

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024 **MEDICAL SCIENTISTS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA** **THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2024 @ 6.30PM**

AGM Meeting held in person at Solidarity Hall, Trades Hall

1. Opening of meeting by President Cathy Durkin

Acknowledgement of Country and opening remarks

President Cathy Durkin opened the meeting at 6.46pm and thanked members for their attendance in person at Solidarity Hall. Cathy thanked the MSAV team including Matt, Lisa, Conor, Lyzz, Paul, Chloe, Anastasia and Alex for all their work in support of union members.

Cathy also thanked our MSAV Committee members who volunteer their time to provide support and governance to the Union. We are stronger for the support you provide.

2. Minutes of Medical Scientists Association of Victoria (MSAV) AGM 15 November 2023

"That the minutes of the Medical Scientists Association of Victoria dated 15 November 2023 are a true and accurate record of proceedings."

Moved: Sara Sujansky

Seconded: Peter Wells

Carried

3. Welcome and Address by MSAV Secretary Matt Hammond

The year ending 30 June 2023 was, by most metrics, a good one for the MSAV.

At the end of June 2023, we had 1768 members which grew to 1885 by end of June 2024, an increase of 117 members or a 6.7% increase in membership for the year. This growth was in no small part due to the strong bargaining campaign at Melbourne Pathology where members stood strong, took stop work action (a first for our union in more than a decade) and fought actively for better pay and conditions.

Our finances also had a significant turnaround, from a deficit of more than \$120 000 to a surplus of \$44 000.

We have negotiated 7 Enterprise Agreements and recovered around \$400 k of underpayments for members.

We have continued to do the day in day out work of dealing with organisational change, representing members with conduct and performance issues, helping to achieve workplace flexibility outcomes, fighting for better rosters better health and safety and providing all those other important services to members.

We have purchased new merchandise – the union t-shirts and orange pens have been really well regarded by members and help improve the visibility of the union in the workplace.

The coming year will again be a big year for the Union, with public sector bargaining, Lifeblood and private pathology bargaining and a renewed focus on pathology reform in a way that (hopefully) we can now properly get behind .

4. Receive the Annual Finance Report and the Auditor's Statement for the year ended 30 June 2024

"That the annual finance report and the auditor's statement for the year ended 30 June 2024 be received."

Moved: Sarah Lloyd

Seconded: Cathy Durkin

Carried

5. Adopt the Annual Finance Report and the Auditor's Statement for the year ended 30 June 2023

Secretary Matt Hammond spoke to the financial statement. He advised that the Union is in a strong and improved financial position. This is in part because of:

- Staffing profile changes
- Strong membership growth
- Group purchasing of professional indemnity insurance

"That the annual finance report and the auditor's statement for the year ended 30 June 2024 be adopted."

Moved: Sarah Lloyd

Seconded: Lesley Buzza

Carried

6. Election of MSAV Committee of Management

"That Paul Elliott be appointed Returning Officer for elections of positions on MSAV Committee of Management"

Moved: Lisa Alcock

Seconded: Matt Hammond

Carried

Paul Elliott, Returning Officer declared the following members elected to the named positions unopposed.

2024 MSAV Committee of Management

President	Catherine Durkin
Vice President	Max Cowey
Secretary	Matthew Hammond
Assistant Secretary	Lisa Alcock
Treasurer	Sarah Sujansky
Ordinary Member	Eileen Kelly
Ordinary Member	Rhiannan Cheng
Ordinary Member	Vanessa Panettieri
Ordinary Member	Samantha Holmes
Ordinary Member	Gemma Brett
Ordinary Member	Lesley Buzza

7. **Appointment of Auditors for the financial year 2024 – 2025**

“That BGL Partners be appointed as Auditors for the next financial year 2024 – 2025.”

Moved: Cathy Durkin **Seconded:** Vanessa Panettieri

Carried

8. **Member of the Year – Jim Alcock Award**

Each year we award the Jim Alcock – Member of the Year Award to an MSAV member.

The terms of the Award are simple: An MSAV member that shows up to support medical scientists; encourages colleagues and advocates for worker rights.

This year, we acknowledge Elizabeth Stuart, Anat Path Scientist at Monash Health.

Elizabeth is a Health and Safety Representative (HSR) at Monash Health. Elizabeth has been a really incredible advocate for scientists in Anat Path and has fought to ensure a safe working environment for her colleagues.

At times, this has brought Elizabeth into conflict and some pretty harrowing situations. Elizabeth has continued to advocate and lobby for the safety of scientists working with formaldehyde when it felt like they were really up against it.

9. Farewell to Committee Members

Matt Hammond paid tribute to and thanked outgoing MSAV Committee Members:

- Peter Wells – 35+ years service
- Sofie Modulon – 12 years service
- Celia Talbot

10. Life Membership – Awarded to Peter Wells

Peter Wells is an MSAV institution who has been actively involved in his union for over 35 years, almost back to the formation of the union.

Over that time, he has been a job rep / workplace delegate first at Prince Henry's and then Monash Health in their Pathology departments and has served on the MSAV Council and the HSU Branch committee of Management, for most of that time, holding a number of roles including most recently MSAV Treasurer and HSU Trustee.

He has been a tireless fighter for workers rights in his workplace, recruited countless MSAV members, developed other great activists in his workplace, sat on many merit review committees and provided wise counsel to MSAV Secretaries over many years.

Peter has been the embodiment of “we” not “me” in his approach to his union involvement.

Today we recognise the contribution of Peter as playing a vital role in building the union that we have today.

Close of meeting: Meeting closed at 7.23pm

Attendees: 39 attendees. 5 apologies



Attendance list.pdf

List attached here: