

# Annual General Meeting Minutes 2025

Thursday 9 October 2025 – 9.30am

Volunteering WA, Level 1, 3 Loftus Street, West Leederville 6007

Item	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b></p> <p>Craig Spencer, Chair of Volunteering WA welcomed Board, staff, volunteers, members and guests to the meeting.</p> <p>Chair noted that several apologies had been received including Patrons His Excellency the Honourable Christopher John Dawson APM and Mrs Darrilyn Dawson and the Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Volunteering.</p> <p>The full list of apologies has been tabled as an appendix to the minutes.</p> <p>Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting was held, the Noongar people.</p>
2	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting 16 October 2024</b></p> <p><i>Motion: that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 16 October 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Craig Spencer</i></p> <p><i>Seconded: Pat Scally</i></p> <p><b>Accepted</b></p>
3	<p><b>Business Arising</b></p> <p>There was no business arising from the minutes.</p>
4	<p><b>Special Guest</b></p> <p>Chair welcomed Brian Gallop, a dedicated volunteer with St John WA and recipient of the 2025 RAC Volunteer of the Year Award in the WA Volunteer of the Year Awards. This award recognised Brian’s outstanding voluntary contribution and deep commitment to improving the lives of others through his efforts. Brian began volunteering with St John in 1998 after helping to establish a sub-centre in the Goldfields town of Sandstone, and for over nearly 30 years he has served as a highly experienced Volunteer Development Officer and Emergency Medical Technician. He contributes extensively to emergency response, volunteer training, fundraising, and community outreach across Western Australia. Despite working fly-in, fly-out, Brian devotes his downtime to supporting St John</p>

sub-centres throughout the state, generously sharing his skills, energy, and passion. Beyond his emergency service work, he also knits sensory aids for people living with dementia and autism, demonstrating his compassion and commitment to the community.

## 5 Report from the Chair

Craig Spencer presented his report highlighting:

- Volunteering WA reaffirmed its role as Western Australia's peak body for volunteering, empowering people and communities through engagement, leadership, and advancement of volunteering;
- The 2024–25 year was reported as another successful period for the organisation;
- Continued support was provided to Western Australia's 1.5 million volunteers and 850 member organisations;
- The 2024–25 Annual Report and Financial Report reflect Volunteering WA's commitment to supporting members and strengthening volunteering across the state;
- Despite ongoing social and economic pressures, Volunteering WA continued to advocate for volunteers and ensure their contributions are recognised and valued;
- The organisation strengthened community and workplace connections, enhanced volunteer program leadership capacity, and improved access to resources and funding;
- Ongoing efforts focused on reducing barriers to volunteering, promoting inclusivity, and supporting disaster and emergency preparedness and response;
- Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate Volunteering WA's commitment to a strong, sustainable, and impactful volunteering sector;
- The Chair expressed appreciation to Tina Williams, CEO of Volunteering WA, Volunteering WA staff and Board members for their dedication, leadership, and contribution to achieving strategic priorities and supporting the volunteering community.

*Motion: that the Report from the Chair be accepted for approval*

*Moved: Craig Spencer*

*Seconded: Gary Martin*

**Accepted**

## 6 Report from the CEO – Tina Williams

- CEO noted that this meeting marked her tenth AGM with Volunteering WA and reflected on the year's achievements, made possible through the combined efforts of staff, Board members, and volunteers;
- The volunteering sector demonstrated strength and resilience despite ongoing cost-of-living and housing pressures impacting vital services and volunteers;
- Volunteering WA advocated strongly during the March State Election to reduce the costs and barriers to volunteering by easing

financial pressures and streamlining screening processes — an initiative informed by member feedback and research;

