



## **AGFORCE QUEENSLAND FARMERS' LIMITED**

### **5th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, 18 November 2020 at 11.00am**

**Belmont Research Station, 887 Etna Creek Road, Rockhampton**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions**

Georgie Somerset, General President, welcomed all AgForce members and observers to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited.

**Agenda Item 2 – Attendance and Apologies**

Attendance for the Meeting is recorded in accordance with the Attendance Register signed by attendees on entry.

**Attendance:**

29 Members in person, 7 Members via Zoom and 9 guests.

A full list of attendees is attached.

**Apologies:**

- Ricky Mio
- Lyn Kelman
- Greg Bryant
- Mark Davie
- Larry Acton
- Hilary Kenny
- Steve Lacey
- Sharon Naggs
- Aleisha Pisaturo
- James Pisaturo
- Andy Hawkins
- Ainsley MacArthur
- Jacqui Cannon

18 proxies were received and were directed as follows:

6 Proxies	Directed to the Chair
7 Proxies	Directed to Bim Struss
1 Proxy	Directed to Caroline Harris
3 Proxies	Directed to John Baker
2 Proxies	Directed to Will Wilson

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

**Agenda Item 3 – Minutes of 2019 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 29 November 2019 were presented to the members. The Minutes were made available for members on the AgForce website and on arrival.

**RESOLUTION: That the Minutes of the 4th Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited held on 29 November 2019 be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**MOVED: Alan Rae      SECONDED: Chris Evans**

**Agenda Item 4 – General President's Report**

Georgie Somerset, General President (GS), presented her report to the members expressing how proud she is to be representing AgForce.

GS acknowledged the outgoing Board Members, Alan Rae – Sheep & Wool President (AR), Robyn Bryant – Southern Inland Regional Director (RB), Tracy Finnegan - South East Regional President (TF) and Independent Director – Heidi Cooper (HC) recognising their significant contribution and time provided to AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited.

GS introduced three new Directors to the AgForce Board, Kelly Ostwald – South East Regional President (KO), Michael Pratt – Sheep & Wool President (MP) and Anthony (Bim) Struss – Southern Inland Regional Director (AS), expressing her appreciation of their ongoing commitment to the organisation.

GS welcomed AgForce's new commodity, AgForce Cane Limited and acknowledged the leadership of Rick Mio – AgForce Cane President (RM), Laurence Dal Santo – Deputy President (LD), Russell Hall – Cane Director (RH) and Peter Papadimitriou – Cane Director (PP) noting Cane is becoming a strong contributor to the AgForce family.

GS outlined AgForce's Board structure:

- Four Commodity Board Presidents who ensure the voice of each commodity is heard and considered within AgForce Board discussions.
- Regional Directors who reflect agriculture, landscapes and issues of the regions across Queensland.
- Independent Director, Christine Hayward and her experience in commerce and corporate governance has contributed to our goal of creating a more robust and accountable corporate structure and operation.
- Policy Committees who are passionate in their areas of expertise, listening to what members want and providing leadership in developing policies for the Board to consider. Their ongoing commitment and support throughout the year is acknowledged.

GS expressed her condolences to members of the AgForce family who have passed away during the year, including John Pratt and Bill Loughnan, who had both contributed significantly to the organisation and industry.

**Other matters noted in the General President's Report:**

- Membership continues to rise and is currently around 5,600 – a significant proportion of Queensland's broadacre producers and a lift in membership during the year.
- AgForce has written 482 formal letters to key stakeholder, made 18 submissions to parliament, held 32 formal ministerial meetings contributed to 11 Parliamentary hearing and invested \$1,396,258 of AgForce Members' money into Queensland's premier agriculture policy unit.
- 121 producers and industry specialists supported by 40 staff, developed and presented comprehensive policies across priority areas, engaged with national and peak industry bodies to influence national policy and stood up for issues important to our industry in Queensland.
- AgForce's Landscape Management policy, which has been carefully and painstakingly developed over many years, was accepted by the LNP in full. It represented their landscape policy going into the 2020 election.
- Acknowledgment was provided to John De Kloot and Peter Mahoney who have chaired the Landscape Management Committee and given so generously of their time.
- AgForce continues its 10-year campaign to have the Government's vegetation management laws completely overhauled.
- AgForce has been at the forefront of negotiations with the Federal and State Governments to highlight the worsening drought conditions in Queensland.
- #standwithregqld campaign will be a continuing focus as we further our endeavours to influence government and build a stronger understanding in the wider Queensland community of the benefits and opportunities our industry brings for this State's environment, growth and jobs prospects and social and economic prosperity.
- GS thanked members for their continued support and for entrusting AgForce to advocate for them and to deliver long-form policy outcomes and highlighted the amazing job producers are doing.

