

**DRIED FRUITS AUSTRALIA
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2019
MILDURA WORKINGMANS CLUB
Commencing at 1pm**

ATTENDEES AND MEMBERS PRESENT

Members

M King, P Jones, D Swain, J Treeby, S Bennett, M Bennett, T Martin, A Johnstone, D Lyons, V Tripp, R Johnstone, J Hunt, A Johnstone, G Leyden, C Greenwood, A Surgey, A Lister, P Middleton, C Batty, R Appleby, H Anderson, L Dichiera, A Long, E Lloyd, W Lloyd, D Gardner, B Gardner, M Savogin, P York, F Chevlin, S McNab, A Hobbs, A Chabrel, M Dubois, P Lindsay

Scrutineers: I Shaw, S Wait

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Dried Fruits Australia Chairman, Mark King opened the meeting and welcomed members and attendees. Nil apologies submitted prior to AGM.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM HELD 8 November 2018

That the minutes of the 2018 AGM held on 8 November 2018 be accepted as a true record of the proceedings

Moved T Martin Seconded A Johnstone

Carried

3 BOARD REPORT 2018/19

Members were referred to the Board Report by Chairman Mark King who highlighted the array of activities that the Board had worked on over the previous 12 months.

The Dried Fruits Australia Annual Board Report for 2018/19 has been distributed to all members for their information.

The Annual Board report for 2018/19 accepted by members.

Moved A Long Seconded C Greenwood

Carried

4 ELECTION OF PRODUCER MEMBERS

The CEO referred members to this agenda item explaining that the terms of four current producer members (Jenny Treeby, Brian Boulton, Ashley Johnstone, Warren Lloyd) had expired at the AGM.

Dried Fruits Australia received five producer nominations in accordance with the constitution from:
Jenny Treeby, Luke Lory, Malcolm Bennett, Ashley Johnstone and Warren Lloyd.

Note, Section 28 of the Constitution states as follows:

(2) Where the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies for any category of membership of the Board, the AGM will conduct a secret ballot on a simple majority basis. In the event of two or more candidates for a vacancy receiving the same number of votes, the election shall be decided by lot.

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The CEO explained the voting process. A vote by secret ballot was held. Independent scrutineers S Wait and I Shaw collected and counted votes.

The result of the voting was declared after the count was completed. Chairman M King thanked all those that nominated for Board positions.

Chairman M King declared the newly elected Board Members as per the vote count being Jenny Treeby, Ashley Johnstone, Luke Lory and Warren Lloyd.

Chairman M King congratulated those newly elected Board Members.

5 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2018/19

Dried Fruits Australia Chief Executive Officer, Anne Mansell referred members to an Explanatory Memorandum outlining the audited Key Financial Data as well as the main influencing factors that had impacted on the organisation in 2018/2019. The final result was a surplus of \$194,874
CEO also highlighted how membership funding for the financial year had steadily grown compared to the same period in the 2017/2018 financial year, owing to the tiered structure agreed on at the 2017 AGM - \$25,480 compared to \$21,000 with a smaller crop of 15,200 tonnes compared to 17,000 tonnes

Moved: C Greenwood seconded W Lloyd

That the Annual Financial Statements of Dried Fruits Australia Inc. for the 12 month period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 be received and adopted.

Carried

6 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Moved J Treeby , seconded T Martin :

That the DFA board recommendation that Kelly Nulty be appointed as the independent auditor for 2019/20 financial year be accepted.

Carried

7 DRIED FRUITS AUSTRALIA MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2019/2020

Producers:

Chairman Mark King directed members to the recommendation that the new tiered producer member fees that were introduced in 2017 be retained for the coming season.

That sliding scale of producer membership fees be endorsed for season 2019/2020 based on the following for all fruit deliveries:

All fruit - Up to or first 100 tonnes @ \$9/tonne with a minimum payment of \$100 remaining in place

All fruit then delivered from 101-250 tonnes charged @ \$6/tonne

All fruit then delivered from 251-500 tonnes charged @ \$4/tonne

All fruit then delivered from 501 tonnes charged @ \$3/tonne but capped at \$5,000.

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J Hunt question: Are there any growers that are utilizing the associate membership fee instead of paying on their tonnages?

M King provided information that DFA had been working closely with processors and tightening up on tonnages provided to ensure that this doesn't occur.

Associate members

That associate membership fee of \$100 (plus GST) be endorsed for 2019/20.

Processor/marketers

That the processor/marketer membership fee of \$4.00/tonne (plus GST) on all dried vine fruit deliveries be endorsed for season 2019/20.

Moved S Bennett , seconded P Jones

That all Membership Fees for 2019/2020 be approved.

Carried

9 STATUTORY RESEARCH & MARKETING LEVIES FOR 2018

Chairman M King discussed the R&D & Marketing levies collected by Hort Innovation and some of the projects that funding is utilized for including Industry Development, New Varieties research and the new Marketing Plan. The Chairman brought to members attention that these levies have not increased since their introduction (in 2000) and that the Board will review this matter over the next year. The Chairman also discussed the introduction of the new biosecurity levy that was recently voted on by members.

Research levy

That an unchanged research levy of \$11.00 per tonne on all dried vine fruit deliveries in 2019/2020 be endorsed.

Marketing levy

That an unchanged marketing levy of \$7.00 per tonne on all dried vine fruit deliveries in 2019/2020 be endorsed.

Biosecurity levy

That the commencement of \$1.00 per tonne for newly introduced biosecurity levy on all dried vine fruit deliveries in 2020 (on approval from the Department of Agriculture) be endorsed.

J Hunt question: When will the biosecurity levy commence -will it be from 2020 harvest?

CEO provided information that the levy will only commence after the Minister for Agriculture provides approval and that the Department has advised that this is not likely until April next year at the earliest.

Moved M Bennett , seconded J Treeby

That all levies as presented be approved

Carried

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9. OTHER BUSINESS

- Chairman M King directed members attention to the reports provided by the Australian Dried Vine Fruits Trust and the Dried Fruits Trust for members information, being in response to this request at last year's AGM.

- P Jones moved that a vote of thanks be extended to Brian Boulton for his many years of service to the Dried Fruits Australia Board and his ongoing service to the dried fruits industry. Chairman M King informed members that the Board of Dried Fruits Australia will be inviting Brian and his wife Iris to the annual Christmas Party where his service to the industry will be celebrated. The Board will pass on members appreciation to Brian and Iris at this event.

- J Hunt asked if the Board would consider asking grower board members to include a brief written report in relation to their activities and input to the Board to include in the Annual Report. W Lloyd queried the detail of what this report might include. Chairman M King will table this request for discussion at the Board meeting for further consideration.

10 CLOSE OF MEETING

Chairman M King again thanked members and guests for their attendance at the AGM and closed the meeting at 1.35pm.