

MOTION (2015 AGM)

A motion was passed at the 2013 Annual Conference to change the constitution with regard to Board representation from the regions to allow Board members to be nominated from across the membership. The proposed amendments to the constitution are required to give effect to the changes passed at conference.

The other proposed changes are for operation purposes and to reduce regulatory requirements where minor changes to the address of the organisation or to meeting procedures would require a constitutional change and lodgement with the Department of Commerce.

MOTION

That the WA Farmers Federation (Inc) Constitution be amended as set out in "Schedule A" and that these amendments be effective from the close of the 2015 Annual General Conference.

Moved: Lyn Slade

Seconded: Tony York

SCHEDULE A

AMENDMENTS

GENERAL

1. Delete Rule 2
The registered office of WAFarmers shall be at 28 Thorogood Street Burswood in the State of Western Australia.

2. Delete under Rule 4 Definitions
“Region or Regions” means the:

(i) Eastern Region which shall comprise the Avon, Merredin, Corrigin/Lake Grace and Upper Great Southern Zones;

(ii) Northern Region which shall comprise the Northern, North Eastern, North Midland, Miling and Mortlock Zones as well as the Pastoral Section;

(iii) Southern Region which shall comprise the Stirling, Esperance, Blackwood and Central Great Southern Zones; and

(iv) Western Region which shall comprise the Albany, Harvey, Vasse, Lower South West Zones

Amend definition of regulation to read:

“regulation” or “regulations” means the regulations of WAFarmers

Amend definition of rules to read:

“rules” means the rules of WAFarmers as set out in this document

3. Delete Rule 12.2
Unless decided otherwise by the Board, subscriptions for members shall be adjusted automatically from year to year by an amount equal to the movement in the Consumer Price Index for the State of Western Australia as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the 12 month period ending on the 30th day of September each year.
4. Amend Rule 14.1.2 to read
non-payment by a member of his or her membership subscription
5. Delete Rule 14.2
Such member remains liable to pay to WAFarmers the amount of any subscription due and payable by that person to WAFarmers but unpaid at the date of termination or expulsion as the case may be.

6. Amend Rule 18.1 to read:
There shall be a Board that shall comprise a maximum of eight (8) members being the WAFarmers President who shall be chairperson, the Senior Vice-President, four (4) member representatives and up to two persons, whether members of WAFarmers or not, with special expertise.
7. Amend Rule 18.3.1.1 to read:
one such person has formal financial expertise, and or other desirable qualifications required at such time by the organisation.
8. Amend Rule 18.3.3 to read:
Determine zone boundaries
9. Amend Rule 18.3.4 to read:
Make recommendations to annual conference for appointment of an independent auditor and the remuneration payable to the auditor
10. Amend Rule 18.4.4 to read:
All questions shall be determined by a majority of the Board members present. The quorum for a meeting of the Board is more than half the number of Board members.
11. Amend Rule 18.4.6 to read:
A resolution of the Board may be carried without any need for a meeting of the Board when:
 - 18.4.6.1 notice of the proposed resolution has been given in writing or electronic form to all the members of the Board and***
 - 18.4.6.2 a majority of the members of the Board have consented in writing or electronic means to the resolution.***
 - 18.4.6.3 any such decision will be ratified and included in the minutes of the next Board meeting***
12. Amend Rule 19.9 to read:
 - 19.9.1 elect annually from the members of the Section Council, a sufficient number of persons to act as the Section Council's representatives on any national or other body.***
 - 19.9.2 appoint the President of the Section Council or his or her nominee, as the Section Council member for national representation provided the appointment of the nominee is supported by 75% of the members of the Section Council.***

13. Amend Rule 25.2.7

have responsibility for the preparation of the annual report and the financial management of the organisation in accordance with the budget approved by the Board.

14. Amend Rule 28.1.4 to read:

Elect by preferential system the WAFarmers President, WAFarmers Senior Vice President, WAFarmers Vice President, and Board members

15. Delete Rule 29.1.4

Nominations for members of the Board representing the Regions shall only be made by Zone Councils, and each Zone Council may nominate one ordinary member, resident within a Zone within the Region, for a position on the Board to represent that Region

16. Amend Rule 29.3.1 to read:

A ballot for the following positions shall be conducted at the Annual Conference

17. Amend Rule 29.3..1.3 to read:

the positions of the two longest serving members of the Board.

18. Delete Rules 29.3.2, 29.3.3 and 29.3.4

29.3.2 Only delegates from the zones within the relevant region shall be entitled to vote for the election of the Member of the Board for that Region.

29.3.3 The appointment of the members of the Board representing the regions shall be ratified at Annual Conference.

29.3.4 In the event that the appointment of one or more members representing the regions is not ratified by Annual Conference, the position or positions shall be deemed to be vacant and filled pursuant to rule 31.

19. Amend Rule 29.6.2 to read:

The Board members and the special expertise members will be for a term of two years provided that a Board member shall not be eligible for re-election after completing two such terms of office.

20. Amend Rule 30.4 to read:

30.4.1 a Meat, Wool or Grains Section Council, ten delegates representing four Zones shall form a quorum.

30.4.2 the Dairy Council ten delegates representing three Zones shall form a quorum.

30.4.3 *the Beekeepers Section Council five delegates shall form a quorum.*

21. Amend Rule 32 to read:

32.2 *All cheques or other payments drawn on WA Farmers bank account shall be signed or authorised by any two of the following officers of WA Farmers, being the President, Senior Vice President and the Chief Executive Officer, or such other person as the Board may appoint from time to time.*

32.3 *The authority of the persons referred to in rule 32.2 is hereby limited to the amount standing to the credit or within any approved overdraft facility of the WAFarmers bank account.*

32.4.1 *Subject to the approval of the Board, monies or funds not immediately required for the operational purposes of WAFarmers may be invested by the Chief Executive Officer in such manner as approved by the Board.*

22. Amend Rule 32.7:

WAFarmers shall keep and maintain proper accounts The Board shall cause a full and correct statement of the financial affairs of WAFarmers to be prepared for each financial year.

23. Amend Rule 38.3 to read:

Delegates and voting entitlements shall be as provided for in rule 22.4. The quorum for a Special Conference called pursuant to this rule shall be fifty (50) delegates from a combined majority of Zones.

24. Delete Rule 39.2

Such regulations shall be incorporated into and read in conjunction with the Rules.

25. *Delete all Regulations from the Constitution. Regulations to remain unchanged but will become an internal WAFarmers document and not subject to requirements of the Department of Commerce for notification of any changes.*