

CONFIRMED MINUTES

APRIL BOARD MEETING

At the **May Board Meeting** on **21 May 2021** these minutes were **confirmed with the following changes**:

Remove advice on how ApiNZ should manage glyphosate proposal.

Name:	The Management Agency National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan
Date:	Friday, 16 April 2021
Time:	9:00 am to 3:30 pm
Location:	Board Room, Level 6 Harbour Tower, 2 Hunter Street, Wellington
Board Members:	Mr Russell Marsh (Chair), Dennis Crowley, Gabriel Torres, Hayley Pragher, Jason Ward, John Walsh, Mark Dingle, Murray Lewis, Val Graham
Attendees:	Bronson Logan, Clifton King, Mike Harre

1. Board Only Session

1.1 Board Only Session

2. Opening Meeting

2.1 Confirm Minutes

February Board Meeting 12 Feb 2021, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



Minutes of the 12 February Board meeting approved.

Minutes of the 12 February Board meeting approved.

Decision Date: 16 Apr 2021
Mover: Mark Dingle
Seconder: Mr Russell Marsh
Outcome: Approved

2.2 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
19 Feb 2021	Cashflow budget Status: Completed on 6 Apr 2021	Clifton King
19 Feb 2021	Send proposed Board calendar to Board Status: Completed on 6 Apr 2021	Clifton King
22 Feb 2021	Report on outcome of latest round of Salesforce/MYOB integration testing Status: Completed on 6 Apr 2021	Clifton King
9 Mar 2021	Contact beekeeper regarding availability of apiary data load service Status: Completed on 6 Apr 2021	Clifton King

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
26 Mar 2021	Advise training organisation CEOs of NZ's beekeeping laws Status: Not Started	Clifton King
16 Apr 2021	Update Board Pro Interest Register Status: Completed on 21 Apr 2021	Mr Russell Marsh
14 May 2021	Brief Minister Status: Not Started	Clifton King

2.3 Interests Register

3. Management Reports

3.1 National Compliance Manager Report

Clifton presented the National Compliance Manager Report to the Board.

He advised that the Management Agency had not received suitable applications for the Senior Policy Analyst position. The Board confirmed that an Agency should be used for the second recruitment round.

The Board sought clarification of the Management Agency's responsibilities when honey testing (e.g. for export to China) resulted in positive test results. Clifton advised that clauses 29 and 31 of the NPMP were relevant:

- Clause 29 states: No persons who suspects or knows that a honey bee colony is or was displaying any of the clinical symptoms of AFB may use or expose a bee product associated with that honey bee colony.....in a manner that allows honey bees access to that product.....
- Clause 31 states: No person may transfer ownership or possession to any other person, or remove from the place where they are situated.....bee products.....associated with any honey bee colony where that person knows or suspects that the honey bee colony is or was displaying any of the symptoms of AFB.

Hence that Management Agency is under no obligation to act unless it has reason to believe that persons associated with the AFB positive honey knew or suspected that the honey was extracted from clinically affected beehives.

Mike Harre advised that section 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 may prevent the sale of AFB infected honey, and he undertook to seek a legal opinion from MPI. The Board advised Mike that it was critical that any MPI decisions regarding s53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 do not create incentives for beekeepers to feed infected honey back to bees - as feeding infected honey to bees was a serious issue for the NPMP, whereas the AFB transmission risks associated with human consumption of infected honey are negligible.



Clifton to place recruitment for a Senior Policy Analyst with a r...

Clifton to place recruitment for a Senior Policy Analyst with a recruitment agency.

Due Date: 23 Apr 2021

Owner: Clifton King



Mike to seek legal advise of the applicability of s53 of the Bios...

Mike to seek legal advise of the applicability of s53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 to honey with positive lab test results for AFB.

Due Date: 21 May 2021

Owner: Mike Harre

3.2 NBHS Progress Report

Clifton briefed the Board on the implementation of HiveHub.

The Board offered their congratulations to Clifton and the team on how well the HiveHub project had gone and how well it had been received by the beekeeping community.

3.3 Apiary Coordinator Resourcing

Clifton presented the requirement to increase Apiary Coordinator resourcing above the current 2 FTE baseline. He stated that the resourcing requirements were seasonal in nature with:

- 3 FTEs required to manage the volume of requests for support when the Management Agency sent out a 'Call to Action' to all beekeepers and to keep up with the workloads associated with the deadlines for submitting ADRs and Certificates of Inspection, but
- Only 2 FTEs required during seasonal lows, e.g. July, August, September.

He also advised that Rhiana Scott was working well as the 3rd Apiary Coordinator and that he was seeking approval to offer her a variable hour employment agreement.

