Annual General Meeting 4 March 2009 – Day 1 Minutes

The meeting was partially broadcast live on Radio 5NPY Radio but there were some technical problems preventing the broadcast.

Trevor Adamson was the interpreter for the meeting.

1. Welcome

Ronnie Brumby, Deputy Chairperson opened the meeting at 2:10 pm following a BBQ lunch and memorial service for a respected elder who recently passed away.

Ronnie welcomed all Anangu and visitors who have travelled to the meeting today.

2. Previous Minutes of Meeting 26-27 March 2008

The General Manager read through the Minutes of 26-27 March 2008 which were accepted without alteration.

Moved: Donald Fraser Second: David Curley Carried: All

3. Annual Report and Audit Report

Ken Newman, General Manager provided a summary background report of the past four years he has worked for APY. He then provided information about the 2007/2008 Annual Report and Audit Report. The reports were accepted without alteration.

Moved: Roger Kayipipi Second: Gordon Ingkatji Carried: All

4. Appointment of Auditor for 2008/2009

The General Manager advised that Auditors are to be appointed each year to do the audit for APY. This year there were two quotations and both were the same amount. The General Manager recommended APY remain with Perks for 2008/2009.

Moved: Robert Stevens Second: Rupert Jack Carried: All

5. Housing Update

Olive Bennell, Director Aboriginal Housing gave an update on the \$25 Million housing offer for the APY Lands. The State has been working with the Commonwealth for an agreement to release more money, including the \$25 Million and it is hoped the funds will be released at the end of March 2009.

The agreement covers new, upgrades, repairs and maintenance, training and employment. The tenders are now expected to go out in April 2009. At the same time, the State will sign an MOU with APY explaining how we will work together.

Olive said there has been a lot of work done with communities in order to make this happen. They have audited all houses on the Lands to see what is required and how much

it will cost. Jude Allen and Bob Temby work here at Umuwa and are available to answer any questions tomorrow.

Kym Freer, Manager Assets, Housing SA advised the tender for the \$25 Million housing would go out in April 2009. The first houses to be built will be Amata (13) and Mimili (13). Kym had plans to show of those communities to show where they would be built. He also had some of the house design plans and they would be on display in the meeting room for Anangu to have a look at during the AGM.

Donald Fraser and Kawaki Thompson raised the matter of housing on homelands and that no money is being directed towards homelands. People attending the meeting today are from the homelands and they need to be heard by the housing people.

Mr Fraser wanted APY to write a strong letter to the State and Commonwealth Governments arguing for houses on homelands.

Resolution

That APY write to the Commonwealth and State Governments to request that more housing be built on homelands as soon as possible.

Moved: Donald Fraser Second: Sean Williamson Carried: All

6. AP Services

Ronnie Brumby introduced Anthony Bevan, Registrar ORIC and Stephen Duncan, Special Administrator for AP Services to talk about AP Services and what it means to be in Administration. Stephen provided flyers to all members and explained that the Directors of AP Services have been removed and that he is the person in charge of sorting out the money story of AP Services and try to get it back into a good condition and return to Anangu control.

7. Homelands and CDEP

Dennis Coulson, Turkey Bore reported that if Anangu live on homelands, they only get two days CDEP and no opportunity for top up unless they work in communities. He said that from June 2009, Bungala have advised homelands people have to do their two days' work in the communities.

Donald Fraser said that he was one of the Committee who were overthrown and was asking about the money story and budget and when a report would be ready. Stephen Duncan, Registrar said a report would be ready in about six (6) weeks.

David Pearce, CEO Bungala reported that on Anilalya homelands, Anangu have said they want work done on their homelands. He said it is not Bungala policy that work is to be in communities, not homelands. He said the Commonwealth Government give Bungala 2 days' pay for each CDEP. Bungala only gets top up money to use if people do not turn up for work. No work, no pay. They use this left over money for top up for people who come to work. The money is for people who want to do additional work in the community. There is not extra money for people on homelands because homelands CDEP participants already get their entire 2 days pay. There are no additional savings on the homelands because people already get paid.

8. Code of Conduct and Constitution

The General Manager said the Code of Conduct and the Constitution are to be reviewed each year. The Code is about rules of behaviour for APY staff, Executive Board, Director and General Manager. No changes are recommended at this time either the Code of Conduct or the Constitution.

Members accepted the recommendation that no amendments are to be made at this time.

9. PY Ku Centres

Lois Fraser, Donald Fraser and Peg Nicholls provided an update on PY KU centres and their need for recurrent funding. Donald said the Executive Board passed a resolution at their meeting yesterday in support of the PY Ku centres.

