

AFB PMP MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

A MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOULBROOD NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD IN THE RATA ROOM, BRENTWOOD HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, KEMP STREET, WELLINGTON ON 23 AND 24 FEBRUARY 2017 (THURSDAY/FRIDAY) COMMENCING AT 9.35 AM ON THURSDAY AND 8.30 AM ON FRIDAY.

ATTENDANCE:

Mr John Hartnell (Chairman)
 Ms Kim Poynter
 Mr Gabriel Torres
 Mr Jason Ward
 Mr Frans Laas
 Mr Russell Marsh
 Mr Rex Baynes (Manager AFB PMP)

There were no apologies.

GUESTS

Mr Peter Lawless (5 Year Plan Facilitator)
 Mr John Sanson (Manager, Recovery and Pest Management Group, Ministry for Primary Industries)
 Mr Geoff Gwyn (Director, Ministry for Primary Industries)

GENERAL BUSINESS

Revision of the publication titled "Elimination of American Foulbrood Disease without the Use Of Drugs" – Yellow Book.
 Revision of the New Entrant Beekeeping Registration Pack.
 Beekeeper Information for Supplier Front (Reception) Desks
 Dog Detector Project

MATTERS ARISING/ WORK IN PROGRESS REPORT

The Manager then referred the meeting to the work in progress schedule providing the necessary explanations.

The Meeting then considered the AFB PMP Management Board Report prepared for the APINZ board meeting on 17 February..

ASUREQUALITY REPORT

The Chairman provided the meeting with an update of progress in respect to the contract negotiations with AsureQuality commenting that both he and the Manager had met with AsureQuality representatives, Andrew Still and Byron Taylor twice since the last Board meeting to progress the contract and other related issues. A further meeting is scheduled for 7 March.

It was noted that not all APIWEB partners have indicated support for the redevelopment of APIWEB.

The Chairman asked members to note (report page 2) the comment relating to DECA holders in that 50% of beekeepers hold a DECA, this comparing to almost 60% a few years earlier. Clearly as pointed out in the report the key reason being the huge numbers of new registered beekeepers.

POLICY REVIEW

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the importance of maintaining up to date policies (per MPI Audit Recommendation) as had subsequently been agreed that a selection of policies will be included on all future agendas on a rotational basis.

The meeting then proceeded to review the following policies.

- Storage of Files (Hard Copy) and backing Up. Policy # 011
- Audit of an Individual Beekeeper Policy # 013
- Inspection of Apiaries by AFB Authorised Person (Level 2) Policy # 014
- Application Form for Exemption to Hold AFB Infected Frames for Educational and Training Purposes. Policy # 015

- Release and Distribution of Information Contained on the Apiary Data Base (Register)
- Destruction of Unregistered and/or Abandoned Apiaries.

Policy # 016

Policy # 018

FINANCIAL

The Manager spoke to his financial report and in turn provided reports detailing aged receivables, budget versus actual, balance sheet, a payables reconciliation and budget preparation for 2017/2018.

5 YEAR PLAN / STRATEGY

Peter Lawless briefed the Board on the submissions received on the draft 5 Year Plan/Strategy for eradication of AFB. Responses to the submissions will be developed by work stream leaders with input from Peter Lawless. Peter will provide the notes developed on the flip charts during the workshop and a copy of the Plan/Strategy with places for responses as a base for this work.

Peter then lead the Board through the six key areas.

The Board decided that as part of the 5 Year Plan/Strategy process it will review governance structures and management delivery arrangements taking into account comments received and the requirements of the eradication goal. This review will need to follow on from strategic planning as the governance and management requirements will derive from decisions on necessary actions and the funding available (particularly decisions on the Levy Order).

The Board established that a more formal record of delegation of decision powers from Apiculture New Zealand (Inc) to the Board was due for review and that this would be taken up with Apiculture New Zealand (Inc).

The Board decided it wanted the revised Plan/Strategy to address changes to:

- The Pest Management Plan
- The Levy Order
- The Operational Plan

The Board also directed the title of the 5 Year Plan should change to better reflect the strategic intent and to remove confusion with the annually reviewed operational plan. The Board was informed that the operational plan had not been reviewed annually, but Apiculture New Zealand (Inc) had steps in place to rectify this.