The Board questioned how much of the current workload requirements are associated with transitioning beekeepers to HiveHub, and also questioned the need for additional resourcing in light of expected efficiencies associated with HiveHub.

Clifton advised that it was difficult to estimate what proportion of the current Apiary Coordinator workload is associated with supporting beekeepers to transition to HiveHub. He also advised that while operational efficiencies were expected from HiveHub, now that Apiary Coordinators were employed by the Management Agency they were now operating to a higher quality standard and entering additional required data into the system. Operating to a higher quality standard increases the Apiary Coordinator resource required.

The Board concluded that hiring a 3rd Apiary Coordinator on a variable (seasonal) hours agreement had the following benefits:

- Ability to maintain timely and high quality support services to beekeepers at times of peak demand
- Better contingency planning and continuity of service provision in the event that a staff member resigns or becomes suddenly unavailable.



The Board approved the National Compliance Manager offering a per...

The Board approved the National Compliance Manager offering a permanent Apiary Coordinator position to Rhiana Scott with Variable (seasonal) hours.

Decision Date: 16 Apr 2021

Outcome: Approved

3.4 Glyphosate and HiveHub issue

Clifton advised the Board that while glyphosate is a serious issue for the beekeeping industry, the proposal to ask government to modify legislation and provide funding to modify HiveHub to allow farmers, foresters and other entities to alert beekeepers of glyphosate spraying was unlikely to succeed without significant additional work.

He advised that the timing of this proposal was also an issue for the Management Agency as it may cause distraction from and/or confusion with Management Agency consultation on a proposal to amend/extend the National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan.

Mike advised that Regional Councils were also key stakeholders and should be consulted.

Dennis highlighted that similar applications already exist, and that he is notified when orchardists spray in the vicinity of his beehives.



The Board agreed that: The glyphosate issue is outside the Manage...

The Board agreed that:

1. The glyphosate issue is outside the Management Agency's scope/mandate
2. The Management Agency is willing to help and work alongside ApiNZ to support the proposal where there is no cost to levy payers.

Decision Date: 16 Apr 2021

Outcome: Approved

3.5 Operations Manager Report

Dwayne and Marco presented the Operations Manager Report to the Board.

The Board noted that the percentage of hives with AFB found at AP2 inspection was declining compared to previous reports and enquired as to why. Marco and Dwayne advised that this was because they were no longer finding new large commercial high risk beekeepers (beekeepers with more than 10% AFB at AP2 inspection), and that followup inspections on known high risk beekeepers were finding less AFB over time. This is evidence that the levels of AFB are dropping.

The Board discussed the health and safety incident where a beekeeper who refused to wear a veil was stung on the eyelid during a surveillance inspection. The Board concluded that as the Management Agency was a PCBU under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, AP2s should direct beekeepers attending surveillance inspections to either wear protective clothing or stand back from the inspection activity.



The Board agreed that as a health and safety measure AP2s are to ...

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Decision Date: 16 Apr 2021

Outcome: Approved

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1 Health and Safety Report

The Board noted the April 2021 Health and Safety Report.

See minutes for agenda item 3.5 for Board consideration of health and safety incident.

4.2 February YTD Finance Report

Clifton presented the February YTD finance report to the Board.

The Board noted the delay to agreeing a data licence with MPI for their use of beekeeper and apiary data and asked Clifton to request that the contract is back-dated. Clifton advised that he would request that the contract is back dated.

The Board noted that the Compliance and Enforcement expenditure is significantly under budget and asked for an explanation. Clifton advised that when the 2020/21 budget was developed (February 2019) it was assumed that increasing monitoring and auditing expenditure would result in a significant number of large commercial high risk beekeepers being detected. This had not occurred, and instead the Management Agency was identifying small commercial, semi-commercial and hobbyist beekeepers with AFB in more than 10% in their beehives. This is the primary reason for the reduction in Compliance and Enforcement expenditure, and a corresponding decrease in Cost Recovery revenue.

The Board questioned the financial impact of completing the Honey Surveillance programme in June 2021. Clifton advised that this would result in the honey surveillance expenditure for the 2020/21 financial year being carried forward into the 2021/22 financial year.

4.3 Training Report

The Board noted the April 2021 Training report.

4.4 Complaints Report

The Board noted the April 2021 Complaints report

5. Other Business

5.1 Review of AFB Pest Management Plan

The Board noted that the draft consultation materials for the first round of consultation would be presented at the 21 May Board meeting, and they had a discussion about the approach to consultation.

6. Close Meeting

6.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: May Board Meeting - 21 May 2021, 9:00 am

