

Viticultural and Oenology Committee (VOC)

MINUTES – VOC Meeting		
Friday 4 February 2020	8.45am	Katnook Estate Boardroom

1. Welcome/Attendance/Apologies

Present: Catherine (Cath) Kidman (CK), Rae Clark (RC), Kerry DeGaris (KD), Chris Brodie (CB), Sean Murphy (SM), Trent Nankivell (TN), Hans Loder (HL), Dru Reschke (DR), Allen Jenkins (AJ), Olivia Nunn (ON)

Apologies: Gavin Hogg (GH), Sally Macleod (SM), Martin Wirper (MW), Luke Trotter (LT)

Minutes: Olivia James (OJ)

2. Minutes of the VOC Meeting held December 2019

Approved	Seconded	
		• The Minutes are also available here on the website: https://coonawarra.org/cgwi/ .

3. Actions arising previous meeting		Who	Status / Completed
4.10	Coonawarra Heritage Cabernet selection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CK and CB to scope out the proposition. Note not funded and optional opt in of members to participate if minimum requirements are blocks that are greater than 35 years old and unknown clonal origin. CK to follow up with Barossa on any learnings to be shared. The briefing document is to be shared with CV for member email out. 	CK & CB	Scope and follow up with a bespoke Member Correspondence via CV. 4/02 – Outstanding
8	Vinehealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: ON will check if the signs are up across the consolidated Coonawarra order. At the same time to consider if there is sufficient signage on entering Riddoch Highway. Carried over in respect to entrance to Coonawarra from Southern and Northern ends. ON to follow up with Vinehealth. We noted that the member signage is closed. 	OJ	OJ to clarify if anything further proposed. 4/02 – Outstanding Noted we have sought an additional preVintage refresher for members.
10	Welfare, Health and Safety Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment workshop held in Coonawarra in December. Identified a lack of sites that had a Fire Plan. Further Disaster Relief Meeting held in VIC recently. Action: Fire planning to be reviewed and the role to play of CGWI considered further. Noted that the meeting was held by Wattle Range for Disaster Relief and CGWI has sourced this plan. 	OJ	Noted this is outstanding and included two further actions identified in meeting for follow up.
4.8	CGWI member involvement, meetings etc <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: HL to assist with scoping of mapping project in order to quantify project costing. 	HL	Not discussed in meeting held over to next meeting. HL to provide an update.
4.1	Coonawarra Cabernet Project (CB) PHD Student CB has shared MOU and assisting the group assisting with the Peer Review including Chris Brodie, Trent Nankivell, Cath Kidman and Sarah Pidgeon.	CB	Action closed however ongoing reporting in standing item.
4.9	Coonawarra Rootstock Trial Contract to be finalised with 10 year term.	Vinehealth	
4.11	External Education & Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed involvement in the Biodiversity Project specifically the Coonawarra Siding Plantings. Given the 18 month lead time good idea to commence discussion. 	OJ	

3. Actions arising previous meeting		Who	Status / Completed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KD advised the Youth Engagement Leadership Program (YELP) Action: Explore connections – CV to assist. 		
4.13	Weather Station (HL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed that we currently invest \$1.7k on this service. Action: OJ to follow up with Integrated Irrigation's Tim on presentation of data and provision of historical data. Action: HL and CK to have a handover meeting. 	CK, HL & OJ	
5	Wattle Range Council funded signage. Action: OJ to send the sign locations.	OJ	
8	Vinehealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further to raising the need to revisit the Outbreak Plan for the region and to also explore further options for phylloxera controls such as booties for walking trail etc. Action: OJ to draft an update on what's available via Vinehealth – WIP and aim to issue by 10 Feb as reminder pre Vintage. OJ has followed up with Suzanne and awaiting confirmation to what is possible pre vintage by Vinehealth noting they are here for 13 Feb Rootstock Trial Workshop. Noted in meeting that this realistically is only 3 weeks away. 	OJ	WIP
11	Welfare, Health and Safety Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smoke Taint Session to be planned for greater awareness of all impacts. CK noted that The Pennant shared the contact list CFS issued and that this can be shared with members and further to action 1 communication around bushfires and mediums to share this are to be explored. HL and OJ to meet on Wednesday 1pm to discuss handover actions from CK to commence planning for this item. Action: OJ to follow up on the above two actions and report before burn off. 	CK, HL & OJ	WIP

