

COMMERCIAL EGG PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

CENTRAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE, held at the R.S.L. Hall, Kangaroo Flat on Monday 7th July, 1986 at 7.45 p.m.

PRESENT: R. Robins (Chairman), J. Heard, G. Kean, H. Webb, M. Oakes, N. Robins, L. Bartels, D. Oakes, G. Robertson, H. Wilson, R. Broadbent, G. Guinness, M. Jackman and K. Fitzgibbon.

APOLOGIES:- One received from J. Belcher on the motion of G. Kean and D. Oakes. Carried.

The Chairman welcomed those present and declared the conference open.

MINUTES:- of the previous Annual Conference were read and confirmed on the motion of L. Bartels and N. Robins. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: as per attached list was read and dealt with as required. Moved H. Wilson, seconded H. Webb that correspondence be received. Carried.

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP FOR BENDIGO & SOUTH BENDIGO BRANCHES.

1st Reading;

Morrie Holding; nominated by R. Robins.  
R. M. & L. R. Lakey, Dingee; nominated by Betty Kerr.  
Ramon Roylance, Strathfieldsaye; nominated by D. Hinck.  
Maxine Brooks; nominated by D. Hinck.  
Leo McDougall, Bendigo; nominated by K. Cartner.  
Loretto Harris, Myers Flat; Nominated by K. Patching.  
Andrew Jackson; nominated by Ian Grenfell.  
Mavis Bish, Wycheproof; nominated by D. Howard.

Moved M. Jackam, seconded H. Wilson that Mrs. Bish whose husband has died be granted full membership. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: R. Robins submitted the following report - This time last year we were involved with the fowl plague which was contained in the Lockwood area at great expense. We have seen the Board's 5 year plan tried and found wanting in a lot of areas. We have seen the Egg Board introduce the new dockage system where country egg producers have to pay cartage on eggs from depots. We have had the cartage from grading floors deferred for 12 months or to be phased in over 4 years.

We have had deputations to the V.E.B. and the Minister and local members of Parliament with little success. We obtained a Q.C.'s opinion as to the legality of the Board's decision. He studied the Act but could not find anything in our favour. At the present time we have a submission before the Premier. We have had phone calls from Murrayville and Ballarat re dockage. We put a submission to the Public Bodies Review Committee and pushed the dockage position as it affects Country Egg Producers. This report will not be out for many months.

We have seen amendments to the egg Act giving the V.E.B. power to sign contracts to put all charges on Hen Quota. These contracts will make it legal for producers to sell eggs at farm door. The Prices Commissioner, Dr. Fels is looking into the price of eggs; some of his model farm figures are suspect. We are losing our Poultry Officer, Greg Parkinson, who has a large area of Northern Victoria to service. Although we are losing hen quota constantly the chicken meat industry is growing. It has been a year of uncertainty. (mention takeovers).

TREASURER'S REPORT:

M. Jackman submitted the following report:

Expenditure	\$3304.53
Receipts	\$3966.77
Bank Balance	\$1920.37
Sandhurst Trustees (common fund)	\$4000.00
Sandhurst Trustees (common fund)	\$2000.00
Sandhurst Trustees (common fund)	\$2000.00
Sandhurst Trustees 30 day A/c.	\$3500.00
Commonwealth Bank Term dep.	\$2000.00
Bank Balance	\$1920.37
Total Assests	<u>\$15420.37</u>

Moved M. Oakes, seconded G. Guinness that Treasurer's Report be received and accounts be paid as presented.

Carried.

R. Robins gave a report from Mr. Scott (Legal Advisor) re the Dockage issue; on our behalf he had investigated the legality of the Board's actipn. He had looked through the documents and suggested that we take no further action at this time.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Delegates to attend Annual Meeting of V.F.G.A. to be held on 9th July, 1986 are R. Broadbent and M. Broadbent.

Moved M. Jackman, seconded G. Robertson that we write to Greg Parkinson and thank him for his support and help during his time at the Bendigo Diagnostic Centre and wish him all the best in the future. Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

The following were duly elected to the listed positions;

President	- R. Robins
Vice Presidents	- G. Robertson and H. Wilson.
Secretary	- K. Fitzgibbon.
Assistant Secretary	- R. Broadbent.
Treasurer	- M./Jackman
Assistant Treasurer	- M. Oakes.
Auditors	- J. Moncrieff, J. Heard.
Executive Members	- G. Kean, G. Guinness, H. Webb, D. Oakes - senior advisor.

AGENDA ITEMS:

(1) DOCKAGE:

R. Robins reported on action taken by the Executive over the past 6 months re the dockage issue, with deputations to local members. the Minister for Agriculture and the Premier. He said it looks as though we have lost the case.

(2) P.A. CONTRACTS:

Not available to Bendigo Producers - farm gate contract is avilable.

(3) A.C.E.P. MEMBERSHIP:

Moved H. Webb, seconded L. Bartels that we have not been affiliated with A.C.E.P. since 1984. Carried.

(4) CHICKEN PRICES:

Members felt prices had risen 30% in the last 2 years but could find no solution.

(5) POULTRY RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL:

(look into shell quality and recommendations for practical use).

It was felt that the Department of Agriculture had to work on the shell quality and come up with something for our benefit. D. Oakes to bring this up at Poultry Research Advisory Council meeting on 9th July, 1986.

