

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Wednesday 13 August 2025

Time: 17:30

Venue: Mayfair Lane Pub & Dining Room

Attendance:

Belinda Bastow
 Binghui Li
 Catherine North
 Chantal MacKenzie
 Diane Dowdell
 Dovile Kasparaviciute
 Ebenezer Blinney
 Ian Baxter
 Josh Matthews
 Liesl Rohl
 Melissa Harrison
 Mitt Ramgobin
 Muhammad Zawar Ul Haq
 Karen Ganza
 Sonia Finucane
 Tahlia Walsh
 Thomas Rose
 Vicki-lee Morrison

Apologies:

Bodhi Williamson
 Brandon Ovens
 Brett Loney
 Casey Visser
 Cassie Bell
 Cassie Sedgman
 Grace Derrick
 Jane Aberdeen
 John Ottaway
 Lorna Davies
 Rebecca Cotton
 Ropafadzo Moyo
 Rupert Duckworth
 Sarah Beukes
 Sarah Osborne
 Vanja Sekizovic

ITEM	ACTIONS
1. Formal meeting opened at 17:35 Acknowledgement of Country – Belinda Bastow Quorum achieved with 18 attendees in Perth (present and online) AGM shown on Zoom to allow for members who can't attend in person.	
2. Acceptance of 2024 AGM Minutes 2024 Minutes accepted by Mitt Ramgobin and Thomas Rose. No carried over action items from that meeting.	
3. President's Report Available prior to the meeting via email and printed out. Key points from the Presidents Report: The WA Division's focus in 2024/25 has been to champion the professional development of environmental practitioners across	

Western Australia. We have been actively engaging with our profession to promote high standards through submissions on regulatory reforms. We have worked diligently to enhance the brand of both EIANZ and the WA Division within industry and government, through participation in stakeholder reference groups and also partaking in the development of training materials with other industry bodies. We have also partnered with other environmental organisations, such as a joint networking event with ALGA and ACLCA WA.

The priorities of the year were:

- Provide members with opportunities to maintain and grow professional knowledge;
- Engage and collaborate with government, industry and key stakeholders through workshops and symposiums, including an Animal Ethics and Welfare Workshop in May 2025;
- Provide a voice to influence environmental practice and policy within WA.

In support of these priorities, the division delivered 11 events throughout the year, comprising a mix of professional development sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities. Attendance figures demonstrated outstanding member engagement, ranging from 15 to 268 participants across our events. Our webinar with Tahlia Walsh on environmental approvals was our most highly attended event, with many participants from outside of WA.

The division successfully delivered our flagship Environmental Practitioners Symposium in September 2024, attracting over 160 attendees, while 80 attendees were present at the Animal Ethics and Welfare Workshop.

Webinars proved particularly popular this year. These webinars have focused on a range of topics, supporting Central Office in adding to the suite of webinars offered to members, as well as webinars showcasing new government guidelines, both to enhance understanding of the guidelines and as a forum for providing feedback to government.

This year we introduced a training course on the use of the QGIS mapping and GIS spatial analysis software, delivered in collaboration with the University of Western Australia. The plan is to roll the short course out again later this year, and integrate lessons from the first course. The course was limited to 15 attendees, with half of the participants from WA, and the remaining from across Australia.

Three social and networking events were held throughout the year, providing opportunities for members and the broader industry to connect and expand their professional networks.

Our mentoring program celebrated its seventh successful year, pairing 11 mentor/mentee in the 2025 program. We acknowledge the outstanding contribution of departing program coordinator Melissa Harrison, whose effective framework has been seamlessly transitioned to this year's successor Sonia Finucane, an experienced professional with extensive mentoring expertise.

We maintained active participation in government stakeholder reference groups and continued our productive dialogue with key regulatory bodies throughout the year. The EPA stakeholder reference group, in particular, is held every two months and provides the opportunity to assess where EIANZ could work collaboratively with EPA Services team.

WA members rose by 18% in the past 12 months, from 227 in 2023/24 to 278 in 2024/25. The WA Division is comprised 203 full members, 46 associate members, 21 student members, 6 fellows and 2 honorary fellows. Our social media followers are also on the rise, with a 10% increase in Facebook and LinkedIn.

I must thank the committee and sub-committee members for their efforts over the last year. Without their commitment and dedication, the Division would not have produced the WA Division Newsletter, run events, made significant contributions to environmental policy and practice through government submissions, networking events or been able to promote the benefits of EIANZ in WA.

Copies of the Committee Report and all the committee meeting minutes are available should any member wish to obtain further information on the WA Division activities during 2024/2025.

We look forward to more success in the forthcoming year (2025-26), especially with the upcoming EIANZ Conference which will be held in Perth, for the first time in 14 years.

Presidents Report accepted by Diane Dowdell and Tahlia Walsh.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer would like to thank the President for her amazing contribution to EIANZ, ensuring consistently high quality outputs for the WA Division.

In contrast to the previous year, in FY2024-25 the Division achieved a significant surplus. This is a result of the committee's strategic

planning in previous years, including implementing training-style events, which has enabled the Division to reap the fruits of this labour. Both revenue and expenses have increased, with a resulting \$34,790 surplus. Note, however, that there is \$10,945 expense from the QGIS training in FY2025-26 that will need to be readjusted to the FY2024-25 period. The will reduce the surplus amount to \$23,845. At the year's end, there is total equity of around \$93,000, up from \$56,000 last year. Treasurer's Report accepted by Belinda Bastow and Tom Rose.	
Election of 2024-24 WA Division Committee a) All 2024-25 WA Division Committee positions declared vacant. b) Acknowledge Cassie Sedgman, Scott Thompson, Garry Middle and Rupert Duckworth have sent in proxies. c) Diane Dowdell and Belinda Bastow announces all nominations have been received. 2025-26 WA Division Committee nominations: <u>Executive</u> President – Belinda Bastow, elected unopposed Vice President – Rupert Duckworth, elected unopposed Treasurer – Mitt Ramgobin, elected unopposed Secretary – Tahlia Walsh, elected unopposed <u>General committee members</u> Cassie Sedgman Chantal MacKenzie Diane Dowdell Dovile Kasparaviciute Josh Matthews Liesl Rohl Rebecca Cotton Sarah Beukes Sonia Finucane Tom Rose All in favour of accepting the new committee members for 2025-26. Thank you to the 2024-25 members and their contributions.	
Other Business No other business discussed.	
Formal meeting closed at 17:58.	