



**Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting
of the Australian Alpaca Association
Held at the 95 Northbourne Ave Turner ACT at 12 midday
22 September 2018**

Attendees: Linda Davies; Lyn Dickson; Bob Kingwell; Kristine Jackson; Matthew Smith; John Harris; Sue Harris; Andrew Hulme; Ian Frith; Karen Caldwell; Chris Williams; Sharon Dawson; Kerry Dwyer; Chris Bailey; Pauline Glasser; Colin Glasser; Trevor Parry; Ian Preuss; Steve O'Keefe; Fiona Vanderbeek; Bill Mayne; Shane Read; Tim Toshack; Graham Lugg; Robert Errey; Jennifer Errey; Frances Haslin; Paul Haslin; Dale Brown; Cath Lukin; Debra Trostian; Steve Trostian; Frank Gelber; Julienne Gelber; Bredon Lukin; Greg Crease

Non-Voting Attendees: Colin Milner; Amanda Olthof

Apologies: Helen Kingswell; Ian Vanderbeek; Rob Harborne; Deb Smith; Tammy O'Keefe; Nick deBruyn; Charles Vella; Cheryl McGahey; Geoff McGahey; Stephen Rowley; Ann Parry; Jonathan Chia; Louise Holbrooke; Roy Menzies; Jennie Menzies; Deborah O'Neill; Kate Bailey; Michael Davis; Ros Davis; Jacki Waugh; Tim Blake; Julie Blake; Michelle Malt; Graeme Dickson; Rubey Williams; Mick Williams; Karen Williams; Angela Preuss;

The President declared the Annual General Meeting open at 12.01 pm

1. Confirmation of 2017 AGM minutes of meeting

Motion: The minutes of the 2017 AGM be confirmed.

Moved: Karen Caldwell

Seconded: John Harris

CARRIED

2. President's Report

Ian Frith provided the meeting with his President's Report. The President outlined the following achievements over the past year:

- The successful launch of eAlpaca, the AAA's purpose-built on-line membership, registry and show system, which also involved an update to the IAR rules and a revision of registration and transfer fees, with cost savings in most areas
- Strong relationships have been forged with senior personnel at the DAWR who have worked co-operatively with the Board in:
 - Opening an export route from Australia to Canada
 - Funding a trial into a test for Q-Fever which we hope will see the re-opening of the export route from Australia to New Zealand. This trial, being conducted by the EMAI and 100% funded by the DAWR.
 - Initiating the first steps towards a potential direct export route from Australia to the EU, with DAWR having opened communication channels with their EU counterparts.
- Two successful trade missions to China, which have resulted in orders for test bales of both huacaya and suri fibre and significant other interest expressed. Chinese representatives paid a reciprocal visit to the Australian Alpaca



Spectacular in August and through the development of strong ongoing relationships, we expect to see an increasing demand for Australian alpaca fibre for the Chinese market.

- The Board is actively pursuing alternative markets to protect the interests of our members and minimise the risk of being potentially geared to one market.
- Changes to some of the showing rules endorsed in December 2017 were made to bring the show ring more closely into alignment with the requirements of customers such as mechanized mills, and to ensure that mature animals in the show ring have proven breeding ability.
- A new Showing and Judging Committee with an excellent mix of skills was appointed early in 2018. The new Committee has had a positive impact with some major highlights including:
 - review of the Judges Code of Conduct;
 - the recent announcement of a transition from white coats to black shirts/vests as show ring attire
 - compilation of Showing and Judging Standard Operating Procedures for showing, animal checking, judge training.
 - a highly successful Judges Clinic;
 - the training of NZ judges
- Research projects on methods of castration in alpacas and internal parasites have both been concluded during the year, and a report on Alpaca Fleece Length Attributes for Processing and the Relationship with Assessment in the Show Ring was commissioned.
- A new Youth Education Committee, with representatives from all States, has been formed to strengthen all aspects of our alpaca youth program. The AYE Committee has its own Charter and has produced an updated Young Judging Manual.
- The relocation of our head office to Canberra, in the Animal Health Australia building, offers access to high class conference/meeting facilities and is located only minutes from DAWR and parliament house.

The President's report was noted as being received.

Questions from the floor were invited.

- Lyn Dickson asked about the levy on fleece and animal exports and how this would be policed. The guidelines have been offered to all members who may wish to take part.
- Jennifer Errey asked about AWEX accredited fleece classers. In the absence of a substantiated system, support through defined system of bale testing rather than classes AWEX stencil on the bale. The Board has been liaising with AWTA regarding core testing and bale testing requirements.
- Chris Bailey questioned the Board's commercial capacity regarding China. President explained that the role of the Association is to assist members but not be involved in direct selling of fleece, no brokering and no investment in any outside entity.
- Lyn Dickson questioned renewal of the AWEX contract for next year. President confirmed that the AWEX contract would be renewed.
- Ian Preuss questioned the office staffing and the proposed third staff member, suggested the use of Board committees. Third staff member proposed to focus on events and digital media.



3. Treasurer's Report, Audited Financial Statements, Directors' Report and Auditor's Report of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2018.

The Treasurer, Steve O'Keefe presented the Treasurer's report a small surplus of \$14,869 for the year, following the 2016/17 surplus of \$22,378 and significant losses for each of the 3 previous financial years. This was despite significant abnormal expenditure for the year related to staffing, office relocation and building maintenance.

Motion: That the Audited Financial Statements of the company for the year ended 30 June 2018 be received.

Moved: Trevor Parry Seconded: Chris Bailey **CARRIED**

4. Election of Directors

The President noted that four nominations had been received for two positions. An electronic ballot of members has been conducted through an independent polling service, TrueVote. The following nominees were declared as AAA Directors:

- a) Ian Preuss
- b) Trevor Parry

The President thanked Fiona Vanderbeek and Karen Caldwell for submitting their nominations. The President thanked Chris Williams and Fiona Vanderbeek for their time on the Board and their contribution during this time.

5. Remuneration of Auditor

Motion: That the remuneration of the Company's auditors for the financial year ending 30 June 2019 be determined by the Board at the next Board meeting held.

Moved: Shane Read Seconded: Kerry Dwyer **CARRIED**

6. General Business

- Julienne Gelber was presented with an Honorary Life Membership for her contribution to the industry.
- Lyn Dickson questioned a recent media article regarding sale of fibre to Turkey. President explained that this will be an additional avenue for fleece for mills from 2019. It will be open to all members of the AAA.

Meeting closed at 1.08pm.

Signed as correct record of meeting.

Chairperson.....
Date.....21 September 2019