Ronnie Brumby closed Day 1 of the meeting at 5:00 pm and reminded everyone the meeting will continue tomorrow.

On the first day, 81 Anangu members attended from 9 communities and 9 homelands.

Annual General Meeting 5 March 2009 – Day 2 Minutes

The meeting opened at 12:15 pm with a prayer by Graeme Kuyluru of Pukatja.

10. Stores

John Tregenza, Mai Wiru, spoke to the item but first Peter Huntington, Legal Officer advised about the problems at the Mimili store because of an MSO that wrote a lot of purchase orders without money to pay for them. The Mimili store got into trouble and the Commonwealth came in to run the store under Administration. The Administrators brought in Outback Stores to manage the store and have advertised for store managers. This shows why people from outside have come into manage the store and the community loses control of their store.

There was a meeting last week in Alice Springs about stores reform. The Executive Board met earlier this week and looked at ways to help the stores.

John Tregenza gave a history of Mai Wiru since 1998. APY is planning to make a by-law of how stores will operate on the Lands. Nganampa Health will ask Anangu how they want their stores managed, eg. A Regional stores body.

Mike Williams, Mimili, said the problems are with Mai Wiru.

There was lots of discussion and the meeting adjourned for lunch at 1:40 pm and resumed at 2:20 pm.

Bernard Singer, Chairperson, introduced Mal Brough and said he came along last year to help when we were working on the housing offer. He has been invited back as we are dealing with many development issues and Mal has lots of knowledge and can help with things such as media contacts, etc.

Mal Brough said he is here as long as Anangu want him here. He said he does not tell Anangu anything but can pass information along to politicians what Anangu want to happen. He said he would like to talk about a few things.

- a. Police There are 30 Federal Police working from Alice Springs who look for grog runners, drug runners, etc. that come to the Lands and the NT and WA. The Federal Government wants to close them down and not support them. Mal Brough spoke out against this in The Australian this week and the Executive Board wrote to the Prime Minister about this.
- b. Housing Two years ago, Anangu were promised \$25 Million for new housing. They have not yet started. The tenders were to go out in February 2009 but will not go out for some months. Mal is working with the Executive saying we want the houses and the jobs for Anangu to build those houses and not just rely on outside contractors. He said Anangu don't need qualifications. He told of Wadeye, NT were 10 younger men helped build the houses for real wages.
- c. Stores Mal talked about Outback Stores because he said people talked about them today and some of the information was incorrect. Outback Stores only operates where they are invited in by the community. Mimili was different because they were in Administration and they needed Managers. Outback Stores does not make any profit for anyone except the community where they operate. Outback Stores is based on ALPA (Arnhem Land Progress Association) and is just larger. ALPA and Outback Stores would employ Anangu and train them as Managers, storemen, check out operators, etc.

Outback stores got \$54 Million so they could start out and fix old stores in the NT and not use community money. They have nutritionists to make sure the foods sold are the right foods. When they make money, the local community make a Committee and tell them how you want the money spent, eg. cheaper food. Anangu would decide.

The Executive Board is looking at licences for stores. That is what Mal did for all stores in the NT. The licence protects Anangu from people who will not follow the rules. If APY had licences, all Mintabie stores would have to have a licence to operate – a law about stores.

Mal Brough suggested a proposal for Anangu. He said he could bring back good quality second hand clothes, blankets, crockery, etc. in early April and have a 2-3 day market at Umuwa. He would not take any money. The money would stay with Anangu. When asked if they would like this to happen, Anangu were very much in favour.

There was then lots of discussion about stores on the Lands and how they may operate.

Bernard Singer then invited David Pearce, CEO Bungala, to talk about how they involved Indigenous people in the building industry in Pt Augusta. They had 55 Anangu start an apprenticeship training program and in 6 years, 43 Anangu ended up with a trade qualification. They can do this on the APY Lands. They have a contract with OAH for Anangu to fix their own houses so they will be ready for the \$25 Million of housing. A truck delivered materials to Indulkana this week that will enable them to start easy jobs and people will learn at Mimili, Fregon and Amata. Local Anangu will learn and be trained properly. New building only happens once while repairs and maintenance is on-going. **Ken Newman**, General Manager, explained how APY became involved in the stores issue and that Mai Wiru asked APY for assistance. The General Manager asked the Lawyer to find an answer in the APY Land Rights Act. That is why we are looking at a by-law and using licences to operate stores. The Legal Officer was asked to bring a draft by-law to the next Executive Board meeting after talking about it here today and getting ideas for the bylaw and the licence (Rules).

Rex Tjami, Director explained there are many issues that Anangu are concerned about and often APY is asked to help sort out those concerns. He told people about the Mimili store and said there are problems to be sorted out around the Lands, around the country and around the world.