**RESOLUTION: That the General President's Report be adopted.**

**MOVED: Robyn Bryant**

**SECONDED: Will Wilson**

*\* A short presentation was made to outgoing Board Members Robyn Bryant and Alan Rae.*

### **Agenda Item 5 – Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Michael Guerin, Chief Executive Officer (MG) presented his report to the members acknowledging AgForce's sponsors and partners who are an important and valued part of AgForce and continue to support the organisation and our members.

#### **1. Platinum Sponsors**

Toyota  
Telstra  
IAG/WFI

#### **2. Gold Sponsors**

Sunsuper  
IOR Petroleum  
FMC

#### **3. Silver Sponsors**

Clipex  
Olssons  
Polaris  
FTI Consulting  
McCullough Robertson  
ISUZU

MG acknowledged AgForce members who have generously given their time and intellect on Boards, Councils, Committees and task forces and to the AgForce staff who have given their energy, commitment, dedication and support to the organisation during the year.

MG noted two announcements to be officially made on 1 January 2021:

- 1 To recognise the need to continue to grow our focus on the next generation, AgForce has formed the Young Producers Council, noting this Council will give a specific voice to and pathway for young producers.
- 2 The addition of two new corporate partners, Nutrien who join as a Platinum Level Partner and Suncorp as a Silver level Partner.

MG discussed the membership review and strategic plan goals inviting members to provide their views and input for the development for the 2021/2024 year

MG acknowledged the strong engagement and support received from members on a wide range of issues and looked forward to continuing to serve members in the year ahead.

### **Agenda Item 6 – Consider and adopt the Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2020**

The financial results for the period ending 30 June 2020 were made available as members entered the Meeting with a summary of key financial items discussed.

An expression of thanks was also provided to the BDO Audit Partner who was unable to attend the Meeting.

The Meeting was then opened for questions relating to the Financial Report.

Q. Ivan Naggs (IN) – If the Cane transaction did not happen, does that mean, there would have been a loss?

A. MG – Yes that is correct Ivan. It would have resulted in a loss.

Q. Kim Bremner (KB) – Why were sponsorship and grants down \$1,000,000?

A. MG – This relates to the continued decision by the business to focus on its core advocacy work and activities aligned to our current strategic plan rather than broader project activities as has been the case in the past.

Q. KB – Why did the investment portfolio drop by \$1,000,000 in the year under review?

A. MG – There are two parts 1) investing in and funding a cash deficit for the investment pieces and 2) around the share market performance

Q. IN – Would like to see an interim profit and loss at the 6-month mark for the next twelve months

A. GS – That should not be an issue and will be put on the agenda.

Q. Alex Stubbs (AS) – Where does the income from the Maranoa Graziers and Central & Northern Trusts appear where it is reported in the line item?

A. Brett Cameron – Financial Controller (BC) – It is listed under distributions received as an asset

**RESOLUTION: That the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 be adopted.**

**MOVED: John Baker**

**SECONDED: Robyn Bryant**

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Appointment of Auditors and Approval of Auditor's Remuneration**

**RESOLUTION: That BDO be appointed as Auditor for the 2020-2021 financial year.**

**MOVED: Brendan Taylor**

**SECONDED: John Baker**

**RESOLUTION: That the Auditor's remuneration of \$39,000 for the 2021-2022 financial year be approved**

**MOVED: Ivan Naggs**

**SECONDED: Chris Evans**

#### **Agenda Item 8 – General Business**

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

There being no further business, the Chair declared the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of AgForce Queensland Farmers Limited closed at 12.00pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair – Georgie Somerset