

OF THE RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND BRANCH)
 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ROYAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, BRISBANE
 WITH TECHNOLOGY LINKS TO RSL HUBS IN BUNDABERG, CAIRNS, MACKAY, TOOWOOMBA AND
 TOWNSVILLE

24 NOVEMBER 2020

1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMMENCES

The Company Secretary, Leah Coogans announced that in accordance with the Notice distributed on 24 August, the 2020 AGM for the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) was commenced at 0904.

She advised that the meeting was being recorded and the video would be posted on the RSL Queensland website following the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Directors			
Tony Ferris	John Strachan OAM	Garry Player	Merv Brown OAM
Peter Sterling	Pat Fairon	Les Nash	Bill Whitburn OAM
Barry Vains OAM	Wendy Taylor	Ian Hall	Trevor Williamson OAM
Dennis Pollard			

Sub-Branches			
Agnes Water/1770	Airlie Beach Whitsunday	Allora	Ashgrove District
Atherton	Babinda	Banyo	Barcardine
Bardon	Beachmere	Beaudesert	Beenleigh & District
Beerwah and District	Bell	Biloela	Blackall
Boonah	Bowen	Boyne-Tannum	Bray Park Strathpine
Bribie Island	Bulimba District	Bundaberg	Burleigh Heads
Burrum District	Caboolture Morayfield & District	Cairns and Dist Ex- Servicewomen	Cairns
Calliope	Caloundra	Capricornia & Rockhampton Region	Cardwell
Centenary Suburbs	Charters Towers	Chinchilla	City-New Farm
Clayfield-Toombul	Clermont	Clifton	Cooktown
Coolum-Peregian	Cooroy-Pomona	Coorparoo & Districts	Crows Nest
Cunnamulla	Currumbin	Dalby	Darra & District
Dayboro	Deception Bay	Defence Service Nurses	Djuan & District
Edge Hill/Cairns West	Emerald	Emu Park	Farleigh & Northern Beaches

Finch Hatton	Forest Lake	Gatton	Gayndah
Gaythorne	Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley	Gemfields	Gin Gin
Gladstone	Glasshouse Country	Goodna	Goombungee
Goondiwindi	Gordonvale	Gracemere & District	Greater Springfield
Greenbank	Gympie	Harlaxton	Herbert River
Highfields	Holland Park-Mt Gravatt	Home Hill	Hughenden
Innisfail	Ipswich Railway	Ipswich	Isis
Jimboomba	Kalbar	Kawana Waters	Kedron-Wavell
Kenmore/Moggill	Kilcoy	Kingaroy/Memerambi	Kuranda
Kuttabul	Laidley	Leyburn	Logan Village
Longreach	Lowood	Mackay	Macleay Island
Magnetic Island	Malanda	Maleny	Manly-Lota
Mapleton	Marian	Maroochydore	Mary Valley
Maryborough	Meandarra/Glenmorgan	Miles	Mirani
Mitchell	Monto	Moranbah	Mount Isa
Moura	Mt Perry	Mudgeeraba Robina	Mudjimba
Murgon	Nambour	Nanango	National Servicemen's
Nerang	North Gold Coast	Nundah-Northgate	Oakey
Palmwoods & District	Pine Rivers District	Pittsworth	Proserpine
Proston	Rainbow Beach	Ravenshoe	Redbank Plains
Redcliffe	Redlands	Rollingstone	Roma
Rosewood	RSL Defence Servicewomen's	Runaway Bay	Russell Island
Salisbury	Samford	Sandgate	Sarina
Seaforth	Sherwood Indooroopilly	Southport	Springwood Tri Service
St George	Stanthorpe	Stephens	Sunnybank
Surat	Surfers Paradise	Tamborine Mountain	Tara
Tewantin/Noosa	The Gap	Thuringowa	Tiaro
Tin Can Bay	Toogoolawah	Toogoom and District	Toowong
Toowoomba United	Townsville	Tully	Tweed Heads & Coolangatta
Warwick	Weipa	Wondai	Woodford
Woodgate Beach	Wynnum	Yandina/Eumundi	Yarrabah
Yarraman	Yeppoon	Yeronga-Dutton Park	Yeronga

Upon the arrival of the Sarina delegate at 0933, it was confirmed that 183 Sub Branch delegates with voting entitlements were present. Each District also had a voting representative (10 Districts). It was confirmed that there were 193 eligible voters present.

