**Presidents Report**

The President spoke to the previously circulated President’s report (attached). The report was accepted (Baxendell/Abbott)

**Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer spoke to the soon-to-be circulated Treasurer’s Report (attached). The report will be reviewed and proposed for acceptance by email conference in the next few days. In brief, the FAMACHA training has brought income to the chapter and there will be no difficulty discharging the $1000 debt (for FAMACHA cards) later in the year.

**Other business**

Diane Ryan spoke of her efforts to recruit senior veterinary students and young graduates to sit their membership examinations in goat medicine.

She also informed the committee of the informative address given recently by the well-qualified parasitologist Jemima McKay (assisting Matt Playford), and suggested she would be a good speaker, particularly on the topic of anthelmintic resistance, for future Chapter meetings.

There followed a brief scientific discussion on clostridial vaccination in goats and the relative benefits of 6-in-1 and 3-in-1 vaccines for kids, and the need for higher frequencies of boosters under some conditions.

**Meeting closed**

At 11:22 pm EST

# Small Ruminant Chapter – President’s Report 2016/17

Dr Sandra Baxendell

Fortunately the committee renominated to continue in their roles as we received no other nominations at the start of the year. 2016 was a year of continuing the setting up of the Chapter. It had been many years since a new Chapter was started and setting up the bank account proved extraordinarily difficult as we did not fit easily into any of the existing categories as far as the bank was concerned. I documented the steps and wrote a cheat sheet and shared it with the college office staff and also the new Public Health Chapter. We have now 2 accounts: Small Ruminant Chapter Community Solutions cheque account and a Community Solutions cash reserve.

Updating the members list has been a task as well with one member passing away and 5 lost as the college office did not have any current emails. We have the following emails bouncing for sheep members: David Malcolm Sackett, James (Jim) Walsh, Paul Gerard Niven, John William McDonald (all Australian) and Ian Fraser Hill (NZ). If you know them please ask them to contact me (goatvetoz@gmail.com) or the college office.

2017 was the examination year for sheep and goats. This involved a lot of work for the examiners and the Chapter Examination Committee representative, Kym Abbott. The email asking for volunteers did not identify another goat examiner Rob Suter volunteered to be an examiner for both sheep and goats, doubling his workload. Di Ryan was already the mentor for the candidate so could not also act as an examiner. The examiners attended a 2 day weekend workshop to learn about writing exams and also to learn the new on-line marking system that was being developed by the college. Further development of the marking system happened in following months and more work was needed to test it. The written exams were marked using the system and telephone consultations were used to discuss the differences identified by the system. During exam week it worked very well. This was a lot of work for 3 candidates but worth it to get new Chapter members. In 2 years times exams will again be held and Chapter members are asked to encourage others to do their exams in sheep or goats. We are still looking for a deer examiner.

Better chapter communication was a personal goal. I took on the administration of the chapter website and have tried to have at least one item in every “College Courier”. My apologies if these are goat orientated but am more than willing to accept sheep or deer items that members send in.

On behalf of the Chapter I have been in negotiation with the South African Veterinary Association, who are the current copyright holders of the FAMACHA card. It is not possible to just buy these cards, which score the level of anaemia in small ruminants by giving them a score between 1 (red) and 5 (white). Cards can only be purchased by people who have undergone appropriate training on all methods of internal parasite control. An agreement is about to be signed so that Chapter members can run these course and provide participants with cards. We will be required to hold a list of all participants, ensure quality training and pay an annual amount. This will be a similar role to that done by the American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control ([www.wormx.info](http://www.wormx.info)) .