



Judicial Conference of Australia

## GOVERNING COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING: 2014/4

Held on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014** at the Sheraton Noosa Resort,  
Noosa Heads, Queensland

The meeting commenced at 12 noon.

#### **Present**

Justice Philip McMurdo (in the Chair)	Supreme Court of Queensland
Judge Michael Baumann	Federal Circuit Court of Australia
Chief Justice Alan Blow, OAM	Supreme Court of Tasmania
Judge Wayne Chivell	District Court of South Australia
Judge Alan Fenbury	District Court of Western Australia
Justice Timothy Ginnane	Supreme Court of Victoria
Magistrate Greg Grogin	Local Court of New South Wales
Judge Peter Hannon	Industrial Relations Court of South Australia
Justice Graham Hiley	Supreme Court of the Northern Territory
Chief Magistrate Peter Lauritsen	Magistrates Court of Victoria
Justice Glenn Martin	Industrial Court of Queensland
Judge Michael McNerney	County Court of Victoria
Justice Peter Murphy	Family Court of Australia
Magistrate Leanne O'Shea	Magistrates Court of Queensland
Justice Steven Rares	Federal Court of Australia
Judge Michael Shanahan	District Court of Queensland
Justice Terry Sheahan, AO	Land and Environment Court of New South Wales
Justice James Stevenson	Supreme Court of New South Wales
Judge Robyn Tupman	District Court of New South Wales
Justice Michael Walton	Industrial Court of New South Wales
Judge Brian Withers	Treasurer, and Supreme Court of South Australia

#### **In attendance**

Christopher Roper, AM

Secretary

### Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Magistrate Richard Bayly	Magistrates Court of Western Australia
Justice Robert Beech-Jones	Supreme Court of New South Wales
Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Bolton	Magistrates Court of South Australia
Magistrate Michael Brett	Magistrates Court of Tasmania
Magistrate Karen Fryar, AM	Magistrates Court of the Australian Capital Territory
Justice Judith Kelly	Supreme Court of the Northern Territory
Chief Magistrate John Lowndes	Magistrates Court of the Northern Territory
Justice Carmel McLure	Supreme Court of Western Australia
Judge Garry Neilson	District Court of New South Wales
Chief Judge John Pascoe AO, CVO	Federal Circuit Court of Australia
Justice Hilary Penfold, PSM	Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory

### Alternates

*Alternate*  
Judge Michael Baumann  
Justice Graham Hiley  
Justice James Stevenson  
Judge Robyn Tupman

*Representating*  
Chief Judge John Pascoe  
Justice Judith Kelly  
Justice Robert Beech-Jones  
Judge Garry Neilson

#### Resolved (2014/18)

That the apologies be noted and received.

### **1 Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting of the Governing Council**

The minutes of the meeting of the Governing Council held 14<sup>th</sup> June 2014 had been circulated.

#### Resolved (2014/19)

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2014 be confirmed.

## **2 Minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee held since the last meeting**

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held on 24<sup>th</sup> July and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 had been circulated.

*Resolved (2014/20)*

That the draft minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> July and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 be noted.

## **Reports**

### **3 President's Report**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

### **4 Secretary's report**

The Secretary had nothing to report.

### **5 Treasurer's report**

The Treasurer had nothing to report.

### **6 Membership report**

A membership report as at 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 had been circulated, and was noted.

## **Elections**

### **7 President**

Justice Steven Rares was nominated for the position of President. There were no other nominations.

*Resolved (2014/21)*

That the Hon Justice Steven Rares be elected President of the Judicial Conference of Australia.

## **8 Vice President**

Justice Robert Beech-Jones was nominated for the position of Vice President. There were no other nominations.

*Resolved (2014/22)*

That the Hon Justice Robert Beech-Jones be elected Vice President of the Judicial Conference of Australia.

## **8 Executive Committee**

The following members of the Governing Council were nominated for the Executive Committee:

Chief Justice Alan Blow  
Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Bolton  
Judge Allan Fenbury  
Justice Timothy Ginnane  
Justice Judith Kelly  
Justice Glenn Martin  
Justice Hilary Penfold  
Justice Michael Walton

*Resolved (2014/23)*

That Chief Justice Alan Blow, Chief Magistrate Elizabeth Bolton, Judge Allan Fenbury, Justice Timothy Ginnane, Justice Judith Kelly, Justice Glenn Martin, Justice Hilary Penfold and Justice Michael Walton be elected to the Executive Committee.

## **Activities, projects and matters of concern**

### **9 Taxation treatment of redundancy payments**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

### **10 Current situation in regard to the superannuation surcharge**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

### **11 Productivity Commission report on access to justice**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

**12 Project: Judicial selection and appointment process**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

**13 Panel of retired judges for providing comments to the media**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

**14 JCA guidelines on the use of social media by judges and courts**

The President had reported at the Annual General Meeting.

**15 Vote of thanks to the retiring President**

Justice Steven Rares moved that the Council thank Justice Philip McMurdo for his outstanding work as President and Chair of the Governing Council. He noted that he had provided a steady hand in all the controversies the JCA had dealt with.

Resolved (2014/24)

That Justice Philip McMurdo be thanked for his outstanding work as President of the JCA and Chair of the Governing Council.

Passed with acclamation.

**16 Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held in March 2015 on a date to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at about 1.00pm.

Signed as a true record:

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President