



Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 22 February 2016 **Mode:** Face to Face

Chairperson: C Hallam

Present: *Directors:* C Hinton, C Russo, H Haavisto, D Crook, J Roberts, R Stavrou, M Hartley
Members: D Balsamo, J Belsham, P Bishop, R Bollard, B Craig, J Doherty, M Emmett, F Janes, A Lim, M Lodge, A McKernan, J Ruyg, J Tolmie, A Tom, G Walton, L Yeung, Andrew Rankine, Alice Rankine, J Maund.
Staff: S Lockwood

Apologies: *Directors:* Nil
Staff: Nil

Tabled Documents: Minutes of meeting 1 June 2015

Meeting Commenced: 5.45pm

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the meeting of the 1 June 2015 AGM

Moved: Lodge

2nd: Walton

Voted: All in favour

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

No matters arising



Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Agenda Items:

- a) Tabling the Minutes – 2015 AGM.
- b) A brief report from the President of Arboriculture Australia Ltd.

2015 membership total was 735. Membership is not declining but steady at the moment.

Tech reference group levels 2,3,4,5,6 and 8 qualifications brought in.

This was a strong working group with a National contribution. Companion guide doc is new and sets how the trainers must deliver and map qualifications across. A writer was engaged at the cost of \$10k

Arboriculture no longer falls under Agrifoods and is now under Forest Works new Industry Skills Council (ISC).

This is good for the industry and we will have allot of resources and be more advanced. Last week they signed the contract and learning resources will begin to be written.

Everything will be done the same way.

Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) – we have received a lot of requests from member's and Arboriculture Australia have lodged complaints on behalf of these members.

There are some good and some bad RTO's.

ASQA didn't find enough evidence for some complaints to be substantiated, but some were found to be noncompliant.

Arb Aus are still working through other issues with ASQA and may take this to the Federal Minister.

Industry fact sheets, brochures, have been placed up on the website:

Tree Anatomy Workshop Manual

Tree Planting Guide

Using Arborist Woodchips

Good information is being sent out.

Safe Work Australia – A Technical Reference Group (TRG) was set up made up to work on the code of practice – Ground Worker. This group was made up from members from each State Based Group to represent on a national level.

Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEX motor pass was introduced last year and to date is a little slow with the monthly dividend to Arb Aus being around the \$400 per month. The target was \$2k per month. The money goes back into research and education trust.

The ISA Tree Risk Assessment (ISA TRAQ) workshop has seen 220 arborists in Australia trained so far.

The Arbor Day foundation – we are continuing to work with Dan on this write documents to give out to rural councils. We will meet back later this year and take this to the Federal Government.

Staff – Arb Aus has two new staff, Amy Zollo and Michelle Lee. The new skill set will complement the administration office with Amy taking on the Finance and Membership role and Michelle taking on the Graphic design and Social media role. Social media is now running strong.

National tree register is up and running but not functioning 100 percent.

New website upgrade – We will be upgrading to a new platform which will allow staff to be able to upload more to the site. Including a new online payment system for the bookshop. Public website to launch soon in around 2 months' time.

National carbon offset program – we are working with the Federal Minister Mr Hunt, on this, more money will be coming available for this.

ATCC has been a successful event with 30% more climbers and volunteers this year.

The 2016 Conference was run a little different this year with the partnership of the University of Melbourne, Melbourne City Council and International Society of Arboriculture. A successful event with approximately 360 delegates attended.

The AA UK relationship is great and they are sharing resources with Arb Aus.

Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We also currently have a good relationship with the ISA and it is steadily growing stronger.

The Arb Aus Board have had a 2-day strategic planning workshop and have come up with the new board structure.

Sponsorship is crucial to the organisation and generates \$120k per annum.

2017 conference information is out. We have already booked the venue and accommodation which has given us good buying power giving us good 2015 prices. This will be the 20/30 anniversary Conference. Profits raised will go to the Research and Education fund of approximately \$40k

Special note – 10 years' service from Henry Haavisto. Thank you to Henry from the Board and President.

- c) A brief report from the Treasurer of Arboriculture Australia Ltd & tabling of 2015 financial report.

Craig Hinton

The organisation has turned around making a profit.

We have seen successful conferences and workshops.

Operational income needs to be covered by membership dues.

Increase in expense but offset by increasing membership.

Insurance 15k

Membership 130k

Equity 80k

Extraordinary income of 40k from Tudor insurance.

Conference this year will go into our reserves and put us back in a good position.

Motion: To accept the 2015 financials

Moved: M Lodge

2nd: A lim

Vote: All in favour

Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

d) Pre-notified questions from members.

Nil

e) Motions on notice.

f) Proposed restructure of the governance of Arboriculture Australia Ltd. Information has been circulated to members in The Bark.

a. Proposal to amend the Arboriculture Australia Ltd Constitution.

Updates on the constitution and proposed changes

5 weeks ago the change to structure was sent out to the members and was self-explanatory.

Original intention was to have Trustee's but after consultation with the organisations lawyers they advised to call them Advisors Not Trustees.

Constitution changes overview by Craig Hinton

Reduce size of current Board and increase the committees.

Questions?

Authority of Advisory committee – Do they have power over the Board? – No they can't change a decision but they can guide and persuade the Board in the correct direction. They would need to convince one director only.

Advisory Board must be an ex-president or vice president served 5 years on the Board in the last 15 years' senior member's long term supporters of the organisation.

Special resolution 75 % must vote in favour

g) Motions to implement the proposed changes presented in 7.

Board of Directors

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion a: That Arboriculture Australia Ltd adopt the revised governance structure as presented.

Moved: C Hinton

2nd: M Hartley

Vote: All in favour

Motion 2b: That the amended Constitution presented be adopted to implement 8a.

Moved: C Hinton

2nd: M Hartley

Vote: All in favour

h) Some directors of the Arboriculture Australia Ltd Board relinquish office.

5 going off C Hinton, C Hallam, H Haavisto, C Russo and R Stavrou.

i) Election of Directors to the Arboriculture Australia Ltd Board. The number and terms of Directors will depend on the outcome of 8.

4 nominations – R Stavrou, C Russo, C Hinton, C Hallam

4 appointed as Directors 6 to appoint chair vice chair and so on

j) Other business.

No further business

First Advisor to be appointed – Adam Tom

Meeting closed: 6.22pm