11. Petroleum Exploration on the APY Lands

Bernard Singer introduced Mel Dunn, Manager Coffey International Development, and explained how APY met this Company. They are an international company.

Mel Dunn said that Coffey works in many countries around the world in social and development work. Because a Company wants to look for oil on the Lands, Coffey wants to make sure the exploration does not damage the land, there are employment opportunities for local people and they look at the social impact that may occur. They work in partnership with local communities in building, health, training and jobs.

The principle focus of Coffey's work is to ensure sustainability, capacity development and skills transfer. Where Coffey works, most people employed are local people from the local community.

He thanked Anangu for the opportunity to come and meet people over the past few months and hopes there is the possibility to work in partnership in the future.

Peter Huntington, Legal Officer, explained why APY became involved with Coffey. In November 2008, APY received an application from Ahava Energy to explore for oil/gas on the Lands down near Mintabie and further west. They look for oil by driving trucks around and listen for sounds from under the ground. If they get good news, they drill test holes to look for oil. They have told us they have \$40 Million to explore and want to start around May/June 2009. At the moment, they are off the Lands, near Marla.

Peter explained that with mining, APY enters into an agreement to have a look, if Traditional Owners consent. If the Company finds a mineral, they have to enter into a new agreement. Mining exploration is low-key, often just driving around looking at rocks.

Oil/gas exploration is more serious because of trucks driving over the Lands, drilling holes. Because of the money they want to spend, the Company wants an agreement now, in case they find oil/gas. This is normal but it means APY has to look to the future to see what effect it may have. We have to think about the land, the environment, the people and their lives, the money story (in case they find oil). There is a lot to be considered.

When consultations are held with Traditional Owners they will be told how the exploration will affect the environment, the land and how they will be affected if they find oil.

This is why we have been working with Coffey until now so they can help us advise Traditional Owners about those things and about how they might extract the oil/gas. Coffey will help APY look into the future and also look at ways of developing Anangu capacity in a number of ways.

In a few weeks, APY will have worked out a plan on how to consult with Traditional Owners and then those consultations will start to seek their views. There will be many meetings to find out what Traditional Owners want to do.

Today is to let Anangu know about the oil/gas application and the careful planning APY is doing in getting prepared for consultation, which will be thorough and careful.

This is the biggest mining application APY has received so fare. It is important that we do this carefully and properly to look to the future.

As well as Traditional Owners, this matter will be brought back to a general meeting so all Anangu can have their say. There will also be consultations across the Lands that may also include things the State wants to do, stores, etc. These will be done by APY over a period of time.

Adrian Lewis, Pukatja, said he is happy for this type of development as it will bring good things onto the Lands.

Tjilpi Robin, Walalkara, asked where the area for exploration was located on the Lands.

Gary McWilliams, Mining Tenement Officer, said the place is from the highway to the WA border. It is south of Walalkara and covers the sandy area. He said he would bring a map for Anangu to look at the area.

Gary soon returned with a map of the proposed exploration which he took around to various Traditional Owners.

Sean Williamson, Pipalyatjara, said the oil company is investing a lot of money. It is important that some money is for traditional owners and that if there is a find, they need to share the money for all Anangu.

Alec Baker, Indulkana, said he is happy to hear about oil because he worked there many years ago.

12. Nganampa Health

The Legal Officer explained that NHC are seeking a lease for the mental health house at Umuwa but APY has yet to grant a lease for all NHC clinics, houses, etc.

Resolution

That APY be authorised to grant a lease or sub-lease to Nganampa Health Council for houses and buildings used for health services delivery for twenty-five (25) years. Moved: Gordon Ingkatji Second: Roger Kayipipi Carried: All

13. Permits

Willy Kaika, Amata, told how APY did not give a permit to his son-in-law (John Ioannou). There were no Executive Board members around and the General Manager would not give him a permit.

Ken Newman, General Manager explained the story from the APY side and how the new Permits Officer was humbugged into giving out a permit to this person who had had a permit revoked. He was known as a "carpet bagger" trying to come in and do a private deal with an artist, instead of going through the Arts Centre.

Anangu-ku Arts contacted APY and requested we take immediate action to fix this problem. It was in January and people were still away on holiday so Administration dealt with the matter in the way we were requested by an Anangu organisation. He can apply to the Executive Board for a permit in the proper way.

There was extensive discussion amongst Anangu-tjuta who were happy with the way the matter was handled.

Ronnie Brumby closed the meeting at 6:10 pm following a prayer by Peter Nyaningu.

Minutes by Ken Newman