



**Stormwater Victoria
Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**Microsoft Teams
Monday 8th September 2025**

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ABN: 13 151 464 564

The 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Stormwater Victoria was held via Microsoft Teams from 12.05 pm until 12.40 pm on Monday 8th September 2025.

1. MEETING CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Alice Lisitsa, Stormwater Victoria President, welcomed members and guests to the AGM and gave an Acknowledgement of Country. She thanked those who were members of the Stormwater Victoria Committee for 2024 – 2025 and welcomed new members of the committee for 2025-2026.

2. ATTENDANCE

Aaron Dowling Alice Lisitsa Alison Rickard Andrew Cooper Atoosa Towzihian Belinda Hatt Caterina Paganelli Chris Beardshaw Emily Plymin Fei Thim Yong Jack Bowman Jamie Comley Jamie Tainton Julia Baumann Karl Velasco Kurt Jensen Larissa Aguiar Leticia Da Silva Pinto Lily Dorraj
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Mahima Sivaji
Neha Shetty
Peter Woodman
Ruth McDonnell
Stephanie Brown
Sumari Veal
Suresh Bajracharya
Zaki Matar

APOLOGIES AND PROXIES

Name	Organisation	Proxy to
Nil	Nil	Nil

No apologies were tabled at the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF 2024 STORMWATER VICTORIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resolution: That the Minutes of AGM held on Monday 2 September 2024 to be confirmed.

MOVED: Sumari Veal

SECONDED: Julia Baumann

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes of the 2024 AGM.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence tabled at the Annual General Meeting.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As this year draws to a close, I am honoured to present my second annual report as President of Stormwater Victoria. It has been a year of great progress, collaboration, and collective achievement.

At the outset, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated committee whose tireless efforts have driven every success recorded in this report. Their willingness to volunteer their time, energy, and expertise has kept Stormwater Victoria at the forefront of advocacy and innovation. I also thank our members, who continue to



place their trust in us, and the broader industry, whose openness to collaboration ensures that our work has reach and impact well beyond our immediate community. It is this combined effort that makes our association so strong.

Policy and Advocacy: Strengthening Our Voice

This year has also seen our policy and advocacy team working with remarkable dedication to advance industry guidelines and strengthen Stormwater Victoria's voice within the sector. Through regular engagement with regulators, councils, and partner organisations, the team has ensured our members' perspectives are represented where it matters most. Importantly, we have deepened our understanding of member demographics and emerging priorities, allowing us to tailor resources, events, and communications to better serve the breadth of our community. By combining technical leadership with genuine connection to our members, this work continues to position Stormwater Victoria as a trusted advocate and an essential bridge between practitioners, decision-makers, and policy.

Advancing Flood Impact Practice with Melbourne Water

This year marked an important technical milestone with our contribution to a new Melbourne Water practice note. By recognising the need for a risk-based approach and the complexity of flood impact beyond the long-standing standard of "zero afflux," this guidance paves the way for a more nuanced and future-focused approach to flood impact assessment that accounts for the needs of our growing population. This collaboration demonstrates how Stormwater Victoria can play a bridging role between regulators, practitioners, and policy makers, helping to ensure that flood management practice is robust, contemporary, and reflective of Victoria's evolving urban challenges.

Strengthening Relationships: A New Alliance with FMA

Another highlight has been the broadening of our industry relationships. We have established a strong and growing partnership with the Flood Management Association (FMA), Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) and others. These friendships are already bearing fruit, creating opportunities for cross-industry dialogue on flooding and stormwater management. By linking the expertise of both organisations, we are amplifying our collective voice and strengthening our ability to advocate for integrated solutions.



Conference in Wangaratta: More Than the Sum of Our Parts

Our 2025 State Conference in Wangaratta was one of our most successful yet. Under the theme “More than the Sum of Our Parts: the Value of Collective Action,” the event gathered delegates from across Victoria and interstate to share knowledge, build networks, and celebrate innovation. With more than 45 presentations, three pre-conference workshops, and a post-conference technical tour, the program reflected both the depth and diversity of our industry. The conference also provided a space for meaningful conversations about the challenges of climate resilience, urban development, and water quality. It was inspiring to see the energy in the room as professionals from different sectors came together to seek shared solutions. The success of this event is a credit to our Conference Committee, volunteers, and partners, and I thank them for delivering an outstanding program.

Victorian Urban Drainage Manual (VUDM): Governance in Action

The Victorian Urban Drainage Manual (VUDM) is moving from vision into reality. Over the past year we have established a governance board and launched a dedicated website, which will become the home for consultation, resources, and industry engagement. The writing of the manual is now underway, thanks to the trust, support and generous funding from DEECA. Once completed, the VUDM will provide a consistent, authoritative reference for practitioners across the state, something our industry has needed for many years.

Stormwater Australia Board Refresh and SQIDEP

A major structural change occurred at the national level with the dissolution and reformation of the Stormwater Australia Board. Once again, representation is drawn directly from member states. I am pleased to be joined by Aaron Dowling in representing Victoria and am honoured to have been elected as Chair of this new Stormwater Australia Board.

Among many of our plans, this change creates new opportunities to refine the Stormwater Quality Improvement Device Evaluation Protocol (SQIDEP). By strengthening both the technical underpinnings and the governance arrangements, we aim to deliver greater clarity and confidence in how water quality devices are assessed across Australia. With more transparency and industry ownership, SQIDEP can evolve into the fair, reliable, and nationally consistent framework it was always intended to be.

