



Tasmanian Forests and Forest Products Network Annual General Meeting

15th September 2023, 6:00pm
Tailrace Centre, Launceston
1 Waterfront Drive, Riverside TAS 7250

MINUTES

Attendance (see list at end of minutes)

1. Welcome

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The TFFPN acknowledges the Palawa peoples' connection to Country, and their active land management of the forests of lutrawita/tasmania over thousands of generations.

We acknowledge the Palawa and Pakana peoples, as the traditional owners and spiritual custodians of the land on which our industry operates, and we pay our respects to their leaders.

3. Apologies

The Board noted an apology from Deputy Chair, Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra.

4. Confirm minutes of 2022 TFFPN Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the 2022 AGM be accepted.

Moved by Tracey Matthews

Seconded by Jenna Hammond

Motion was approved.

5. Chair Report | Steve Whiteley

During my time as Chair, I have been fortunate to see the TFFPN (the Network) grow in maturity, and considerably increase the scale and scope of the products, services, and activities it offers the members.

A core role of the Network is providing a platform that brings members together. We took this to the next level this year by increasing opportunities for industry collaboration and communication.

Highlights for this year included:

Significant growth of members – Network membership has now exceeded 2,500 members

The Forest Industry Forum held in September 2022 – was **Vision 2050 Realising our Potential- Growth, Innovation, People, and Investment**. The Forum was attended by 400 industry representatives. Four panels of experts engaged across the four themes and challenged attendees to examine what actions, challenges and opportunities need to be considered in the short and long term as we work together to best position our industry towards 2050.

Agfest 2023. Industry came together again to support the forest industry site at **Agfest 2023**. This was our most ambitious site to date, where the Network hosted **16 industry partners** who showcased the products and innovation of the industry. The feedback from site sharers and site visitors alike was that the site was extremely successful.

Workforce Development . The Network has concentrated effort and resources on workforce issues over the past few years.

Following the development and launch of the **Forest Industry Workforce Development Plan in 2022**, people-related activities have been a priority to enable the forest industry to **attract, train and retain** the workforce of tomorrow.

The **Forest Industry Diversity Action Plan** was launched by the Minister in October 2022 and it has provided a framework for industry to engage with a range of local community members to increase workforce participation.

We also promoted the **Women in Forestry** initiative and will continue this initiative into the future with the goal of lifting women's participation in the industry above 16 per cent of the workforce, as well as assisting women move into management and board positions.

The Tasmania Forestry Hub continued its implementation of the agreed Hub Roadmap. The Hub actively engaged industry to develop and communicate the Tasmanian forest industry vision. It launched the Carbon Farm Tool in March 2023 and activated the 'Thinnings Project' implementation, including potential Commonwealth support. The Hub also promoted and facilitated Tasmanian carbon leadership and education.

AGMs are traditionally the time to thank those who have contributed to the organisation's success throughout the year. This year in particular is one of farewells and welcomes.

I thank Brodie Frost as Chair of the Workforce Development Industry Reference Group which was established to strategically assist with, and monitor implementation of, workforce related plans, and I thank the Reference Group for their input and assistance.

I thank the Hub Steering Committee, chaired by Penny Wells until May 2023, CEO Private Forests Tasmania, and consisting of a cross section of Tasmanian industry, for their continued support and excellent work.

I thank our very important financial Partners and Supporters who ensure the Network continues as a financially sustainable organisation.

I thank our TFFPN Board Directors who continue to provide excellent strategic guidance and high-level governance, including Bryan Hayes, Andrew Morgan, Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra, (Deputy Chair), Tim Bates (Treasurer) Francis Richardson and Phillip Blacklow.

I especially thank Tim Bates who is retiring this AGM following a 3-year term on the Board. Thank you, Tim for the different perspectives and skills you brought to the board and your ongoing support of the TFFPN.

I also pay tribute to Bryan Hayes, a founding Director of the TFFPN, for his vision and lobbying in assisting to establish the Network, and for his strategic contribution to the Board over the past 6 years. Bryan has been a tireless supporter of the work of the Network and I'm sure will continue in this role past his retirement from the Board. Thank you, Bryan.

The Network sincerely thanks our hardworking and small team of Therese Taylor, Convenor; Romany Brodribb, Manager Communication and Member Services; Simon Talbot GM Tasmania Forestry Hub (until May) and Tracey Taylor Manager Workforce Development and Diversity and recently appointed Tasmania Forestry Hub General Manager – and not forgetting finance manager Tammy Price from SFM.

Therese will be retiring as Convenor at this AGM. The Board, staff, and members pay tribute to her energy and commitment to establish and shape the TFFPN and to develop it to where it is now. The Network is recognised as the umbrella organization working across the forest industry to increase collaboration and coordination on industry issues.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Sue Grau who will now be handed the Convenor baton, and we look forward to working with Sue to take the TFFPN on to the next chapter of its journey.