The Board reaffirmed the goal of eradication by 2030, but noted that achieving this would require a greater yet unknown resource base. The Board decided on a process to develop clear costing of the steps required. A costing template will be distributed to work stream leaders so that they can report to the Board in April.

Better enforcement is seen by most as a necessary ingredient. The Board will work through with MPI what the future roles of the management agency and MPI should be in enforcement.

It was agreed decisions in regards the levy could only be taken once the costs of eradication had been determined and MPI's position was known.

MPI – GUESTS GEOFF GWYN AND JOHN SANSON

The Chairman extended a welcome to both Geoff and John.

Geoff Gwyn advised that following the recent MPI Audit undertaken by John Cahill and Sandra Costley certain challenges have been presented and we now need to make a decision as to what to do about it..

Brian Wilson is the deputy director general with part of his responsibility being the honey group and in turn is taking a keen interest in the industry. The Chairman noted MPI has had no real involvement for some considerable time with the AFB PMP; in addition the Plan was written in the late 1990's and while reviewed in 2008/13 not all aspects meet the current needs of the industry.

The Chairman explained prosecutions cost the AFB PMP levy money.

Geoff questioned how do we provide this support, how do we manage it and who needs to be in the room to come up with a plan in order to collectively push it forward.

The Chairman commented that John Cahill had taken serious issue with the non-compliant beekeepers especially in the area of Annual Disease Returns (ADR's) and Certificate of Inspection (COI) defaulters. A pro-active approach from both MPI and the Board will ensure greater compliance and assist in a much needed culture change. This can only be achieved through an integrated work programme.

The meeting then addressed the need for a review with discussion centring on a partial review of the National Policy Direction.

MPI COMMUNICATION

The Manager reported on recent discussions with a Senior Investigator, Compliance – Central and South Investigations for MPI who in turn has shown a great deal of interest in matters of non-compliance. A full briefing has been undertaken.

The Manager tabled a schedule identifying correspondence with MPI officials.

AFB AUTHORISED PERSON ACTIVITY AND OTHER

The Manager reported that he was progressing the recruitment of additional AFB Authorised Persons and had met with 2 potential inspectors who had indicated a willingness to assist.

AFB RECOGNITION COURSE TRAINING

Website

The meeting was referred to the website statistics contained in the meeting book. Reference was also made to a more detailed set of statistics emailed earlier.

AFB Recognition Course Training

The Manager provided the meeting with an update noting that in excess of 1,100 beekeepers attended 65 courses in 2016. Overall, the in-house systems and processes currently in place are meeting and exceeding expectations with planned increase in course numbers scheduled for 2017.

AFB Recognition Course Test Administration Report – Janette Gwilliam

The meeting considered a report prepared by Janette who advised the period from mid-April through July would be typically busy given courses had been scheduled along with the receipting of levy payments.

AFB Recognition Course Summary for 2016

Members reviewed the report contained in the meeting book.

AFB Recognition Courses Planned for 2017

The Manager asked the meeting to note that to date, 84 courses had been scheduled for 2017 with more planned.

AFB Refresher Course Training Initiative

The Manager referred the meeting to a report contained in the meeting book. Discussion followed.

AFB Recognition Courses – In House / Company Trainer Initiative

The Manager spoke to a report contained in the meeting book. It was agreed any contract established would relate to the particular individual and if that person left the company concerned the contract would be null and void.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Revision of the publication titled “Elimination of American Foulbrood Disease without the Use Of Drugs” – Yellow Book.

Revision of the New Entrant to Beekeeping Registration Pack.

Beekeeper Information Pack for Suppliers (Reception Desk)

AFB Dog Detector Project.

Website Homepage

Category A Beekeeper (Hero) Status

DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

20 and 21 April 2017	(Venue to Be Advised)
22 and 23 June 2017	(Venue to Be Advised)
24 and 25 August 2017	(Venue to Be Advised)
16 and 17 November 2017	(Venue to Be advised)