3. OTHER RSL OFFICIALS AND STATE COUNCILLORS, VIPs, MINISTERS, MPs, DEPARTMENTAL AND SERVICE COMMANDERS

M Wilson	Chief Executive Officer
T Bishop	General Manager Lotteries
S Button	Chief Information & Strategy Officer
L Coogans	Company Secretary
G Ellevsen	Chief Marketing Officer
M Forgione	Chief Legal Officer
L Goldsmith	Chief Human Resources Officer
L McIlroy	General Manager Membership & Network
G Pratt	Chief Financial Officer
R Skoda	General Manager Veteran Services
T Watson	Chief Executive Officer Mates4Mates

4. APOLOGIES

Ayr	Babinda	Blackbutt	Canungara
Cloncurry	Edmonton	Esk	Grantham Ma Ma Creek
Hellenic	Herberton	Hervey Bay	Julia Creek
Killarney	Kooralbyn	Mareeba	Mt Molloy
Orchid Beach/ Fraser Island	Redbank	St Helens	Walkerston-Pleystowe
Wallangarra	Winton	Wowan	

Motion: "That the apologies be accepted".

Moved: Ipswich Railway.

Seconded: Toowong.

Motion carried.

5. TESTING OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

The Company Secretary provided an overview of housekeeping matters including:

- RSL Queensland's constitutional requirement to hold an AGM had been unaffected by the COVID-19 restrictions. Following consideration of a number of scenarios, it had been resolved that the AGM would be held in Brisbane utilising technology to link to satellite hubs. The Board had attained the consent of Sub Branches to hold the meeting by this method.
- In recognition of the hybrid meeting format and in accordance with legal advice, the agenda had been pared back to essential business only.
- RSL Queensland must comply with ACNC Governance Standards. Standards 2 and 5 were particularly relevant to the AGM.
- The conditions of the Congress were outlined in the Delegate Information Packs supplied.
- The Constitution and By-laws would be strictly enforced, including those relating to moving motions from the floor, opportunities to speak for and against motions, and time constraints for addressing the meeting.

The electronic voting equipment was successfully tested.

It was confirmed at 0933 that the Sarina delegate had arrived.

The Company Secretary returned the Chair to State President, Tony Ferris.

A point of order was requested from Cairns with a question being raised as to why an abstention would be counted as a "no" vote.

The State President advised that independent legal advice had been sought prior to the 2019 AGM about the treatment of abstentions under the RSL Constitution. The advice that had been received determined that abstentions were, in effect, a "no" vote.

6. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICERS AND SCRUTINEERS

Motion: "That the independent auditor for the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch), Mr Darren Jenns and staff of PricewaterhouseCoopers, be appointed as the Returning Officer and Scrutineers in Brisbane, and that Mingle Varghese in Townsville, Russell McLean in Mackay, Rosemary Boste in Cairns, Janet Dennison in Toowoomba and Amanda McGinley in Bundaberg be appointed as scrutineers".

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: Nerang.

Motion carried.

7. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion: "That the draft minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting."

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: Cairns.

The State President called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

8. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE STATE PRESIDENT (CHAIR OF RSL QUEENSLAND BOARD) 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Motion: "That the Annual Report of the State President (Chair) of the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) for 2019 be adopted."

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: Magnetic Island.

The State President called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

9. RECEIVING THE AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND BRANCH) FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2019

Motion: "That the auditor's report on the financial affairs of the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) for the year ended 31 December 2019 be received."

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: Gracemere.

Questions for the auditors were invited from the meeting delegates. None were forthcoming.

The State President called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

10. PRESENTATION & ADOPTION OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2019

Motion: "That the audited financial statements of the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) for the year ended 31 December 2019 be adopted."

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: St George.

The following questions were received from the floor:

Question from Peter Kinsella - Manly-Lota: Clarification was sought in relation to "right of use" on Page 28, He asked if depreciation on leases was based on residual value.

Response from Gregg Pratt CFO: It was confirmed that depreciation on leases was based on the estimated value at the time of the assessment.

