

MINUTES: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER, 6PM

HIVE, 25-27 MCNAMARA LANE, ORANGE AND VIA ZOOM



Present Lester McCormick (Chair), Michael McDonald (Deputy Chair), Sarah Baker, Jonathan McLachlan, George Truman, Nidhi Avasthi, Helen Burns, Ted Wolfe, Neil Griffiths, Anne Baker

Apologies David Harbison, Keith Garlick, Jeff McCormick, Craig Altmann, Rohan Leach, Craig Miller, Greg Stuart, Tim Wright, Abigail Addo-Danso, Warren McDonald, Stuart Tait

Chairperson Lester McCormick opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting at **6.10pm**.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Sarah Baker declared she is an employee of the Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development (DPIRD) NSW and we have Regional NSW government money in our bank account for projects.

George Truman declared he is an employee of Local Land Services NSW (North - West) and we have Local Land Services NSW money in our bank account for projects.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was moved to accept the previous AGM minutes (29 August 2023) as being true and accurate.

Moved M. McDonald

Seconded H. Burns

Carried

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Lester McCormick's report was circulated and read prior to the meeting.

It was moved that the Chairperson's report be received and noted by Members.

Moved J. McLachlan

Seconded G. Truman

Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT (STATEMENT ATTACHED)

Current balances as at 30 June 2024:

Debit Card	\$554.33
Working Account	\$1780.04
Seminar Account (032 833 388034)	\$0.00
Conference Account (032 833 353720)	\$0.00
Cash reserve Seminar	\$36,308.04
Cash reserve Conference	\$14,780.17
Term Deposit (032 621 717 983)	\$50,000.00
Term Deposit (032 621 717 991)	\$200,000.00
Total	\$303,422.58

The full financial statements are included in the 2024 Annual Report (attached). Sarah clarified that there are two reporting periods, as the organisation moves from FYE of 31 May to FYE 30 June. She also explained that the expenditure 'Project for Cadia Community Partnership Program' of \$43,319.10 came from other project funds (LLS/DPI), and are not P&G NSW expenditure.

Motion: It was moved that the Treasurer's Report be received and noted by Members.

Moved *S. Baker*

Seconded *M. McDonald*

Carried

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Executive Officer Anne Baker's report was circulated and read prior to the meeting.

It was moved that the Executive Officer's report be received and noted by Members.

Moved *A. Baker*

Seconded *N. Griffiths*

Carried

BRANCH REPORTS

North West (George Truman):

A successful Pasture Update was held in September 2023 in Tamworth, run in collaboration with LLS/DPI and P&G NSW. Lester McCormick attended and spoke about the changes happening within P&G NSW. The 2024 Update is being held on 7th November in Tamworth - once again running as a partnership, and a combined event for advisors.

P&G NSW also participated in the North West Beef Forum, with information on our newly formed entity. This was held on 16 May 2024 at the Warialda Memorial Hall.

Within the north there is a regular (monthly) Pastures/Livestock Team catchup with staff from LLS and DPI, Lester (P&GNSW) is a regular attendee with the view to keeping up to date with upcoming events and potential issues so that might provide an opportunity for extension activities and collaborative work.

One Prograze group completed the course around Manilla with participants offered the complimentary offer to join P&GNSW for 1 year. All LLS Ag Team leaders across the state have been advised of this offer and received a copy of the membership form for other Prograze participants across the state.

It was moved that the North West Branch report be received and noted by Members.

Moved *A. Baker*

Seconded *N. Griffiths*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1. The future of Pastures & Grazing NSW – 12 month review:** George Truman noted the work involved in getting governance, website and newsletter in place, and commented on how great the Spring newsletter was, that he has printed and distributed it to a number of businesses. He said the rebuilding itself has taken 12 months, and it would be interesting to see how we grow in the next 12 months, now we have everything in place, and noted a number of collaborative events now occurring (Tamworth, Condobolin etc). Ted Wolfe commented on the excellent job done in rebranding – the newsletter and website look good, and he feels there is plenty to attract new members for \$60. Feels that we should look to now moving on from offering free membership. Lester McCormick noted that the complimentary membership was a 'carrot' to attract membership,

with an invoice following after 12 months – a common marketing practice. Michael McDonald mentioned we should acknowledge the work that’s been done this year – we’ve put into place the building blocks for the future, noting the great support coming from the Planning & Development Committee which will lay out a program into the future where we start to interact and provide services to members that are beneficial - bringing new members in and also aiding our resources. He feels confident on continuing into the future, with no need to review in 12 months.


2. Any other general business?

- a. **George Truman:** George advised he is moving to a new role within LLS for at least 8-12 months, and is seeking 12 months’ Director’s casual leave from the Board and Governance & Nominations Committee. He advised of a temporary replacement as a casual Director in the interim – Bill Manning, who is an LLS employee in the North West, specialising in cropping and pastures, and a working history at DPI. Bill is not yet a P&G NSW member, but George would like to nominate him as a casual Director pending receipt of membership.
- b. **Sarah Baker:** Sarah advised her intention to step down from the Board of Directors and Treasurer role due to work commitments. Michael McDonald, on behalf of the meeting, acknowledged the positive impact Sarah has made during her 12 months in the role, and thanked her for her significant contribution. Lester McCormick announced the appointment of a new member – Nidhi Avasthi, who is a chartered accountant based in Tamworth, and advised he would be recommending her as a replacement for Sarah, subject to further conversation. Sarah and Lester to progress with Nidhi, and discuss the details of the role going forward.
- c. Michael McDonald, on behalf of the meeting, acknowledged the commitment of Lester McCormick as Chairperson, and his contribution over the past 12 months.

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance, and closed the meeting.

MEETING CLOSED: 6.43PM

Minute taker: Anne Baker, Executive Officer

Signed 
Lester McCormick, Chairperson

Signed 

Date 29 October 2024