

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
2:15pm (AEDT)
Friday 12 November 2021
Via Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting opened at 2:15pm (AEDT). WHA CEO, Barb Vernon welcomed participants to the meeting.

1. ATTENDANCE

Anne Sneddon (President, Griffith University, QLD); Gill Evans (Mercy Hospital for Women, VIC); Jodi Graham (King Edward Memorial Hospital, WA); Laura Bignell (The Royal Women's Hospital, VIC); Lindsey Gough (Women' & Children's Health Network, SA); Michael Nicholl (Royal North Shore Hospital, NSW); Karin Lust (Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital); Susan Gannon (Dept of Health & Human Services, Tas); Graeme Boardley (King Edward Memorial Hospital, WA); Sue McBeath (Royal Hobart Hospital); Mike Beckmann (Mater Mothers' Hospital); Jonathan Morris (Royal North Shore Hospital); Maree Reynolds (Mater Mothers' Hospital); Susan Freiburg (Royal Hobart Hospital); Julie Swain (Westmead Hospital); Wendy Watson (Western Health); Jacinta Selby (Sydney LHD); Barb Vernon (Public Officer, WHA)

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resolution: That the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2020 be approved as a true & accurate record of the meeting

Moved: Michael Nicholl

2nd: Graeme Boardley

Carried.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

Anne Sneddon WHA President acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which we were meeting. She presented the annual report to participants and encouraged them to review in full.

Key achievements for 2020-21 include a growth in the WHA community with 14 new member hospitals joining bringing the total number of members to 145 hospitals representing 86% of public births in Australia annually.

Anne then outlined the new Strategic plan for 2021-2025 which was created with consultation from member hospitals. Key strategic priorities and activities highlighted were:

- **Partnering with women in design & delivery of care** – WHA is continuing to showcase projects partnering with women in webinars including
 - The unseen bias: How do we move beyond racism in healthcare?
 - Healing the Past by Nurturing the Future
- **Continuously improving safety, quality & equity of care** – 2020-21 saw the creation of over 260 benchmarking reports including,
 - Activity and costing data to enable comparison of operation performance with peers
 - Dashboard of clinical indicators to evaluate outcomes for women and babies from maternity care
 - Midwifery Group Practice Clinical Benchmarking to support assessment of the comparative effectiveness and outcomes of MGPs with peers and with core care

- **Enhancing value in healthcare for women & newborns**
 - WHA participated in a number of safety & quality projects including partnering with Safer Care Victoria to support improvement work on postpartum haemorrhage.
- **Accelerate sharing & learning among peers**
 - 2020-21 saw 32% growth in accounts to WHA's member's website with over 3300 members now accessing the member community including over 80 recordings of member presentations.
 - More than 1425 maternity professionals participated in 36 WHA networking web conferences during the year. Increasing participation of members in virtual meetings indicates that the content & networking is valued.
- **Development of Green & Healthy Hospitals & Sustainable Healthcare**
 - WHA is a member of Climate & Health Alliance and the Green & Global Healthy Hospitals network. WHA continues to share innovations to help hospitals reduce their environmental impact.

Anne Sneddon closed by thanking WHA member services and WHA Directors particularly those who are leaving the Board, including A/Prof Boon Lim, Ms Naomi McKeown, Prof Michael Nicholl, A/Prof Graeme Boardley and Ms Maree Reynolds. She acknowledged and thanked Michael and Graeme for their long standing leadership of WHA as former Presidents. She also thanked the WHA CEO Barb Vernon & her team for their commitment & work.

Resolution: That the President's report be accepted

Moved: Karin Lust

2nd: Lindsey Gough

Carried.

3.2 FINANCIAL REPORT

Barb Vernon summarised the Auditor's report by Kothes Accountants, highlighting WHA's secure financial position in part due to JobKeeper contribution which allowed job security for WHA staff. WHA achieved a surplus for the financial year of \$291,292, taking the organisation's equity to \$860,070. Members were encouraged to look at the report in more detail. Question or comments were invited but none were raised.

Resolution: That the Auditor's Financial Report for 2020-21 be accepted

Moved: Michael Nicholl

2nd: Sue McBeath

Carried.

4. Election of Directors

The call for nominations went out on 13 October 2021, six vacancies and six nominations were received from:

Directors standing for re-election

- Anne Sneddon (current WHA President)
- Susan Gannon (Director since 2014)
- Adrienne Gordon (Director since July 2021)

Nominees standing for election for the first time:

- A/Prof Michael Beckmann
- Ms Nicole Flendt
- Professor Jonathan Morris

There being the same number of vacancies as nominations received the following motion was put:

Resolution: That Anne Sneddon and Susan Gannon be elected to the WHA Board for a third 4-year term. That Adrienne Gordon, Michael Beckmann, Nicole Flendt and Jonathan Morris be elected to the WHA Board for their first 4-year term.

Moved: Sue McBeath

2nd: Michael Nicholl

Carried.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE AUDITOR

Resolution: That Kothes Accountants be appointed to Audit the WHA finances for 2021-22

Moved: Michael Nicholl

2nd: Karin Lust

Carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Members Questions & Answers

Members were provided with an opportunity to ask the Board and/or CEO any questions and/or to provide comment on WHA's activities and performance over the past year.

Graeme Boardley reflected on his time with WHA thanking CEO Barb Vernon and highlighting the incredible growth of the WHA member community from 27 to 145 member services.

7. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2022 AGM will hopefully be held in conjunction with the WHA Safety & Quality in Maternity Care Forum, in the last week of November 2022. Date to be confirmed.

Meeting closed: 2.35pm