



AGFORCE QUEENSLAND FARMERS LIMITED

7th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, 16 November 2022 commencing at 11:00am

Mt Isa Civic Centre 23 West Street, Mt Isa 4825.

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

There being a quorum present, the Meeting proceeded in accordance with the Constitution at 11.05am.

Georgie Somerset, General President (GS), welcomed all AgForce members and observers to the 7th Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited.

Attendance for the Meeting is recorded in accordance with the Attendance Register signed by attendees on entry with 35 Members attending in person, 7 Members attending via Teams and 5 guests.

A full list of attendees is attached.

Apologies:

- Larry Acton

2. CONFIRMATION OF PROXIES

Member proxies totalling 14 were received and were directed as follows:

10 Proxies	Directed to the Chair
3 Proxies	Directed to John Baker
1 Proxy	Directed to Russell Hall

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting held on 3 November 2021 were presented to the members. The Minutes were made available for members to review on the AgForce website and on arrival at the meeting.

RESOLUTION: That the Minutes of the 6th Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited held on 3 November 2021 be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

MOVED: Bim Struss

SECONDED: Kelly Ostwald

4. REPORT FROM THE GENERAL PRESIDENT

GS presented the General President report to the members, expressing her gratitude for the opportunity to continue representing AgForce and to lead the way for members while embracing our foundations, standing strong together in the face of future challenges.

GS acknowledged the elders past, present and emerging, and those who have led our agricultural organisations and rural communities over many years.

GS discussed the global challenges of livestock emissions, the significance of passing on positive agricultural discussions to the next generation, and the importance of strengthening our advocacy work and standing together on climate change. GS expressed how enormously proud and excited she was of what has been achieved to date and looks forward to challenges for the next two years with a renewed Board of Directors.

GS acknowledged the current AgForce Board members, commodity boards, regional councils, and policy committees for their dedication and hard work on behalf of their respective industries.

GS acknowledged the outgoing Directors, Cattle Board President Will Wilson, Cane Board President Ricky Mio, and Sheep, Wool and Goats Board President Michael Pratt, as well as the change in the North Director role. GS acknowledged Des Bolton and Matt Bennetto for their service to the North region. In the South-West acknowledgement for former Director Chris Evans who we farewelled last year.

GS welcomed new commodity presidents Peter Hall (Cattle), Russell Hall (Cane), and Stephen Tully (Sheep Wool and Goats), as well as North President and Director Shane McCarthy, to the AgForce Board.

GS acknowledged Brendan Taylor for staying on as Grains Board President, John Baker for his work and for being deputy chair, Kelly Ostwald, Bim Struss, Christine Hayward, and James Henderson for their commitment to AgForce's governance and leadership.

GS provided an overview of the AgForce Board and Governance Structure:

AgForce continues to grow in size and influence, with over a 100 of our members volunteering their time and knowledge to policy development and advocacy work.

Our Governance structure is designed to ensure the views of all members regardless of the commodities they produce or the Queensland region where they live, all members are considered when policy is developed, with the policy positions being the foundation to our critical advocacy work.

Our Young Producers' Council is an energetic, forward-thinking, commercially minded group of 18 to 40 year old producers who are passionate about Queensland's agricultural industry.

We established the Natural Resources, Ag Business, Biosecurity, Workforce and Safety, and Reef committees in 2020.

Members and corporate partners who serve on AgForce committees consider current and emerging issues as well as member resolutions and provide advice to the Board, that is ultimately responsible for AgForce's policy positioning.

Some of our key achievements in 2022 include:

- Developing AgCarE and testing it on 62 properties to make it 'market ready' and available to members as a fee-for-service.
- Ensuring the 2022 review of the Reef Scientific Consensus Statement will consider peer-reviewed industry publications alongside reef water quality publications.
- Along with corporate partner IAG, seeing farm insurance providers place a 'landholder indemnity clause' in policies to allow ongoing offers of insurance critical to farming operations intersected by resource sector activity.
- Producing an industry vision for sheep, wool, and goats with the development of the industry Blueprint to enhance the growth of the Queensland sheep and goat industries.
- AgForce has also put in enormous time and effort at national, state, and regional levels to help prepare industry and government for a possible incursion of Foot and Mouth or Lumpy Skin Diseases.

