



Draft Meeting Minutes – 2023 AGM 25 July 2023

SCB Mission:

To advance the science and practice of conserving the Earth's biological diversity.

Present:

Micha Jackson (President - MJ), Owen Nevin (ON), Aimee Sato (AS), John Lamaris (JL), Courtney Melton (CM), Christopher Woolley (CW), Shannon Rivera (SR), Aimee Sato (AS), Erica Cseko Nolasco (ECN), Carmela Isabela Nunez Lendo, Challis Pulotu, Lily van Eeden, Grace Nugi, Jack Sagumai, Dzarina Susuke

Quorum (10 attendees) achieved

1. Apologies – Natalie Forsdick (Secretary - NF), Liam McAuliffe, Nicky Nelson, Richard Kingsford, Vanessa Adams

2. Minutes of previous meeting

- **Motion:** to accept the minutes of the 2022 AGM as a true and accurate record.
 - Move: MJ
 - Seconded: CW
 - Approved, 10 in favour, 5 abstainers, no nay voters.

3. President's report for 2023

a) Board introductions

MJ introduced the Board and welcomes new Board members (those underlined in the table below have been elected in the last election).

Current Elected Members	Position	Committee(s) & Roles
Micha Jackson	President	
Natalie Forsdick	Secretary	
Courtney Melton	President-elect, Co-Secretary	Chapters chair
John Lamaris	Member at large	

Chris Woolley	Member at large	Social media/website
Andy Mack	Member at large	
Aimee Sato	Member at large	
<u>Erica Cseko Nolasco Freitas Fonseca *</u>	Member at large	
<u>Laura Torre *</u>	Member at large	
Shannon Noelle Rivera**	Specialist director	<i>Hawaii</i>
Owen Nevin	Specialist director	<i>Finance, Governance</i>
Tim Doherty	Specialist director	<i>Policy</i>
Vanessa Adams	Specialist director	<i>Finance, Governance</i>
Richard Kingsford	Specialist director	<i>Finance, Governance</i>

* New director (voted by SCBO membership)

** New role

MJ acknowledged and thanked outgoing past-president, Nicky Nelson for her contribution

- **Motion:** to accept new directors and specialist directors onto the board:
New directors: Erica Cseko Nolasco, Laura Torre
2023- 2024 Specialist directors: Shannon Rivera, Owen Nevin, Tim Doherty, Vanessa Adams, Richard Kingsford
 - Moved: MJ
 - Seconded: JL
 - Approved, 9 in favour, 6 abstainers, 0 nay votes.
 - Motion carried

b) Membership

- MJ noted membership is down from last year, but up from two years ago. MJ further noted that a big change coming in the form of SCB bylaw change, which will add new membership categories including associate members who would not have to pay for membership. This should remove a major barrier to joining for people in our region. While the bylaw change has already been passed, SCB is still finalising the mechanism through which people can join under the revised membership categories. When this process is clear, SCBO will support chapters to hold a launch event and ensure all chapter members are signed up as full or associate members of SCB.

c) SCBO activity

- MJ outlined the vision for SCBO described in 5-year strategic plan and provided an update on activity areas.
- Chapters – CM as chapters chair liaises regularly with chapters. There are five currently operating chapters: PNG, Hawaii, Victoria University of Wellington, Greater Melbourne (on hiatus), and Sydney. Priorities are to support chapters to use associate membership to broaden membership, provide governance support, and help chapters reinvigorate their activities post-COVID through, including through increased uptake of activity grants.

- Communications: Promotion of SCBO via website, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube. We will be using these channels to promote ICCB 2025. Reminder of our formal affiliation with Pacific Conservation Biology Journal in which we have had special issues.

d) Conference

- MJ reported highlights from SCBO-ESA 2022, including: providing travel support for 21 students to attend, key note talk by 2022 regional distinguished service award winner, Moses Kerry. There were 849 registrants. A full conference report is available on the [SCBO website](#).
- Conference committee has been formed for the ICCB 2025 in Oceania and conference philosophy has been issued.

e) SCBO Awards

- SCB Regional Distinguished Service award, student travel awards, and PCB best student presentation award were awarded in 2022. Next regional awards will be presented in 2024.

4. Financial statement and motion

MJ presented the 2022-23 financial report and 2023-24 budget on behalf of CM (who was attending ICCB 2023 in person and could not stay for the duration of the AGM).

2023 financial statement:

- This is our eighth financial year operating as a regional semi-autonomous section of the SCB with an elected independent board. SCBO moved from a NSW registered incorporated body to an ASIC registered company limited by guarantee in February 2022.
- SCBO has also been registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission as of 18 February 2022.
- Financial position of SCBO is sound.
- As of June 30, 2023 we hold cash assets of \$118,526.82 in the main SCBO account and \$132,001.44 in the ICCB 2025 conference account (including a held liability of \$12,000 for GST).
- Under the SCB Global restructure we received a significantly higher allocation than in previous years through the regional allocation.
- Conferences supplement our income every other year and this year we received \$13,200 in shared profits from the Ecological Society of Australia for the ESA SCBO 2022 conference.

Balance Sheet

Society for Conservation Biology Oceania (SCBO) Inc
As at 30 June 2023

30 JUN 2023

Assets

Bank	
Society for Conservation Biology ICCB 2025 Account	132,001.44
Society of Conservation Biology Community	118,526.82
Total Bank	250,528.26
Total Assets	250,528.26

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
GST	12,000.00
Total Current Liabilities	12,000.00
Total Liabilities	12,000.00

Net Assets 238,528.26

Equity

Current Year Earnings	133,650.36
Retained Earnings	104,877.90
Total Equity	238,528.26

2023-2024 budget:

- Fixed recurring costs (\$5315)
 - Insurance
 - Other operating- website, Registered Office Services, bookkeeping
 - Zoom subscription
- Representation at ICCB 2025 (\$2,000)
- AGM / SCBO social at ICCB 2023 (\$500)
- In person annual board meeting funding (\$10,000)
- Seed funding for Hawaii 2024 conference / conference event (\$5,000)
- New initiatives in line with our strategic plan (\$3,000)
 - (e.g., Earth Optimism, printing costs for special issue)
- Events and Chapter support grants (\$2,500)

Motion: to accept the 2022-23 financial statement and 2023-24 budget.

- Moved: MJ
- Seconded: SR
- Approved, 11 in favour, 4 abstained, no nay votes.

5. SCB restructure

MJ reported on the SCB Global restructure, with key points being that:

- SCB Global is nearing the end of long and careful restructuring process.

- A primary aim of the restructure is to empowering the regions to operate more independently.
- Restructure is also focused on inclusivity and diversity- this includes the revision of bylaws to amend membership categories.
- SCBO is represented on the new SCB Regional Council and as a rotating member of the SCB Global Board of Directors.

6. Questions/general comments

- MJ asked if there are any questions
ECN asked how often SCBO conferences are held? Every two years?
MJ confirmed that every other year is the norm for SCBO conferences and described the possibility of a collaboration around a Hawaii conference in 2024 and a desire to explore other Pacific events in 2024 as the 2022 SCBO conference was held in Australia and ICCB will be held in Brisbane in 2025. She also noted that because ICCB is coming to Oceania in 2025 that we may need to have a smaller conference than unusual in 2024 to ensure there is sufficient capacity across the years.

7. Close of Annual General Meeting