

**MAF Animal Welfare Group/Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand
Liaison Meeting
Tuesday, 1 May 2007, 10.30-11.30am**

**MAF offices, Pastoral House (room 11.2)
25 The Terrace, Wellington**

MINUTES

Participants

Roger Poland (MAF AWG) (Chair)
Joanna Tuckwell (MAF AWG)
Neil Wells (AWINZ)

Apologies

None

R Poland opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. There were no items to be added to the agenda.

1. MAF update, including BNZ/MOS merger, implementation of BNZ/VA MoU and NZFSA review

R Poland provided an update on MAF issues, including:

- progress on the BNZ/MOS merger, which was to take effect on 1 July 2007;
- implementation of the BNZ/VA MoU, under which approximately 12 VA vets were presently being trained to provide an additional veterinary resource in some larger CEG operations;
- the review being undertaken by the State Services Commission, of the implications of separating the NZFSA from MAF; and
- the likelihood that the functional location of MAF's Animal Welfare Group would be reviewed in the latter part of 2007.

2. AWINZ update

N Wells reported that AWINZ was still interested in drafting a code of welfare for animals in cinema production. Written confirmation would be provided for J Tuckwell to pass on to C O'Connor/NAWAC.

Actions (re-minuted):

N Wells to provide written confirmation of AWINZ's interest in drafting code of welfare for animals in cinema production.

J Tuckwell to advise C O'Connor/NAWAC.

N Wells also advised that AWINZ would be entering into a separate MoU for the provision of animal welfare services with North Shore City Council by the end of 2007, to be implemented in February 2008.

3. Review of previous meeting actions

The status of actions agreed at the previous meeting was reviewed. All actions were either completed or in hand, or were agenda items.

4. AWINZ MoU and PTS

J Tuckwell reported that she was still working on the revision of the AWINZ/MAF MoU and the AWINZ PTS. She expected that drafts of the revised documents would be available for discussion at the next liaison meeting.

Action – J Tuckwell to circulate drafts of revised MoU and PTS for discussion at next liaison meeting.

5. Incorporation of AWINZ under Charitable Trusts Act 1957

J Tuckwell asked whether AWINZ had been registered under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957. N Wells advised that it had not. Registration was not possible at present, due to the prior registration of the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand established by Grace Haden. However, AWINZ had been approved as a charitable body by the IRD. It was agreed that N Wells would provide MAF with a copy of the IRD letter confirming this approval. AWINZ was also required to register with the Charities Commission by July 2008.

J Tuckwell commented that AWINZ's unincorporated status may have implications for AWINZ in terms of the application of the Official Information Act 1982. It was agreed that J Tuckwell would seek an opinion from MAF Legal on this point.

Actions:

N Wells to provide MAF with copy of IRD letter approving AWINZ as a charitable body.

J Tuckwell to seek opinion from MAF Legal, on application of Official Information Act 1982 to AWINZ as an unincorporated body.

6. Auckland inter-agency liaison meetings

N Wells reported that he was planning to arrange for the cancelled Auckland inter-agency liaison meeting to be held in May or June 2007. It was agreed that he would report back at the next MAF/AWINZ liaison meeting and that a copy of the meeting minutes would be provided to MAF.

Actions:

N Wells to report back on Auckland inter-agency liaison meeting at next MAF/AWINZ liaison meeting.

N Wells to copy minutes of Auckland inter-agency liaison meeting to MAF.

7. Grace Haden – court proceedings and ministerial correspondence

N Wells reported that the original claim by AWINZ had been set down for a judicial settlement conference in May. Another matter involving Mrs Haden (alleged impersonation of a MAF officer), had been set down for hearing in May.

J Tuckwell reported that further ministerial correspondence had been received from Mrs Haden.

8. Unitec inspector training course

Vicki Whittaker and Rochelle Dean had represented AWINZ at the April meeting of the advisory committee for the CAM-AWI course at Unitec in Auckland. Charles Cadwallader (MAF CEG) and J Tuckwell had attended on behalf of MAF. J Tuckwell reported that MAF CEG had been involved in revising the investigations and prosecutions material for the course and was taking an active role in teaching these parts of the course in 2007.

9. Leg-hold traps prohibitions

K Littin (MAF Technical Adviser Animal Welfare) joined the meeting for this item and provided an update on work being done by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand Policy to restrict specified types of leg-hold traps. A consultation document was being prepared and it was agreed that K Littin would arrange for a copy to be sent to N Wells.

Action:

K Littin to arrange for copy of leg-hold traps consultation document to be sent to N Wells.

10. Prosecutions – recent and pending

N Wells reported that there were no prosecutions by AWINZ pending. The case involving a 16-year old (ref minutes of 20 February 2007 meeting) had resulted in the animal being signed-over and would not be proceeding.

11. Other business

The following matters were discussed:

- OIE and Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare – R Poland reported that D Bayvel was attending the OIE's General Session that month. Items to be considered by the General Session included a renewed draft resolution for OIE support of the proposed Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare, as well as a draft

memorandum of understanding to establish a framework for co-operation between the OIE and WSPA, the proponent of the Declaration.

- It was not yet known whether a successor to Catherine Petrey at Federated Farmers of New Zealand (Inc) had been appointed.

AWINZ issues

N Wells advised that there were no other matters that he wished to raise.

Next meeting

It was agreed that N Wells would advise when he would next be in Wellington (possibly mid-late July), for the next meeting to be arranged.

Action – N Wells to advise date when next in Wellington, for J Tuckwell to arrange next liaison meeting.

Distribution:

Participants

D Bayvel

C Dwyer

K Grant

N Nesbitt

B D O'Neil

G Reid/C Cadwallader

V Williams

File: 15-AWZ-01