Fast facts – this year we have:

- Written 419 letters to Stakeholders.
- Made eight submissions to Parliament and more than 26 other submissions.
- Attended 41 Ministerial and Shadow Ministerial meetings.
- Made four presentations at Parliamentary hearings.

Members, of course, are at the heart of everything AgForce does; our job is to make growing food and fibre as easy, profitable, and sustainable for members as possible. With AgForce membership numbers now at 6,500 and growing, GS thanked members for believing in AgForce, entrusting us to advocate for you, and for everything you continue to do for your local communities across Queensland and Australia.

GS said it is an enormous privilege to be President and looks forward to serving members during the next twelve months, hoping to also have the chance to serve many of your colleagues and friends as you introduce them to the benefits of AgForce membership.

RESOLUTION: That the General President's report of activities for the year be adopted.

MOVED: John Baker

SECONDED: Kelly Ostwald

5. REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The CEO presented his report to the members noting the organisation has grown stronger in the last year, both financially and operationally, as well as in its advocacy and representation efforts.

Acknowledgements

“Thank you to our sponsors and partners. These vital stakeholders contribute not only financially but also in kind to your organisation and its members. They are proud to have their brand alongside ours, and they want to collaborate with us to advance sustainable agriculture.

Thank you to all of our members, AgForce is one of Australia's strongest State Farming Organisations, this is reflected in how many of you volunteer your time and intellect on various boards, councils, committees, and task forces. This support enables us to advocate and lobby far more effectively than would otherwise be possible.

To everyone at AgForce, thank you for your incredible energy, professionalism, commitment, talent, and dedication. I would like to formally thank you for your support of me and the organisation over the last year. We could not have accomplished so much this year without your help.

The year in review

Among my personal highlights has been the launch of our ground-breaking AgCarE program, that has been one of our most important pieces of policy work ever!

With Australia joining the Global Methane Pledge, there has never been a better time to get ahead of carbon emissions.

By adopting a 'natural capital' approach to working with agricultural landscapes, we have created a way for landowners to assess their natural capital condition and potentially diversify their income streams through a variety of market opportunities.

Moving now to the AgForce results of the financial year that ended 30 June 2022 showing that the Consolidated Group comprising AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited has resulted in a deficit of \$412,959 (FY2022: deficit of \$37,721 before depreciation and amortisation).

Included in this result is a:

- 17 per cent increase in membership income
- 9.8 per cent increase in commission income
- \$497,905 increase in project funds held for future work.

The prior year comparison resulted in a deficit of \$130,557 (FY2021: surplus of \$231,717 before depreciation and amortisation).”

6. CONSIDER AND ADOPT THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

The financial results for the period ending 30 June 2022 were made available to members with a summary of key financial items discussed.

RESOLUTION: That the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022 be adopted.

MOVED: John Baker

SECONDED: Bim Struss

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS AND APPROVAL OF AUDITORS REMUNERATION

The Meeting was then opened for questions relating to the financial report.

RESOLUTION: That BDO be appointed as Auditor for the 2022-2023 financial year.

MOVED: John Baker

SECONDED: Kelly Ostwald

RESOLUTION: That the Auditor's remuneration of \$49,500 ex GST for the 2022-2023 financial year be approved

MOVED: John Baker

SECONDED: Shane McCarthy

8. DECLARATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Georgie Somerset – General President

Brendan Taylor – President AgForce Grains

Russell Hall – President AgForce Cane

Peter Hall – President AgForce Cattle

Stephen Tully – President AgForce Sheep, Wool and Goats

Shane McCarthy – North Regional Director and President

John Baker – Central Regional Director and President

Kelly Ostwald – South East Regional Director

Anthony Struss – Southern Inland Regional Director

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

GS opened the Meeting for any other business to be raised by members.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the 7th Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited closed at 11.45am

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Georgie Somerset – Chair