Technical Events: Building Knowledge and Connection



Throughout the year, we have hosted several technical events covering diverse topics, ranging from modelling and urban design to regulatory updates and asset management. These events not only support professional development but also foster the kind of networking and peer-to-peer learning that strengthens our community. I extend my gratitude to the Technical Events Subcommittee for their creativity and commitment in curating engaging programs, and to our members for their ongoing participation.

Looking Ahead

Reflecting on this year, I am deeply proud of the collective strides we have made. From influencing best practice in flood management, to advancing the VUDM, to reshaping our national structures, Stormwater Victoria continues to punch above its weight.

Looking forward, our priorities include:

- To consolidate partnerships that give our industry a stronger voice in urban water policy and planning.
- To ensure the delivery of the VUDM as a living, practical tool for practitioners.
- To play a proactive role in the refinement of SQIDEP so that our industry has the clarity it needs to deliver effective outcomes.
- To continue supporting members through high-quality events, resources, and opportunities for collaboration.

At the heart of our progress is the remarkable generosity of knowledge and spirit within our industry. Time and again I see professionals willing to mentor, to share lessons learned, and to work across organisational boundaries for the greater good. This culture of openness is our greatest strength, and one we must continue to foster as we welcome the next generation of *Stormies* into our sector.

Together, we can ensure that stormwater is not just managed, but valued as a vital resource—supporting sustainable communities and resilient environments across Victoria.

Thank you for your support, your expertise, and your passion. I look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

Alice Lisitsa
President, Stormwater Victoria

Resolution: That the President's Report be accepted.

MOVED: Suresh Bajracharya
SECONDED: Aaron Dowling



7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Comments on Stormwater Victoria's accounts for the 2024-2025 financial year as follows:

- As of the 30 June 2025, the Association's total assets were \$285,802 with our total liabilities at \$33,445 leaving net assets at \$252,357.
- For reference, as of 30 June 2024, our net assets were \$218,527.
- The Association had an income of \$134,252. Our main sources of income in 2024/25 were: Memberships - \$39,890; Conference Revenue - \$41,873; Events - \$1,360; and Sponsorships and Grants - \$49,500.
- The association had expenses totalling \$97,284, which mostly consisted of our Secretariat fees, Consultancy fees for the preparation of VUDM, Conference and Events expenses, as well as our national levy to SIA for which we paid \$2,341.
- This financial year we made a surplus of \$5,140.
- Our membership uptake continues to remain strong. We've had a very active year with our webinars, the state conference, technical tours, advocacy and special projects, and have once again shown value to our members. The outlook for the coming year is extremely positive.
- The Association will lodge the current tax return to the end of June 2025, by the end of September. The full Stormwater Victoria Audit Report and Financial Statements are included in the Stormwater Victoria Annual Report.
- It is with a heavy heart that Sumari Veal resigned from the role of Treasurer, a position which was held 2023 to 2025 due to relocation to Western Australia. We welcome Suresh Bajracharya as Treasurer for the period 2025 to 2027.

Sumari Veal
Treasurer Stormwater Victoria

7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE AND OFFICE BEARERS

As per the Rules of Association, all members of the 2024/2025 Stormwater Victoria Management Committee were required to step down at the end of their term.

Executive roles (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) are two-year positions. At this time:

- The roles of **President**, **Treasurer**, and **Secretary** are vacant.
- The **Vice President** position continues, with one year remaining in the current term.



The following members of the 2024/2025 Committee have stepped down or chose not to renominate:

- Sumari Veal
- Alison Rickard
- Alan Davidson
- Emily Plymin
- Sadaf Haghiri
- Sarah Law

With **22 nominations received** for the 2025/2026 Committee, an electronic election was held. The successful candidates elected to Stormwater Victoria for 2025/2026 are listed below:

Name	Organisation	Position
Alice Lisitsa	BG&E	President
Julia Baumann	Dalton Consulting Engineers	Vice President (Year 2)
Suresh Bajracharya	South East Water	Treasurer
TBA	TBA	Secretary
Aaron Dowling	E2Designlab	Committee Member
Andrew Cooper	Maroondah City Council	Committee Member
Belinda Hatt	Melbourne Water	Committee Member
Cameron Walsh	Water Technology	Committee Member
Caterina Paganelli	BECA	Committee Member
Fei Thim Yong	City of Greater Geelong	Committee Member
Jack Bowman	Afflux	Committee Member
Jamie Comley	Jamie Comley & Associates	Committee Member
Karl Velasco	SMEC	Committee Member
Kirsten Fearn-Wannan	Spiire	Committee Member
Leticia Da Silva Pinto	E2Designlab	Committee Member
Neha Shetty	Arup	Committee Member
Peter Woodman	GHD	Committee Member
Ruth McDonnell	Yarra Valley Water	Committee Member



Zaki Matar	Foresight Advisory	Committee Member
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Nomination of Office Bearers

Nominations were tabled for the available Executive Committee position.

- Alice Lisitsa has been re-elected in the role of President unopposed
- Julia Baumann continues her role of Vice President
- Suresh Bajracharya has been elected to the role of Treasurer unopposed.
- No nomination has been received for the role of Secretary at this time.

Resolution: That the nominations for the Stormwater Victoria Committee be accepted.

MOVED: Julia Baumann

SECONDED: Belinda Hatt

8. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

This item was deferred to a Special General Meeting to be held before 31st December 2025.

MOVED: Not applicable

SECONDED: Not applicable

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business arising from the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting for Stormwater Victoria will be held on the 15th September 2026 via Microsoft Teams.

13. CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the President, Alice Lisitsa closed the meeting at 12.41 pm.

These minutes form a true record of the business of the Stormwater Victoria Annual General Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025



Prepared by: Julie McGraw, GEMS

Date: Monday 8th September 2025