

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
1pm (AEDT)
Friday 25 November 2022
Via Zoom

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting opened at 1.00pm (AEDT). WHA CEO, Barb Vernon welcomed participants to the meeting.

1. ATTENDANCE

Anne Sneddon (President, Griffith University, QLD); Susan Gannon (Dept of Health & Human Services, Tas); Mike Beckmann (Mater Mothers' Hospital); Susan Freiburg (Centenary Hospital for Women & Children); Jacinta Selby (Sydney LHD), Denya Hopkinson (Sunshine Coast University Hospital); Nicky Webster (North West Regional Hospital); Katie Farrell (South Western Sydney LHD); Hazel Brittain (Gold Coast University Hospital); Laura Dangerfield (Royal North Shore Hospital); Michelle De Vroom (Royal North Shore Hospital); Wendy Alder (Centenary Hospital for Women & Children), Pam McErlan (Metro South Health)

Ex Officio: Barb Vernon (WHA)

Apologies: Nicole Flendt (KEMH), Laura Bignell (The Royal Women's Hospital), Karin Lust (RBWH)

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resolution: That the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 12 November 2021 be approved as a true & accurate record of the meeting

Moved: Anne Sneddon
2nd: Mike Beckmann
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 in 2021-22 include a growth in the WHA community with 4 new member hospitals joining and 5 members expected to join in 2022-23. This brings the total number of member hospitals to 155 representing over 86% of all public births.

Anne Sneddon then outlined key activities related to the following WHA strategic priorities:

Partnering with women in design and delivery of care

WHA continues to share webinars showcasing initiatives with co-design and consumer involvement at the centre. Consumer involvement is also present in all levels of the National Preterm Birth Prevention Collaborative.

Enhancing value through benchmarking

WHA has a robust benchmarking program which includes

- **Activity and costing data** to help services provide cost-effective high-value care

- **Clinical Benchmarking** reports include data from over 186,000 births allowing WHA members to measure their progress overtime and compare themselves with peers.
- **MGP benchmarking** compares MGP with standard care, and MGP models with each other separated by risk.
- **Online data portal** with data from more than 370000 births to allow hospitals to assess theirs and peers' performance across a variety of maternity care indicators to see which care pathways are achieving the best outcomes.

Networking to share excellence and innovation.

WHA continues to share innovations making a difference to outcomes for women and their newborns. 2021-22 saw over 2395 maternity professionals attending over 66 network led web conferences. Highlights included the Leading Thinkers Series and the new Vulnerable Women Series which launched in 2022. Engagement in the member community also increased with over 450 new accounts created. The member community hosts over 150 presentation recordings from over 3620 individual experts.

Collaborative Quality Improvement

WHA in partnership with the Australian Preterm Birth Alliance is conducting the 'Every Week Counts: National Preterm Birth Collaborative' to safely reduce preterm & early term birth in participating hospitals by 20% by March 2024.

Over 60 member hospitals are participating in the collaborative and there has been incredible teamwork between partner organisations.

Advocating for a healthy and sustainable future

WHA continues to share examples of sustainable healthcare initiatives that are eliminating waste and decarbonising services to reduce the impact of climate change on the health of women and their newborns.

Anne Sneddon finished by thanking WHA members, the WHA team, and WHA directors including Sue McBeath who retired from her role on the board after 12 years. Anne Sneddon also welcomed Emily Callander who joins the board as a Special Purpose Director.

Resolution: That the President's report be accepted

Moved: Susan Gannon
2nd: Michelle De Vroom
Carried.

3.2 FINANCIAL REPORT

Barb Vernon summarised the Auditor's report by Kothas Accountants, highlighting WHA's secure financial position. WHA achieved a surplus for the financial year of \$57,376, taking the organisation's equity to \$917,446 in part due to Commonwealth funding for the Collaborative.

Resolution: That the Auditor's Financial Report for 2021-22 be accepted

Moved: Mike Beckmann
2nd: Susan Gannon
Carried.

4. Election of Directors

The call for nominations went out on 28 October 2022 to fill one vacancy due to the retirement of Sue McBeath. One nomination was received from Dr Nicky Webster. Barb Vernon outlined Dr Nicky Webster's background. She brings a paediatric background, significant neonatal experience, and regional input as the head of the Women's and Children's in Northwest Regional Hospital, TAS.

Resolution: That Nicky Webster be elected to the WHA Board for their first 4-year term.

Moved: Anne Sneddon

2nd: Susan Gannon

Carried.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE AUDITOR

Resolution: That Kothes Accountants be appointed to Audit the WHA finances for 2022-23

Moved: Anne Sneddon

2nd: Susan Gannon

Carried.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Members Questions & Answers

Questions and comments were invited but none were raised.

7. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2023 AGM will hopefully be held in conjunction with the WHA Safety & Quality in Maternity Care Forum, in the last week of November 2023.

Meeting closed: 1.30pm