- Emphasis was placed on making volunteering more accessible, inclusive, and flexible, in line with evolving community needs;
- The Corporate Volunteering program continued to expand, growing from 554 employees to 4,085 and from 3,202 to nearly 17,000 volunteer hours over the past decade;
- The CEO acknowledged Traci Gamblin, Deputy CEO, and the Corporate Volunteering team for their leadership in driving this growth, which has delivered significant benefits to both workplaces and communities;
- Revenue from corporate volunteering success has enabled reinvestment in new strategies and initiatives to strengthen the sector and enhance Volunteering WA's leadership role;
- Targeted marketing and policy investment increased awareness, advocacy, and profile for volunteering and member organisations;
- Focus remained on supporting volunteer professionals and managers through training, peer networking, and sector events to build capacity and capability across the sector;
- Through the ongoing Lotterywest partnership, Volunteering WA has distributed millions of dollars to more than 2,500 Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs) over the years, with \$1.2 million distributed in 2024–25 (Lotterywest and DSS combined);
- Completion of a two-year project to strengthen WA's spontaneous volunteering systems during emergencies was noted, resulting in a new digital platform, training, and resources to enhance community preparedness;
- The organisation successfully completed the first stage of its Measuring Impact Project, the first of its kind in Australia, designed by the sector to quantify the impact of volunteering. A wider rollout is planned across WA and hopefully, in time, nationally;
- We have transitioned from a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to an Innovate RAP, reinforcing Volunteering WA's commitment to reconciliation and stronger representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within the sector;
- The CEO acknowledged the new Innovate RAP artwork by artist Sarah Weston, featured throughout the Annual Report;
- The meeting observed with sadness the passing of Life Member and former Executive Director, Sallie Davies, a foundational leader and long-time advocate for volunteering in WA;
- Sallie served in multiple capacities including Executive Director, Board Chair, Secretary to the National Body, and Life Member;
- She was instrumental in building the organisation's foundation, expanding regional services, and securing vital funding opportunities;
- Her leadership and contributions were widely recognised, and she will be deeply missed;
- The CEO extended sincere thanks to members, partners, and supporters for their ongoing contributions;
- Appreciation was expressed to staff, volunteers, and the Board for their commitment, skills, and teamwork in making Volunteering WA a strong, successful, and community-driven organisation.

*Motion: that the Report from the CEO be accepted for approval*

*Moved: Craig Spencer*

*Seconded: Gary Martin*

**Accepted**

## **7 Report from the Treasurer – Libby Hewton**

Libby Hewton presented the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2025. Key highlights were as follows:

- Volunteering WA maintained a stable and resilient financial position during 2024–25, supported by diversified and well-managed revenue streams;
- Total revenue for the year: \$4.2 million — consistent with the previous financial year;
- Strong performance reported across government funding, corporate partnerships, not-for-profit clients, and member services;
- Expenditure was closely aligned with organisational purpose, prioritising program and service delivery to support members and the volunteer sector;
- Program costs: 28% of total expenditure;
- Staffing costs: 63% of total expenditure;
- Office and administration costs: 7% of total expenditure, demonstrating efficiency and transparency;
- Volunteering WA also facilitated \$883,355 in grants to Volunteer Involving Organisations across Western Australia, funded by the Department of Social Services and Lotterywest;
- The organisation achieved a surplus of \$88,192, reflecting prudent financial management and continued financial resilience;
- The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee ensured compliance with financial and statutory obligations, effective risk management, and prudent allocation of resources;
- Appreciation was expressed to Andrea Cole, Executive Manager Finance and HR, the Finance and Audit Committee members and auditors, Nexia Perth, for their support and diligence.

Libby put two motions before the meeting:

*Motion: that the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025, along with the accompanying audit report be adopted.*

*Moved: Libby Hewton*

*Seconded: Pat Scally*

**Accepted**

*Motion: that Justin Mulhair of Nexia Perth be appointed as external auditor of the Volunteer Centre of Western Australia (Inc) for the year ending 30 June 2026.*

*Moved: Libby Hewton*

*Seconded: Pat Scally*

**Accepted**

## Election of the Board of Directors

Chair welcomed two new co-opted members to the Board: Natalie Sangalli and Ali Martin, each bringing distinct expertise and perspective.

Natalie is driven by a strong commitment to addressing inequality, discrimination, and disadvantage at both system and community levels.

She has over 20 years' experience in senior and executive leadership across government, private, and not-for-profit sectors, with expertise in governance, risk, financial management, and strategic planning.

Natalie has led major structural and cultural change, managed complex projects and contracts, and contributed to more than 10 organisational Strategic Plans. Widely respected for her stakeholder engagement and advocacy, she is recognised as a positive change leader across government, industry, and human services.

Ali is a purpose-driven professional with an authentic leadership style, a passion for collaboration, and strong relationship-building skills. Curious and resilient, Ali is adept at identifying risks, change management needs, and opportunities to enhance and protect reputation. A lateral thinker, she generates new ideas, finds patterns, and makes connections to realise projects, solve problems, and deliver improvements that achieve strategic objectives.