4. Standing Items	
4.1	Coonawarra Cabernet Project (CB) PHD Student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality assurance process is now in place for this project, to ensure that the content being prepared is reviewed by Coonawarra and Coonawarra is ready to respond to content that may require clarification. CB noted progress to date and need to invite to share update with Members. Time and availability TBC – probably post Vintage.
4.2	Irrigation Optimisation (Remote Sensing Technologies) Project (CK) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CK prepared paper has been published. Vinay Pagay has been in region for V20 set up. Presentation likely post Vintage during Winter. OJ has followed up with Vinay Pagay via email during the meeting and a further catch up is required to share status and funding plan. Vinay to advise availability. Action: OJ to provide update.
4.3	Water Allocation Plan (WAP) (PB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PB has been actively involved and met with Minister Speirs. Sought a briefing with Minister Whetstone and this was not granted. Government has responded to license holders with the status of the holds to cuts. Action: Summarise the licence notification to members for status update given no media release.
4.5	Coonawarra VOC Sponsorship (CB) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note this was not discussed however will be further explored as opportunities present. Note we do need to be careful with committed projects and currently not a priority but may need to be a consideration for budget planning.
4.6	Coonawarra Cabernet Symposium (CK with support from RC, SM)

4. Standing Items	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted Margaret River have reached out to seek if a satellite connection can be provided to partner with the Symposium. Noted AJ's concerns with involvement. Coonawarra to maintain hosting. Noted Australian Cabernet Symposium and process that we are reviewing for a dual event. CB reviewed with ASVO the platform (Zoom) used to set this up for their conference with multiple other satellite sites. LCGWC Budget allocation is \$15k. PMN: OJ has shared the budget, programme, sponsorship and reference docs of relevance with ideas for marketing approach to CK who will continue to lead, RC and SM to support this Sub Committee.
4.7	<p>Coonawarra Biodiversity Enhancement Project (DR, RC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EcoVineyards has commenced and CV contributing \$3k that has been paid. Further to the proposal to seek a costed plan of Coonawarra Siding Planting for readiness of future planting OJ contacted Mary Retallack for designers to seek quotes. Mary advised "Regarding potential designers, I don't know any in particular but will let you know if any come to mind. I can potentially assist with plant selection and general placement if needed." RC followed up with Jacqui NRM Board – choose site for Group EcoVineyards catch up. Action: RC to confirm a time and location with Jacqui and we can promote opportunity to members.
4.8	<p>CGWI member involvement, meetings etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted we now have allocated projects and tracking against these quarterly. CK advised due to competing priorities and need to balance she is resigning from the Chair role effective as at this meeting. CK chaired the meeting and will have a handover meeting with Hans Loder (HL) who volunteered to take over. HL was seconded by DR and supported by all in attendance. OJ to also meet with HL at 1pm on 5 February 2020 to assist with handover and planning of immediate priorities such as the Smoke Taint session prior to Burn Off. Note HL is overseas from 7 to 20 Feb 2020.
4.9	<p>Coonawarra Rootstock Trial (MW & KD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft 10 year agreement was redrafted by OJ and circulated to the partners for review. Awaiting this to re-sign and set the plan. Pivot wine tasting led by Sue Hodder and Pete Balnaves and selected panel. Action: Workshop on 13 February 2020 is being presented by Vinehealth, Wynns Coonawarra Estate and CV with support by LCGWC.
4.10	Vine Improvement (CB) See action table for the heritage scoping. Outstanding.
4.11	<p>External Education & Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil to report.
4.12	<p>Berry Shrivel Project (CK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OJ followed up with Vinay Pagay for a project update and schedule. VP advised "The berry shrivel project has completed as of last season and is not continuing this season as not currently funded. We can provide the Wine Australia final report as well as updates to that report for last season. As we are in middle of our field season, we could do a presentation of our work on both projects over the winter post-harvest. Would this suit? Next year's symposium would also be great to present at." Action: OJ following up status of allocation \$14k this year.
4.13	<p>Weather Station (HL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action table
4.14	<p>Rail Trail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that we still do not have government approval to start any formal project. RDA Rail Review outcomes will not be shared until March 2020 in conjunction with State review.

