

## **MINUTES**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Irrigation Australia Limited, held nationally by Ms Teams on Wednesday, 25 October 2023 at 11.00 AEST.

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### **PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Simon Treptow (Chair); Valentina Tripp (Deputy Chair); Peter Brueck; Carl Walters; Rob Nadebaum; Greig Graham; Andrew Ogden and Matthew Binder.

**Life Member:** Kathryn Eden

**Members:** Andrew Kneebone; Brett Peel; Chris Bowie; Clinton Hort; Daniel Rose; Gary Andrews; Gennaro Vellotti; Jay Baker; Jock Ferguson; Karl Clively; Kosi Kalogerinis; Mark Barnes; Mark Davies; Paul Smith; Peter Durand; Tony France; Zaahir Du Toit and Alison Waters.

**Proxies:** Kathryn Eden

Proxies were directed to the Chair.

### **In attendance:**

Irrigation Australia Staff: Dave Cameron; Naomi Carragher; Tracy Martin; Geoff Harvey; Marike Froneman; Rebecca New; Stuart Alexander; Maddison Coward; Ashleigh Lang; Florence Edwards and Jeff Dean.

### **Apologies:**

An Apology was received from Peter Hayes.

### **Opening**

The Chair, Simon Treptow advised that a quorum had been achieved and declared the meeting open at 11.03 am AEST and welcomed members and guests. He provided a general overview of the format of proceedings for the meeting. He advised Members that the meeting would be recorded.

The Notice of Meeting and Explanatory Note were taken as read.

The Company Secretary explained the voting procedure for the appointment of an auditor and the process for questions.

### **Minutes of the previous annual general meeting**

It was noted that the minutes of the Irrigation Australia Limited Annual General Meeting of members held Thursday 27 October 2022 had been signed by the Chair as a true and correct record of that meeting at the board meeting held on 8 December 2022 further noting that the minutes had also been circulated with the Notice of Meeting distributed to members within the required time period, and also made available on the event website.

## Chair's address

The Chair spoke to his presentation and acknowledged the following key items:

- The organisation has faced a number of challenges and the impact of these are visible in the financial results circulated ahead of this meeting.
- Recognition of the volunteers who support our organisation and fill a range of roles in our industry from the national Board of directors to members of subcommittees working at Board level (IACID, Rainwater Harvesting, Certification Board Committee) and the members of our regional committees and subcommittees.
- Acknowledgement of Geoff Harvey's role over the last 8 years in the growth of the training operations and revenue, wishing Geoff all the best on his next journey.
- Noting that the organisation is working hard within a complex administrative environment to advocate for new courses, new audiences and new funding opportunities.
- Adding to our improvement focus in training and certification, noting a renewed push to enhance member satisfaction and engagement.
- The release of the exciting new program Irrigation Futures, which aims to continue and enhance the Centre of Irrigation Excellence by creating new and exciting opportunities for engagement across a broad span of the industry.
- Acknowledgement of Andrew Ogden's and Momir Vranes' many years of service to the board and its committees.
- The Board's expectation that Irrigation Australia will continue its efforts to provide real value and service to members, to continue to raise the profile of the industry and to enhance the continued professional growth of the industry by supporting training, liaising on behalf of industry with all levels of government, and growing the role of regional branches of Irrigation Australia in local communities.

The Chair invited the CEO, Dave Cameron to make his presentation. The following key points were made:

- The support provided by the Chair and Board of Directors is impressive recognising they are all volunteers and willingly give their time to support the irrigation industry and is of enormous value to the organisation.
- The work done by the various sub-committees in particular the IACID Committee leading up to the International ICID Congress and Conference, the Rainwater Harvesting Committee and the Certification Board Committee all consume hours of volunteer work each month, and their passion for their area of interest is noteworthy.
- The regional committees who all share a common desire for a better irrigation industry.
- The Western Australia Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Water Corporation for our Waterwise program which extends well beyond the financial support and they are actively engaged with Irrigation Australia on all aspects of the Waterwise Program and the efficient use of water in Western Australia.
- The Centre of Irrigation Excellence Sponsors for their continued support.
- A need to recognise existing strengths and build on ideas already developed;
- A need to focus on membership and what that means to attract a more diverse membership base as well as provide a clear value proposition for existing members.
- A new, slightly refreshed version of the strategic plan to be released shortly along with details of a membership review.
- Review of the Constitution in 2024 in preparation for the 2024 AGM. There is no fundamental change to intent, just acknowledging that it was last refreshed in 2018 and needed some modernisation.
- After the Sydney 2024 event, there will be a shift in the way Irrigation Australia will be offering events toward lower scale, annual events outside of the capital city convention centre type model.

Members were invited to ask questions regarding the Chair and CEO presentations and there were no questions raised.

### **ITEM 1: Financial Report, Directors' Report and Independent Auditor's Report**

The Chair formally tabled Irrigation Australia's Financial Report, which included the Financial Statements, Directors Report, Directors' Declaration and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2023. He invited the CEO to deliver the financial report to members.

The CEO provided a summary of the report.

There were no questions raised on the financial report and the Chair declared the Financial Statements, Directors' Report and Declaration and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2023 duly received and considered.

### **ITEM 2: Election of Directors**

The Chair confirmed that, as the number of candidates in the election of directors was more than the number of positions to be filled, a formal ballot was conducted in accordance with the constitution. He asked the Company Secretary to inform the meeting of the result of the ballot.

The Company Secretary announced that renominating directors: Simon Treptow & Peter Brueck were duly elected.

He noted that Momir Vranes was not re-elected and thanked him for their long service on the board and its committees.

The Chair congratulated the returning Directors. He welcomed and congratulated incoming directors Clinton Hort, Paul Smith and Gennaro Vellotti.

A special mention to Andrew Ogden who has completed his 10-year tenure on the Board, retired and is ineligible for renomination at this time. We thank Andrew for his commitment, dedication and enormous effort in supporting our industry over many years.

He thanked the other six nominees for putting their hands up and encouraged them to stand again in the future.

### **ITEM 3: Ordinary Resolution - Appointment of Auditors**

The company refers the appointment of the company's Auditor to members for special resolution.

The CEO advised members that there were no material items mentioned in the audit report and the Auditor considered the process of high standard.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on the resolution and there were none.

It was noted that the Board has accepted a recommendation from the Audit & Risk Management Committee that FSA Partners be appointed as the company's auditor for 2023/24.

The Chair moved that FSA Partners be appointed as the company's auditors for the 2023/24 financial year.

The Company Secretary called for members to vote and the motion was **carried unanimously**.

### **ITEM 4: QUESTION TIME**

The Chair invited all those present to raise any matters of relevance that have not been dealt with on the agenda.

There were no questions and the Chair thanked everyone for making time available and for their continuing interest, cooperation and support in our association.

**CLOSE**

There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting closed at 11.34 am AEST.

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

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Simon Treptow

Chair

Date: 8 December 2023