



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE QUAGGA PROJECT
ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE HELD AT DREYERSDAL AT 10H30 ON 30 AUGUST 2018**

PRESENT:

Mr M Gregor
Mr C Lardner
Mr M Turbull
Prof E Harley
Ms P Swanepoel
Mr B Wooding
Mr T Turner
Ms K Turner
Mr M Dalton
Mr B Le Roux
Mr S Marais
Ms Albe Bester-Treurnicht
Mr N Treurnicht
Dr P Hulley
Mr F Rueda
Ms Z Steenkamp
Mr S Steenkamp
Ms J Louw de Wet

WELCOME:

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

APOLOGIES

Ms L Manson
Prof C Cruywagen
Dr G Burhman
Mr S Mitchell
Mr C von Collier

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Previous AGM held on 21 September 2017 were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In the challenging environment we find ourselves in with political, climatic and economic challenges the Quagga Project offers some welcome relief. For the Quagga Project 2018 has been a year of consolidation and we have achieved most of what we had set ourselves to do, which has placed the project in a strong position to generate far better Rau Quagga foals and to achieve in a small way a new offering to the game industry.

There has been a major reshuffle of animals to regroup the most outstanding animals on the four Core herd properties; Pampoenvlei, Vlakkenheuvel, Elandsberg (all in the Boland/Swartland) and the SMA in Bredasdorp. This meant moving some 50 animals in October last year and another 20 this year. A huge undertaking in which there were only 2 mortalities. This is remarkable considering some of the difficult sites they needed to extract animals from. I must thank and commend the team headed up by Bernard who organised the permits, coordinated the day and did an amazing job of calling the correct animal. Tom picked up the darted animals and delivered them to where they needed to go. The Veterinarians were very capable as was the helicopter pilot. Finding the right team is essential to an operation like this. I believe that we were on the money with this team, well done to all of you.

Many of these movements and sales have been to the Commercial Rau Quagga Breeders and we are grateful to all of them as we believe that this is the only way that the Rau Quagga will regain a worthy and meaningful place in the landscape. The ownership agreements for the non- Core Herd members have been finalised and the purchases of extra animals have been settled and these members are free to trade for their own account.

The Herd record keeping, and management system has been moved to the Bengu Farms Program and is operating well.

We remain financially stable and are well within the budget submitted to members earlier in the year. Unfortunately, a Grant Thornton opinion has deemed it wise for us to pay the tax on the sales windfall achieved in 2017. I would like to thank Craig and March for their time and wisdom here. We had budgeted for this, so it should not affect our budgeted cashflow.

We have also met with Prof Rouvay Roodt-Wilding and Annalin Moletsi from Stellenbosch University who are keen to be involved with the project.

We are still working on the agreements with the Core Herd groups and are hoping to resolve these in the very near future.

The registration of the Rau Quagga Breed Society by the Department of Agriculture has been held up. The application for the Rau Quagga Breed Society was submitted in February and we have had a visit from the Registrar's deputy in June who has assured us that the registration has been approved and awaits the proverbial ministerial signoff. It is disappointing and frustrating that we are not able to confirm this in this meeting. We have however decided to launch the Breed Society as a "Club" for now. This will enable us to issue certificates and officially grade animals. March is finalising all the documentation and we will be contacting land owners shortly. Just to backtrack on why we feel the need for registration; this is to give the Rau Quagga a legal status as a Landrace (locally bred) Breed. This gives the breed statutory protection. March has been singularly instrumental in getting the application done and for badgering the DAFF officials and we are very grateful for his patience and doggedness in getting us through this hoop. When we do get the elusive ministerial signature, we will merely morph the "Club" into the Breed Society. There have been no changes to the norms and standards submitted to the Registrar, but these will be reviewed by the exco from time to time.

Aside from the DAFF registration, some of the outstanding challenges we still have are:

1. Creating and issuing the documentation for the Rau Quagga Breeding "Club".
2. Establishing the Breed Society Administrative Council once we have the ministerial signoff.
3. A very small number of relocations to create specific breeding opportunities within the Core Herds.
4. The ongoing administration and management of the Bengu Record System.

The Project has done a huge amount to secure its future and relevance and we really look forward to seeing amazing Rau Quagga progeny and a stable commercial arm. Having said that we should never lose sight of the excitement and joy at the arrival of another true Rau Quagga foal.

We are indebted to March for his huge contribution over the last year and I am hoping that we are almost at a point where we can let him get back to his day job. Bernard has done an amazing job of getting the Bengu program up and running and taken on the animal movement with great success. Many thanks.

Prof Harley is still front and centre and has been a great help to March in particular for all things genetic and as always provides wisdom and continuity.

Louw Hoffman has been involved with the project for 2 years and in that time has reintroduced the project to Stellenbosch University. Unfortunately, Louw is set to take up a post in Australia and we wish him well and all strength for this move. We will miss his energy.

Tom many thanks for your help with the translocations we really value your professionalism and steady hand on the captures and translocation.

Craig, many thanks for your continued involvement. We are always grateful for your pragmatic and business-based input.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Patricia, who has been a quiet but totally dedicated and reliable secretary to the QP for many, many years has decided to resign from the Board and not make herself available for re-election. We are so grateful to you Patricia for your commitment, solid support and input over this time. We will miss you terribly and really hope that you will attend some meetings just to catch up with the gang.

Finally, my thanks to all the members and Landowners, you are the backbone of the Project and I wish you all happy Breeding and let's continue aiming for the perfect Rau Quagga.

Thank you all for being here and we look forward a full meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements for the Association to the year ended 28 February 2018 were not ready for presentation due to various reasons. Meeting agreed these would be approved by Round Robin resolution after audit has been completed. Thereafter approved by Directors' signature for presentation to SARS.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following were elected:

Mike Gregor
March Turnbull
Craig Lardner
Tom Turner
Eric Harley
Steve Mitchell

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CHAIRMAN