

ASSOCIATION'S ADDRESS:
FARMING HOUSE
211-213 MARKET STREET SOUTH
HASTINGS, NEW ZEALAND
TELEPHONE (06) 878-5385
FAX (06) 878-6007



NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION of NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

Copy for information.

PRESIDENT:
NICK WALLINGFORD
TELEPHONE/FAX (07) 578 1422

This has gone to each of the branches.

This is being sent to you as branch president/branch secretary/branch fax contact. If I have a fax number, it is going to the secretary direct, if not, then to the president or any other fax contact I have for your branch.

Remit 2 to the recent NBA Conference read:

“That this Conference recommends to Executive that the NBA adopts the National Pest Management Strategy for AFB eradication as presented by the Disease Committee, and offers the full support of NBA members in its implementation.”

On a poll vote, the remit carried, 775 votes to 181 votes, with 7 votes abstaining. This indicates an 81% support for the PMS.

Opponents of the PMS claim that this vote does not indicate that level of support for the PMS. They argue that delegates came to Conference instructed to vote against the remit, but changed their vote to 'support' based on assurances they say were made on the floor of Conference.

Mr Russell Berry tabled an alternative proposal to control AFB during discussion on remit 2. Opponents of the PMS claim that Mr Terry Gavin said that the alternative proposal would be incorporated into the existing PMS (Mr Gavin denies make such an assurance). Opponents of the PMS claim that delegates changed their votes from 'against' to 'for' based on this promise. They conclude that the 81% support figure is not an accurate indication of industry feeling toward the PMS, having been achieved by 'devious' means.

Before these arguments are repeated so often they become accepted as true, I would like to determine the facts of the situation. To do this, I need your branch's assistance. You are welcome to telephone (collect would be OK), fax or post material to me direct, or to the Executive Secretary if you prefer. Naturally, I would like for the facts of this situation to come out as soon as possible, so I would ask that you:

- speak with branch president/secretary/delegate if necessary to confirm your branch's situation
- speak with any other branch members to let them know the interpretation being put on remit 2, so they are aware of the situation
- respond as soon as possible (I would like to use the material in the next issue of the NZ Beekeeper, which has a deadline of 1 November). You can simply fax or post the following form back with comments written on it to make it as easy as possible for you to reply

I would also like to encourage your branch to make a submission on the PMS Public Discussion Document by the 20 November due date. All comments from individuals or from your branch are welcome. You should comment, whether in favour or opposed to the PMS, to ensure a fair representation of submissions.

Yours sincerely

Nick

Nick Wallingford
NBA President



QUESTIONNAIRE TO CLARIFY SUPPORT/OPPOSITION TO THE PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AS EXPRESSED IN REMIT 2 TO 1995 NBA CONFERENCE

Please return as soon as possible (and certainly within 1 week) to:

President Nick Wallingford, 55 Watling St, Tauranga ph/fax **(07) 578 1422** or
Executive Secy Harry Brown, PO Box 307, Hastings ph (06) 878 5385, fax **(06) 878 6007**

Date _____

Branch _____

Person responding _____

Position _____

1 How did your branch members instruct your delegate to cast their votes on remit 2?

For _____ Delegates choice _____

Against _____ Member to carry vote to Conf _____

2 Did your delegate report changing the 'Against' or 'Delegate's choice' votes to 'For' based on the belief the alternative proposal would be incorporated into the NBA's PMS?

3 Would you like to make any informal comments about the support or opposition to the PMS proposal as expressed at your remit meeting or at the after-Conference report back meeting?

4 Did you discuss this matter with other branch officers/branch members before responding?

Thank you *very much* for helping to make the NBA reflect the real wishes of the beekeeping industry!

ASSOCIATION'S ADDRESS:
FARMING HOUSE
211-213 MARKET STREET SOUTH
HASTINGS, NEW ZEALAND
TELEPHONE (06) 878-5385
FAX (06) 878-6007



NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION of NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

PRESIDENT:
NICK WALLINGFORD
TELEPHONE/FAX (07) 578 1422

Harry:

I have already sent a copy of this directly to G Cammell.

23 October 1995

Would you please handle the distribution of the other copies listed at the end of the letter?

Thanks.

Mr Graham Cammell
133 Walmsley Road
Mangere
Auckland

Dear Graham

At the Auckland branch meeting on 19 October you made a statement that requires a correction and an apology.

Terry Gavin referred to the support of 81% of the industry for the PMS from Conference. You said that it was 'devious' of him to say that, as branches had changed their votes because of statements you claim he made on the floor of Conference. You said that other branches would have also changed their votes to 'for', resulting in an 'undemocratic' vote of support. You referred to your remit papers and said the Auckland branch votes (44 in total) had been voted all in favour of the remit, changing the vote based on what had been said on the floor of conference.

The remit in question, the only PMS remit that was put to a poll vote, was remit 2. This is the remit that adopted the PMS and offered the full support of the NBA members to implement it. The Auckland branch votes on this remit were, in fact, cast 13 'for', 24 'against' and 7 abstentions.

