



**Minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting
Of the Australian Alpaca Association
Held virtually via zoom 1603 (AESTD)
31 October 2021**

Attendees:

Brett Fallon	Prue Walduck	Deborah Hein
Lee Sadler	Sue Harris	Julie Wilkinson
Anne-Marie Ashton-Wyatt	Mick Williams	Carolyn Austin
John Harris	Kevin Ekendahl	Susanne Maynard
Lynda Holdsworth	Michelle Malt	Janie Forrest
Paul Maslen	Beverly Burns	Paul Haslin
Francis Haslin	Rubey Williams	Kerryn Burns
Deb Redelman	Lyn Dickson	John Hay
Cheryl McGowan	Colin Milner	Katy Armson-Graham
Andrew Munn	Nic Holdsworth	

Non-Voting Attendees: Rubey Williams

Apologies: The following apologies were provided on the day of the meeting, no apologies were received prior to the commencement of the meeting:

Sarah Wheeler	Ian Burns	Ada Milley
Geoff McGowan-Lay	Bronwyn Munn	Liz Coles
Rosemary Eva		

Pauline Glasser provided an apology to the AAA Office manager via email after the conduct of the AGM on the 1st of November.

Following an Acknowledgement to Country and welcome to members, the President Brett Fallon declare the 15th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Alpaca Association open at 1605 (AEDST).

The notice of the meeting was tabled, the Company Secretary confirmed that the notice of the meeting and required documentation was distributed to all members in accordance with the AAA Constitution. The AGM pack included a link to all relevant documents including the President and Treasurers reports and the Audited financial statements. The Company Secretary read the list of attendees present at that time and confirmed that a quorum 20 eligible voting members were present.

The Company Secretary confirmed that no proxies had been received by the deadline articulated in the AGM Notice.

1. Confirmation of 2020 minutes of the meeting

The President asked if any member had any concerns or objections with the minutes as presented, no issues or concerns were raised. The President asked that the minutes as



presented by accepted and confirmed by a member who was present at the 14th AGM as a correct record of the meeting.

M21M1: The minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Alpaca Association be confirmed.

Moved: Carolyn Austen

Seconded: Prue Walduck

Carried

2. Presidents Report

Brett Fallon provided the meeting with an overview of his Presidents Report. Additional highlights for the year included:

- A new tiered biosecurity program (Alpaca CheQA) nearing consultation phase.
- The Sustainability Framework has progressed admirably and is due to start consultation phase imminently.
- Richard Dixon sponsorship was awarded last year and is again available for veterinarian students' alpaca projects.
- Genetic research project funded with Curtin University on colour intensity.
- Ealpaca enhancements to include Youth and other events
- As of the 19th November the leasehold office space that is currently operating as the National Office in Canberra will be relinquished. There will be minimal impact for members with this change, as office operating hours and the postal address remain unchanged.

The President moved that his Presidents Report be accepted by the membership.

M21M2: The Presidents Report be accepted by the membership.

Moved: Prue Walduck

Seconded: Lee Sadler

Carried

3. Treasurer's Report

Carolyn Austen as the previous Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report to the membership. Carolyn noted that the company finished the year with a consolidated company profit of \$69,237 (as reflected in the Audited Financial statements). Carolyn noted that as the Treasurer she presented to the Board in early June 2021, a balanced Fiscally Prudent Budget for the upcoming financial year - that budget has subsequently been ratified & approved as an operational base. This budget does however have serious impacts for a number of the AAA activities:

- No Capitation for Regions in the current year
- Limited Judges Travel support for Regions
- Limited judges training funding

Support of Members Education Currently Memberships and Registrations and Transfers are lagging behind those ratified Budget Estimates, despite the initial budgets being conservative. Consequently a further revised Budget forecast is being prepared for review by the Board to reflect those shortfalls.

All Regions have adequate Balances in their Regional Accounts and most have further funds in their Regional Investment Reserve Accounts.

