Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Lachlan Valley Water Inc

Held in Hillston on Thursday 12 September 2013 commencing at 2.00 pm

**PRESENT**: - , Dennis Moxey (chair), Mary Ewing, Ted Middleton, Alan L’Estrange, Jock Coupland, Ben Barlow, Ian McFadyen, Matt Mitchell, Mark Kearines, Michael Storrier, Bill Kocks, Michelle Azzopardi, Rod Milthorpe, Peter Laird, Robert Collins, Duncan Fraser, Tom Chesson,, Stephanie Schulte, Nina Crawford

**APOLOGIES**: - Michael Payten, Tom Green, Ed Fagan, Ted Morgan, Brian Delaney, Nigel Hazel, Jamie Morgan, Mark Green, Gordon Turner, Jim Hoadley, Ian Smith, Wal Dawson, Troy Grant, Fiona Nash, J Williams, John Cobb, Katrina Hodgkinson, Tim Watson

The Chairman welcomed all present, including guest speakers Duncan Fraser, President of NFF, Tom Chesson, CEO of NIC and Stephanie Schulte, policy analyst, NSWIC.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**: -

**Motion:** That the minutes of 18 September 2012as circulated be accepted.

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| Moved: Jock Coupland | Seconded: Mick Storrier. Carried. |

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Dennis Moxey thanked members for their continuing support. He thanked the Executive members for their support and the Executive officer for her work, acknowledging her contribution to other groups such as National Irrigators Council for special projects. Lachlan Valley Water anticipates undertaking more activity in the Federal arena as water policy is increasingly being determined by the federal government policy framework.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Financial Report for 2012/13 was tabled. This report has already been reviewed and adopted by the Executive Committee of LVW.

Lachlan Valley Water achieved a break-even result for the year, and maintained its goal of holding one year’s operating expenses in reserve. Membership income has remained stable for the last 2 years but total income fell due to a reduction in project funding income. Membership levies paid to NSW Irrigators Council and National Irrigators Council account for 30% of total expenditure but are essentially a pass through of funds collected from LVW members, and continuing membership of the national and state bodies gives the Lachlan a voice both at Federal and State level.

###### EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT - Tabled

**NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LVW EXECUTIVE**

Belubula Landholders Association: Michael Payten, Andrew Holmes

Upper Lachlan Water User Group Div A Matt Frazer, Nigel Hazel, alt. Ed Fagan, Ernie Idiens

Upper Lachlan Water User Group Div B Ian Smith, Dennis Moxey, alt. John Bruce, Mark Green

Jemalong Irrigation David Pengilly, Dan Mattiske, alt. Ted Morgan

Mid Lachlan Water Users Association Alan L’Estrange, Jock Coupland, Wal Dawson

Booberoi Creek & Landcare Association Mark Kearines, Ted Middleton, Bill Lander

Lake Cargelligo & District Water Users Ian McFadyen

Hillston District Water users Tim Watson, Mick Storrier, Matt Mitchell, Will

Storrier

Lower Lachlan Landcare Group Gordon Turner, Ben Barlow

Willandra Creek Water Users Andrew Stalley, Alister Cochrane

Young Irrigators Tom Green, Jamie Morgan

**The AGM closed at 2.45pm and presentations from guest speakers commenced.**

**Duncan Fraser, President, National Farmers Federation**

Duncan Fraser spoke about the NFF Blueprint and opportunities for agriculture over the next 5 years. Growth and opportunities for Australian farming would come from:

* More mouths to feed, especially India and China
* More people to clothe
* Increased urbanization, encroaching on rural land
* Greater middle-class expectation
* Change in diet
* Bio-fuels

**Tom Chesson, CEO, National Irrigators’ Council**

Tom Chesson gave an overview of what the Basin Plan will mean for irrigated agriculture over the next 7 years.

**Stephanie Schulte – Economic Policy Analyst, NSW Irrigators’ Council**

Stephanie spoke on NSWIC Council’s response to State Water’s pricing commission, and the work being undertaken on electricity pricing..

**Meeting Closed at 4.45pm**