

Finance Meeting

12th May 2025

NATIONAL RURAL WOMEN'S COALITION





NRWC Finance and Risk Committee

Minutes

Finance Committee Meeting

12th May 2025

ZOOM – 1pm (NSW + QLD) 12.30pm (SA)

Finance Committee: Karen Holder (Treasurer), Cr. Jan Clifford OAM, Wendy Hick, Keli McDonald

- Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country – Karen Holder 1.05pm
- Attendance – Wendy Hick, Karen Holder
- Absent – Nill
- Apologies – Jan Clifford OAM
- Secretariat – Keli McDonald
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nill

1. Review and Approve Previous Minutes

Minutes of the last Finance Committee Meeting held **14th April 2025 – Appendix 1**

Motion – *“Acceptance of the Minutes from the last Finance April 2025.*

Moved: Karen Holder

Seconded: Wendy Hick

2. Actions from the Previous Meeting

YRRRRAP

- Raised possible conflict of interest for new YRRRRAP member – OFW responded that not a conflict with contract. The candidate was invited to April meeting but did not attend. We have not followed up.
- New NETWORK member Raise Our Voice has been contacted for input into survey

Dr Sarah Casey - University Sunshine Coast

- Dr Sarah Casey is Senior Lecturer and Discipline Lead in Communication. She holds a PhD in Media, Communication, and Feminist Cultural Studies. She is the President for the Australian

Women's and Gender Studies Association, the peak body for such research in Australia. Her research is cross-disciplinary, and she collaborates with a range of colleagues across creative industries, business, the sciences, and health. Sarah has led industry and government funded projects exploring the lived experiences of rural women. She is regularly invited to provide opinion to government and media about issues such as innovative solutions for women's economic security due to conditions such as long-term drought. Sarah leads a series of projects called '[Stories of Country Women](#)', and is committed to the public, accessible dissemination of academic research through microdocumentaries and podcasts. Sarah's work was included in *The Conversation's* annual yearbook, *2022: Reckoning With Power and Privilege*. She is the co-author of two academic books, and is published in high-ranking journals such as *Sociologica Ruralis*, *Gender and Education*, and *Feminist Media Studies*. She is an experienced supervisor and has supported several Honours and Higher Degree Research students to completion. Sarah is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK).

- NRWC will be working with her team as part of stage one of the Climate Change project – much of the work will be provided for free through the university. Any private requests to Dr Casey will need expenses to be negotiated.

3. Finance Report

Appendix 2

Motion: The April 2025 Finance Report has been reviewed and is accepted.

Moved: Karen Holder

Second: Wendy Hick

Carried

- * Keli identified an error in current budget and the need to address it
- * Suggested to review the CPI rate halfway through the financial year.

ACTION - *Need a new strategy for the next financial year.*

ACTION – *Review subscriptions, with the possibility of eliminating/reducing some items (for example Dropbox storage, Microsoft, mailboxes and telephone) to help reduce costs. (Keli + Jess)*

ACTION – *Keli to prepare a draft budget and discuss with Karen if suitable to present at the next board meeting*

4. Risk

ACTION – *Wendy to follow up on the governance policy review.*

ACTION – *Policy on ???? and considering implications of the Social Media Act.*

ACTION – *Directors to review and provide input on policy priorities for the upcoming year*

- * More frequent board member meetings to facilitate better communication and decision-making.
- * Improving Communication and Policy Development, with a more structured approach to policy development.

5. General Business

- Please note email from OFW – additional funding
- NWA Secretariat – Working for Women from July to December, then National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Women’s Alliance so possibly NRW in July – December 2026. This can be budgeted.

6. Any Other Business

CWA Conference – 19 May 2025 - Wagga Wagga – Keli attending first day only

ICPA Conference - 30 July 2025 – Adelaide – Jan Clifford OAM (invited)

ACTION – Keli to explore alternative options for attending the Agrifutures Dinner + Awards, considering trying to be cost effective.

OFW – Bi-monthly catchup 21 May 2025 9:30 to 11am

- Outcomes the election has had on our community. Explain the benefits or concerns you are hearing
- Tell us about your key priorities between now and December
- Tell us about any key insights you’ve heard from women in the community that are useful to understand. Describe any key themes
- Tell us about your nominated policy issue
- OFW updates

7. Next Meeting

10th June 2025 (Tuesday due to Kings Birthday)

This meeting to be moved to 5th June at 2pm.

14th July 2025 – please note this is the day before board meeting to be held on 15th July at 12 noon

11th August 2025

8th September 2025

13th October 2025

10th November 2025

8th December 2025

8. Meeting Closed

Meeting closed: 1.52pm

APPENDIX 1 – APRIL FINANCE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes

Finance Committee Meeting

14th April 2025

ZOOM – 1pm (NSW + QLD) 12.30pm (SA)

Finance Committee: Karen Holder (Treasurer), Cr. Jan Clifford OAM, Wendy Hick, Keli McDonald

- Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country – Karen Holder
- Attendance – Karen Holder (Chair) Jan Clifford OAM, Wendy Hick, Keli McDonald
- Absent – Nil
- Apologies – Nil
- Secretariat – Keli McDonald
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Nil

1. Review and Approve Previous Minutes

Minutes of the last Finance Committee Meeting held **12th February 2025** and **10th March 2025** - **Appendix 1**

Motion – *“Acceptance of the Minutes from the last Finance Committee February + March 2025.*

Moved: Jan Clifford OAM

Seconded: Wendy Hick

Carried

2. Actions from the Previous Meeting

Cinta Insights (11.2024)

ACTION - Keli to reach out to NZ Rural Women’s group to get a better feel for how program works. Research and report back before any formal decisions made. *No action taken to date.*

*Jess - thank for contacting us and let them know we want to keep in contact
Reach out to RRR NZ*

3. Finance Report

Appendix 2

Motion: The March 2025 Finance Report has been reviewed and is accepted.

Moved: Karen Holder Second: Jan Clifford OAM

Carried

Keli will be claiming meal allowance for SSI (Coffs Harbour, NSW) and Women’s Climate Congress (Castlemaine. VIC) via Statutory Declaration as vouchers lost.

Advised Raise Your Voice has joined the NRWC NETWORK

4. Risk

Nil risk identified.

5. General Business

- *Next Board Meeting – Call AGM*
Once AGM is called Secretariat will be in contact with Auditor
Reports will need to be written
- *New Budget – July 2025 to June 2026 to be developed to include Secretariat for NWA work*
- *NRWC to have an event during ‘rural week’ to coincide with Agri-Futures Rural Women Awards*
- *NRWC needs to complete another Submission – this may be impossible due to caretaker mode. Submissions can only be Federal - Directors to advise Keli if any come up that align with the NRWC directives*
- *Updated Directors on the role of Dr Sarah Casey – Climate Change and Donna Frater - economist for the Older Women’s group*

6. Any Other Business

- *YRRRAP - Discussed including members of Raise your Voice in YRRRAP for project*
Discussed conflict of interest possibility from new YRRRAP application

7. Next Meeting

12th May 2025

10th June 2025 (Tuesday due to Kings Birthday)

14th July 2025 – please note this is the day before board meeting to be held on 15th July at 12 noon

11th August 2025

8th September 2025

13th October 2025

10th November 2025

8th December 2025

8. Meeting Closed

Meeting closed: 1:48pm (NSW) by Treasurer Karen Holder