



New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (Inc.)

Minutes of the NZARES Annual General Meeting Thursday 19 October 2017, 5pm Distinction Hotel, Rotorua

Present: Alan Renwick, Phil Journeaux, Tony Schischka, Darran Austin, Femi Obubode, Matthew Newman, Ross Cullen, Emma Moran, Quentin Grafton (AARES), Mark Neal, Katie Bicknell, Carla Muller, David Evison, Caroline Saunders, Richard Yao, Sandra Barns.

Apologies: Frank Scrimgeour, Brian Bell, Rob Davison, Joan Smith and Andrew Burt.

Minutes of the 2016 AGM

Minutes were circulated. Katie Bicknell noted that she was not listed as having attended. Her name is to be added to 2016 minutes.

- Alan moved that minutes are a true and correct record. Seconded by Phil.

Matters arising:

1. Protocol for handling funds – Phil confirmed that as funds accumulate they are transferred to term deposits to achieve a higher interest rate
2. Between conference events – While this was agreed to at the 2016 conference, no events have occurred. An upcoming is planned for Wellington – organised by Darran. If members have events they would like to organise the society will support those.
3. Formalising the committee structure. General discussion was led by Alan. It was agreed that one month prior to the AGM the committee would send a call to members for nominations. For the elected members without specific committee roles there will be at least one change each three years.
4. Transparency in NZARES business – relates to above. Discussion and agreement about increasing transparency on NZARES business. No specific actions.
5. Changing location of conference from year-to-year, main centres. This is supported by the committee and by members at the AGM. Discussion about possibilities in combining with other conferences followed, but it was noted that a previous attempt had provided few benefits, although a one-day seminar combined with another organisation has worked in the past, and is a possibility. This suggestion was supported by members, and Quentin Grafton (AARES) said that AARES would support and would encourage AARES members to participate.

- Phil moved that the next conference be in Wellington at the usual time (end of August during university break). Seconded by Darran. Subject to confirmation by the incoming committee

President's Report

Alan Renwick tabled the President's report, and summarised it to the meeting. Main comments:

1. Noted the conference attendance is lower than usual, and encouraged the committee and membership to be ambitious and encourage greater attendance.
2. 40 contributed papers – good to see that level of participation
3. NZARES will give out two post grad awards this year, but did award the AARES undergrad award for 2016/17. Alan encouraged universities to look for opportunities to make nominations. Prince Etwire won the 2016/17 AARES Heading West Award.
4. Thanked committee, especially Sandra and Phil
5. Thanked gold sponsors MPI and Scion, and thanked Darran, Tony and Richard for organising the sponsorship. Thanked AgMARDT for sponsorship of Alan Swinbank's travel costs, and Phil for organising this.

Acceptance of the President's report:

Moved: Alan Renwick

Seconded: Phil Journeaux

All in favour

Treasurer's Report

Phil Journeaux tabled the Treasurer's report.

Phil summarised key points from the report, including a balance of funds at the end of the year that includes \$43,000 on term deposit. Phil confirmed that NZARES was in sound financial position.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report:

Moved: Phil Journeaux

Seconded: Ross Cullen

All in favour

Election of officers

Sandra Barns is standing down as secretary, but will provide assistance to new secretary to get started.

President Elect

Nominated: Peter Tozer

Moved: Alan Renwick

Seconded: Phil Journeaux

Carried by all

- This appointment relies on Peter Tozer's acceptance

Secretary

Nominated: Santiago Burmeo

Moved: Sandra Barns

Seconded: Phil Journeaux

Carried by all

Treasurer

Nominated: Phil Journeaux

Moved: Alan Renwick

Seconded: Matt Newman

Carried by all

Committee members

Nominated: Carla Muller

Moved: Sandra Barns

Seconded: Matt Newman

Carried by all

Nominated: Richard Yao

Moved: Alan Renwick

Seconded: Phil Journeaux

Nominated: Tony Schischka

Moved: Phil Journeaux

Seconded: Ross Cullen

Carried by all

Nominated: Emma Moran

Moved: Ross Cullen

Seconded: Phil Journeaux

Carried by all

The committee has the capacity to co-opt additional people to assist when necessary. Richard noted that 2017-18 would be a particularly busy year for him, and that he would nominate Sandra Velarde (Scion) should he be unable to attend meetings.

Extending term of president – raised by Caroline. General discussion. A two-year term did occur when the last AARES conference was held in New Zealand, and Frank Scrimgeour did two terms.

President Elect – in the future this should be a nominated position through the process described above (rather than a shoulder-tap).

NZARES Secretariat – Currently we use Strategic Research Services

Moved: Phil moved that we continue with our current service

Seconded: Caroline Saunders

Carried

General business

1. Webinars – raised by Phil. Rod McInness (AARES) is keen to promote webinars with NZARES. Rob would set it up for NZARES. NZARES must organise a guest speaker. About 45mins. Minimal cost. Register with Rod. General discussion. Ideas included animal welfare theme, greenhouse gases (NZ perspective).
Action: Phil to go back to Rod and confirm NZARES will do a webinar. The first webinar will be on animal welfare. Phil to organise.

Meeting closed at 6.10pm