5. Board Update and information	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OJ provided an update as follows. Cellared museum wines are under review with Langton's for a potential auction in 2020. Cup provided a profit as our only fundraiser of the year. Guest List to include Mark Kristic (AWRI) – CB to advise of contact details. Comedy in Coonawarra another success and debriefing following this meeting. Salinity remains on the agenda. Background: PB noted rise in salinity levels in irrigation water – testing of water and where it can be tested? DEW no longer offer. Limestone Coast Landscape Board will look at this as a service provision. Less than \$10 per sample. Traditionally levy money goes to Adelaide DEW possibility that

levy money will remain. CK noted that the observation wells in this zone are of concern. The wells are a good method of observing the water under different agricultural inputs. These bores are modelled for Water Allocation Plan. Available on water connect website. Pressure needs to be applied as less and less monitoring and salinity is dropping off and it is not consistent with different times of data collection. We have what is current and last time the salinity was completed. Each year more and more are dropping off.

- *Action: The Letter we sent to Minister regarding the reduced resources is to be revised with inclusion of this information from CK. OJ to reissue the letter to SM and CK.* Noted that we received a Letter of response from Minister Speirs on 3 February regarding the resources. This has been shared with KD, CK and PB for review. We will request a meeting with Neil Power of DEW and KD will follow up in her capacity also.

6. Correspondence

- OJ reiterated that we update the weekly correspondence every Monday with the latest information. It is the go-to for information such as the Biodiversity Information that includes a complete plant list for Coonawarra.

Biodiversity Enhancement Project – Workshop materials are available here for members to access:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o5op9mrudlmmri0/AACoELOEx3pkpMjzYpdi5Z9ha?dl=0>

7. Finance

- Budget is subject to discussion at next meeting for July 2020 to June 2021 with a priority in sourcing sponsors of Cabernet Symposium.
- All projects set out were funded. No new projects until grants are secured. See a snapshot below:

6-3500	VOC				
6-3508	Water Level Monitoring	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	(100.0)%
6-3510	LSCWIC Subs (\$2.00)	\$0.00	\$6,004.00	-\$6,004.00	(100.0)%
6-3511	Remote Sensing Tech Project	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	-\$5,000.00	(100.0)%
6-3513	Water License	\$0.00	\$50.00	-\$50.00	(100.0)%
6-3515	C'warra Cab - ARC Phd Study	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	-\$7,500.00	(100.0)%
6-3520	Biodiversity Enhancement Proj	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	0.0%
6-3522	Berry Shrivel Project	\$0.00	\$14,000.00	-\$14,000.00	(100.0)%
6-3523	Water Allocation Plan	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	-\$2,500.00	(100.0)%
6-3600	Technical Comms				
6-3604	Phylloxera Rootstock Trial	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	-\$5,000.00	(100.0)%
6-3609	Weather Stations	\$2,216.00	\$1,700.00	\$516.00	30.4%

8. Vinehealth Australia

- Nil to report. See Action Table.

9. Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council (LCGWC) – Technical Sub-Committee update

- KD advised that there are the following Incubator initiatives to be provided tomorrow to WA, including:
 1. Collation of research in 30 years
 2. Pathway weed control under vine beneficial for winegrape production in the LSC
 3. Frost
- AJ suggested funding to be sought to run a workshop to encourage innovative new inventions for under vine weed control mowers etc Examples in Yarra Valley, James Freckleton considering
- Other funding streams include: Smart Farms Grant extension to Iron Bacteria Project & Drought Relief Funding

10. Limestone Coast Landscape (SE NRM Board)

- No change to the following updates made in last meeting.
- Noted that the new structure and Board is to be confirmed.
- KD to continue involvement and as our contact.
- Potential LCL \$250k per annum guidelines under preparation for community to submit projects.
- Noted there is no further funding to be allocated.

11. Welfare, Health and Safety Issues

- See action table for Smoke Taint.

12. Viticulture and Onology news for social media posts

- Please forward pictures and updates from the vines for social media posts to olivia@coonawara.org. Ideas include any activities occurring in your vineyard along with a short description please. Let's also keep photos of the project progress for ongoing updates.

13. New Business		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil new business raised. 		
Next Meeting: 8:45am Tues 5 th May 2020 – Wynns Coonawarra Estate		
Meeting closed at 10.25am		
Date	THESE MINUTES WERE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING DESCRIBED AND THE CHAIRPERSON OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE WAS DULY AUTHORISED TO SIGN THEM AS SUCH	
	Name	
	Signature	

DRAFT