Question from Peter Kinsella - Manly-Lota: Clarification was sought on whether RSL Queensland would pay out vehicle leases at the end of their term.

Response from Gregg Pratt CFO: The vehicles would be handed back at the end of the lease and replaced with new lease vehicles.

Question from Peter Kinsella - Manly-Lota: It was noted that RSL Queensland was dependent on lottery sales for income and that there was no diversification of revenue streams. He asked whether alternative revenue streams were being explored.

Response from Gregg Pratt CFO: It was explained that within the last six months, RSL Queensland had convened an Investment Committee (which had held its inaugural meeting in the previous week). This Committee would explore opportunities to diversify income streams. Further it was noted that RSL Queensland was exploring eligibility for DGR status to enable the receipt of tax-deductible philanthropic donations.

Question from Peter Kinsella - Manly-Lota: It was noted that there was a considerable write-off for merchandise in the accounts. He asked whether RSL was moving out of merchandise sales altogether.

Response from Gregg Pratt CFO: It was explained that RSL Queensland had sold its warehouse at the end of 2019 and was not selling merchandise at this time. The role of merchandise sales may be considered as part of the branding/marketing strategy in the future.

The State President thanked Peter Kinsella for his questions and called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

The State President acknowledged the CFO and his team on the work they had done to improve the quality of financial reporting during the year.

11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Motion: "That PricewaterhouseCoopers be appointed as external auditor for the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) Group, comprising RSL Queensland and its Related Bodies Corporate."

Moved: RSL Queensland Board

Seconded: Mary Valley

The State President called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

12. MOTIONS FROM STATE BRANCH, DISTRICT AND SUB BRANCHES

No motions had been received.

13. BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF THE STATE DEPUTY PRESIDENT (DEPUTY CHAIR)

The Company Secretary confirmed that the nominations were received in accordance with the requirements of the RSL Queensland Constitution and in the form required under by-law 3. She also confirmed that the order of the ballot had been drawn by lot during a meeting of the Board of RSL Queensland as required under by-law 3.7.

The following nominees addressed the delegates at the invitation of the State President:

- Mr John Strachan OAM
- Mr Ian Hall
- Mrs Wendy Taylor

The State President called for the vote.

14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE STATE DEPUTY PRESIDENT (DEPUTY CHAIR)

The Returning Officer, Darren Jenns provided the State President with the outcome of the vote.

The State President declared Wendy Taylor the new State Deputy President (Deputy Chair).

15. DESTRUCTION OF VOTING INFORMATION

Motion: "That the form authorising the destruction of voting data be signed"

Moved: RSL Queensland Board.

Seconded: Darra & District.

The State President called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

The Returning Office confirmed that all voting data had been destroyed.

16. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS TO RSL QUEENSLAND

Motion: "That the meeting confirm the appointment of the following members as Directors of RSL Queensland:

State President/Chair: Tony Ferris

State Deputy President/Deputy Chair: Wendy Taylor

State Vice President/Vice Chair: Bill Whitburn OAM

Mervyn Brown OAM: Brisbane North District

Pat Fairoon: Gold Coast District

Ian Hall: Sunshine Coast District

Les Nash: Moreton District

Garry Player: North Queensland District

Dennis Pollard: Western District

Peter Sterling RFD: Far Northern District

Barry Vains OAM: Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands District

T Williamson OAM: Wide Bay & Burnett District".

Moved: Cairns.

Seconded: Tully.

The Company Secretary called for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

17. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CONCLUDES

The State President made the following closing remarks:

- He thanked John Strachan OAM for his service to RSL Queensland as a long-term Board member. He would be sadly missed.
- He had been proud of RSL Queensland's ability to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. Technology had been embraced and attendance at meetings had been maintained. The organisation had been innovative and resourceful in finding ways to commemorate key events.
- He thanked delegates for their patience and willingness to meet in the hybrid format.
- He acknowledged the work of RSL staff for making the event possible.
- He wished everyone well for the Christmas and New Year period.
- He reminded delegates that this time of year was often difficult for veterans and their families. He encouraged those present to reach out and help those in need. He advised that RSL Queensland would be there for those who needed them and advised that contact details were available on the RSL Queensland website.

There being no other businesses the Company Secretary declared the meeting closed at 1027.