You did not cast the branch's 44 votes in favour of the remit, as you told the meeting. If we assume that you were instructed to cast all 44 votes 'against' at the remit meeting, you changed only 30% of the votes to 'for'. I do not know if your remits meeting instructed you to vote all 44 votes 'against', or if in fact there were 13 'for' votes that came from that remits meeting. Though I won't include the calculations here, if other branches *had been* convinced to change their voting in a similar manner to your branch, the remit would still have carried.

I'd like to try to set another sequence of events right in your mind. It may further dispel the belief that there is widespread and significant industry opposition to the PMS.

Russell Berry's alternative ideas for a PMS were given to Terry Gavin on a Wednesday, the day of the seminar. The comments he made privately to Mike Stuckey followed almost immediately afterward, before Terry would have read the document.

On Thursday morning, as I was calling on Terry to put remit 2, Russell Berry and Tony Lorimer stood up and tabled the alternative proposals, giving each of the delegates a copy. The paper had not been distributed to delegates or considered by them before that time. At the time of the vote, delegates would not have even *read* the alternative proposals. Terry said that all submissions are considered by the Committee and, where appropriate, get incorporated into the strategy. You seem to be now expanding that to claim he agreed to incorporate all of Russell Berry's alternative

proposals. You seem to believe that a statement you claim Terry made convinced delegates to change their votes to support the remit, even though most of them had not even read the alternative proposals tabled minutes before.

I do not believe that you can argue that the tabling of the alternative and/or the comments you attribute to Terry resulted in delegates changing their votes to support the remit. Your reasoning does not stand up to scrutiny.

I do hope you will acknowledge the mistake you made when referring to Terry Gavin's actions as 'devious', and accordingly apologise to him.

Yours faithfully

Nick

Nick Wallingford
NBA President

copies to Executive (including Terry Gavin)
Disease Control Committee
Auckland branch

ASSOCIATION'S ADDRESS:
FARMING HOUSE
211-213 MARKET STREET SOUTH
HASTINGS, NEW ZEALAND
TELEPHONE (06) 878-5385
FAX (06) 878-6007



NATIONAL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION of NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

PRESIDENT:
NICK WALLINGFORD
TELEPHONE/FAX (07) 578 1422

Memo

To Executive Secretary, for distribution to Russell Berry, Graham Cammell, Executive and the members of the Disease Control Committee
From Nick Wallingford
Date 26 October 1995
RE: **Statements misrepresenting things said at Conference...**

At the September Executive meeting Russell Berry said that Remit 2, the remit indicating 81% support for the PMS, was not a fair indication of support for the PMS. He indicated that Terry Gavin had assured conference that the ideas contained in his (Russell's) 'alternative' PMS would be included in the next version of the PMS. Terry said he did not think he had made such a statement to Conference. I said I did not remember Terry making such a statement, and said that since the 'alternative' was only tabled minutes before, delegates would not have even had time to read it. Russell said that he had, in fact, given the paper to many of the delegates the night before (I remember that fact, as I would have thought as President of the NBA he would have given me the same courtesy). Russell said that Terry had most definitely said that the alternative ideas would be included in the next version of the PMS, saying it with considerable assurance.

The same sort of discussion came out at the Auckland branch meeting a week ago. Graham Cammell insisted that Terry had in fact promised to include Russell's alternative paper in the PMS. Terry said that he wouldn't have said that. I said that I did not remember it being said in the way that Graham insisted that it had.

On 20 October, Russell wrote to the Executive Secretary 'I understand from what Terry said at Conference, that my summary page of my second submission presented to Terry prior to Conference, would [underline is mine] be included as part of the PMS.' There is no room for dispute, no 'I think this was said' or 'I think Terry said this, but he says he didn't'.

Last Saturday, I sent a questionnaire to the branches as a means of determining the reality of the claim that votes had been changed because of the claimed assurance that the alternative would be included in the PMS. Indications so far say that the 81% support for remit 2 was a fair vote.

I would note that the two members who have put the argument forward come from branches that obviously were not convinced enough to change their own votes, though they claim that other branches did! Neither Auckland nor Waikato voted a majority of votes in support of remit 2, yet members from those branches claim that (1) the promise to include the alternative PMS ideas was made and (2) it convinced delegates to change their votes to be in favour. If those claims were true, wouldn't Auckland and Waikato have voted in favour?

Let's cut to the chase: Terry Gavin did not make any such assurance that Russell's alternative PMS would be included into the NBA's PMS on the floor of Conference. The branch delegates did not come to Conference with instructions to vote against remit 2. And delegates did not change to support remit 2 because they thought Russell's alternative would be included into the PMS.

Russell and Graham have not been content to rely on Terry's memory of the events at conference, rather, telling him that he was mistaken and that they remembered what was said better than he. In doing so, they have been misleading and 'devious'. I have already asked Graham to apologise to Terry for using that word to describe him (Terry), when it was Graham who completely misrepresented to the Auckland branch how he had cast their votes on remit 2.

I now call on Russell to apologise to Terry and to the Executive for misleading us about what was said at Conference. The 'mistake' by Russell was made on more than one occasion (Executive meeting and to Graham, presumably) and in defiance of the stated memories of Terry and myself. I believe it has been an intentional attempt to pervert the reasoned consideration of the PMS, and it has been a deliberate attempt to circumvent the democratic expressions of Conference.

Come on, Russell, you can do it. I did apologise to you, and to a much bigger audience (every voting paper...) when I made a mistake.