



ROYAL AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 25 MARCH 2022, COMMENCING AT 11.30 AM

1. FINANCIAL MEMBERS

PRESENT

Mr AM Hardy (Chairman)
BTM Ashby, RD Battams, KA Bennett, CA Bennett, AL Bone, FA Brake, RJ Butler, TSG Buxton, MB Camac, T Camac, BA Cay, RP Coleman, MLJ Cooper, OF Croser, AS Daniel, IB Digby OAM, TJ Donaldson, AR Duncan, JG Duncan AM, PJ Elkin, SJ Fahey, PT Fanning, N Feeney, RW Fewster, HC Findlay, KH Follett, G Fuller, MC Gale, PW Godden, NM Hallion, LH Hart, RR Hart, RF Haynes, MN Hill-Smith, DJ Hubbard, GP Hyde, LC Jenkins OAM, AT Jones, P Karytinios, SJ Kay, GA Klatt, C Knezevic, J Kuys, PL Laffer AM, BJ Lush, BF McFarlane AM, EM McGee, K McIntyre, AJ Michael, J Middleton, DR Mutton JP, SG Nicholls, BC Octoman, G Octoman, G Pacitti, AS Pacitti, B Parker, S Parsonage, DM Pettman, AM Piggott, KE Porter, AJ Potter, JC Radcliffe AM, FTSE, DN Read, LC Richens, AL Robinson, SJ Ryan, IB Sanders, G Schulz OAM, ED Scott, MJD Scott ASM, OAM, WA Seppelt, PK Seppelt, DR Shannon, TL Shone, MP Siebert, RL Snewin, LM Stapylton, I Venning, AAT Walsh, HM Wells, GR White, AC Wilson, DP Wilson, PE Withers, RJ Wright and JF Ziesing OAM

2. IN ATTENDANCE

A Ford, H Herbst, H Hocking, K Holthouse, R Klar, J Philp, G Piggott, L Silva, A Thompons, JW Rothwell (Chief Executive) and KH Freund (Executive Assistant)

3. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Members, Councillors, Honorary Councillors and staff present at the meeting and extended a special welcome to Mr Geoff Edwards from BDO Australia.

4. APOLOGIES

Councillors

TE Ashby, GR Brand, RW Burdon, AG Burgess, PO Button, V Cappelletto, DH Copping, LJ Day, MJ Doecke, FL Donald, BJ Draper, A Fletcher, G Follett, CW Francis, MD Fullgrabe, JVE Gosse, JS Hall, KJ Laurie, RL Liebelt, CL Liebich, MD Llewellyn, AJ Lock, BW Mahomet, FJ McEvoy, RJ McFarlane, R Pincombe, SFJ Reidy, JW Richards, WJ Rowett, C Sayer, JE Schutz, EK Shaw, PP Smith, KD Stables, CJ Thompson, AN Wadlow, CK Wandel, NS Wittwer and FJ Young

Honorary Councillors

JS Ayers, BJ Beaumont, HJ Bone, TW Bowden OAM, RA Bowyer, GPC Day OAM, DW Fechner, RL Fiebiger, RG Fishlock, DW Freer, RJ Hedger, RJ Hunt, RA Jensen, CE Lienert OAM, JH Lloyd, IA McGowan, AM Michael, AS Murray, TM Ranford, MF Robertson, MK Smart, PGC Smith, DK Squiers, CJ Tindall RFD, LL.B., GL Trengove, MJ Wandel, MG Weston, IL Young and JW Young

Honorary Life Members

CM Downer, WH Duncan and RT Walsh AM

Members

R Clampett

5. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the the Annual General Meeting held on 26 March 2021, which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: N Feeney

Seconded: BF McFarlane

6. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOCIETY - including reports from Society Officers, Income Statements, Balance Sheet and Auditor's Report for the year ending 31 December 2021**

The Chairman presented a précis of the reports as published in the 2021 Annual Report:

“In last year’s Annual Report, I commented on the challenging circumstances faced by the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia (RA&HS) as the organisation weathered the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant cancellation of the 2020 Royal Show. Little did we know that another difficult year was on the horizon, arguably more challenging than the previous.

It was devastating having the 2021 Royal Adelaide Show cancelled just three weeks before it was due to begin. Much planning, hard work and financial investment had gone into ensuring the 2021 Show would be ‘COVID safe’, however advice from SA Health regarding the number of patrons that would be allowed on-site made it impossible and unviable to proceed.

It will take many years for the RA&HS to recover from the financial loss of two no-Shows, however the Federal Government’s \$25 million national support package for agricultural shows has provided some financial relief. This Government support for the second year in a row is highly valued, not only for the monetary relief it has provided the RA&HS and many other Show Societies, but because it recognises the importance of the agricultural show movement to Australia.

On a brighter note, it was wonderful to see several of our agricultural competitions and events proceed in 2021, including the Junior Heifer Expo, the Grain and Fodder Competition, the Adelaide Ram and Elite Sheep Sales, and the Rural Ambassador and Young Rural Ambassador Awards. A highlight was the Merino SA School Wethers Competition, held on September 8, which attracted 200-plus students from 38 schools, including first-timers Balaklava High School who participated thanks to a scholarship from the Show Society Education Foundation.

The RA&HS continued its support of the State Government’s efforts in navigating the COVID-19 pandemic by hosting the state’s largest vaccination centre at the Adelaide Showground. The Vaccination Centre grew from occupying the northern end of the Goyder Pavilion to increasing its footprint three-fold over a matter of months to accommodate the expanding reach of the vaccine programme and the vaccine booster rollout.

