



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2023-24 Wednesday 23 October 2024

Attendees:

Members: Susan Bailey, Kevin Bailey, Bettina Baldeschi, John Barkla, Kevin Brennan, Jane Campton, Jean Christie, Conor Costello, Barry Crisp, Bruce Cutts, Ingrid de Neve, Howard Dillon, Suzanne D'Ombraïn-Allain, David Evans, Maxine Gibson, Jed Gilbert, Angela Gill, Richard Graham, Maelor Himbury, Gabriella Hont, Matthew Kirwan, Beth Koch, Aaron Lamb, Juliet Le Feuvre, Stacey Little, Ross McPherson, Michaela Morris, Sally Moseby, John Pettigrew, Robin Pettigrew, Christine Power, Michael Quach, Will Rodger, Peter Selby Smith, Phil Sinclair, Joan Staples, Eve Stocker, Alison Street, Bruce Thompson, Chris Trueman, Sholihah Rahmatunnisa Utami, Mark Wallace, Mark Weymouth, Russel Williams, Liz Zetmann.

Non Members: Zahra Alizaeleh Sani, Monique Allain, Tracey Anton, Angela Ashley-Chiew, Cathy Atkinson Guinness, Wayne Atkinson Guinness, Ali Azimizueleh, Teri Bartolo, Don Batson, Chante Bok, Daryl Budgeon, Cary Cao, Sarah Charlton, John Chung, Angela Clarke, Alison Cooke, Tam Doan, Taegen Edwards, Leigh Ewbank, Ifeyinwa Eze, Greg Foyster, Andy Grant, Gloria Gu, Cathy Guinness, Adrian Hamilton, Karin Hammarberg, Claire Harvey, Kenneth Henderson, Carolyn Ingvarson, Peizhi Jiang, Junjue Jiang, Jacquie Kelly, Fiona Kenna, Isabel Kimpton, James King, Victor Komarovskiy, Jono La Nauze, Lily Liu, Colin Long, Kat Lucas-Healey, Adrian Marshall, Alex Merory, Hannah Minns, James Norman, Jack Norris, Simon O'Kelly, Gavin O'Loughlin, Joseph Paonessa, Merryn Park, Miheka Patel, Robyn Ruhl, Stephanie Sabrinskas, Logan Shield, Sylwia Sierkiewicz, Peta Thornton, Wren Trewin, Bruce Whimpey, Nola Wilmot, Mingwen Wu, Xuan Zhen Xu.

Apologies: Brian Snape, Ian Thomas, Wendy Cox, Meg MacDonald, William Holsworth, Michael Davies, Robin Pettigrew, Linda Parlane, Tracey Martinovich, Jan Lacey

Agenda Item	Minutes
	Meeting opened at 5.35 pm
1. Welcome to Country and Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction delivered by Conor Costello ● Acknowledgment of country ● Overview of agenda and general housekeeping ● Call for other business – none raised

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<p>2. Acknowledgement of Board members</p>	<p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thanks extended to Jono and the team for organizing the AGM. ● Acknowledgement and thanks to Board members. ● Thanks to Board member Tim Le Surdo who stepped down earlier this year.
<p>3. Motion to accept 2020 AGM minutes</p>	<p>MOTION: That the minutes of the Environment Victoria 2023 AGM held on 26 October 2023 be accepted.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED by a show of hands</p>
<p>4. President's report and Q&A</p>	<p>Delivered by Conor Costello, President. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In the last year, the focus of the Board has included board renewal, updating the policy architecture, implementing the outcomes of the safeguarding review, and refreshing the EV strategy. ● On renewal, the Board appointed four new members to fill casual vacancies. These members were selected to address gaps identified in the Board's skills matrix. Two additional shortlisted candidates have also joined EV's FapUF and GovCom committee as co-opted members ● On policy architecture, 30 organizational policies were consolidated into 7 overarching Board-level policies, complemented by nested guidelines, procedures, and terms of reference. This new structure enhances transparency for stakeholders. Special thanks to Beth Koch and the EV staff team for their work in developing the architecture. ● EV's four-year rolling strategy, reviewed every two years, has proven effective in keeping EV dynamic and responsive to the external environment. The revised strategy incorporates environmental justice principles, maintains a strong focus on transitioning away from gas, and expands the ongoing work in the Murray Basin to prioritize First Nations leadership in restoring Country.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Looking ahead, the Board’s focus in the coming year will be on the rollout of the revised strategy, organizational finances, the implementation of the policy architecture and refining the Board’s risks appetite framework. ● Many thanks to Jono, EV staff, Board members and generous donors and supporters who have supported EV this year.
<p>5. Treasurer’s report and Q&A</p>	<p>Delivered by Jed Gilbert, Treasurer. Key points presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Acknowledgment and thanks extend to members of the Public Fund committee (FaPuF) including Don Batson for his work on EV finances. ● EV’s recorded income dropped from last year by 422k but remains above \$4m. Expenditure is relatively stable at \$5m, a 49k increase from last year. Therefore, EV’s net deficit has increased to 881k (from 410k in FY23). ● While the reserves in Green Future Fund (GFF) decreased in the year, it continues to provide a healthy buffer for the organization. ● The reduction in income for the year was the result of reduced philanthropic funding where the prior year included some one-off significant partnerships. Furthermore, some anticipated funding did not materialize or was delayed in the year. ● Moving forward, Board is working with management to ensure a more positive result in the coming year. The Board has made change in the focus of staff resources, with reduced investment in the F2F program which was previously a large proportion of expenses. ● Board has also made a strategic decision to start replenishing the GFF via bequest income. <p>MOTION: That the financial statements of Environment Victoria for the financial year of 2023-2024 be accepted.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED by a show of hands</p>

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<p>6. CEO's Report and Q&A</p>	<p>Delivered by Jono La Nauze, CEO. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extension of gratitude to key members of the EV community ● Highlights of the year includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was a continued focus on holding decision makers to account with 2 of 3 coal power stations owners in Victoria having committed to replacing coal in the next decade. ○ In EV's Get off Gas campaign, EV successfully locked in the phase out of gas in Victoria, with, thanks to donors' support. ○ In Healthy rivers campaign, EV started the Murray Darling Campaign Alliance (MDCA), a national charity owned by EV and sister organizations across four states. The MDCS had its first win with the Commonwealth Government having started buying back water from farmers in the Murray Basin to put back in wetlands. ○ EV's review of the rolling strategic plan confirmed that the current focus is the right direction, with the strategy now extended to include a focus on rivers and land justice. Future work will not only focus on restoration of nature but also people and justice ○ Thanks extended to everyone for their involvement in the last year.
<p>7. Board nominations</p>	<p>Delivered by CC, President. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EV currently has 6 elected Board members with space for 4 more to meet the maximum of 10. ● The 4 new members recruited during the year were appointed as casual appointments and have accepted nominations for election to the Board. ● As there are an equal number of nominations as there are vacancies, under EV rules a vote is not required. ● The Board welcomes Bettina Baldeschi, Tracey Martinovich, Stacey Little and Bruce Thompson to the Board.
<p>8. General Business and Q&A</p>	<p>None</p>



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9. Close of meeting	Meeting closed by Chair at 6:19pm.
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Chair Signature

DATE	NAME	SIGNATURE
23.10.24	Conor Costello	