(6) NEW GRADING MACHINE AT KEYSBOROUGH:

Moved H. Webb, seconded G. Kean that Executive investigate the possibility of Bendigo Producers grading our own eggs and carting them to Melbourne.  
Carried.

(7) BOARD SALES:

With the devaluation of the dollar it was suggested that some of our egg products could be placed overseas possibly Japan. The Government is looking for exports at the moment and if these products are not viable as exports now they never will be.

Meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN.

*Paul Roberts*

DATE.

20-5-87

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. 1986 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

-LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE-

1. MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS :- replying to a letter referring to alleged mis-use of information by Mr. John O'Connor.
  - (ii) suggesting matter re deputation concerning dockage be taken up with Board Chairman Mr. Don Foster.
  - (iii) Seeking nominations for V.E.B.
  - (iv) Thanking Association for nominations for V.E.B.
  - (v) Thanking Association copy of submission sent to V.E.B. re dockage charges.
  - (vi) Thanking Association for further letter re dockage subsidies.
2. PREMIER OF N.S.W. (Mr. Neville Wran):- answering letter sent regarding over quota birds in N.S.W.
3. DAVID KENNEDY, M.L.A.:-
  - (i) copy of letter sent to him from Minister.
  - (ii) copy of letter sent to him from Minister re suggestions for considerations by the V.E.B.
  - (iii) Informing us of representations he made of our behalf to the Minister.
  - (iv) Informing us of his request that we have a deputation with Agricultural Committee of Labour Party.
4. SHADOW MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (Mr. Tom Austin):- replying to letter regarding the Marketing of Primary Products and Egg Industry Stabilization Act, 1985.
5. SECRETARY LIBERAL PARTY RURAL COMMITTEE:
  - (i) Replying that Association views will be taken into consideration when work is being done on Rural Policy.
  - (ii) Review of Rural Policy to await announcement of Public Bodies Review Committee.
6. BRUCE REID, M.L.C.:- Re Dockage.
7. BERNIE DUNN, M.L.C.: Re Dockage.
8. KEN WRIGTH, M.L.C.: (1) Re Dockage.
  - (ii) Answering letter re poultry Officer for Bendigo area.
9. JOHN BRUMBY M.P.:- copy of statement by the Treasurer re prices surveillance authority - inquiry into the table chicken industry.
10. MICHAEL JOHN, M.P.:- 2 letters re dockage.
11. CRYSTAL EGG COMPANY:- reply to complaints.
12. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:-
  - (i) Appointments to Egg Marketing Board.
  - (ii) Newsletter re fowl plague.
  - (iii) copy of Australian control Plan for Poultry Exotic Diseases.
  - (iv) seeking nominations for V.E.B.
  - (v) regarding the retention of a poultry Officer in Bendigo area.
13. VICTORIAN EGG MARKETING BOARD:-
  - (i) ~~copy of~~ letter of reply re matters at 1985 Annual Meeting.
  - (ii) Invitation to attend lunch and meeting at Shamrock Hotel, Bendigo

on 21st August, 1985.

- (iii) circular re 1985 Royal Agricultural Society Commercial Egg Quality Competition.
- (iv) Invitation to meeting at Keysborough on 6th August, 1985.
- (v) Information for Grading Quality Points Scheme.
- (vi) Amendments to the Marketing of Primary Products Act.
- (vii) Future of Transport Subsidies.
- (viii) Proposed Amendments to Primary Products Act and Egg Stabilization Acts
- (ix) Yolk Colour Additives
- (x) Farm door sales.
- (xi) Transport subsidies.
- (xii) Adjustment to Egg prices.
- (xiii) Farm pulp for pasteurisation.
- (xiv) Invitation to R.S.L.T. Presentation Day and Seminar.
- (xv) New Producer Agents Contracts.
- (xvi) Notes of meeting with Producer Organisations 19th March, 1986.
- (xvii) Free Range Eggs and Penalty Points system.
- (xviii) Invitation to Board meeting 7th May, 1986.
- (xix) Transport Subsidies - reply to Association's submission.
- (xx) Free Range Eggs.
- (xxi) Copy of summary of notes from meeting on 7th May, 1986.
- (xxii) Free Range Eggs.
- (xxiii) Re different ages for quota hen.
- (xxiv) Explaining why meeting with Board wasn't arranged.
- (xxv) Hen Quota contract payment reduction.
- (xxvi) Various Egg Farmer Newsletters.

14. POULTRY FARMERS LICENSING COMMITTEE:

- (i) Information on the main provisions of the Licensing and Quota Legislation affecting producers and the Industry.
- (ii) Informing of 15% Seasonal quota reduction for 1986/87,

15. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ MICHAEL WESTBROOKE:- 2 letters re Incorporation.

16. TRADE PRACTICES COMMISSION:- T.P.C. Research study of Self-Regulation in Australian Industry and the Professions.

17. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS:- Working conditions.

18. WORLD'S POULTRY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION:- Free Range Eggs - a ~~xxx~~ profitable new opportunity.

19. A.C.E.P.:- Notice of meeting.

20. PUBLIC BODIES REVIEW COMMITTEE:- Copy of evidence given at meeting on 5th March, 1986.

21. Copies of South Queensland Commercial Egg Producers' Organisation publication 'Egsplain!'

22. Various ~~xxxx~~ pamphlets and digests.