Despite the challenges presented by COVID, the Showground managed to host several events in 2021, including the Monster Truck Rumble, BBF HomeBrewed Festival, and the SA Caravan and Camping Expo. The Adelaide Showground also provided an ideal base for cars participating in the Adelaide Rally and continued to host the popular Adelaide Showground Farmers’ Market which attracted strong crowds throughout the year.

It was also great to see the Royal Adelaide Wine Show go ahead in October, attracting 2,756 entries from over 350 wineries across Australia. Congratulations to all medal and trophy winners, including Bay of Fires Pinot Noir 2020 which made history as the first Pinot Noir to win the Most Outstanding Red Wine in Show trophy.

From an infrastructure perspective, the RA&HS looks forward to the construction of the State Basketball Centre, which will provide a valuable new facility for the Royal Adelaide Show. Funded by a \$15 million investment from the State Government, the Centre will become the headquarters for Adelaide Lightning, Basketball SA, and SA Country

Basketball, and will be used by the RA&HS as a multi-purpose event space accommodating the Dog competition during the Show.

Another 'good news' story for 2021 has been the success of the Adelaide Showground Caravan Park, which exceeded its full-year revenue target. Though the park was closed on August 1 in preparation for the Show, the cancellation of the Show saw the park reopen to visitors on September 10 and, since then, it has been occupied every night.

In late 2021 we farewelled our much-loved patron, former Governor Hieu Van Le and his wife, Mrs Le, who will be remembered for their excellent work in advocating for and promoting the Royal Adelaide Show and Wine Show. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new patron of the RA&HS and Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC.

To look to the future, planning for the 2022 Royal Adelaide Show, scheduled for September 3 to 11, is full steam ahead, and we look forward to presenting an exciting and vibrant Show that will be long remembered as South Australia's biggest reunion.

The Society remained eligible for the JobKeeper extension in 2021, with funding of \$266,400 recorded in the financial year. Development work on the State Basketball Centre also commenced during 2021 with income of \$594,548 in grant funds provided by Basketball SA Inc to finance the capital costs incurred in 2021.

The Society was also invited to apply for funding under the Federal Government Supporting Agricultural Shows and Field Days Program, Round Two. In February 2022 the application was submitted and it is anticipated funding of approximately \$3million will be secured.

The Society's financiers continue to confirm their ongoing support, extending appropriate financing facilities to ensure the organisation will continue to operate viably into the future.

The Society is committed to sound financial management which allows it to fulfil its Charter and maximise its contribution to the success and promotion of Primary Industries in South Australia through the staging of events and rewarding excellence.

Finally, on behalf of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society Board, I would like to thank our staff, sponsors, volunteers, committee members, exhibitors and media partners for their support in 2021."

Moved: AM Hardy

Seconded: MP Siebert and carried.

7. APPOINTMENT OF PATRON

The Chairman asked for a motion that the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC be formally elected as Patron of the Society for her term of office.

Moved: MB Camac

Seconded: MP Siebert and carried

8. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Mr Hardy vacated the Chair, and Mr Hamish Findlay, acting as Chairman of the meeting, thanked Mr Hardy for his efforts and leadership during his term of office and called for nominations for the position of President for the ensuing two-year term.

Mr Jock Duncan nominated Mr Andrew Hardy for a further term. The motion was seconded by Mr Bob Snewin. As there were no further nominations Mr Hardy was duly re-elected to the position of President.

CARRIED

Upon taking the Chair, Mr Hardy stated he was honoured to again be appointed as President of the Society and thanked Members for their

continued support. He stated he enjoyed working for such a unique organisation which carries a high responsibility to look after agriculture in this state.

9. ELECTION OF SECTIONAL COMMITTEES

The Chief Executive declared that as no qualifying nominations had been received for Council by 25 February 2022, all current Councillors had been re-elected for a further term to the next AGM in March 2023.

10. RESOLUTIONS

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, that:

- For the Agri Food & Commerce Committee
 - Ms Catherine Sayer, representing Food SA
- For the Art, Craft, Cookery & Technology Committee
 - Mrs Vivian West, representing Crafting in South Australia
- For the Beer & Cider Committee
 - Ms Vanessa Altman representing Cider Australia
- For the Dairy Products Committee
 - Mrs Karen McIntyre, representing the Dairy Industry Association of SA
- For the Diverse Farming Committee
 - Mr Chris Francis, representing the Blacksmiths & Farriers Association of SA
 - Mrs Kerry Porter, representing the Australian Alpaca Association (SA Branch)
- For the Dog Committee
 - Mr Brian Parker, President, representing Dogs SA
- For the Horticulture Committee
 - Mr Des Bettcher, representing the Orchid Club of SA
 - Mr Mark Doecke, representing Citrus Australia – SA Region
 - Mr Jose Gil, Chief Executive, representing Fruit Producers SA
 - Mr Sean Parsonage, nominated by TAFE SA
- For the Wine Committee
 - Dr Tony Robinson, representing the Australian Wine Research Institute

be appointed ex-officio members of the Council for the ensuing 12 months.

Moved: AM Hardy

Seconded by: BF McFarlane

11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR 2022 ACCOUNTS

Mr Michael Siebert moved that the firm of BDO Australia be appointed to conduct the audit of the Society's financial accounts for 2022.

Seconded: TJ Donaldson and carried

12. MEETING CLOSED

The President thanked all members for attending and their support given to the Society and declared the meeting closed at 11.48 am.

CONFIRMED:

Chairman

DATE _____