The AAA does have a sound financial basis with:

- The Asset of the Building in Melbourne which still income producing.



- Currently Cash at Bank amounts – held both Centrally & at the Regional Level are adequate

With the assistance of Finance Audit and Risk Committee (FARC) we are looking at all AAA cost centres to ensure we continuously strive to improve the Associations financial position by a review of outgoings. This will help secure the financial position of the AAA through what could be another tumultuous Covid effected 2022.

A question arose in regard to the number of members this year as compared to last year? The membership is approximately 20% down on last year, it is hoped that as upcoming birthing season approaches membership may increase.

Kevin Ekendahl thanked Carolyn for her term as the Treasurer on behalf of the membership and also thanked her for stepping up taking on the role of the AAA Finance Officer at no cost to the membership.

The President moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted by the membership

M21M3: The Treasurers Report be accepted by the membership.

Moved: Prue Walduck

Seconded: Lee Sadler

Carried

(poll 24 in favour 5 abstained)

4. Audited Financial Statements, and Auditor's Report of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2021.

The current Treasurer, Mick Williams, presented the Audited Financial Statements to the membership for consideration.

The President moved that the Audited Financial Statements be accepted by the membership.

M21M4: The Audited Financial Statements be accepted by the membership.

Moved: Kevin Ekendahl

Seconded: Keryn Burns

Carried

(poll 24 in favour, 5 abstained)

5. Election of Directors

For the position of Director there are four nominations for four vacancies that are duly appointed as Directors under the AAA Constitution as follows:

- Ms Julie Wilkinson
- Ms Lee Sadler
- Dr Sue Harris
- Ms Annemarie Ashton-Wyatt

6. Remuneration of Auditor

The membership was asked to consider and agree that the remuneration of the Company's Auditors for the financial year ending 20 June 2022 be determined by the Board as the next Board meeting to be held.

The issue of the cost of the Auditor was raised by the membership with clarification being sought as to why the AAA was required to pay for an auditor to review the financial statements each year at significant expense. The President and members of the Board explained that due



to the type of company that the AAA is (Company Limited by Guarantee) there are a number of legislatively imposed requirements placed on the company by ASIC, having an auditor being one of the them. It was also explained that that the FARC had conducted the procurement process to appoint the current auditor and the cost is comparable to other tenders received. This auditor has one more year on contract with the AAA at that point another process will be conducted to test the market in an effort to keep costs as low as possible for members.

M21M4: That the remuneration of the Company Auditors for the financial year ending 30 June 2022 be determined by the board at the next Board Meeting.

Moved: Kevin Ekendahl

Seconded: John Harris

Carried
(poll 24 in favor, 1 Against, 4 abstained)

7. Presentation of Member Awards

The President awarded the following awards:

National Certificates of Appreciation

The following members were notably awarded with Certificates of Appreciation:

- Paul Haslin – 2021 National Show Co-Convenor, for his contribution even though the Show was cancelled due to COVID.
- Lyn Dickson – 2021 National Show Co-Convenor, for her contribution even though the Show was cancelled due to COVID.
- Neil Daniell – for his ongoing contribution to alpaca traceability and NLIS over the last 15 years.
- Maggie Thuoeay, the 2021 National Show accommodation provider, for her support and understanding given the Show was cancelled due to COVID.

Further Certificates of Appreciation were awarded by their respective Regions, including;

- Mark Short – South Australia
- Noel and Cathy Reid – SQNNSW

The Shane Read Medal

Outstanding national contribution to the Australian alpaca industry by a volunteer is recognised through an annual volunteering medal called the Shane Read Medal. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge and honor an exceptional volunteer for their achievement, contribution, service and leadership.

Criteria for the Shane Read medal are:

- Length of service in a volunteering capacity
- Sustained contribution to the industry in terms of time, effort and commitment
- Active participation and involvement in multiple facets of the industry
- Positive promotion of the industry
- Have enthusiastically been an advocate and ambassador for the AAA
- Display of values including teamwork, honesty and integrity

The 2021 recipient for the Shane Read Medal is John Hay.

