

Water Industry Operations Group NZ 2020 AGM Executive Officer's Report

Again I have enjoyed working as the group's EO now for a 4th year and working alongside our committee, sponsors and members. For all of us we have had various challenges to overcome over the past year and in particular how our work and personal environment changed during COVID. Personally I had a great time working from home and actually taking time to spend with my family, in between dealing with a new way of working having online meetings each day. The lockdown put me in a situation of being more organised to ensure productivity but at the same time taking breaks and basically not stressing out. I've become more relaxed and laid back.

In the first half of the year we were in full planning for our May annual conference being held Napier, however due to the mass gathering restrictions we made the decision to postpone the conference until next year. I am pleased to say that we managed to secure the Napier Conference Centre from 26th to 28th May 2021. We have also transferred our deposits for conference entertainment and accommodation. In terms of sponsorship money received for the 2020 conference we offered our sponsors the option of a refund or allocating the money into the 2021 conference. Approximately 30% of sponsors received the refund with 70% secured for 2021.

I would like to thank Nick, Lorraine and the committee for your support and commitment throughout the year.

I would also like to thank our industry suppliers & sponsors for your continued support which is critical in bringing our members future successful conferences and workshops.

As Nick has mentioned we are a voluntary group, however we can't forget our continued employer's support which enables us to represent WIOG on various industry groups and to attend committee meetings and workshops. Thanks to the management of Wellington Water, Kapiti Coast District Council, Downer, Connexis, Timaru District Council, Palmerston North City Council & Manawatu District Council

Membership

Our membership numbers as at 31st March 2020, is 813 registered on our database. However, historically not all memberships have been paid and we have been working over the past few months to ensure our processes improve.

Currently we have 482 current financial members and 329 unsubscribed.

Memberships that have been unsubscribed are either due to the person leaving an organisation and have not updated their contact details or has unpaid membership fees.

New Membership Rules

Please note the following changes to the Water Industry Operations Group NZ (WIOG) membership rules:

1. Any member may resign by giving written notice to the Executive Officer.
2. Membership renews on 1 April annually. You will be sent a renewal reminder in advance. This is due within 30 days, and no later than 90 days after the membership due date.
3. Memberships will become unsubscribed if the membership remains unpaid for more than 90 days. Unsubscribed memberships will not receive emails, newsletters, voting rights, conference members rates and other membership benefits.
4. To renew unsubscribed memberships an administration fee of \$45 will be applicable.
5. It is your responsibility to maintain your membership contact details, employment information and preferences. This can be done via our website <https://www.wiog.org.nz/Membership> where you can check when your subscription expires, and you can click to renew.

Committee Election Information

- Nominations for committee members closed on Tuesday 7th July 2020.
- Following a constitutional review of the committee term of office in 2017, the motion to amend Clause 10f was carried at the 2019 AGM.
- The change meant that Officers of the Committee shall hold office for one year and the longest serving committee member shall step down, however they may seek re-election if no nominations are received.
- 7 committee positions to fill.
- 9 nominations were received (6 existing & 3 external) to fill 7 committee positions.
- After due diligence it was found that one of the external nominees had not been a member since March 2019 and is not eligible for committee selection.
- With receiving the 2 conforming external nominations, Nigel was required to step down as the longest serving committee member.
- With Nigel stepping down we were left with 7 nominees to fill the 7 committee positions (5 existing & 2 external). Subsequently as we have the same amount of candidates to the amount of vacant positions an election was not required.
- The committee made a decision to co-opt Nigel back onto the committee until the end of next year's conference. This will allow us to manage someone to understudy Nigel and pick up the ongoing role of papers and programme coordinator.
- I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE YOUR 2020/21 COMMITTEE

This ends my EO report for 2020 and I look forward to another year and our conference in Napier next year.

Thanks



Craig Hiddleston
Executive Officer