6. Convenor Report | Therese Taylor

The Chair has highlighted the achievements of the TFFPN during the past year, so I won't go through those again - only to say the 2022-23 year has been a very successful period for the Tasmanian Forests and Forest Products Network (the Network).

As I reflect on the past five years since the establishment of the Network, it does fill me with pride to say our membership currently stands at 2,500 members across the supply chain. This is significant as the Australian Bureau of Statistics tells us the industry in Tasmania directly employs 3500 people.

A core objective of the Network is to increase collaboration and cooperation across the supply chain, and this drives much of our activity, including the well supported regular events that allow members to continue to grow professional and personal relationships.

The monthly breakfasts, held in Hobart, Launceston, and Wynyard as well as the regional Burgers Beers and Bright Ideas events have become a fixture in many calendars. We will continue to support these well attended events, and offer others as requested.

Each year the Network offers two major industry events – the biennial Forum and Dinner, or the Tasmanian Timber Awards, as well as the Forest Industries Site at Agfest. Each of these events attracts significant support and provides a space for discussion of significant current issues, or they build pride and the profile of the industry to the decision makers and the community.

The Network has also made a significant contribution to the future of the industry in the area of workforce development to attract and train the workforce of tomorrow.

The Forest Industry Workforce Plan is currently in implementation.

The Forest Industry Diversity Action Plan is currently in implementation.

We will also continue to offer Women in Forestry initiatives to increase career paths and opportunities for women in the industry.

This will be my last report as Convenor of the Network. I look back on the last six Network Annual Reports and feel very proud of how far we have come.

It has been a privilege to work with many of you to establish a member driven, industry-wide organisation where members identify and work collaboratively together.

Key success factors include individual membership, a grass roots focus, no scope creep, working groups, industry funded, and being for industry by industry.

I have had the honour of working with a supportive Board and professional and dedicated staff and I thank everyone for their commitment and belief in the Network.

I thank the Network Board of Steve Whiteley (Chair), Bryan Hayes, Andrew Morgan, Tim Bates (Treasurer), Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra (Deputy Chair), Francis Richardson and Phil Blackwell for their support, strategic guidance, and stewardship.

I acknowledge Bryan, Steve and Andrew for their always available support.

I wish to thank the Partners and Supporters of the Network for so generously supporting its work through your financial contributions.

I thank the staff of the TFFPN for their tireless work during the year. Our very small team manage to make the Network look so good.

I especially thank Romany Brodribb, Manager Communications and Member Services for her professionalism and never-ending good humour. Thanks also to Tammy Price of SFM for providing financial assistance to the Network.

I also thank Tracey Taylor, Manager Workforce Development and Diversity and the members who participated in the working groups – which is one of the success factors of the Network—for their time, and expertise.

I welcome Sue, and I know she will thoroughly enjoy this role.

No doubt the industry will face headwinds in the future, and I believe a strong member-based organisation can be a strong buffer to those winds as strength in numbers and common purpose can be a real force.

Motion: *That the Chair and Convenor Report be taken as read and accepted.*

Moved by Steve Whiteley

Seconded by Kathy Schaefer

Motion was approved.

7. Treasurer Report | Tim Bates

Annual Financial Statement

The Treasurer presented the financial report and confirmed there were no issues identified in the audit. WLF were quite complimentary about how the Network's funds were managed.

TB thanked the members for electing him as a Director three years ago.

He thanked Tammy Price for her assistance and the Network presented her with a gift.

Motion: That the Financial Report 2022-23 be accepted.

Moved by Tim Bates

Seconded by Tracy Matthews

Motion was approved.

8. Appointment of Auditors

Motion: *That WLF be appointed Auditors for TFFPN for the financial year 2023-24.*

Moved by Steve Whiteley

Seconded by Andrew Morgan

Motion was approved.

9. Vote of thanks to outgoing Directors Bryan Hayes and Tim Bates

10. Election of Directors

The Board welcomed new Directors, Brodie Frost, Bonnie Galbraith, David Milne and Louise Wallis.

Meeting concluded at 6:30pm.

List of Attendees – TFFPN AGM 2023

Romany	Brodribb
Ian	Johnston
Nick	Steel
Andrew	Morgan
Kathryn	Westwood
Katherine	Schaefer
Julie	Walters

Therese	Ryan
David	Milne
Phillip	Blacklow
Tracey	Blacklow
Chris	Grove
Dean	Williams
Joel	Allison
Tracey	Taylor
Elise	Frost
Steve	Whiteley
Brodie	Frost
Bryan	Hayes
Louise	Wallis
Darren	Herd
Tracy	Matthews
David	Bartlett
Stephen	Rymer
Alison	Whiteley
Chris	Brookwell
Darren	Davis
John	Tabor
Kylie	Kemp
Dwayne	Kerrison
Jenna	Hammond
David	White
Jo	Tubb
Greg	Hickey
Craig	Wilson
Ian	Nrumby
Lauren	Carter
Evangelista	Albertini
Bonnie	Galbraith

Dr Scott Bell

Sam Brodribb

Therese Taylor

Tammy Price