- John has been a stalwart of the Hawkesbury & now NSW Region for decades.
- John & his partner Sue have operated Gunnamatta Alpaca stud with the AAA since 1993.
- John is always the first to volunteer.



- He is our number one Master of Ceremonies! John has a remarkable talent for commentating, and is well known for his fashion parade & auction commentaries on behalf of the AAA for decades – his voice is unmistakable.
- John has been a volunteer at an endless number of Regional, Sydney Royal and National Shows – as well as hosting numerous Regional events on farm.
- John often hides behind the scenes. Doesn't actively seek out recognition.
- Never more than the support he offers to fellow members. As an active member of the Rural Fire Service, John has been noted to quietly support members in need post recent natural disasters .
- One of the real characters of our association and industry. A very worthy recipient for the Shane Read Medal. **Congratulations John.**

Life Membership

Janie Forrest was awarded Life Membership for her long-standing contribution to the Association in particular to alpaca youth development programs.

Janie Forrest under the banner Coolaroo began breeding alpacas in the USA in 1987, importing some of the first alpacas into Australia in 1988. Janie was among one of the foundation members of the AAA.

Her leadership and unwavering support of Youth in the alpaca industry became evident from the early 2000's with the Young Handler competitions spearheaded by Janie at the Camden and then Sydney Royal Easter Shows respectively. Janie's commitment to youth has never faltered. In 2011 she saw the need to rally support for youth programs with the long term benefit of the Alpaca Industry at heart. Through persuasion and sponsorship, Amanda VanDenBoss, an internationally qualified judge and fellow youth advocate travelled to Australia to commence the "formalities" of structuring competitions for youth. Youth Paraders in Australia was off and running! Workshops with key stakeholders were held at Coolaroo, engaging other passionate souls to the cause and the journey began.

In 2012 and annually since, Janie has opened her heart and home to countless young individuals to share her love of Alpacas with the Alpaca Youth Camps. She has inspired and motivated countless young people with tireless support, both emotionally and at times financially. Her belief in youth and encouraging growth through Alpacas is exceptional. Through this time, Janie has offered support to the AAA. Encouraged the development of Youth Groups, supported those Youth Groups to be self-governing, and fostered the strong connection between Alpaca Youth programs and the AAA.

For all the work that Janie has undertaken on behalf of the AAA with Alpaca Youth programs, Janie has been awarded the utmost honour of joining the ranks of the Life Members of the AAA.

Congratulations Janie.

8. General Business

No formal items were received prior to the AGM however the President open the floor to the membership to raise any items for discussion. The following items were raised:

- Michelle Malt raise the issue of the QAlpaca program benefits for those already part of the program. In the past the AAA would provide an annual report on Autopsy results that she found very useful in allowing QAlpaca members to know what sorts of issues were affecting the Australian Herd as a whole and what breeders should be aware

both nationally and regionally. For some reason this information is not being provided. Thus there is now no value being received for the costs both of QAlpaca membership and the associated costs of autopsies etc. The autopsy results continue to be provided to the AAA however not consolidated report is provided back. Carolyn Austen commented that the qualified vet who provides the analysis and consolidation of the autopsy results has not been available to do that, and she noted the importance of this information for breeders.

- Andrew Munn raised the issue of Alpaca Fleece Class Re-Registration – it was deemed to not be a AAA issue and Mick Williams indicated he would address it with Andrew personally offline.

In closing the President thanked the membership for their attendance and congratulated the award recipients. He said that everyone was working hard and we as an association are progressing in the right direction.

Prue took the opportunity to thank Brett on behalf of the Board and made the point that being the President of the AAA is not an easy role but that Brett is leading and setting the foundations in a difficult year.

The President declared the meeting closed at 1707 AEDT