

OLIVES NEW ZEALAND  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING  
THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024  
7PM, ZOOM

**Present**

Steve Price (President), Tricia Noble-Beasley (Vice President), Geoff Crawford, Chris Moore, Hamilton McConachy, Neil Smith, Ray Gregory, Emma Glover

Steve welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chris Moore congratulated Steve on the President role and said he is looking forward to working with him. All agreed.

**1. Apologies** - Niall Holland

**2. Previous Meeting Minutes**

Read as true and correct.

**3. Financials – April 2024**

Presented by Emma Glover, with reports as at 31 Mar 2024.

Balance Sheet – comparing 31 March 24 with 31 Dec 2023.

- There are two Term Deposits – \$30k on a 3-month rolling term, this renews 20<sup>th</sup> April. All agreed to roll it again for another 3 months. \$20k on a 9month rolling, due for renewal 5<sup>th</sup> July.
- Increase in General business account is Membership Subs for 2024.
- Increase in plant and equipment is new laptop.
- Customer over payment is a couple of membership subs paid twice.
- GST is paid 6mthly – 31 June and 31 Dec

Budget Variance – for two months ending 31 Mar 24

- Despite a few members withdrawing their membership, to date the Membership income is only \$250 down on budget, however this may change if outstanding subs are also members withdrawing their membership.
- Variations of the budget are the deposits paid for the Awards Judging and Conference and award events, and Software maintenance. Otherwise, everything is pretty much on budget.

P&L Breakdown – is a report created by Charles to review projects as we get into the year. Currently it doesn't show a lot, but going forward it is useful.

**4. General Business**

a. ONZ Membership and value shakeup

- The whole Membership discussion has come about because something needs to change. ONZ cannot continue doing what we are doing and be financially sustainable. The membership needs to grow.
- The reality is being a small grove doesn't make financial sense. If you only have 250 trees you can't justify buying machinery and or pay for a contractor.
- Constitution has 1 ordinary member, not 3 types of full members. Where has it come from. Steve has checked with Gayle, and she doesn't know.

Outcome:

- We do a Membership Survey – Ask members what value do they see in Olives NZ? It is an opportunity to touch base with members and show that we are listening. There hasn't been one done for 10ish years. Need to do survey to bring membership along with us. From there we will see if we need to even change the membership structure or our offerings?
- A survey goes out for the Processing Practices course. Steve Price as the President makes a comment to the membership and the survey goes out ASAP. Survey goes out to the Processing Practices course. Survey goes out delayed a bit.

b. Addressing Gordon Legge's, Alec Webster's and Linda Smith's Comments

Linda Smith, Gordon Legge and Alec Webster have all made submissions to the Exec regarding ONZ's membership structure following the AGM. They all have good suggestions. We need to thank them and acknowledge they have made some good submissions which will be considered as part of ONZ offering.

c. Focus Grove

Geoff raised as nothing has happened since last year. This needs to happen ASAP.  
Get Shona and Stuart to give us feedback and timeline.

d. Website Rebuild

This needs to be ready and waiting for the new membership.  
Get a new costing for the rebuild.

e. Branch Updates

- Kapiti – haven't had a local meeting for a while. Potential new local member by Rata. Crops are looking good, rest of the coast is looking good, though there are variations in varieties.
- Hawke's Bay – is dry through March and April, prior it was wetter through to Feb. Grape guys have a good harvest. Telegraph started harvest manzanillas this week, a really good size. Zac booked in for oil harvest mid-May. At the branch AGM Village Press got awarded the cup for the Best Local Oil for their gold medal at the NZ EVOO Awards.
- Canterbury – looking OK on Banks Peninsula and most parts North Canterbury are looking good. Olives are colouring up already. Colour doesn't need there is oil in them, there has been rain but no hail or frost yet. Groves with no rain and no irrigation crops will have a bit of doubt stress, Neil has had but 20ml of rain, which has plumped olives up.
- Nelson – had a bit of rain which has plumped up the crop. Ray has come across FS-17 variety of trees – Favolosa used for high density planting, related to the Frantoio. High oil content.
- Wairarapa – Same as everyone, it has been very dry, little trees were stressed out, 20ml last week first rain since December. Some groves whole crops basically failed. Birds are interested so getting close.

## 5. **Executive Officer Report**

Emma tabled her report as sent to the Executive.

Points of discussion were:

- a. Membership – Chris Moore has asked Emma to include in her report the names of Members who are not renewing their member for the Branch Chairs.

- b. Tasters Tasting Course – if it is not a O.N.A.O.O course, is there any value in the course if the participants are not qualified Tasters once the course is complete? Emma has asked Müge to ask O.N.A.O.O if it is possible to run their course and if so, what the costs will be.
- c. Oil Certification – Continue doing what we are doing use Modern Olives for both chemical and sensory testing.
- d. Conference Topics – ‘Moving forward, Looking Back’

Speakers topics to be:

- Turkey’s Olive Industry – Müge Nebioğlu
- Where can the new Productivity and Polyphenols Grove Project lead us? (Craig to review his grove projects journey, then we introduce what outcomes we are hoping for with the new project)
- HRWP’s preliminary results
- Guide to Olive Oil Production - What we have learned from our mistakes – the little things not in the textbooks. Will be useful for the library of learning on the website.

Workshop/Breakout sessions:

- Processors Session
- How to do social media – guide to marketing.
- How to grafting session – decided to be better as a field day topic.

EVOO Tastings to be last session. People not attending the conference can attend the tasting as an additional cost.

## **6. Other Business**

Meetings:

- AGM’s are hopeless there are no productive discussions on Zooms as no one comments, or if they do, no one responds to the discussion.
- The Executive needs to hold at least 2 face to face a year. One the Friday night before the Conference and Awards the other will be held in November this year to finalise Membership, planning and Budget for 2025.
- Bi-monthly Exec meetings are not regular enough. We need to meet more, but not create anymore workload. To trial every second month is a short Projects Meeting, for an update on the projects only.

## **7. Grove Management**

No discussed

Meeting closed 8.32pm