Ali holds leadership roles on non-profit boards, providing oversight of governance, strategy, risk, brand, and stakeholder engagement in the mental health and arts sectors. With a background leading strategic marketing and communications teams across State Government, non-profit, corporate, and tertiary sectors, Ali brings extensive expertise in delivering and protecting organisational value.

In addition, there were three Board vacancies and three renominations: Vivian Molan, Libby Hewton and Professor Gary Martin.

*Motion: that Vivian Molan, Libby Hewton and Professor Gary Martin be elected as Board members of Volunteering WA for a final term of three years*

*Moved: Craig Spencer*

*Seconded: Ali Martin*

**Accepted**

Chair farewelled two extraordinary members of our Board whose tenure has come to an end after serving two full three-year terms.

Firstly, Pat Scally, Deputy Chair. Pat's knowledge and insight in technology and digital strategy have helped the organisation navigate a rapidly changing landscape, improving systems, processes, and overall digital capability. Pat's input has been critical in supporting both our staff and volunteers in their work.

Chair also extended heartfelt thanks to Karess Dias whose expertise and guidance in legal matters have been invaluable to the Board. In representing youth, navigating complex compliance issues and providing sound advice on governance matters, her contributions have strengthened the organisation in ways that will be felt for years to come.

On behalf of the Board, staff, volunteers, and members, Chair sincerely thanked both Pat and Karess for their commitment, wisdom, and generosity of time. Their dedication has made a lasting impact, and Volunteering WA is grateful for the leadership and perspective they've shared throughout their tenure.

## **9 Appointments**

### **9.1 Patron**

Volunteering WA Patron, His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia, Christopher John Dawson APM, 34<sup>th</sup> Governor of Western Australia and his wife Mrs Darrilyn Dawson will continue as joint Patrons for the duration of his term in office.

*Motion: that Volunteering WA Patrons, His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia, Christopher John Dawson APM, and his wife, Mrs Darrilyn Dawson will continue as joint Patrons for the duration of his term in office.*

**Accepted**

### **9.2 Honorary Solicitor**

David thanked Honorary Solicitor, Greg Paull for his continued support and advice, and the amount of time he so kindly spends working with VWA.

*Motion: that Greg Paull continue in the role of Honorary Solicitor for the next year.*

**Accepted**

### **9.3 Auditor**

This appointment was approved under item 7 – Treasurer's Report

## **10 General Business**

There were no items of general business.

## **11 Close of Meeting**

Chair closed the meeting and noted the State Conference on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> November. Chair extended an invitation to the final event of the year, The annual Garden Party which will be held at Government House on 4 December

Meeting closed at 10.00am

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# Appendix 1- List of apologies

Organisation	Name
Ability WA	Jacquie Thomson
Activate Mental Health	Rahul Seth
Auspire	Moran Lewis
Department Premier and Cabinet	Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA
EdConnect	Carol Shannon
Bushfire Volunteers	Shane Hart
City of Melville	Sarah Stephenson
City of Stirling	Sasha D'Silva
Department of Communities	Mike Rowe
Disability Assembly WA	Tony Vis
Government House – Patron	His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia, Christopher John Dawson APM
Government House - Patron	Mrs Darrilyn Dawson
HALO	Veronica Phillips
Honourable Solicitor	Greg Paull
Hope Community Services	Paul Hogan
Juniper	Helen Docherty
Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation	Alexandra Sinclair
Murdoch University	Dr Megan Paull
Motion By the Ocean	John Wood
Peel VRC	Vicki Pollard
People Who Care	Penny Webb
Salvation Army	Darrell Wilson
Volunteering WA	Donnelle Curnow
Volunteering WA	Louise Giles
Volunteering WA	Kirstin Hunter
Volunteering WA	Corina Stagg
Volunteering WA	Karla Hitchcock
Volunteering WA	Holly Hazel
Volunteering WA	Tara Doyle
Volunteering WA	Monika Takkel
Volunteering WA	Karla Hitchcock
Volunteering WA	Dominique Hansen
Volunteering WA	Jan Lucas
Volunteering WA	Robert Solomon
Volunteering WA	Julie Monument

Volunteering WA	Melanie Baker
Volunteering WA	Melanie Liddell
Volunteering WA – Board Director	Craig Hollywood
WA Museum	Luke Garner
WACOSS	Louise Giolitto