

Olives New Zealand
Minutes of Executive Meeting
Friday 7th October 2022, 5pm
Rydgges Hotel, Wellington Airport

1. Present

Craig Leaf-Wright (President), Tricia Noble-Beasley (Vice President), Charles Chinnaiyah (Treasurer), Geoff Crawford, Andrew Priddle, Ray Gregory, Alan Blakemore, Andrew Taylor, Emma Glover

Craig welcomed all to the meeting. Geoff joined slightly later.

2. Apologies Alan Blakemore

3. Minutes of the August Meeting

MOTION:

That the minutes of the August Meeting to be accepted as accurate and complete once Emma removes Geoff from being present.

Moved: Andrew Priddle Second: Andrew Taylor

Matters arising

No matter arising.

4. Financials

Charles spoke to the October Financial Reports which was circulated via email.

- Differences between the budget and actual is additional Executive Offers fees and Awards & Conference.
 - The conference was budgeted for 61 attendees, but only 41 registered and 35 were paying. The breakeven budget was 45.
 - The awards should make a slight profit, however this will counter the conference losses.
- Miscellaneous course cost – waiting for Suomi’s invoice for the Tasting Seminar in August. This was budgeted for. Emma to chase.
- Processors course has run a surplus of about \$4k due to attendance being oversubscribed and printing of the books coming in way under budget, this covers Emma and Gayle’s time costs for organising the course.
- Olive Mark is well above budget. As agreed funds from this account will be transferred to operating account to cover the funds paid to HRWP contributors. Brauc’s invoice still to be received, Emma to follow up.
- One of Term deposits are coming to term on 19th Oct. Decision whether to transfer some to cheque account if needed. Executive gives authority to Treasurer and Chair to make decision.

MOTION:

That the October financial reports be accepted.

Moved: Charles Chinnaiyah Seconded: Craig Leaf-Wright Carried

5. Executive Officer Report

Emma spoke to her report which had been circulated.

Membership has done well to continue at the same levels as last year. To get engagement, new Members contacts need to be sent through regional executive, who then needs to make contact.

HRWP (He Rourou Whai Painga) – We need to keep our eye on it to make sure it doesn't fall over. Nalini from Lot Eight, initially put her hand up to be the ONZ representative, however she feels it needs to be represented by the OE and has been handed back to Emma.

Processing Practises - Emma needs to send a feedback form to attendees.

Niall Holland has created a data report which Craig thinks it would be useful to share and discuss with the processors. Emma to organise a Zoom meeting within the next month for all attendees.

Increasing Productivity Project - need to get moving. Geoff's ideas were bullet points

Committee need to expand. Emma to meet with Stuart Tustin and talk to MPI

Conference & Awards – everything is on track for tomorrow. Stuart Tustin has COVID, but only a cold so will present his report via zoom.

Emma has requested that instead of Olives NZ paying for a landline, that they get a mobile number. She thinks her phone is a dual sim card capacity.

Proposal moved by Craig Leaf-Wright, second Tricia Noble-Beasley, Carried.

6. Executive Priorities

This is covered off ever meeting in the Executive Report so needs to be removed from the agenda.

7. Branch Updates

Wairarapa (Andrew Priddle) – Windy & wet, can't drive tractor on roads let alone paddocks, therefore behind in spraying. But budding is looking good.

Scheduled grove walk in November, looking at Dry Rock (Ian Stuart).

Hawke's Bay (Geoff Crawford) – so wet, in Sept 3x annual avg! Branch activity was a grove look at Telegraph Hill, plus oil tasting. Interesting tasting one member's oil who picked early in season then late in season on the same line of trees, but flavours had a large flavour variation.

Village Press is trying to sell harvester – this could be a hole in HB harvesting.

Matapiro – getting out of olives. Selling all their gear.

Nelson/Marlborough (Ray Gregory) – Also wet. Ray has 3 Tasman Bay groves now using a pruning program. Post-harvest get together still on agenda.

Kapiti (Tricia Noble-Beasley) – Kapiti also very wet, meaning little or no spraying. Pruning have started. Have had a tasting with lunch, 11 people, lots of lovely oils. People are happy. Hopefully a new members with a grove that sold.

Budding well under way, with Tricia's grove even starting to flower = early season.

The 5 focus groves still continue to out produce and see production increased. The challenge is that there isn't a huge uptake of Groves and there is a lack of equipment on smaller groves - tractors and sprayers, cost of sprays, etc. However, the results show that the programs work.

With the completion of the Focus Grove, a spraying program template needs to be produced as a starting guideline based on the current weather, however each region's season is different. ONZ will own the program and have 6 years of science with proven results is correct and effective.

A spray program starts post-harvest. ONZ should send a newsletter outlining program for the season. The theory is still there even through it is wet, every 20 days or 20ml rain or combo. Be careful into flowering, then be careful when fruit on the tree. If very wet, need to consider spraying DMI's, if there has been an elongated period where 20 day period. Gary Burlace could help.

Because of wet season, even those following the Focus Grove spray program will have gaps in their spraying. Infection and leaf drop will happen in February, no matter how good you have sprayed. The Executive Committee need to defend Focus Grove project to back the system, just because of wet season. Look at gaps in spray program due to wet.

Andrew Taylor suggested – since it has been so wet, ONZ take the opportunity on the specific and careful use of DMI's or fungicides (systemic – score or difference) after rain, with advice and assistance from Stuart i.e. post-harvest, might be helpful to let growers know when and how to use. Need to be applied with Manzate. Even if ONZ have to pay Stuart as needs to be correct.

Every 2 months at the Executive meeting the executive can agree communication for Spray guidelines – this is to become point 6 on the agenda.

8. General Business

- a. Conference Attendance – 36 paying members coming to the conference. Cannot run conference when not enough people come. The Focus Grove Field Days were getting higher attendance. A suggestion was made that maybe it is cost, as there has been 5 ONZ things on this year, 3 in the last month. Timing on conference in Wellington with WOW and school holidays made flights and accommodation expensive for those wanting to book last minute. Andrew pointed out that all those that attended those seminars and courses are those that are coming to conference.
- b. Auditors – their fee is high. Emma to ask what they do for their fee and potentially look elsewhere.
- c. PC Replacement – the PC is 5 years old, has been depreciated and can often be slow. Gayle has taken it for database maintenance and discussed options with the tech, who said it was high spec when purchased and nothing is wrong with it. Documents need to be saved to the cloud.
- d. Sponsorship - Emma to ring Gary from Horti Centre for sponsorship add value.
- e. Final Comments from Gayle – to be discussed next meeting. Emma to flag comments that need consideration and action for final meeting.

New Members:

Neve Doak, Northland
Annika Streefland, Central Otago
Rock Bottom have sold.