

Minutes of Summerfruit Australia Limited Annual General Meeting

**Held at The Italian Social Club, 1 Koonoomoo Road, Cobram Vic 3644
Friday 28th August 2009 at 1.50 pm**

Attendance: Ian McAlister (Chairman)
Fred Baronio
Andrew Smith
Tony Vincenti
Adrian Conti
Mike Oakley
John Moore (CEO)
Gilda Brisotto (Secretary by Invitation)
Visitors (See attached list)

1. Welcome

Ian McAlister welcomed all members and introduced the Board of Summerfruit Australia Ltd.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Tony Siciliano, Dominic Cutri, Edward & Jane Buck, Alan Smith and John Corboy.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. Discussion was held as to what activities had been undertaken in respect of the exit package for growers as moved in the last AGM. Ian McAlister advised that the matter had been raised with Minister Bourke in Shanghai with little success.

Motion: That the minutes of the AGM held on 13th October 2008 are true and correct.

Moved Joe Conti, Seconded Frank Diaco.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Discussion was held as to what activities had been undertaken in respect of the exit package for growers as moved in the last AGM. Ian McAlister advised that the matter had been raised with Minister Bourke in Shanghai with little success.

Discussions were held in respect of the \$100 fee to growers. The fee is an annual payment and is used to fund agri-political activities which cannot be undertaken by the CEO. An example of agri-political activities undertaken in China was given by Ian McAlister. John Moore took the floor and explained the process for sending out an invoice to the members and the difficulty given the privacy laws in finding out exactly who members are.

5. Chair's Report

Ian McAlister presented the Chair's Report and discussed.

Activities for the year

- Overseeing the appointment of John Moore as CEO
- Conducted elections for 2009 which saw introduction of 2 new directors, Adrian Conti and Mike Oakley
- Oversaw the appointment of two new IAC Members Gary Jebb and Bruce Tomkins.
- Pursuit of Market Access for Summerfruit Industry. This is the number one priority requiring a huge amount of resources and time. The following activities were undertaken
 - Accompanied Minister Burke on trade mission to Shanghai in April. Only Summerfruit and citrus industry attended this.
 - While in Shanghai organized a round table with the Chinese to discuss horticulture trade.
 - Questioned the current HMA system and which resulted in a request for Summerfruit to produce a paper detailing industry recommendations
 - Attended bilateral in Taiwan together with the Cherry Industry.
- Facilitated (together with Peter Dal Santo) a chemical review workshop at which all states were represented.
- Attended several meetings on the new Industrial Relations Laws which have resulted in the Government revisiting these laws.
- Following the appointment of John Moore as CEO, have begun to put together a new database of levy payers.
- John Moore has commenced visiting the various growing regions of Australia.

Problems to be faced in the future

- The new Industrial Relation (IR) laws
- Day to day changes in Government Policy in relation to Bulk Water Entitlements.
- The Government's position in relation to who industry representatives should be and their reliance on the NFF and HAC.
- Lack of market access and the culture in obtaining market access.
- Removal of 40% funding of access fees for export.
- The Government stance on Climate change and potential costs to the horticulture industry.
- Limited resources that Summerfruit Australia board has to fund agri-political activities

Motion: That the Chairman's report be accepted.

Moved Joe Conti, Seconded Karen Smith

5. Presentation Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements

Gilda Brisotto presented the Financial Statements for 2008/2009.

Motion: That the financial statements are true and correct.

Moved Peter Demaio, Seconded Nick Demaio

6. General Business

Motion to raise Summerfruit levies

Discussion was held as to other organizations who are paying 3-7c/kg and why Summerfruit growers are still paying 1c/kg when the board cannot function with this low level. Two years ago at the AGM the Board was directed to commission a consultancy firm to do a cost benefit. The consultant recommended that a 2cent per kg rise would result in \$2 million for marketing and \$1 million R&D. This would allow the board to be run as a professional organization. The result of the recommendation can be found in the latest Summerfruit Annual Industry Report (08-09) which is produced by HAL. Questions were asked as to whether current R&D funding could be re-directed to marketing. The board advised that to get market access the industry needs the complimentary science behind it. Without the necessary R&D accessing markets will be near impossible if the industry cannot meet the protocols. The process of how to raise levies was discussed.

Motion: That the necessary process be instigated to investigate the increase in Summerfruit Levies

Moved Karen Smith, Seconded Nick Demaio, carried by a majority show of hands.

Motion to thank the Board

Motion: That the Board be congratulated on their efforts over the past 12 months for their services to the Summerfruit industry.

Moved Peter J Demaio, Seconded Frank Diaco, carried by a majority show of hands.

7. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 3.15 pm

List of Attendees

	Name	Company(if applicable)
1	Domenic Macheda	D+I Macheda
2	Graham Fleming	Graham's Fleming Nurseries
3	E+C Smith	Mt Bruno
4	Joe Conti	J+D Conti
5	Ray Pool	RA+CD Pool
6	Tony Latina	T+C Latina
7	Peter Carpinelli	P+G Carpinelli
8	Peter J Demaio	N+P Demaio & Co
9	Michael Crea	Mickrose Friuts
10	Frank Diaco	R.Diaco & Co P/L
11	Vince Corso	C+T Corso P/L
12	Tony Corso	N+L Corso P/L
13	Tony Siciliano	Boosey Fruits
14	Libro Mustica	L+B Mustica
15	Michael Tempini	Tempini Orchards
16	Matthew Cutri	G.Curti & Sons
17	Mick Taverna	C.Taverna & Sons
18	Geoff Carmichael	Plumridge Orchards
19	Brody Bowman	Tatura Orchards
20	Tony Vincenti	A+A Holdings
21	Mike Oakley	JR Kirkwood & Sons
22	Ian McAlister	Sunfruit
23	Andrew Smith	SmithsFruits
24	Alfred Baronio	Wellstar Holdings
25	Adrian Conti	Conti Orchards Pty Ltd
26	Nick Demaio	Mattina Orchards
27	Barbara Coleman	VPAGA